

## There is Hope



Deirdre Maloney  
Editor

**President Bob** started this week's meeting with his usual, enthusiastic ring of the bell, along with a not-so-usual and ominous warning: With tomorrow's weather expected to include lots of sun, it seems Mr. Groundhog will likely see his shadow. Which, of course, means six more weeks of this unbearable winter weather. (Sorry about the lack of perspective...*whole rest of the country.*)

To make up for it, Bob announced it was National Freedom Day. He also shared the interesting tidbit that Dean Martin had a very famous cousin: Past President **Tom Vecchione**. Tom, one of our prominent M.O.S.T. surgeons, delivered his very inspirational moment, focused on just one of the 14,000 people touched by the program. Tom talked about a young boy who endured both a facial deformity and constant teasing from the kids around him, years before Tom performed his surgery. Tom talked about the child's enthusiastic spirit, stoic bravery and dogged determination, which left Tom knowing that, after all this time, he would be doing just fine.

Next up was the Pledge and *Star Spangled Banner* led by **Joe Zakowski** and accompanied by **Larry Showley**, followed by the news delivered by **Stan Lawrence** with his usual aplomb, sponsored by **James Buley** and Buley Wealth Management Group.

After introducing our guests and Rotaracts, our fine president got down to business. Business *announcements*, that is. First, he commended all who were involved in the latest Fireside Chat, which included 12 red badge participants and was superbly coordinated by chair **Cari McCormick** and the Grotarian Committee.

We were also reminded about the upcoming Feb. 7 Grotarian event featuring "The Last Wife" at the Cygnet Theatre. We then got to hear from **Daniel Amaro** about the upcoming Prospective Member Reception on Feb. 22. (If you missed the story, ask him how meeting airline pilots as a five-year-old was like attending his first Club 33 meeting. It's a good one.)

Before learning all about our two newest members, **Andrew Holets** and **Daniel Assisi**, President Bob took a brief look

back to 1943 with his presidential history minute. While many of the programs and projects during President Walter Hepner's year related to World War II, there were also a few others topics to discuss, including a long range strategic vision for San Diego that included an airport expansion to accommodate transpacific travel. (Not super hard to imagine, yes?)

Perhaps the most provocative announcement was given next, by our own fashionista **Nancy Scott**. Nancy said that she and the Greeting Committee couldn't help but notice some of our members were showing an uptick in both fashion faux pas and their own poundage. The solution? Next week, the committee will raffle off two spots to Rancho La Puerta, which Conde Nasté named the #1 fitness spa in the world. Perhaps even better than the amazing spa treatments, succulent food and the fact that this could make one heck of a Valentine gift? The money raised in the drawing will go the Club Foundation. (You can read more about the spa package on page 3.)

Next, President Bob provided several interesting tidbits, only this time they were about Chair of the Day **Mark Burgess**. Just one of them? It turns out Mark has been a clever guy well before joining our club. In fact, he figured out how to become the most popular kid in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade when he picked the ultimate science project: making wine.

After introducing and gifting our visiting Rotarians, Mark introduced us to our speaker, Hillary Theakston, Executive Director of the Clarity Foundation, which helps transform treatment and improve survivor for women living with ovarian cancer. Hillary's presentation provided much-needed information about what is an elusive disease. It included the following facts and statistics:

- There are nearly 200,000 women living with ovarian cancer in the U.S. Each year, 22,000 more women are diagnosed, and 14,000 women lose their lives to the disease. (These statistics hit close to home. During our program a number of members identified they had loved ones living with or lost to the disease.)

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## Next Meeting

**February 8, 2018**

**Jeff Lanza**  
**Retired FBI Agent,**  
**Author**

### Cybercrime: How to Protect Yourself Against the Latest Threats

Jeff Lanza, a retired FBI agent and security expert, will use real life examples of the latest hacks, security breaches and computer scams to demonstrate how cybercrime occurs and what countermeasures we can take to combat the innovations of criminals. This non-technical presentation will provide proven approaches to recognize and prevent the latest cybercrimes.

