

Bird Watching



Tom Gable
Editor

While some members were checking the PGA Tour website on their smart phones for the latest from the [Farmers Insurance Open](#) at Torrey Pines, the Club 33 program rolled along with precision: Inspirational Moment by **Barbara Noerenberg**; Pledge and singing of *America* led by

Solveig Deuprey, accompanied by **Greg Zinser**; News delivered by **Mark Burgess**, sponsored by **Ray McKewon**; and new member, **Kelly Smith**, giving highlights on how she arrived at Point Loma Nazarene University from the wilds of New York.

President Suzy levied a fine against **Laurén Lek**, Head of the Academy of Our Lady of Peace, who was pleased to announce a major gift of \$2 million from Darlene Shiley to support their STEM teaching programs (science, technology, engineering, math).

Chair of the Day **Caitlin Root** introduced Kyndell Gaglio from the government partnership team at Bird, one of the electric scooter sharing companies that have been opening in major cities and on campuses all over the U.S. Gaglio said the use of scooters can ease congestion in crowded cities, reduce pollution and add another form of transportation to complement existing systems, such as transit and trolley.

Gaglio positioned the electric vehicle sharing industry as a “last-mile” option. Some 500,000 have ridden Bird in San Diego, including some 20 Rotarians who raised their hands when asked about any users in the audience.

Users [download an application](#) to their smart phone. Each user must take a picture of a driver’s license to prove they are over 18 years old, the legal age for riding, and provide credit card information to pay for future rides.

The electric scooters have GPS connections and the app shows the locations of the nearest scooters. To unlock, riders scan the code on the scooter screen with their smart phone. It costs \$1 to unlock and riders then pay 15

cents per-minute to ride. Bird has a program to waive the \$1 fee for veterans. When the ride is over, users tap a button on the scooter with their phone and take a picture of the scooter to ensure it is being placed in a safe location.

Bird is just over one year old and is in more than 100 cities. The scooters have logged more than 14 million miles, Gaglio said. This has saved some 12.7 million pounds of carbon dioxide emissions, or the equivalent of taking 1,200 cars off the road. The growth has not been without its problems, including people leaving scooters in unsafe places and blocking sidewalks.

To help solve these issues, the company started a Bird Watcher program. Their fleet of humans is out every day to remove Birds from trouble spots and put them in safe areas. They take them in for maintenance and charging. Charging the scooters has become a growing small business, generating some \$25 million in revenues so far to individuals who have signed up to be independent charging resources in San Diego.

Bird recently rolled out its new Community Mode to report issues directly to Bird. Users can scan the code on the scooter. Bird knows who had the scooter last and can deal with possible consequences.

This reporting, Gaglio said, can help encourage smart, responsible safety practices. Bird will use reports of poorly parked vehicles to reposition vehicles so they are parked correctly. Similarly, reports of damaged vehicles will ensure those Birds are no longer available on the map for riding. Mechanics in the area will be notified to remove the damaged vehicles to be repaired.

Gaglio said Bird hosts regular safety panels and attends community events to promote safe riding. The company has ceased late night operations and works with each community it serves to govern speed limits. She said they are challenging other operators to do the same.

“We can lose market share late at night, but that’s fine,” she said. *Continued on page 2*

Next Meeting

**Next Meeting:
January 31**

**Cathryn Nacario, CEO
National Alliance on
Mental Illness**

The National Alliance on Mental Illness in San Diego (NAMI San Diego) is the community’s voice on mental illness. They are a part of grass-roots, nonprofit, national NAMI organization, and also an affiliate of NAMI California. NAMI San Diego was founded in 1978 by family members of people with mental illness.

They have a threefold mission:

- Support people with mental illnesses and their families by helping them find coping mechanisms for their daily struggle with brain disorders.
 - Educate people who have mental illness, their families, and the general public about mental illness with the goal of dispelling ignorance and stigma.
 - Advocate for more research and an improved system of mental health services across the nation.
- family

This presentation will focus on the basics of what mental illness is and is not focusing on dispelling myths and stigma as it pertains to creating a mentally healthy workplace environment.



