

# THE ROTATOR

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**SAN DIEGO ROTARY CLUB** 

## **SoccerCity**

**Next Meeting** 



Jen Weissman Editor

Bryan Verhoye played for us on the piano prior to the meeting that was called to order by Madam President Suzy. An Inspirational Moment by Tom Gehring followed. L'Chaim! The Pledge and Star Spangled Banner was led by Bruce Hunt, accompanied by Bryan Verhoye. The News was spon-

sored by **Greg Noonan** of Berkshire Hathaway and delivered by **Mark Burgess**.

In today's Art & Music Moment, we learned about abstract impressionist artist Trevor Paglen (photographer, geographer, provocateur.) His art is far out of this world, as Paglen will launch a shiny sculpture into space—a reflective, nonfunctional satellite as an artistic gesture in late Oct/Nov. So look out for it. The orbital artwork is meant to encourage viewers to reconsider their view of humanity and its place in the universe. This *Orbital Reflector* will remain in orbit for approximately three months, before falling out of orbit and burning up in the atmosphere.

Mark Allan reminded us about the Senior Services Warm Clothes Drive, and to bring warm, new clothes in on November 1. Find more details on page 3.

Past President Bob Russell let us know that our auction will be held the Thursday after Thanksgiving this year on November 29, so be sure to save the date. Our annual auction is the primary source of funding for our committee. Specifically, the auction committee is looking for airline miles, good bottles of wine with a rating of 92 points minimum or above, gift cards or money to buy gift cards. Complete the donation form here in the rotator. Find the link on page 4.

President Suzy introduced Chair of the Day **Penny Robbins**, formerly of Integrated Marketing Services, which just went through an acquisition last week. Congratulations, Penny. Penny has 4 kids ages 35-15 and lives in Crown Point and is an active rower (rowing over 20 miles a week!) with the ZLAC Rowing Club, San Diego's oldest rowing club.

SoccerCity's panel of Nick Stone, Project Manager for SoccerCity, April Boling, former chair of San Diego County Taxpayers Association and a proponent of SoccerCity, and Landon Donovan, a former Major League Soccer MVP and SoccerCity partner, presented their plan for redeveloping the Mission Valley Stadium site into a vibrant mixed-use neighborhood. It will come complete with a privately funded modern stadium for a new Major League Soccer team and collegiate football, much needed student and market rate housing, as well as job and research space to grow the economy and meet SDSU's future needs. The plan includes a new river park and community fields, all at zero cost to taxpayers.

The stadium site today costs tax-payers close to \$6.5 million every year, and over \$100 million in deferred maintenance while dumping 40 million gallons of polluted runoff into the San Diego River annually. SoccerCity and Measure E solves the problem by privately funding the stadium and maintaining it for 99 years without any taxpayer financing. SoccerCity will pay the city's fair market value of \$83 million for the land, will get full funding of \$40 million for the 34-acre San Diego River Park, and create 26,000 permanent jobs in San Diego while bringing San Diego a Major League Soccer franchise.

Soccer is proven to be extremely popular in San Diego, as television ratings for the World Cup were the highest of any city of America, giving proof to Major League Soccer that San Diego is indeed a soccer city and worthy of its own MLS team.

According to the taxpayers association's analysis, SoccerCity would generate nearly \$400 million in tax revenue for the city over the life of the project. That's more than twice what would be created by the developers' SDSU West initiative. In other words, under SDSU West, more than \$200 million would be transferred from taxpayers to the pockets of its private developers.

The SoccerCity organization will work collaboratively with the university, Aztec football and Major League Soccer.

For SDSU, SoccerCity's benefits are vast. To meet the university's stated land needs, the plan sets aside 35 acres for campus expansion.

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SDSU West Presentation Jack McGrory and Fred Pierce

"Measure G, the SDSU West initiative, is the only initiative for the existing stadium site that allows San Diego State University to grow and thrive for generations to come. Measure G creates the opportunity for San Diego State University to expand its campus through an open and transparent process that will also increase access to local higher education. It will benefit the regional economy by significantly increasing the more than \$5.67 billion in economic impact generated by SDSU each year and producing more college graduates."

Jack McGrory and Fred Pierce are members of the Executive Committee of the "Friends of SDSU", the committee comprised of SDSU Alumni, business and community leaders that have sponsored the Measure G (SDSU West) ballot initiative.



Patti Roscoe Chair of the Day

#### **QUICK BITS**

Save the Date - Our next Tennis Tournament will be on Thursday, November 15 from 5:30-7:00pm, at

the Barnes Tennis Center. Round robin doubles will be the format again. Cost is \$15 per person. Click here to join us!

Ms. San Diego Program Video If you were not able to join us for our Ms. San Diego program on September 20 to honor Patti Roscoe, you can watch the video here.



#### Club 33 Holiday Celebration at the Timken Museum

The Grotarian Committee and the Club 33 Social Hour Committee are organizing a holiday celebration at the Timken Museum and you are all invited! Click here for details and to register early!

