

THE ROTATOR

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SAN DIEGO ROTARY CLUB

THE "BIG" AUCTION IN HEART, AS WELL AS EARNINGS!

Next Meeting



Ginny Ollis Editor

President David called the meeting to order with his usual summary of recent achievements – building bikes with Marines, providing turkeys in East San Diego, and other celebrations of our Rotary making a difference this past week... everywhere!

Nancy Scott, who in 1999 suggested to the board that the club sponsor a holiday auction and then chaired the committee until its revenue topped \$1M dollars, shared the inspiration of her 1991 Rotary Africa trip. After the African Rotary work was complete, she embarked on a private safari which somehow stranded her and a friend in the middle of a vast desert. They walked and trudged to a corrugated hut way off in the distance hoping to get out of the sun. There was a little boy inside, AND a large Rotary banner. Nancy asked the boy what the place was, and he smiled and informed them that "this is where good people do good things!"

Larry Hoeksema led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and My Country 'Tis of Thee. Then the dais was yielded to Auction chair, Kimberly Layton.

Kimberly is the longest tenured woman in the NFL, and holds the position as VP of External Affairs. If the Chargers were smart, they would move Kimberly from VP to team coach or manager. Her chairmanship has been so clear, specific, detailed, full of initiative, and regularly enforced with helpful ideas, new goals, and the most appreciative and gracious recognition! She is some coach! Kimberly thanked auction sponsors: Phil Blair and Mel Katz of Manpower, Mark Stuart of the San Diego Foundation, Tom Cohen of Barry Slatt Mortgage, and the LA Chargers; then went on to praise the committee members and donor drivers, and so deservedly Paul Devermann and Mary Radovan.

Past President, Past Foundation Chair, and the inspiration to starting our Foundation, **Michelle Candland** was invited to the podium to share her words of gratitude. She reminded us that Desmond Tuto said "Do your little bit of good where you are; it is those little bits of good put all together that overwhelm the world". Michelle

spoke to the establishment of a Foundation for our club under her presidency and cited some great accomplishments since then: helping the recovery of residents of the gulf coast of Texas after hurricane Harvey, helping San Juan Puerto Rico after their hurricane devastation, donating money to school children by providing mental health and trauma counseling during the Paradise fires in 2018, donating funds to the Alpha Project when its shelter was rain-destroyed last year, giving to a bike fund in honor of Jonathan Sellers and Charlie Keever who were victims of a child predator, planting 500 trees to fight climate change, contributing to Little Rock students in memory of a student denied school access because of race, helping build a new community center in Tijuana, providing diapers to young Coast Guard families without paychecks during the government shutdown, helping to build a much needed hospital in Uganda, funding President Suzy's arts education project and President David's combat against human trafficking, funding our annual PAC grants where members are active, and funding the Diana Venable and Cades scholarships, and helping in so many more ways of turning dreams into reality in our community and around the world.

The Live Auction was opened with Christy White bidding continuously to grab the Dinner for 10 hosted by the **Stir**lings and Pavels. \$2800 was the final bid for the 3-night Lake Tahoe stay for 14 people, and one of our guests stepped up to \$3250 for 3 days at the Golden Door. Paul Devermann was not to be denied the week in Sedona. Paul Hartley and Rachel Inmon (stunningly arrayed in her lighted angel wings) each ponied up \$1400 for a sunset cruise on Joe Craver's new 44' yacht. Andrea de Rosa won a private Padres Suite for up to 20 people, and another guest held on to the winning \$2600 bid for a Sunset Paella Party at Junipero Serra for 25 people! The best professional auctioneer anywhere, Zack Krone, prodded and tickled us through \$100,000+ of private donations led by Camille Newbern and Doug Arbon. each pledging \$10,000, and those who had bought tickets for the opportunity drawing celebrated when their tickets were chosen.