**Divya Kakaiya
Chair of the Day**

QUICK BITS



Our next **GOLF** event will be on **Friday, February 22 at 9am**. We will tee off at the beautiful San Diego Country Club.

For more details or if you are interested in playing, please contact golf chair Richard Donnelly at rdonnelly@epwealth.com

Are you interested in attending the annual **Rotary International Convention** this year?



Join Rotarians from around the world on **June 1-5 in Hamburg, Germany!** [Click here](#) to learn more.

Do you have a change of address? Changed jobs recently or have a new title? **If there any changes that you would like to make for the 2019-20 member directory**, please contact the [Rotary office](#) asap.

BIRTHDAYS

January

John Hinrichs	28
Robert Coleman	28
Marlee Ehrenfeld	29
Joan Bullock	30
George Driver	30
Rod Smith	30
Cecil Steppe	31
Lynn Congemi	31

February

Allison Whitney	1
James Halliday	1

Bird Watching

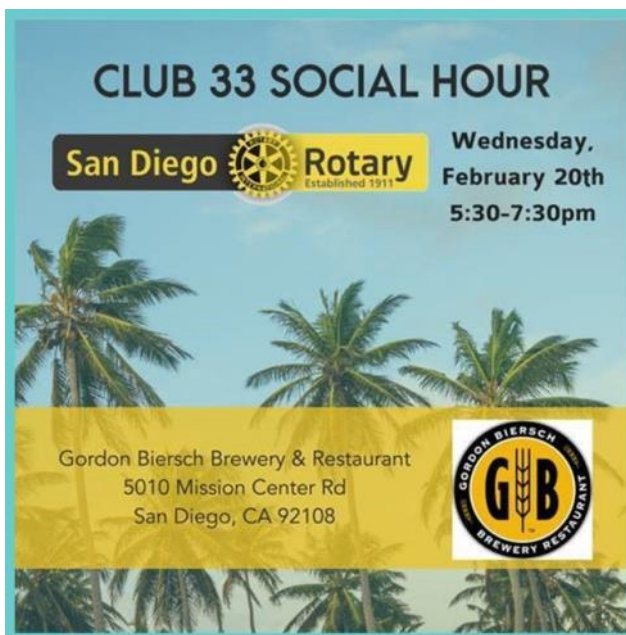
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Bird shares its user data with the cities it serves so traffic experts can analyze the patterns and see if local system adjustments might be made to improve local mobility.

During the Q&A session, Rotarians worried about scooter riders cutting across lanes, running through intersections, riding on sidewalks and exhibiting other unsafe behaviors. She said she shared the frustrations and the scooter industry is trying to be more educational. Bird wants the community to let the company know when there are issues. A lot of this is trial and error, with a new industry, and she expects the system to see continuous improvement, which includes taking bad drivers off.

Over time, people will learn the rules of the road. Scooter use will become more accessible and integrated into how we travel, help us get out of the car culture and stop paying for parking.

“It is also fun to ride!” she said.



CALENDAR

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

January

31 Cathryn Nacario, CEO, NAMI

February

7 Joseph Panetta, President & CEO, Biocom

14 Special Valentine's Day Program

GROTARIAN EVENTS

Little Italy Walking Tour

Tuesday, February 12th
5:30-7:15pm Guided Tour
7:30pm—Dinner-private space at [Nonna](#) back patio (1735 India St.) Non alcoholic beverages (iced teas, sodas, coffee or tea) and a variety of gourmet pizzas are served family style.
Cost is \$25 per person, all inclusive (tour, pizza, non alcoholic beverages). Alcoholic beverages are available **on a no host basis**.

This tour will not only inform you of Little Italy's history, but update you on what is new!

You must sign up by February 5!