Jeff spent over 20 years with the FBI. He specialized in cybercrime, fraud, organized crime, human trafficking and terrorism, with a main focus on rooting out corruption and fraud. He is published author of two critically acclaimed books, including *Cybercrime: How to Stay Safe From Online Fraud and Identity Theft*.



**Alison Fleming**  
**Chair of the Day**

## QUICK BITS



### TENNIS ANYONE?

If you want to serve, stroke, volley and rally with your fellow Rotarians in 2018, please email Bruce Hunt at [bruceahunt@prodigy.net](mailto:bruceahunt@prodigy.net) or text him at 619.200.5565.

All levels of play are welcome!

The **CITY HEIGHTS ROTARACT** released their second newsletter of their year. It gives insight into what they have been up to the last three months. [Click here](#) to read the newsletter.

### ROTARIAN AT WORK



### ROTARIANS AT WORK DAY

happens the last Saturday in April each year. Each year, Clubs

around the world identify a hands-on project that all members can participate in to help their local community. If you have any suggestions on a project for this year (April), please contact Chair [Chris Christopher](#).

## BIRTHDAYS

### February

Ron Oliver	5
Russ Kirbey	6
Jack Anthony	6
Michael Maggiora	6
Phet Pease	10

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- 75% of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer receive their diagnosis in its late stages (stages III and IV). Only 34% survive past ten years and most patients see a recurrence within two years.
- Ovarian cancer treatment lags decades behind progress and survival rates related to other cancers. It is also extremely hard to diagnose, as symptoms match those of many other diseases and routine gynecological exams do not test for it.

Despite these striking and appalling numbers, Hillary did say there is some hope. In fact, a few reasons behind that hope are happening right at in San Diego.

- Clarity Foundation was founded by San Diegan Laura Shawver in 2008. The organization provides a variety of critical services, including supporting women in making treatment decisions through molecular profiling of their tumors.
- Clarity Foundation also places a high priority on collecting information and data, which is used to better understand the disease and improve treatment into the future.
- In its nearly ten years in existence, Clarity Foundation has supported more than 625 patients with more than 765 profiles. Thousands of others have been provided resources, personalized information and, perhaps most importantly, hope.
- The organization is funded entirely through philanthropy, and is currently seeking new members to serve on its board of directors.

After thanking our speaker for her presentation, President Bob wrapped up our time together with a few more hopeful lines. These were from a song made famous by Dean Martin (aka Tom Vecchione's cousin, you'll remember). President Bob reminded us that, as we made our way out into the beautiful San Diego afternoon, that "it's a good day for singin' a song...a good day from morning 'til night."



**Find details on the special raffle we will be doing at our Feb.8 meeting on page 3.**

## CALENDAR

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

### February

**8 Jeff Lanza-Cyber Security**

**15 Dr. Tiffany Chow-USC Alzheimer's Study**

**22 Kimberly Becker, CEO-San Diego Intl. Airport**

## GROTARIAN EVENTS

**Night at the Cygnet Theatre  
"The Last Wife"**

**Wednesday, February 7  
Time: 6:45 pm - 9:30 pm  
Cost: \$42**

**Join us for the West Coast premiere performance of the critically acclaimed "The Last Wife."**

Our own Jenni Prisk saw the play recently and she says, *"For two and half hours, this brilliant play will hold you captive as the story seeps into your brain and leaves indelible images! Director Rob Lufty has created a masterpiece from a magnum opus. His cast is superb, and the dramatic steely set and beautiful costumes give the right air to this historically modern piece. This is a piece for all seasons. You absolutely must see this amazing production!"*

[Click here](#) on how to purchase tickets.

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

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**Looking for a special gift for your Valentine? Or just looking for a way to unwind for a few hours? This week at our meeting (Feb. 8), we will be raffling the following package you are looking for!**

Saturday at the Ranch for 2  
Location: [Rancho La Puerta-Fitness and Spa Retreat](#)  
Tecate, Mexico  
Value: \$660

*You must have a valid passport to partake in this fabulous adventure.*

Use this opportunity to reset your brain to a day of delicious home grown food, exercise, fresh air, and a nurturing Ranch massage. Spend the afternoon in their world renowned cooking school and organic garden. This will truly be a farm to table experience that you won't forget!

