

THE GOLDEN rotarian

LA JOLLA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ROTARY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 31, 2020

www.lajollagrotary.org



RI President 2019-20
MARK MALONEY

District 5340 Governor 2019-20
MARTA KNIGHT

LJGT Rotary President 2019-20
KIMBERLY SCHAFER

SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2020- SPEAKER

07..... Human Trafficking
Mary-Ellen

14..... V Day special
Pam Russell

21..... Maintaining Mobility
Brittany VanSchravendijk

28..... Hands of Peace
Sarah Heirendt

MARCH 2020- SPEAKER

06..... Serving Seniors
Edith Glassey

13..... Ethics
Knight Campbell

CITY OF SAN DIEGO V. PERDUE PHARMA

Combating the Opioid Industry's Fraud at the San Diego City Attorney's Office

Marni von Wilpert is a Deputy City Attorney at the San Diego City Attorney's Office. She represents the City and people of San Diego in Court, enforcing laws that protect consumers, employees, and the environment. She initiates legal action to protect public health and safety, restore environmental quality, and sustain economic vitality in San Diego. When existing laws fall short, Marni advocates for change in City Council.

A San Diego native, **Marni** is a graduate of Scripps Ranch High School and U.C. Berkeley. After college, she served in the Peace Corps in Botswana, providing care and life-sustaining help to children who were born with HIV. She graduated from Fordham Law School, and then founded a free legal clinic in Mississippi to help low-income individuals gain access to the courtroom. Marni then worked in enforcement litigation at the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D.C., and spent a year improving on education and workforce policy in the United States House of Representatives for Congressman Bobby Scott.

Now back home in her hometown, she serves on the Boards of several organizations, including San Diego Youth Services, the American Constitution Society, and the National Women's Political caucus.



**MARNI
VON WILPERT**



REPORT

from the last meeting



THE FOUR WAY TEST



OF THE THINGS WE
THINK, SAY OR DO

01

IS IT
THE TRUTH?

President Kim opened the joint meeting of the La Jolla Rotary Clubs held at the Braille Institute. **Charles Hartford**, President of the Downtown La Jolla Club gave a military prayer and led the members in the pledge of allegiance. **Kim** introduced each of the Clubs: La Jolla, La Jolla Sunrise, Torrey Pines, San Diego Coastal and La Jolla Golden Triangle. She introduced **K.R. Ravindran (Ravi)**, Past Rotary International President 2015-16 and his wife; District Governor **Marta Knight**, and Past District Governors who were in attendance.

02

IS IT
FAIR TO ALL
CONCERNED?

Ravi gave a special tribute to "legend" **Wayne Cusick** and talked about **Wayne's** many accomplishments not the least of which was his initiation of the Paul Harris Society. He acknowledged **Wayne's** son, **Michael** and his wife and presented **Lee Ann** with a commemorative plaque.

03

WILL IT
BUILD GOODWILL
AND BETTER
FRIENDSHIPS?

Marta Knight read a declaration on behalf of District 5340 declaring January 24, 2020 **Wayne** and **Lee Ann Cusick Day** recognizing **Wayne** as the Father of the Paul Harris Society. She presented the plaque to **Lee Ann** along with a bouquet of flowers.

04

WILL IT BE
BENEFICIAL
TO ALL
CONCERNED?

Steve Brown formally introduced **Ravi** as the official speaker of the day and told us of **Ravi's** remarkable work in spearheading Sri Lanka's Schools Reawakening

Project to build 25 tsunami-devastated schools to benefit 15,000 children at a cost of approximately \$12 million. He successfully brought together Rotary, local banks and businesses to support this acclaimed project. **Ravi** is currently Chair-Elect of the Rotary Foundation and will serve as the Chairman in 2020-21.

Ravi's passion for Rotary and the Rotary Foundation is infectious. Starting off his presentation with his thought that Rotary should be known as "meeting people's needs", he reviewed Rotary's six areas of focus: promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, sanitation and hygiene, saving mothers and children, supporting education, growing local economies and announced that a seventh area of focus will be dedicated to the "environment."

