

THE GOLDEN rotarian

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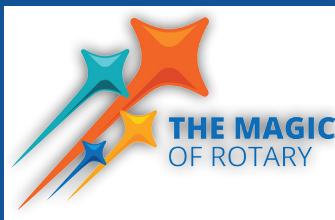
LA JOLLA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ROTARY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 6 2024



TAMIMA NOORZAY
THE PREUSS SCHOOL

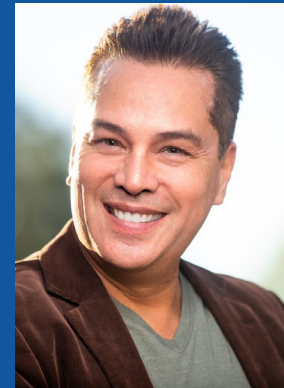
CARLOS MENDOZA
CYGNET THEATRE.



RI President 2024-25
STEPHANIE URCHICK

District 5340 Governor 2024-25
DIANNE CRAWFORD

LJGT Rotary President 2024-25
LUKE ERVIN



AOS MEETINGS AND SOCIAL EVENTS

1st Friday of the Month.....Community Services Committee
(follows club meeting)

2nd Friday of the Month..... International Services Committee
(follows club meeting)

3rd Friday of the Month..... Youth Services Committee
(follows club meeting)

4th Friday of the Month.....Peace Committee
(follows club meeting)



DRAMATIC DESIGN: FOSTERING FUTURES THROUGH ROTARY!

Tamima Noorzay has served for 10 Years as the Fine Arts Chair at Preuss. As a UCSD alumna, one of her department goals is growing community connections to help students see themselves in a broader perspective. As a result of these partnerships, students are learning to use their voice and creativity to support and uplift one another. Altruism, compassion, and community engagement are some of the core values of Preuss. In the studio, her students use art as a vehicle to highlight, advocate, and engage with audiences, seeking to empower the climate and culture of the Press School UC San Diego. She has worked on several large scale mural projects in collaboration with Baltimore artist, Jay Wolf Sclossberg Cohen at Marshall College, Preuss, La Jolla Country Day School, and next quarter at 6th College. Each of these murals are centered around social justice themes. The La Jolla Symphony and Chorus along with Art of Elan have also partnered with Preuss students who have created large scale art inspired by the music from their musicians and composers. The banners in Mandeville are a part of this collaboration.

Carlos Mendoza is the current Education and Outreach Director at Cygnet Theatre. He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Musical Theatre from the United States International University in San Diego, California. Before joining Cygnet Theatre, Carlos served as the Education and Outreach Director at Musical Theatre West and worked as the project coordinator for Arts United. With a versatile career spanning acting, directing, choreographing, and producing, Carlos is a seasoned professional in the entertainment industry. His work has earned widespread recognition, including San Diego Critics Circle Awards for his productions of West Side Story, Ragtime, and In the Heights. Additional honors include:

- 2014 BRAVO Award (San Diego) for exceptional contributions to the arts
- 2015 National Youth Arts Award for his production of In the Heights at San Diego Junior Theatre
- Inland Theatre League Award for Choreography for In the Heights at Performance Riverside
- The Mary Jane Teal Award for his production of In the Heights at Music Theatre Wichita

Carlos has also choreographed two full seasons of Dos Y Dos for Latin American Multimedia, showcasing his creativity and dedication to cultural representation through art.



REPORT

from the last meeting



UPCOMING SPEAKERS



2024

DECEMBER - SPEAKER

13.....Captain Steve Shebloski, SDPD
Neighborhood Policing: addressing
homelessness and other issues

20.....HOLIDAY PROGRAM
welcoming local seniors

27.....Dark

2025

JANUARY - SPEAKER

3.....Dark

17.....Dr. Gina Simmons
Liberalism v Conservatism:
Historical roots, psychological researches

24.....Azim Khamisa
Tariq Khamisa Foundation
Championing Peace

First order of business as **President Luke Ervin** opened the meeting was to find the owner (**Jacquie**) of a pair of sunglasses found in the parking lot. Once that was taken care of President Luke introduced our Rotarian of the Day, **Dr. Antonio Grillo-Lopez**. Dr. Antonio started with a moment of silent prayer for peace and then lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Dr. Antonio is well-respected by all of us for his anti-cancer accomplishments. He was the one who led the clinical development of Rituxan and presented the data to the FDA to obtain its approval. His presentation today focused on Rituxan, the #1 anti-cancer agent of all times (per Kiplinger Magazine). Rituxan was the first antibody the FDA approved for cancer treatment. Today more than 70,000 patients with lymphomas are cured each year thanks to Rituxan. Thank you, Dr. Antonio, for your work. We are very fortunate that you are part of our Rotary Club.

President Luke announced that attending on Zoom were **Irwin Rubenstein** and **Jay Hatfield**. No guests were introduced, though **Maria Grillo**, Dr. Antonio's better half, was in the audience.

Announcements
The Peace Committee and Youth Service Committee will meet after today's meeting.

President Luke presented the final tally on our October 21, "Coffee with the Boss" event. The event raised \$995. \$1,000 was sent to RI President, Stephanie Urchick's, endowment fund. The amount was rounded up as any donation amount over \$1,000 receives recognition as a benefactor of the Rotary Foundation and a certificate.