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

	October
Phil Blair	23
Katie Khasim	24
Mike Morton, Sr.	24
Hal Sadler	25
Nicole Simpson-Galligan	25
Pat Crowell	25
Woody Ledford	26
Tom Cohen	27
Tom Gammiere	27
Bink Cook	28
Frank Urtasun	28
Jim Hughes	28

#### **SoccerCity** Continued from page 1

And, instead of SDSU's picking up the entire cost of a new \$250 million stadium — as proposed under SDSU West — SoccerCity would take on half the construction and operating costs. Far from denying SDSU the opportunity to expand, SoccerCity would actually provide the university all the room it needs to grow, plus put Aztec football in a state-of-the-art home for half the cost of going it alone.

An additional benefit to SoccerCity's proposed deal is that K-12 would receive approximately \$853 million for San Diego schools.

When it comes to traffic, the SoccerCity initiative specifically addresses the traffic issues in Mission Valley with a detailed plan to mitigate traffic issues, setting aside \$50 million in traffic improvements.

The 60 acres of river park River Park will be 100% privately funded for 99 years and maintained by SoccerCity. With the SDSU West park funding plan, the city would have to pay for it.

The stress of time and getting this deal done was clear. If Measure E doesn't pass, there is no way San Diego will get an MLS team.

As the editor, it was hard to keep up with all the facts and details, but here are the main differences between the SoccerCity Measure E that the SDSU West plan does NOT cover: 1) construction will start 90 days after the deal is done; 2) 9,450 parking spaces added to the stadium; 3) provides the space for SDSU to expand and will save the university \$150 million annually; 4) commits to full \$83 million fair market value for site; 5) private development paying full property tax; 6) \$50 million of traffic mitigation; 6) privately funds and maintains River Park; 7) no lengthy CEQA delays; and of course 8) a new MLS team for San Diego.

The panelists truly believe this is something really good for Mission Valley, bringing new life to the area and as taxpayers enjoy the value without being on the hook for it financially.

Landon Donavan, whom played professionally in the Bundesliga, English Premier League, MLS, and Liga MX, agrees this plan is truly for everyone from 1-99 years old. Landon will be heading the SoccerCitySD youth soccer academy and will be San Diego's #1 destination to train and develop youth soccer players aged 12-19. The academy will be 100% free for every child, as "the child's ability should not be determined by whether or not they can afford it."

SoccerCity initiative is largely paid for by GOAL San Diego, Ptolemy Capital, Bridgewest Ventures and Steve Altman. Funding details at www.sandiego.gov/donors

#### **CALENDAR**

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT LIBERTY STATION CONFER-ENCE CENTER UNLESS OTHER-WISE NOTED

#### October

25 SDSU West Presentation-Jack McGrory and Fred Pierce

#### November

- Rafael Castellanos, Port of San Diego
- Annual Salute to Military

#### **GROTARIAN EVENTS**

Marine Recruit Graduation at

When: November 2 Time: 7:00am—11:30am **Cost: FREE** 

This will be a full-on Marine Corps experience! Graduation marks the end of a Marine's time in boot camp. It is his final dismissal and the culmination of his Recruit training. The graduation ceremony includes the graduating Marines, their Drill Instructors and other key training personnel. This is guaranteed to be an inspiring experience for all who attend!

Click here to learn more and to sign up. Deadline to sign up is October 23.

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

## **CLUB 33 SOCIAL HOUR**





## SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE









Plans are under way for our annual Giving Thanks, Giving Back auction on November 29. We encourage everyone to make a donation towards our silent or live auction by October 31. Donations of wine for the wine auction need to be at least 91 points or better and have a minimum cost of \$25. (Before turning in your wine, please be sure it is labeled with your name and the retail value of the wine.)

To submit auction items, please <u>click here to complete the online donation form</u>. Any questions? Contact Auction Chair <u>Diana Mar-Jip Chuh.</u>

## CAMP ENTERPRISE LEGACY APPLICATIONS

### Legacy nominations are now open for Camp Enterprise 2019

Club 33 Rotarians - If you'd like to nominate a high school junior in your family or close circle of friends to attend Camp Enterprise 2019, now is the time to act! The legacy nomination form is available on the Rotary website here: <a href="https://www.sandiegorotary.club/wp">https://www.sandiegorotary.club/wp</a> -content/uploads/2018/10/RCE-LEGACY-NOMINATION-2019.pdf

Nominations are due BEFORE DECEMBER 7, 2018, so please ACT NOW. If you have questions, contact

Bridget Meckley at bameckley@outlook.com.

## FACES IN OUR CROWD

Photos courtesy of Paul Nestor







Spotted in our crowd: (left) Nancy Scott in disguise with Mike Conner; (center) John Rebelo, guest John Myett and Dick Jackson; (right) Budd Rubin and Bonnie Schwartz





Chair of the Day Penny Robbins gifted visiting Rotarian Linda Moore (from Philadelphia) with some program-themed gifts.







Our panel of speakers: (left) Nick Stone (center) April Boling; (right) Landon Donovan





(Left) Mark Allan promoted our upcoming Seniors Warm Clothes Drive; (right) members, including **Travis Anderson**, posed for photos with former Major League Soccer MVP Landon Donovan.