[Click here for more event details and to register.](#)

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

Phone: 619/299-3309 Fax: 619/299-3340 ♦ e-mail: paul@rotary33.org ♦ website: <http://www.sandiegorotary.club>

MEMBERSHIP

Please welcome our newest member to the club:



Kelly Smith—“Education-Private University Admin, A.A.” Kelly is the Vice President of University Advancement for Point Loma Nazarene University. She is a former member of the Rochester Rotary Club in New York.

She holds a bachelor’s degree from Roberts Wesleyan College and a master’s degree in American Government from Regent University.

For 11 years, Kelly worked at Roberts Wesleyan College in where she created the Office of Government, Corporate and Foundation Relations. She moved here to San Diego in June with her family. Her husband, Shane, is an ordained minister in the Church of the Nazarene.

Kelly enjoys reading, movies, coffee and great conversation. She likes to play Bunco and is looking for a new team here in San Diego!

Bill Earley was her sponsor.
Email: ksmith4@pointloma.edu

Don’t forget you can check out all of our new member profiles on our website!
<https://www.sandiegorotary.club/membership/new-members/>

FOUR-WAY TEST SPEECH CONTEST



Friday, January 25-Cardinal Interacts speech participants week 3

Great topics are in the works here for the speech contest. Our Rotarians very engaged!

MODEL UN CONFERENCE



Volunteers needed! Model UN Conference 2019 - if you are interested in learning more about the District's Model UN Program and how you can volunteer for the next conference in April, [click here](#). You can also contact Club 33 members [Bink Cook](#) or [Jean Young](#) for more information.

The conference trains high school students to be effective negotiators, consensus builders and peacemakers by debating current day international issues that are presently being addressed by the real United Nations. Students also learn important skills in conflict resolution, analytical thinking and public speaking.

ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS



Applications are now being accepted for facilitators for our upcoming RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) conference being held on **April 12-14, 2019 in beautiful Idyllwild**. RYLA is a leadership conference for approximately 280 high school juniors from throughout the district. The primary intent is to encourage students to become effective servant leaders; an added result is they emerge confident, enthusiastic and empowered. The program includes exceptional speakers, small group discussions and fellowship activities all within an atmosphere of trust and respect. If you have some experience working with youth, are in good health and are committed to the principles of Rotary youth and the development of young people - you are qualified! RYLA is an extraordinary Rotary youth program you will not want to miss (ask any club members who have participated in the past). In addition, there is no cost to you to participate.

The application process is simple. Go to the [RYLA website](#) and click on the "facilitator" tab and then click on the "application" link. Complete the application and click "submit". You'll be on your way to one of the most rewarding experiences as a Rotarian. If you have questions, please review the information on the website or contact **Paul Van Roon**, who is the facilitator coordinator and Club 33 member, at paulvanroon@icloud.com or by calling 619-980-2334.

FACES IN OUR CROWD

Photos courtesy of Paul Nestor



(Left) **Todd Struyk, Ginny Ollis, Paul Hartley and Jan McDonough** were photobombed by our Check-in Committee; (right) **Pat Crowell and Norbert Sanders** holding their weekly pre-lunch meeting at Oggi's.



(Left) Jan McDonough introduced SDSU Rotaract Ubaldo Martinez to Past District Governor Steve Brown; (center) President Suzy shared some exciting news she found in the UT; (right) Barbara Noerenberg inspired us with quotes from the book "All I Really Need to Know, I Learned in Kindergarten".



(Left) Chair of the Day Caitlin Root, guest speaker Kyndell Gaglio and President Suzy; (right) Grotarian Committee Chair **Laura Ochoa** announced our February Grotarian event...a walking tour in Little Italy.



(Left) President Suzy received a gift from new member Kelly Smith of PLNU (made out of chocolate!); (center) Kyndell answered many more questions from our members after the meeting; (right) President Suzy with **Peter Ellsworth** and **Mike Collins**.