Continued on page 2

NEXT MEETING WILL DECEMBER 12

GARRY BONELLI, CHAIRMAN BOARD OF PORT COM-MISSIONERS

Renaissance on the Bay

Garry Bonelli was sworn in on January 16, 2019, as the new board chairman of the Board of Port Commissioners for the San Diego Unified Port District.

Garry's mantra for the Port of San Diego is clearly defined: "In order to have a world-class port we must: think globally, plan regionally, and act locally, focusing on what's best for the bay overall."

With his presentation, Garry will take us on a virtual tour around San Diego Bay and all of the Port of San Diego projects going on within the Port's five member cities of Chula Vista, Coronado, Imperial Beach, National City and San Diego. We will hear about the progress being made on the 535-acre Chula Vista Bayfront project, the Brigantine's Portside Pier project on the North Embarcadero, Seaport San Diego and others.



Chair of the Day Mike Morton, Jr.

QUICK BITS

The "BIG" Auction In Heart, As Well As Earnings! Continued from page 1

CALENDAR

Committee Chairs: This holiday season, don't forget to invite our Rotaracts to your service activities! They are always willing to participate and help out whenever possible.

Here is their contact info: SDSU Rotaract - sdsurotaractvps-ervice@gmail.com City Heights Rotaract chrotaractclub@gmail.com San Diego Rotaract - sdrota-ractservice@gmail.com

Club 33 Mentor Program

What better folks to give back to or learn and grow with than fellow Rotarians! If you are interested in being a mentor or a mentee, please contact Barbara Noerenberg or Daniel Amaro for more information. We are planning on starting in late January 2020.

And finally, **John Hawkins** won the big prize for the Badge Drop (a romantic overnight stay at the Marriott and a gorgeous watch compliments of Jessop Jewelers.)

Some of the other special donations not mentioned above were a Christmas tree decorated with all the characters of Suzy's Zoo in fluffy stuffed hugability, VIP Holiday Bowl tickets, 1 night at the Romantic La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club with dinner at the Marine Room, a week at an Orlando Time Share. a 4-night stay in a 3BR 2.5bath cabin in Idyllwild including hot tub, fireplace and stars, Old Globe tickets with an overnight at the Westgate, Saturday at Rancho La Puerta including transportation to and from, and a traffic-stopping mini red Tesla electric car (just to drive your 4 year old crazy), an "L.T." Hall of Fame autographed football, as well as fishing trips, plumbing certificates, golf lessons, Gulls games, Sea World + Bahia stay, business coaching, nutrition coaching, and stashes of champagne and special highly cherished wines, art, and SDSU event tickets! (There was so much more but I am too short on space.)



Our deepest condolences go out to Andy Fichthorn who lost his wife, Kim, on November 23.

Flease keep Andy and his family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.



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

DEC

- 12 Garry Bonelli-Board of Port Commissioners
- 19 Annual Holiday Program
- 26 DARK

JAN

- 2 DARK
- 9 Annual State of the Investment Market

GROTARIAN

Grotarian Fireside Chat January 28 5:30-7:30pm Academy of Our Lady of Peace 4860 Oregon Street, SD 92116 Cost: Free

This event is for Grotarians only. Please no spouses or guests.

Red Badgers – please come and learn more about Club 33 and our Committees as we sit by the fire on a cool evening in San Diego. We will have 8-10 Committee Chairs speak about their committees, what their committees do, and how you as a committee member can help.

This is one way for you to find the committee that is the perfect fit for you, AND satisfy one of your permanent badge requirements!

Click here for more details and to register.

BIRTHDAYS

	December
Miro Copic	10
Treacy Sommer	11
Amnon Ben-Yehuda	11
Jerry Jessop	12
Mia Harenski	14
Andre Jimenez	14
Ray Higgins	15
Debbie Day	15
Skip Hymes	15

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

David Oates, President ◆ Paul Devermann, Executive Director

BID BIG AUCTION 2019 Photos courtesy of Paul Nestor

















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