

# THE GOLDEN rotarian

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LA JOLLA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ROTARY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER

JUNE 28 2024



RI President 2023-24  
**GORDON MCINALLY**

District 5340 Governor 2023-24  
**DON FIPPS**

LJGT Rotary President 2023-24  
**CHRISTY WHITE BROOK**

## 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)



## JOIN THE END OF YEAR CELEBRATION!

Join President Christy  
and  
the dynamic members of our LJGT Rotary Club  
for an end of year and not-to-be-missed club celebration!  
Full of surprises, recognition of member contributions,  
the traditional passing of the gavel to upcoming President  
**LUKE ERVIN**  
and maybe a few tears!  
Presidential order, be there!

CHRISTY WANTS TO CELEBRATE AND THANK YOU  
FOR A GREAT YEAR OF ROTARY SERVICE AND FELLOWSHIP.



# REPORT

from the last meeting



## UPCOMING SPEAKERS



2024

### JULY - SPEAKER

- 5.....Dark
- 12.....Luke Ervin  
Luke's Opening Meeting  
Plans for 2024-25
- 19.....Steve and Lisa  
The Waves Project

President Christy White called the meeting to order at 7:29 AM. After welcoming members and guests to the Most Dynamic Rotary Club in the World, she proceeded to warmly welcome our dynamic member, Alex Monroe – The Rotarian of the Day.

### Rotarian of the Day

As a part of his invocation, Alex shared words of wisdom (WOW) from a dear friend of his, who has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. WOW centered around one's realization that: It is your journey and you need to own it. It's yours to do what you can with it. Others can help you, support you, but it's yours to control it and live with. It continued on as to how his friend, despite his challenges with Parkinson's disease for the last nine years, has turned things around to lead a very fulfilling life.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Alex gave us an option as to what aspect of his life we would like him to talk about. The crowd overwhelmingly picked, "family"! Alex mentioned that they have a blended family. Between him and Alice, they are blessed with six children...his three sons, adopted daughter, Alice's daughter, and their daughter. Alex remembered bringing his oldest son, Jack to a club meeting in 2015 or 16. Jack is now 6'2" and a Junior at Torrey Pines. Step daughter, Trinity (15-year-old), an incredible, kind human being, is a Sophomore at San Dieguito Academy.

Emerson, his 14-year-old son, is a freshman at Torrey Pines. He is old school; Alex often reaches out to him for advice. His 10-year-old son, Willem, is in the Bahamas with his parents – it was cheaper to send him to the Bahamas than to a summer camp. His 10-year old step-daughter, Violet, loves to talk - talked non-stop on a 19-hour drive to Montana! Alexa is her favorite person to talk to! The

youngest sibling, Sephi, who is a ball of fire, full of energy, just turned 4 on June 3rd. Alice, his wife, is one of a kind, with a slow and steady approach to life. She is a business owner, a gardener, a mentor and loves to cook. His family loves to travel, and being with friends and family.

### Guests and Announcements:

Incoming President, Luke Ervin, introduced our only guest, Laura Kandoth. Laura, President Christy's guest, splits her time between San Diego and Florida.

President Christy introduced Maria Renteria, as our latest honorary member. She started coming to our club about one-and-half years back and has made and continues to make a tremendous contribution to our AV needs every Friday. In addition, she has also participated in various club service projects.

Jacquie Reilly was very happy and honored to award a Blue Badge to Philip Morgan, who earned his badge in record-breaking time in the entire history of our club. Philip drives for an hour-and-a-half every Friday to be here in time to help out with the front desk. He has hit the ground running! He expressed his feelings of gratitude to be part of this club. Jacquie also mentioned about the inaugural ballet performance of PointeWorks last evening. Good time was had by all the members who attended the event. Stephen Tako thanked Jacquie for organizing this ballet performance.

President Christy "mugged" Louise Andres, Lori Bende, and Jean McGrath. She welcomed members on Zoom: Antonio Grillo-Lopez, Irwin Rubenstein.

Stephen Tako talked about the importance of Vocational Services and asked for volunteers for a mere donation of \$10, to make a one-minute pitch about their business to the club members. Alex Monroe,

Brett Morey and Stephen Tako himself came forward.

**High-5s** from Steve Brown to Alex, another high-five from Christy to Maria.

### Club Speaker

Stephen Tako introduced our speaker, Todd Schultz, President & CEO, of La Jolla Music Society (LJMS), which is currently celebrating its 55th anniversary season.

