



# OHANA NEWSBRIEF



2020-21 Rotary Year

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Editor – Ghost

## Member Spotlight Mike Bede

My father was a career Navy seaman. I was born in the Philadelphia Naval Hospital in 1954. I moved around a lot when I was a kid. Went to kindergarten in Rota, Spain. First grade was in Camp Lejeune in NC, second & third grades in Kenosha, WI (Dad was assigned to the Great Lakes).

In 1962, my parents divorced, and my Dad got custody of me. He was still in the Navy, so he dumped me on his sister and her husband in San Bruno, CA. I fit in beautifully. Finally, I had a home and family. My aunt & uncle became my parents and their 4 kids were my brothers and sisters. Although “Mom & Dad” are gone, we still remain tight as siblings. I stayed there for 5 years, which were the best 5 years of my childhood.

In 1967, my dad remarried and unceremoniously moved me to Lewiston, ID. It was one move too many and came when I was 13, finally had roots, family & friends.

In 1972, I graduated from Lewiston High and I enlisted in the Navy. That got me out of Lewiston in the good graces of my Dad & stepmom.

I spent 5 years in the Navy until April 30, 1975 (fall of Saigon). I spent most of that time off the coast of Viet Nam.

I got out of the Navy in 1977, got married, had two girls, got divorced (19 years). Got remarried, inherited three more girls, got divorced (16 years). Currently have a beautiful woman in my life and looking to spend the rest of my life with her.



## Chris Nance, Former White House Press Core

Chris Nance, former White House (WH) Press Core representative spoke to the club about the many responsibilities and requirements of the 24/7 demanding job. The role of the WH Press Core is to ensure the President and VP (VP) present correctly to the press, the press do their job adequately and the press briefing is in optimal surroundings. They need to make sure the correct people are available to talk to the press about any given topic. Reporters are scrutinized closely to be credentialed to report at the WH.

During WH flight travel a “travel pool” of approximately 25 persons are allowed to travel on Air Force One and Two or Marine One and Two (WH helicopters) so they can cover every step of a trip. Local “pools” are a subset of the WH and the “travel pool”. If only a few can fit, it must consist of representatives from TV, newspapers, radio, etc. Every reporter is credentialed and checked by Secret Service before entry.

The podium the President and VP speak from is referred to as the Blue Goose. It is heavily armored and has a draped cavity a person can go inside and become totally wrapped for safety. Logistics for press briefing are comprehensive and include 10 major duties: Look at site selection-what viewers will see and how safe it is; a secure area for the press; how the press will arrive and navigate through the site (they are not allowed to every cross in front of President or VP); and the number of vehicles that can travel safely in a motorcade – how many can be press vehicles – and how the vehicles will stay together for correct pictures/videos. The WH Press Core is on site 5-days before national briefings and 10-days before international briefings. Two limousines and two Suburbans, with windows about 1-ft thick, are flown to the briefing site.

## Chris Nance, *Continued*

Security stays with them at all time. When the President and/or VP are traveling the roads and freeways are shut down, on both sides for the President and one side for the VP. The motorcade never stops and a helicopter flies ahead of the motorcade at all times.

Nick told a couple stories, one from an experience in Finland and the other an experience in Colorado. He said he felt honored to have had this experience even though it was extremely hard and stressful, and that he woke up every day knowing history would always be made that day.

Now more than 25 years later, Chris said his memories are less about the politics at the time, and more about his observation of the incomprehensible responsibilities held by the president and vice president. He asked Rotarians listening what it may be like waking up every day to make history. He said the Office of the President has a job to do like no other on the planet, and that it was both an honor and privilege to serve in the roles he was assigned.



**“Because of You”...Buzz Wiesenfeld for all of time and efforts to organize the Grants from Encina and Greer Schools**

## KEY DATES

**September 25 – Virtual: 7:30 AM – Dr. Nick Sawyer, UCDMC, Covid Expert**

**October 3, 2020 – No Zoom Meeting!!! No Zoom Meeting!!!**