

## A Grand Vision For San Diego



Jen Weissman  
Editor

Today was **President Suzy's** last official meeting. We are sad to see her go, but also looking forward to seeing what our Roast committee has up their sleeves next week!

This week's Inspirational Moment was delivered by **Whitney Skala**, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

and *Star Spangled Banner*, led by **Joe Zakowski** and accompanied by Bryan Verhoye. **Mark Burgess** then delivered today's important News headlines sponsored by **Ben Wood** and B. Wood Insurance.

Our last Art Moment of the year was presented by Keith Opstad, a local artist, art educator and a San Diego County Teacher of the year. He has taught art professionally in the Poway Unified School District for 24 years and worked with over 6,500 students. Keith's message was why arts education was so important in developing our children's "soft skills" or non-cognitive skills. Keith explained he teaches his students to memorize the rules, then learn to break them — take risks and do something different. He has seen them become better creative thinkers, better students and ultimately better San Diegans.

**Paul Devermann** gave the club an update on Atiak, Uganda hospital, originally conceived by **Walter Lam**, founder of The Alliance for African Assistance and a native of Uganda, whose land for the hospital was donated by a local elder. Paul announced the RI Global Grant for \$300,000 was approved and purchasing has started. This hospital is really important because of an ever-rising population increase in sub-Saharan Africa, Uganda. This is a very poor area with over 25 million people are younger than 18 years old. Atiak is 18 miles from the border of South Sudan, which makes this hospital vital to take care of the increasing demand of Sudanese refugees. For example, the hospital treated 6,000 patients with malaria, TB, HIV/AIDS—all within three days.

There are opportunities for room and space naming sponsorships, starting at \$10K donation per room and can be paid over time. Courtyards and larger areas and buildings are also available. Paul himself announced he would be the first one to commit to \$10K,

followed by a hearty round of applause. We then had an unprecedented number of additional \$10K donations, from members **Roger Haines**, **Michelle Candland**, **Peg Eddy**, **Amnon Ben-Yehuda**, **Ellen Casey** and **Chuck Pretto**.

**Bob Russell**, the outgoing chair of the Rotary Foundation, announced an additional \$25K grant will also be made available to the hospital, and to request the hospital's reception area be named, "The Walter Lam Welcome Hall" in recognition of what Walter has done. Standing ovation. We had just witnessed \$95K raised right now!

*If the refugees aren't coming to San Diego, we will go to the refugees*—Walter Lam, Founder & President, Alliance for African Assistance.

**Stephanie Saathoff** then introduced **Hasan Ikhrata**, recent Los Angeles transplant of 6 months and SANDAG's new Executive Director.

Hasan's message for transportation in San Diego is simple: increase our transportation infrastructure quickly in order to plan and accommodate for our city's future population growth. SANDAG is working with SPAWAR's 72-acre site to make it one of the biggest economically diverse and biggest transportation hubs in the state of California.

The vision for a San Diego Grand Central Station is to create a major transportation hub with supportive land use for 10,000+ residents, providing connections to network of regional transit and transportation choices that allows people to access the airport in one transfer from anywhere in the region.

Hasan has been tasked with figuring out how to alleviate traffic congestion while increasing access and viability of public transportation. He says they can build a transportation hub with a state-of-the-art people mover to the airport terminal — either underground or an elevated structure. Then to put 10-15,000 sq. ft of office space, living space, plus navy office space there as well.

How much is this going to cost? A lot. And money the city currently doesn't have. However, Hasan points out the cost of not doing this is much higher.

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## Next Meeting

**Next Meeting:  
June 27**

## Annual President's Roast

It's going to President Suzy's 'Swan Song'! The year of Art Moments and everything Suzy Zoo must sadly come to end.

So please come and enjoy this special send-off by our Past Presidents and our Roast Committee.

It will be sure to make you "Quack" up!



**Roast Committee Co-Chairs  
Peter Duncan & Bob Russell**

## 2019-2020 COMMITTEE SIGN-UP

**GET INVOLVED!** Every year you have a new opportunity to select where you wish to serve. Even if you have participated in certain committees this past year, you must re-enlist to remain on them. The [club's website](#) identify our committees and their purpose. Some of the committees meet monthly, and others only meet on an as needed basis.

