

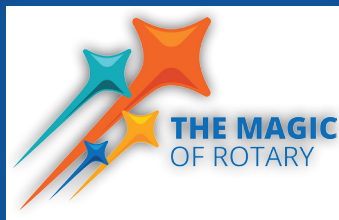
THE GOLDEN rotarian

www.lajollagrotary.org



LA JOLLA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ROTARY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 24 2025



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)



AZIM KHAMISA FOUNDER, TARIQ KHAMISA FOUNDATION



PEACE THRU FORGIVENESS

On March 6th, 2024 – on what would have been the 50th birthday of his son who was murdered at age 20 – Azim Khamisa launched a new effort, Peace Thru Forgiveness. His journey started 30 years ago with devastating murder of his only son Tariq by a 14-year-old gang member. Seeing that there were victims on both sides of the gun, Azim forgave Tony, the young man who took Tariq's life and invited his grandfather to join him in the Tariq Khamisa Foundation -www.tkf.org- to save lives of children and teach nonviolence forgiveness and peacebuilding.

Azim met Tony at 19 and stayed with him until he was 39 advocating for his release. He was released in 2019 and now serves on the TKF Board and is committed to making sure other young people do not follow in his former gang-involved life. In the last 30 years, TKF has reached over 2M youth successfully inspiring them to become nonviolent leaders committed to peace.

Rotary is committed to creating world peace and Azim has spoken to numerous clubs and international Rotary Peace conferences. This new effort, www.peacethruforgiveness.org, focuses on lifting forgiveness to become mainstream with partners such as Rotary with the goal of reaching enough people in the world to manifest world peace.

Azim has received over 80 local, national and international awards and is an emissary of peace and an international inspirational speaker with over 700 keynotes and over 1,000 student presentations.

He is the author of five books: Award-winning Murder to Forgiveness; From Forgiveness to Fulfillment, From Fulfillment to Peace and The Secrets of the Bulletproof Spirit: How to bounce back from life's hardest hits and Leadership for the Greater Good – a guide for Truth to Power Champions." Find his books at: <https://azimkhamisa.com/books/> In November 2018, Azim spoke for the TEDWomen conference that has been viewed by over 1 million viewers: [go.TED.com/azimandples](https://www.ted.com/azimandples).

And for more information on Azim, please visit <https://www.flowcode.com/page/azim>.



REPORT

from the last meeting



UPCOMING SPEAKERS



2025

JANUARY - SPEAKER

31.....Dean Darren Kew
USD Kroc School of Peace Studies

FEBRUARY - SPEAKER

14.....Valentine's Day Special:
Grandma Sparky

21.....Dr. Danielle Haulsee & Don Kent
Hubbs-SeaWorld
Protecting ocean health in Southern
California - issues and solutions

Luke opened the meeting promptly at 7:30 and introduced long-time Rotarian, **Sheila Henry** who gave a quick report on recent happenings in her personal life. They included a cruise from New Zealand to Australia, a new Labradoodle puppy that has a mind of its own, surgery for a broken wrist that put her out of commission for several months, a loss of hearing this past several months and to think that up to a year ago she thought of herself as middle-aged but she has decided that she is not middle-aged anymore being that she is 88. As a long-time clinical psychologist, Sheila gave us some wonderful suggestions on how to interact with victims of the recent Los Angeles fires. Her comments on what to say and what not to say to these people were most helpful.

Luke introduced guests that included several Rotaractors, **Asher Bende**, fire rescue dog Jo-Jo who **Ron** kindly brought to the meeting hoping to find a home for her, visiting Rotarians from Germany and India, and former member, **Kevin Carlson**. On zoom were **Krishna, Bonnie** (from India) and **Irwin** and **Christy**.

Announcements: Fire relief information is in the presidential message, community service and international committee are meeting after the regularly meeting, Wapi project January 26, Wetlands project coming up.

Garry announced that the Wine Soiree is scheduled for May 16 at the Faculty Club. We are looking for silent and live auction items, and corporate sponsors. It takes a village to put together a successful event and we are confident that we will all come together to make this a great success.

Steve Brown awarded **Ron Kohl** a "diamond" (artificial) pin for

being a major donor to the Rotary Foundation. Steve explained that Rotary Foundation donors give in two different ways: through on-line giving or writing checks to our local Foundation that are held back until enough is accumulated to send to the Rotary Foundation in order for us to receive global grants from the Rotary Foundation. We have about \$28,000 being held and need another ~\$2,000 to do the grants we have on the books. Steve reminded us that in order for us to receive our grants we need to reach an average donation of \$100 per member to the Rotary Foundation. The Club Foundation historically has funded our Youth Service, Community Service, International Service Committees and additionally, this past year we funded \$2,000 to the Peace Committee and \$1,000 to the Vocational Committee. We are also funding the student of the month program from the Club Foundation that used to come out of Club funds. About \$67,000 annually is distributed from the Club Foundation for these projects. It is paid for by a number of sources: We have an endowment that provides about \$25,000 per year, dues of \$300 that come in annually from each member, and the matching program this year that raised \$10,000. In addition, the Copley Foundation gives \$10,000 per year for Preuss Scholarships and has just awarded an additional \$10,000 to be distributed for vocational scholarships this year to students at Preuss doing stage management. We are grateful to the Copley Foundation for their generosity.

