

## Learning & Growing From Tragedy



Richard Ledford  
Editor

The title above may seem a bit out of sync with our program today, but stay with me on this one! **Prez Suzy** opened the meeting with a swagger about the “granddaddy” nature of our 107-year-old Club, which was probably a good reminder of how our club has had a positive and constructive influence on our community. Wonder Woman **Wendy Urushima-Conn** provided our Inspirational Moment. Reflecting on the tragedy of the loss of a loved one, Wendy carried us through her odyssey of restoration with an unusual insight that those kinds of deep tragedies actually make us more passionate and committed to community good. It was truly a touching!

**Larry Hoeksema** followed with the Pledge of Allegiance joined by **The Club 33 Singers** in a rousing and spirited *God Bless America* a cappella. News-Guy **Whitney Skala** gave us a bunch of news and weather and card related riddle (ask him!). Thank you to **Pat Caughey** of Wimmer Yamada & Caughey for sponsoring the News.

Prez Suzy passed the Art & Music Moment over to All-Things-SDSU **Joyce Gattas** who gave us the skinny on the Monty statue. Turns out that the stone statue that’s graced the SDSU Campus since 1937 is both unique and exquisite as an art piece. Go Aztecs!

**Bob Russell** announced our October 13 Rise Against Hunger event at Petco Park where some 50k meals will be packed by volunteers to be sent to needy families in the Dominican Republic (you can find more information on page 2.) A very talented new member **Courtney Dack** was introduced. Among her many talents... and there are many... she’s both a financial advisor with Edward Jones and a committed and proven community volunteer.

Fines were very much on the Prez’ agenda. Three targets this week: worthy **Karen Batchner** got wacked for \$350 for promoting her son’s Boy Scout Troop 24 Centennial Celebration on September 23 at MCRD; Prez nicked **Jen Weissman** for \$400 for her promotion of ArtReach and the release of her book *Empowered, Courageous & Free* on Amazon.com (it is about her personal tragedy and how she overcame it); and Amnon Ben-Yehuda was fined for promoting his book signing on September 27 (of which he will be donating the proceeds back to the club! More on that on page 2.)

Finally satisfied with the damage to these fine Rotarians, Suzy introduce our Chair of the Day **Mike Caruso**. Mike has been a leader in our Club’s connection to the military, with a long history of activity on the Military Affairs Committee. With 40 years of service to the Country, he was the perfect Rotarian to introduce our program... the search for the Argentine submarine ARA San Juan.

Apparently, a routine patrol off the coast of Argentina turned terribly wrong on or about November 17, 2017. The US Navy was requested to assist the Argentine Navy in search and rescue operations, and ultimately in a recovery effort. Leading the US assistance effort was Captain Chris Cavanaugh, Commander of Submarine Squadron 11 and our speaker for today. It was a massive effort that ultimately failed to locate the Argentine vessel. But just as we heard from Wendy and Jen today that personal tragedies had made them more committed and passionate about the community, even in an historic marine tragedy lessons were learned to assist in any future rescue efforts. And that was this author’s takeaway from today’s Club meeting.

## Next Meeting

**September 20, 2018**

*Presenting*

**Ms. San Diego  
Patti Roscoe**



The Past Presidents of San Diego Rotary have proudly selected Patti Roscoe as this year’s Ms. San Diego. Join us as we honor Patti for her many contributions to our city and the for the lasting impact her leadership has made in our community.

*San Diego Rotary has been honoring a deserving San Diegan since 1952. Each year, an individual or individuals are selected that have contributed outstanding community betterment to the region in various ways.*

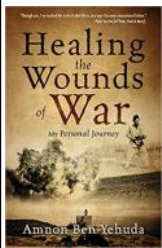
**The Nominating Committee will be meeting soon to put forth their nominations for this year’s election for Board officers and directors. Our Bylaws allow for any member to nominate themselves or another member via petition. So if there is someone you would like to nominate for the Board or for an Officer petition, please contact [Paul](#) at the office as soon as possible. Our election will take place this November.**

## QUICK BITS

### Giving Thanks, Giving Back Auction Items

Our Auction Committee is hard at work seeking donation items for our annual fundraiser on November 29. If you have an auction item you would like to submit or have a lead for possible donation items, please contact Chairs [Diana MarJip-Chuh](#) or [Tom Gehring](#). You can also [click here](#) to submit your auction item.

### Sponsored Ad:



Club 33 member **Amnon Ben-Yehuda** will be holding a book signing for his new book "Healing The Wounds Of War, My Personal Journey" at our meeting on **Thursday, Sept. 27**. There is a nominal donation of \$10. Amnon will be donating the proceeds from this signing to our club's Foundation.