The award-winning Rancho La Puerta retreat is located in the tranquil setting in the shadow of Baja California's mystical Mt. Kuchumaa. They were voted "Top 5 International Best Destination Spa" in 2017 and 2016, and received the 2016 "Top 10 Organic Spa" Award.

Proceeds from this raffle will benefit the Rotary Club of San Diego Foundation.

Thank you to Nancy Scott, the Reception Committee and Rancho La Puerta for donating this wonderful package!

## CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT

The second of three Rotary golf events was held on Friday, February 2nd at the San Diego Country Club. We had a full field of 14 golfers. The event features an individual low net winner as well as a low two ball net team event. Each participant played 18 holes of golf and had a tasty lunch as part of the proceedings. It was a great morning of golf on one of San Diego's premier courses.

The low net winner was **Guy Maddox** who shot a net 67! Congratulations to Guy. The winning team was **Ellis Smith, Larry Showley, Marten Barry** and Guy Maddox. Each winner received a sleeve of golf balls. We spared no expense!

**Our next event will be on March 23rd at 9 AM at the San Diego Country Club. Sign up by e-mailing [rdonnelly@DWA-SD.com](mailto:rdonnelly@DWA-SD.com)**





# MEMBERSHIP

## Prospective Member Reception February 22, 11:30 am-noon Liberty Station Conference Center-Lobby L

Bring a prospective member (or two) to a pre-lunch reception on February 22 for an opportunity to meet with fellow Rotarians and Board members, and to learn more about Rotary. They can then enjoy a complimentary lunch and hear our guest speaker, Kimberly Becker, President and CEO of the San Diego International Airport, talk about their current and future infrastructure plans. [Click here to register for the reception.](#)

Please welcome our newest member to the club:



Pres Bob, Andrew Holets and Trevor Blair.

**Andrew Holets**—“Youth Organization-Pro Kids.” Andrew is the CEO and Executive Director for Pro Kids/ The First Tee of San Diego, a non-profit that promotes character development, life skills, and values through education and the game of golf for underserved youth, primarily in City Heights and in Oceanside.

Andrew served in the United States Peace Corps in the Republic of Kazakhstan as an Organizational and Community Development program volunteer, and worked in military communities in Germany with the Department of Defense.

He recently completed a Master program in Leadership and Educational Sciences at USD. He loves to run and spend time with his wife Jennifer and two children, Magnolia and River.

**Trevor Blair, Michael Brunker and Mel Katz** were his sponsors.  
Email: [aholets@prokidsonline.org](mailto:aholets@prokidsonline.org)



Pres Bob, Dan Assisi and Trevor Blair.

**Daniel Assisi**— “Associations-California Charter Schools.” Dan is the Deputy Chief Operating Officer for the California Charter Schools Association, which currently oversees 1,300 charter schools.

Dan has a Doctorate in Education Leadership, a Graduate Certificate in Public Policy, and a Master in Public Administration, all from USC.

He was born and raised in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He is fluent in four languages: English, Portuguese, French and Spanish. He and wife Nicole moved to San Diego after she received a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to open a new group of charter schools, the Thrive Public Schools.

**Trevor Blair, Andy Liska and Daniel Amaro** were his sponsors.  
Email: [daniel@assisi.us](mailto:daniel@assisi.us)

# FACES IN OUR CROWD



(Left) SDSU Rotaracts joined us today; (right) Dr. Tom Vecchione presented the Inspirational Moment.



(Left) Guest speaker Hillary Theakston; (right) Chair of the Day Mark Burgess recognized Trevor Johnson from the Evansville, Indiana Rotary Club.



(Left) Today's Check-in crew **Christy White** and **Duke Sobek** ; (right) **Doug Arbon**, **Kristen Ford** and **Steve Carlson** joined us today.