



THE ROTATOR

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ROTARY CLUB OF SAN DIEGO

Time in a Bottle



Geri Warnke
Editor

Super-heated high winds for days did not keep the faithful from today's meeting. Despite the soaring heat wave temperatures Rotarian's were full of smiles. **President "I-am-almost-outta-here"**

Chuck opened the meeting by introducing **Daryl Ferguson** to inspire us. Daryl reminded us that Rotary is both a personal and professional privilege. **Suzy Spafford** stepped up to the podium and led us in the Pledge before summoning the Club 33 Singers. *America the Beautiful* never sounded so good...and aren't we lucky to have Bryan Verhoye contributing his talent on the piano?

Our newsman, **Bert Wahlen**, brought the news of the day... plus a joke that surely proves women are smarter. Then President Chuck amused the masses by suggesting that his tweets are followed daily by each Rotarian. He had declared this meeting a 'no tie' event, but clearly his command had little sway over the elegantly attired gentlemen of Club 33. Finally in desperation to find a fine to give, he had **John Neuhart** approach the podium to have his tie cut off. John only flinched once as the deed was done, but surely he must have felt better that he was not fiscally injured. Rarely has a president ever been so keen on raising the club's coffers that he fines *himself*.

Guy Maddox bravely went to the dais to tout the upcoming Grotarian Library tour. He was sartorially resplendent, but fortunately without a tie to have whacked off. **Cheryl Wilson** reminded us that we should all be personally in touch with the fact that this is

"Older American Month." There was a murmur heard around the room that this could mean us. St Paul's new building is up and being celebrated. Our President again fell on his sword taking the fine for St. Paul's good works.

Next up was **Marlee Ehrenfeld** who must have felt today was a safe day to let **Ron Roberts** take the microphone without financial jeopardy. Ron brought the news of the opening of the San Diego County Waterfront Park with a celebration to begin on May 10. This is truly a glorious project—a long time in the planning and construction. Through a cruel twist of timing, Pres. Chuck came to his senses and fined Marlee \$250.00 for what seemed like a nearly innocent moment standing next to Ron.

Glenn Thomas was the first ever new member to give a slide show during his self-introduction. It was cleverly done. He has multiple talents in the musical department that will be well-used in our club. Welcome, Glenn!

Next up for club membership was **Michael Holland**. His introduction noted that his father, Bill, has talked to our club for years on our annual economic program. He also comes from a family with multiple generations in Rotary. He will be a great addition to our club's finance committee. Welcome to Michael!

After introducing visiting Rotarians, a lucky one all the way from Mission Valley got a gift of a beautiful photograph taken by Mike here in San Diego.

Continued on Page 2

NEXT MEETING

May 8

**It's Never Too Late:
John Corcoran's 50 Year
Struggle with Illiteracy**

As a boy, John Corcoran, author of *The Teacher Who Couldn't Read*, never learned to read and struggled with this secret for nearly 50 years. He learned to play the system, graduating college, teaching at the high school level, and building a successful real estate development career. John's personal mission is to eradicate illiteracy through his organization, John Corcoran Foundation, and he shares his inspiring story as a testament to the power of reading.



Karen Hutchens
Chair of the Day

Rotator Editors Wanted!
Please contact the Rotary office or Andy Liska if you are interested in becoming a Rotator Editor.

QUICK BITS

There is still time to sign up for the **Spring Tennis Tournament** on Wednesday, May 14 at 5:00. Visit our website for more details.

2014-2015 Committees

What committee will you serve on this year?

The 2014-2015 Committee Sign Up form will be sent out later this month on the 15th. Be sure to look for it in your inbox and return it immediately. If you have any questions about a committee, please contact the Rotary office or the committee Chair.

BIRTHDAYS

Bev SiligmueLLer	May 5
George Gildred	6
Randal Densley	6
George Jessop	8
Scott McClendon	8
Punky Chapman	8
Chris Cramer	9
Jay Arnett, Jr.	10
Matt Engel	10
Michael Brunker	10
Frank Panarisi	10
Steve Bond	11

Time in a Bottle

Continued from page 1

Ingrid Croce is a veteran songwriter, musician, mixed media artist, restaurateur, entrepreneur, author and philanthropist. And that is just the beginning of the titles this woman of many talents has earned. As our speaker today, she reminded us of the bleakness of downtown 40 years ago. Her late husband, the famed folk singer Jim Croce, was killed in a plane crash in 1973. He and Ingrid had moved here shortly before. They walked down 5th and F Streets wondering at the dilapidated buildings, the empty storefronts and the vagrants. After his death, Ingrid, in a bid to survive financially, opened a restaurant in that exact location in 1985.

In her charming and lovely way today she shared the struggles, and the subsequent strengths, she discovered in her venture. Love came around again in Jimmy Rock who has been by her side for 27 years. Son AJ is now married and has his own musical aspirations. She lost the lease to the Gaslamp Croce's Restaurant a few months ago. But she has landed solidly on her feet, yet again, with the opening of Croce's Park West restaurant. It has received rave reviews by recent guests. Ingrid has shown enormous community support for many artists. It was a pleasure to hear her comments today about the history and the development of the revitalized downtown. Her artistic vision led to many of the positive changes we enjoy today.

Happy May Day to all!

CALENDAR

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT LIBERTY STATION CONFERENCE CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

May

- 8 *John Corcoran*
- 15 *Dr. Richard Della Penna*
- 22 *Jeff Bacon, Cartoonist, Navy & Marine Corps Times*
- 29 *Iris Engstrand, Balboa Park History*

June

- 5 *Jim Ryun, 50th anniversary of his record breaking sub 4 minute mile*

GROTARIAN EVENTS

May 27 - San Diego Library & e3 Civic High School Tour - 4:30-6:30 pm. Register at www.rotary33.org

Future Events:

June 22 - San Diego Polo Club

July 15 - America's Cup "Yacht America" Sailing

Meetings: Every Thursday at Noon, Liberty Station Conference Center, 2600 Laning Road, San Diego, 92106

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FACES IN THE CROWD



Chair of the Day Mike Conner and President Chuck welcomed Ingrid Croce and her husband Jim Rock.



Ingrid's speech was of her journey from a young widow to becoming a successful restaurant owner.



John Neuhart paid the price and was "fined" for wearing a tie in direct opposition to President Chuck's edict that it was too hot for formal wear.



Marlee Ehrenfeld is "thanked" by Supervisor Ron Roberts for promoting the opening of the new park at the County Administration Building.



Lucy Killea , Georgina Serrano, Martha Dennis and Nikki Clay enjoyed the day.



Nancy Scott wore clothes befitting the era of the '70s icon Jim Croce.

NEW MEMBERS



New member Glenn Thomas introduced himself today. Glenn is Owner of GC Thomas, Inc. His classification is "Commercial Flooring." **Jean Young, Greg Pike and Joe Craver** were his sponsors.

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New member Michael Holland introduced himself today. Michael is Vice President and CFO of The Holland Group. His classification is "Investment Advisor - A.A." **Craig Evanco, Greg Noonan and Vance Gustafson** were his sponsors.

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2014-2015 Project Allocation

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT IS MAY 15TH

The 2014-2015 project allocation form is available on our website under the News tab