## RISE ABOVE HUNGER MEAL PACKING WITH THE PADRES

**When: Saturday, October 13**

**Time: 9 am-11 am**

**Where: Petco Park**



**Description: The San Diego Rotary will join the Padres Volunteer Team and Rise Against Hunger at Petco Park for the 3rd Annual Meal Packing Event. 60,000 meals will be packed and sent to under served communities in the Dominican Republic.**

**Arrival:** Please enter Petco Park through the Park Blvd Gate located at the corner of Park Blvd and 10th Avenue (across from Lolitas Mexican Restaurant). We will have Padres Volunteer Team tables and tents set up to welcome you and get you signed in.

**Parking:** Parking will be available at the Lexus Lot across from the ballpark at the corner of Park Blvd. and Imperial Ave.

**Attire:** Please wear your blue Club 33 "We Are Everywhere" T-Shirt (contact the office if you don't have one) and closed toe shoes.

Space is limited so sign up early! [Click here](#).

## CALENDAR

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

### September

**20 Annual Mr./Mrs./Ms. San Diego Program**

**27 David Nisleit, San Diego Police Chief**

### October

**4 Mark Neville, CEO - Holiday Bowl**

## GROTARIAN EVENTS

**Where: Whaley House**

**When: October 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 6pm to 8pm**

**Cost: \$25 per person**

Join the Grotarians for a spooky private tour of the world famous and historic Whaley House. We will receive a one of a kind behind the scenes tour while hearing tales of bizarre encounters with long-dead residents. Learn more about this historic landmark in San Diego and why the Whaley House has earned its reputation as America's Most Haunted! We will walk across the street afterwards to the Old Town Mexican Cafe for a great dinner. (drinks are on your own)

**Please register by Oct 12.**

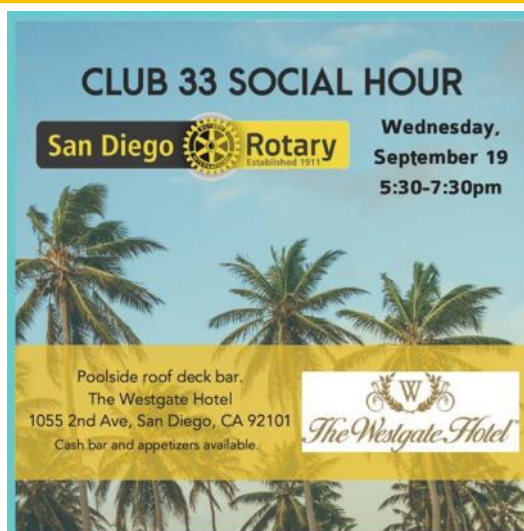
[Click here to sign up](#)

## BIRTHDAYS

### September

Janessa Goldbeck	17
Gene Sapper	17
Richard Ledford	17
Pam Luster	18
Todd Hoff	18
Bill Lawrence	19
Rod Eales	19
Rick Gulley	19
Rob Canton	20
Paul Van Roon	21
Richard Coutts	22
Doug Wilson	23
Will Newbern	23
Al Wasserman	23

Join us for a very special Club 33 Social Hour at the **Westgate Hotel** rooftop/poolside bar, **Wednesday, September 19th for 5:30-7:30** for Happy Hour. Feel free to bring a guest!



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

Suzy Spafford, President ♦ Paul Devermann, Executive Director

San Diego Rotary ♦ 2247 San Diego Avenue, Ste. 233, San Diego, CA 92110-2943

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# MEMBERSHIP

Please welcome our newest member to the club:



**Courtney Dack—“Financial Advisor, Additional Active.”** Courtney is a financial advisor with Edward Jones Investments.

She is originally from Washington State where she was a member of her high school Interact Club and volunteered in her community with her dad who was also a Rotarian. She moved to San Diego seven years ago after graduating from Western Washington University.

Courtney loves to backpack, run, paddle board and play bridge. She and her dog volunteer for search and rescue. And congratulations to her...she is recently engaged!

**David Oates, Woody Ledford and Kimberly Higgins** were her sponsors.

Email: [Courtney.Dack@edwardjones.com](mailto:Courtney.Dack@edwardjones.com)




## *In Memoriam*



**Monica Page-Allen  
1961-2018**

It is with a heavy heart that we announce Monica's passing. She lost her fight with cancer on Monday, September 10.

Monica joined the club in January 2017.



*Our deepest condolences also go out to **Ellen Casey** who recently lost her son.*





# FACES IN OUR CROWD

Photos Courtesy of Paul Nestor



(Left) Christopher Batcher (son of member Karen Batcher) helped President Suzy open the meeting with the Scout's official call to assemble; (right) Wendy Urushima-Conn's presented our Inspirational Moment about making each day count.



(Left) Joyce Gattas joined President Suzy for her Art Moment and talked about Donal Hord's Montezuma sculpture "The Aztec; (right) Chair of the Day Mike Caruso, President Suzy and guest speaker Captain Chris Cavanaugh.



(Left) **Claudia Obertreis** showed her support for the Boy Scouts; (right) The Club 33 Singers led us in our patriotic song a cappella.