[Click here to sign up.](#) Simply click on the buttons next to the committee(s) you would like to join and then click the "Done" button at the bottom of the page.

## QUICK BITS

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## CALENDAR

### New Lunch Costs

We have reached a new three year agreement that allows us to keep Liberty Station Conference Center as our home! Your input on the annual survey indicates very high satisfaction with the venue and arrangements, and we are very pleased to have this new agreement in place.

Even though there are planned increases in minimum wage over the term of the agreement, our cost of attendance will only increase \$1 per year. So, **effective July 1, the weekly meal cost will increase to \$34, and the cost for non-eaters will increase to \$6.**



### No lunch reminder

To ensure that we have enough seats for all of our diners, please join us at one of our two **Beverage**

**Only** tables, or at the seating located at the back of the room if you will not be eating.

Also, please be sure you are letting the registration crew know to check you in accordingly.

## BIRTHDAYS

### June

Larry Clapper	24
Bill McKenzie, Jr.	26
Bruce Knowlton	27
Phil Gildred, Jr.	27
Emile Misiraca	28
Joe Craver	29
John Driscoll	29
Vin Ciruzzi	30
Mike Murphy	30

Right now, we only have one way to get around the city reasonably – by car. The goal is to make transit more convenient than a car by building a fast, safe and reliable transit system.

Hasan's vision comes from the success he had working for the Los Angeles county Metro, and he believes San Diego is even better suited for a great transportation system.

As SANDAG begins to update the Regional Plan, the creation of transportation hubs is seen as a key strategy for creating affordable housing and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

This will be a huge missed opportunity if we don't do this. We have to believe it can be done. It won't cost less 10 years from now, so let's start now. We can fix the system and make it sustainable and will lead to economic development for our region. Operating costs for transportation would be funded by the users: user use, user pay. But ultimately, we – the taxpayers – will ultimately pay one way or the other. We can either ignore or prepare, but either way we are going to grow as a region.

Hasan pointed out that adding an extra lane to alleviate traffic congestion does not and will not work, and gave Houston, TX as an example. They built a 26-lane highway, the largest in the world and now the most congested in the world. Adding a lane here or there is not going to solve the problem, it just delays it.

Since our speaker of the day had to leave the meeting early, President Suzy continued the meeting with additional announcements, beginning with introducing new members **Jamie Weissburg** and **Edgar Takeda**. (By the way – if you read in a recent Rotator that our membership is 400, that was a mis-print! As of now, we are 509 members strong, and growing.)

Lastly, the **Capt. Paul J. Hartley, Jr. Membership Development Award** was presented by Suzy, in recognizing the member who brought in the most new members during the Rotary year. This year's recipient truly embraced the importance of growth through new memberships and has chaired the Membership Committee for 2 years in a row: **Daniel Amaro**. Congratulations, Daniel!

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

### June

**27 Annual President's Roast**

### July

**4 Dark**

**11 Annual Change of Command**

**18 Ferry Zandvliet-Paris Terrorist Attack Survivor**

## GROTARIAN EVENT

**Join us at the Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute** for an exclusive evening introducing you to the fascinating world of open ocean seafood farming (aquaculture). We will tour the facility with globally recognized aquaculture experts who'll share their vision, purpose and process in sustainable farming of this critically needed protein source, while answering any questions or concerns you may have. Fabulous food and beverages will be served. Guests are welcome!

**Date: Tuesday July 23, 2019**  
**Time: 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

Address: 2595 Ingraham Street - San Diego, CA 9210  
Free parking

**Cost per Person: \$35.00**  
**Deadline for Registration: July 19, 2019**  
**Maximum Attendees: 40**

[Click here to sign up!](#)

**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 members to the club:



**Jamie Weissburg—“Associations-Cystic Fibrosis”.** Jamie is the Executive Director for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (San Diego and Imperial Counties Chapter).

Jamie grew up in Evanston, IL. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin, where she met her husband, Dan. After a move to Washington D.C., then to Chicago, and then back to Madison, WI., they decided to move to sunny San Diego in 2016.

Jamie’s career in non-profit fundraising includes many years with the Les Turner ALS Foundation and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

She has two sons, Jacob and Benji. They are all die-hard Cubs fans. (Jamie has a Labradoodle named Wrigley.) She enjoys gourmet cooking and entertaining, and she is a former Rotary member of the Rotary Club of Madison.