Our visiting Rotarian from India gave us a report on his Club and did a flag exchange with Luke. **Luke** introduced **Asher Bende** who gave an outstanding performance for us playing Morceau de Concert, Op. 94

on the french horn. Our Club is sponsoring her in the Rotary Youth Music Competition.

Mike Bardin gave a report on the Pillars of Peace and emphasized how important good relations are with neighbors both locally and internationally. Mike stated that everything that Rotary does can be connected to Peace and the relationships with neighbors are critical to it.

Jan Percival introduced speaker **Dr. Gina Simmons Schneider**, a licensed psychotherapist, executive coach, corporate trainer and author of Frazzelbrain: Break Free from Anxiety, Anger and Stress Using Advanced Discoveries in Neuropsychology. Dr. Schneider gave a detailed report on Conservatism and Liberalism starting with a definition of each. Conservatism is a cultural, social, political ideology and philosophy. It promotes traditional values. She talked about the history of Conservatism starting with Thomas Hobbs. Liberalism is a political moral philosophy based on the rights of the individual, consent of the governed, not ordered to be governed. Liberals believe political equality, the right to private property, support human rights, freedom of speech, with emphasis on freedom. She gave a historical perspective of liberalism starting in the 17th and 18th centuries. She referenced John Locke and Jean Jacques Rousseau. She went on to talk about the political ideologies of liberals and conservatives and their personality differences. She opened it up to questions from the audience. Luke thanked Dr. Schneider and closed the meeting.

~Reporter

Dianne Day

PHOTOS FROM LAST MEETING



Liberalism



A political and moral philosophy based on the rights of the individual, liberty, consent of the governed, political equality, right to private property and equality before the law.

Supports private property, market economies, civil rights, human rights, liberal democracy, secularism, rule of law, economic and political freedom, freedom of speech, press, assembly, and religion, constitutional government and privacy rights.

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La Jolla Golden Triangle ROTARY CLUB

Chartered - June, 1986 • La Jolla, California

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LJGT ROTARY LEADERSHIP 2024 - 2025

PRESIDENT Luke Ervin
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



SANDI RIMER

Sandi was born and raised in a suburb of Los Angeles CA before there was smog and too much traffic. There were, however, phones and mechanized vehicles.

Her family had a mother and father, a sister, a dog and a parakeet. The mother sewed, the father fished, the sister was a pain in the neck. The dog was more obedient than all of them. The bird was pretty useless.

There were camping trips where grizzly bears took bites out of Ivory soap bars and drug the ice chest down the hill. The symphony was a big deal and the solo trips to the public library with two bus transfers were a big hit. You could only take out 5 books at a time so the weekly visits were pretty strenuous.

A fond but early memory was a trip to the Midwest with the maternal grandparents to visit/meet lots of aunts/uncles/cousins. She got to see an egg fry on the sidewalk in Pearland TX, walk through the mud (?) in a barnyard in Chetopa KS, and chase fireflies in Kansas City KS.

Sandi either sat in the front row in class so she could learn a lot or in the back row when she wasn't interested. Back row seats were very close to the class bookshelf. It's easy to read a book on history when the lesson is on something else if you sit at the back.

Sandi has always had a fondness for parades: in the drill team, mimosa drinker at the Rose Parade, as District Governor.

Above average in height was always a good thing: Sandi was able to get into places she probably shouldn't have at a very young age. And it was fun to hang out with the basketball team as statistician, first in high school and then in college. Or in the back row with the boys when it came time for class photos.

Engineering school at USC and Cal Tech were options but Cal Poly Pomona became a good third choice—1000 students in the engineering school but only 6 of them were girls. Being the only girl in a class of 125 boys was a bit distracting, however.

A 3-year stint in Kansas proved enough and back to CA she came. And then, almost immediately, set out for 9 weeks in Europe with her 7-week-old son. Many tales of photography, architecture, diaper changing at architectural landmarks.

Son Jon lives in Los Angeles, manages Bottega Veneto store in Beverly Hills.

The Rotary Bug bit Sandi in 1988 and it's been a fun ride ever since: newsletter editor, Club Service Chair, Club President (95-96), many District-level jobs, District Governor (2004-05), Citation for Meritorious Service and Distinguished Service Award, fund raiser for 1000 Smiles.

Real estate broker since July 1979, Coldwell Banker owner until 2008, now enjoying the stress-less life of Broker Associate at Compass, Del Mar.



JANUARY 2025

January 31 - Janine Pack

JANUARY 2025

February 7 - Lori Bende

February 14 - Steve Brown



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