He described Rotary as a "business", a "business of miracles" and shared a story about a child in Mongolia who was dying from severe burns and couldn't get to the United States for treatment. Through **Ravi's** Rotary connections in Hong Kong, who in turn contacted the Prime Minister's office, the child got on a plane to Cincinnati and was admitted to Shriners Hospital. Thanks to the work of the Rotary Foundation, the passion of our members, we make miracles happen! Rotary moments are

created through the projects we do - the Foundation's money is spent where it is needed to meet human needs.

Ravi reiterated how important it is to contribute to the Rotary Foundation. The Foundation's net assets number \$1.3 billion with an endowment of \$487 million. Charity Navigator has given the Foundation a 4 star rating for the past 11 years - this is the top achievable ranking and CNBC has ranked The Rotary Foundation No. 3 in its annual list of Top 10 charities changing the world.

From **Dianne Day**: Rotarians change lives in so many ways and we should all be very proud to be among those who are making a difference. It is the hope that ALL of our Club members contribute annually to The Rotary Foundation. If you haven't designated your contribution to The Rotary Foundation, please contact **Alex Monroe** and he will give you the information you need to make that happen. Let's get 100% participation!!

Kim thanked **Ravi** for his inspirational speech and invited each of the Club presidents to give a short description of some of their projects.

Hats off to **Jay** and the Braille for providing the venue for our special gathering and thanks to **Steve Brown** for arranging for our very special speaker.





PHOTOS

from the last meeting



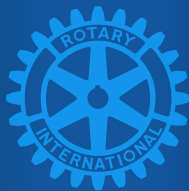
La Jolla Golden Triangle ROTARY CLUB

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P.O. Box 13023
La Jolla, CA 92039
www.LaJollaGTRotary.org

LJGT ROTARY LEADERSHIP 2019 - 2020

PRESIDENTKimberly Schafer
PRESIDENT ELECT (2020-21) Emidio DelConte
PRESIDENT ELECT ELECT (2021-22)..... Jacquie Reilly
TREASURER Sharon Council
SECRETARYNancy Gatschet
PAST-PRESIDENT/FOUNDATIONRick Binder



STEVE
B • A • L • C • H

Steven A. Balch, M.D.

A third-generation Californian, I was born and raised in Los Angeles in a typical 1950's "Leave It To Beaver" family, living in the same happy home until college. I graduated from the Jesuits' Loyola High School (including 3 years of Greek and 4 of Latin). I then attended liberal-arts Pomona College, where

I met and dated my future wife, Marcia — although we didn't marry until 45 years after graduation!

Medical school was in hot and humid Houston, Texas (Baylor). Then I spent 8 years of active duty in the Naval Medical Corps, including two West Pac tours in Viet Nam. I next completed my residency in pediatrics at Naval Hospital here in San Diego and practiced there until my Navy retirement in 1973.

At that time, I made one of the best professional decisions of my life. Partnering with another Navy doctor, we set up a medical practice in Solana Beach; we were the only pediatric group between La Jolla and Oceanside at that time. We grew fast, adding 3 partners within 7 years; by the time I retired in 2015, we had a total of 13 partners.

Because I had trained for a year in neonatology, in 1974 Children's Hospital (now Rady's) hired me as a one-year moonlighter in their new NICU. I also attended at NICUs at Sharp Mary Birch, Scripps La Jolla, and Scripps Encinitas. The intense challenges of neonatology were a welcome contrast to my daily practice, but I finally ended it after 36 years of one-year contracts. I also served on various boards and committees at these hospitals.

Marcia and I collectively claim 7 children and 8 grandchildren, and

revel in their various academic and athletic accomplishments. We love musical concerts and live theater, both attending and occasionally ushering as volunteers. **Marcia** helps Jay out at the Braille Institute Library every Wednesday and is a board member of our HOA. Together, we enjoyed years of helping Rescue House care for their adoptable cats.

My continuing interest in philately occupies 15—20 hours of my week, working on my own collection of French stamps as well as consulting for a large local stamp dealer.

I have regrets for not discovering Rotary much sooner than I did, which happened when **Jacquie Reilly** invited me to join. I continue to be impressed by Rotary's size, power, and commitment to bettering the world, as well as our own dynamic membership.



ROTARIAN
OF THE DAY