**Daniel Amaro** was her sponsor.

Email: [jweissburg@cff.org](mailto:jweissburg@cff.org)



**Edgar Takeda—“Financial Advisor, Additional Active”.** Edgar is a Financial Advisor with Northwestern Mutual.

Edgar was born and raised in San Diego. He is a graduate of Saint Augustine High School where he was a three-sport varsity athlete. After high school, he went on to the United States Naval Academy, where he graduated in 2013 with a major in Oceanography and Meteorology and a minor in Spanish.

After graduating and receiving a Commission as a Naval Officer into the United States Navy, he received orders to Pensacola, Florida as a Navy Pilot for 2 years. He then transferred into the Surface Warfare Community and moved back to San Diego to be stationed on the USS ANCHORAGE (LPD 23) as the ship’s Training and Administrative Officer.

Edgar says, after many years of having to wear a uniform for school and for the military, he is happy to be able to choose his own clothes as a financial advisor. He has been married to his wife Lauren for 4 years and they have a 2-year-old daughter named Makenna. They are expecting their second child this year.

**Daniel Amaro, Ed Hearn and Katie Fulhorst** were his sponsors.

Email: [edgar.d.takeda@gmail.com](mailto:edgar.d.takeda@gmail.com)



**San Diego Rotary**  
Social Networking  
★★★★★ 1

OPEN



Thank you to all of our members who are using our app to share photos, messages and reminders about everything going on in the club! By downloading the app on your phone, you can quickly check on all of our upcoming club events and programs, and post reminders about your committee meetings or committee events. It is a useful tool to quickly register for events.

You can download the FREE San Diego Rotary app on your phone and tablet from the App Store or Google Play. Just search “San Diego Rotary” in the store. (This app is only for San Diego Rotary Club members.)

# ATIAK HOSPITAL

As shown below, numerous rooms are available for adoption at the Alliance For African Assistance Hospital in Atiak, Uganda. The number in parenthesis signifies the number of rooms in a given category. Each room or space is \$10,000 except as noted. A commemorative plaque will be plaque outside the room noting the name of the donor, or wording that the donor selects. Contact Paul Devermann if you are interested or have questions.

Female Reproductive Health:  
Female reproductive waiting room (1)  
Pre-natal (2) - **Eddy**  
Labour (2)  
Delivery (2) - **Candland**  
Ante Natal (2)  
MidWife (1)  
Doctor (1)  
Attendant (1)  
Children's Diagnosis (3) – **Devermann; Ben-Yehuda**  
Adult Treatment rooms (3); **Casey**  
Adult Treatment Waiting Room (1)  
Dental (1)  
Ophthalmology (1)  
ENT (1)  
HIV/Aids (1)  
Pharmacy (1)  
X-Ray (1) – **Pretto**  
Night Observation – Male (1); Female (1)  
Pharmacy (1); Waiting (1)  
Accounts (1); Waiting (1)  
Adult Diagnosis (4) **Haines**; Waiting (1)  
General Store (4)  
Welcome Room (1) - **Lam**  
Staff Tea/Common Room (1)  
General Waiting Terrace (1)  
Large Central Courtyard (1) (\$50,000)  
Landscape Garden (1)

Second Floor  
Function Hall (3)  
Medical Administrator (1)  
Deputy Medical Administrator (1)  
Secretary (1)



# FACES IN OUR CROWD

Photos courtesy of Paul Nestor



(Left) Guest speaker Hasan Ikhata and President Suzy take some time to chat before the meeting; (right) President Suzy invited Keith Opstad, a local artist, art educator and a San Diego County Teacher, to present the final Art Moment of the her year.



(Left) Club 33 Executive Director Paul Devermann caught us up on the status of the hospital in Atiak, Uganda (which was conceived by Club 33 member Walter Lam); (right) Foundation Chair Bob Russell announced that the Foundation Board approved an additional \$25,000 grant to go towards the hospital and that the reception area will be named the "Walter Lam Welcome Hall."



(Left) With an additional \$70,000 donated by Paul Devermann, Roger Haines, Amnon Ben-Yehuda, Michelle Candland, Peg Eddy, Chuck Pretto and Ellen Casey, Walter was overcome with emotion; (right) Congrats to Daniel Amaro for winning this year's Capt Paul Hartley, Jr. Membership Development Award.