Peggy Martin, who recently resigned from the Club as she is now living most of the year in Washington state, has been inducted as an honorary member.

Birthdays and anniversaries:
Congratulations to **Ajay Asher** who has a birthday coming up this week and to **Irwin Rubenstein** who is celebrating his 25th anniversary in Rotary.

Bev Larsen reminded us that the

Holiday Party is coming soon, on December 7th. It is starting early, at 5:30 PM, so we can enjoy the Parade of Boats. Please sign up soon. A few more desserts are still needed.

There's no meeting next week because of the **Thanksgiving holiday**.

Pillars of Peace Presentation
Ron Spilsbury was our Pillars of Peace presenter for today. He stated that 'peace is about having fun' and he did have fun with this presentation and his handouts. He spoke about the importance of a well-functioning government. Part of having peace is that people have to believe in government.

My Rotary Story
Krishna Arora spoke about how he, a lowly Rotary foot soldier, became a 'Rotarian for Life'. In 2008 he decided to work on his family history book which took 2 years and 2 trips to India to complete. In the process, he discovered that his ancestral home, Jhang, once in India, is now in Pakistan, as part of the 1947 partition of India and Pakistan. He had a strong desire to visit but couldn't because of the political situation. The power of Rotary made that possible. He met the then DGE of Pakistan at the 2010 Rotary International Assembly held in San Diego, and soon he was connected with the president of the Rotary Club in Jhang. Krishna learned that the water in the town was contaminated due to leaking pipes and together they did a project that built a water filtration plant is his own ancestral neighborhood. The project was shared by Rotary Clubs in Pakistan, India and our own LJGTRC. Only thru the power of Rotary could that happen! Krishna will be indebted to Rotary for the rest of his life.

Speaker
Jan Percival introduced **Marisa Cesare**, the Community Outreach Specialist for Pure Water San Diego, who helped her to connect with today's speakers, **Doran Aivati** and **Juan-Elli Bermudo**.

Doran Aivati, an Associate Civil Engineer with the City of San Diego is a Project Manager for Pure Water San Diego. He provided us with information about San Diego's

current water supply. 85% of San Diego's water supply is imported. We face numerous challenges, including, limited local and imported supplies, our population growth, natural disaster risks (earthquakes), rising cost of imported water which has tripled recently and recurring drought problems. Pure Water has a multi-faceted approach, including conservation to make it more efficient, desalination (plants in Carlsbad and Camp Pendleton [planned]), groundwater development, recycled water (for now, good enough for irrigation and industrial use). The Pure Water approach will add one more step which will purify water to drinking water standard and will produce about half of San Diego's water supply. It will offer a cost-effective investment for San Diego's water needs. Phase 1, totaling about 1.5 billion dollars, covers the North City area, is divided into 12 projects instead of one large project and should be completed within the next few years. Phase 2 will cover the Central area and its costs are still being prepared.

Juan-Elli Bermudo is a City of San Diego Civil Engineer and the Project Manager at the Morena Pump Station and Conveyance System for the Pure Water Division. Juan gave us an overview of the pump stations and pipelines currently being built in the North City area (Morena, Miramar) and planned in the Central area. A virtual tour of the project is available on the Pure Water San Diego website.

One more reminder from President Luke...there is still matching (up to \$5,000) available for any Club Foundation gifts made before the end of the year.

President Luke ended the meeting with a trivia question about which 2 NFL teams have been playing on Thanksgiving Day. I think **Sharon Council** was the one who got the correct answer, Dallas and Detroit.

~Reporter

Bonnie Arora

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LJGT ROTARY LEADERSHIP 2024 - 2025

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 VICE PRESIDENT Linda Stouffer Wallis
 PRESIDENT ELECT (2025-26) David Chong
 PRESIDENT ELECT NOMINEE (2026-27) Jan Percival
 TREASURER Sharon Council
 SECRETARY Sandi Rimer
 PAST-PRESIDENT Christy White Brook

**ROTARIAN
 OF THE DAY**



RANJAN LAHIRI

I was born in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1971. My father was an oncologist from Calcutta, India, and my mother was a biochemist from Birmingham, England. I have a brother who is a physical therapist in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and a sister who is a stay-at-home mom in Houston, Texas.

We moved to Bakersfield, California when I was four and I lived there for most of my formative years. I attended high-school in the Monterey area of California. I was on the golf team and played lacrosse.

I moved to San Diego to attend UCSD. I graduated in 1994 with a degree in History and a minor in Sociology. I then obtained an MS in Environmental Management from National University in 1998 and a JD from the University of San Diego in 2004. I am currently a partner at Wood Smith Henning & Berman, LLP, a national law firm. I am a defense attorney and litigator who practices in the areas of personal injury, construction defect, and general business litigation.



DECEMBER 2024

December 13 - Garry Kachkovsky

December 20 - Holiday Party

December 27 - dark



I joined Rotary in 2019 and have been a member of the Most Dynamic Rotary Club in the World since the beginning. I have been club membership chair, a board member, and club secretary. I am currently finishing a term as the District Membership Chair. I enjoy the friends that I have made through Rotary and the meaningful projects that I have been involved with.



Ellen BRYSON

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