LJMS owns The Conrad – a state-of-the-art venue, which opened 5 years ago - A beautiful performing arts center in the heart of La Jolla Village, with a horse-shoe shaped concert hall with a capacity of 500 people.

LJMS contributes to San Diego's cultural vitality year-round through a rich variety of presentations, including classical, jazz, global roots, contemporary music, and dance, at its state-of-the-art venue, The Conrad.

LJMS, in addition to robust educational and community outreach programs, produces: **SummerFest**, a four-week music festival, in August, featuring over 80 world-class artists; **Winter Season** from October to June with 67 concerts, mostly at The Conrad; **Education Programming** for all ages; and **Rentals** – The Conrad is available for rentals...concerts, weddings, parties, galas, etc. Todd concluded his presentation by pointing to the SummerFest 2024 brochure on each table and extending his personal invitation to every member. Brett Morey asked him a question about our District's Youth Symphony program. President Christy thanked Todd, invited him back and then, "mugged" him!

She encouraged everyone to attend her big final meeting next week.

Meeting was adjourned sharply at 8:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted by:

*Krishna Arora*  
A Rotary Foot Soldier



# PHOTOS FROM LAST MEETING



**WHO WE ARE...**

**Values**

- o Quality – in every facet of the organization
- o Clarity and Transparency
- o Connection
- o Collaboration
- o Community – within the region and in the arts world
- o Service organization



**Membership Tips:**

IT SOUNDS SIMPLE, BUT THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO GROW MEMBERS IS “ASK SOMEONE”

REPEATEDLY INVITE PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS UNLESS YOU GET A DEFINITIVE “NO” FROM THEM.

ENSURE THAT PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS FEEL IMPORTANT. INTRODUCE THEM TO OTHER MEMBERS AND SIT WITH THEM.



## THE FOUR WAY TEST



OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY OR DO



- 01 IS IT THE TRUTH?
- 02 IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?
- 03 WILL IT BUILD GOODWILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 04 WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?



HERBERT J. TAYLOR

# La Jolla Golden Triangle ROTARY CLUB

Chartered - June, 1986 • La Jolla, California

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

## LJGT ROTARY LEADERSHIP 2023 - 2024

PRESIDENT .....Christy White Brook  
VICE PRESIDENT ..... Linda Stouffer Wallis  
PRESIDENT ELECT (2024-25) ..... Luke Ervin  
PRESIDENT ELECT ELECT (2025-26) ..... David Chong  
TREASURER ..... Sharon Council  
SECRETARY ..... Ranjan Lahiri



**JULY 2024**

July 5 - Dark

July 12 - Wayne Davis



## ROTARIAN OF THE DAY



**DAVID TANSEY,  
PH.D.**

Reflecting on the 15-20 times I have been ROTD and on my life before Rotary, I looked at a lot of Golden Rotarians. 21 years ago this week, Eric Freeberg wrote here about how lucky his life has been. In recent years, I have come to the same realization about mine. Times were bad but the nation was on the recovery side of the great depression.

I was the oldest of 25 grandchildren and the recipient of copious love from my dozen mostly single aunts and uncles. My elementary school was half-block from my grandmother's house and she made lunch for me almost every school day. I thought they were leftovers from the Friday night dinner she made for my mother's family every Friday. Lucky.

School was easy. I was in "Opportunity Room" for gifted kids from fourth to sixth grade. The teacher expected more from us and skillfully got it. And she taught us how to play softball. Lucky.

In eighth grade I was selected to participate in Saturday classes at the LA County Museum – Fall, basics in natural science; Spring, student seminars with the museum's curators in their offices. I did that all through high school. Lucky.

By high school, I knew I wanted to be a scientist. I did a project based on what I had learned at the museum and entered it in the Westinghouse Science Search, where I won an honorable mention. My parents knew they wanted me to go to college, and they could pay for it, so I applied at Caltech. I learned later that my grades were not good enough for them, but they admitted me on the basis of my Westinghouse award. Lucky.

At Caltech, I learned that I was not the smartest guy around. I earned letters in frosh baseball and as student assistant in soccer. I failed a course and had to repeat it, getting that I could not do further significant extra-curricular stuff and still graduate. I made up the missed units by taking an extension course in Psychology 1 and earned a BS in Applied Chemistry. Lucky.

After graduation and wanting "to see Israel before it was too late" I applied for a job in my field there for the summer. The deal was, a paid job and an all-expense tour of the country at the end of the summer, if I paid my own airfare. I had earned the ticket money by buying a few shares of stock with the cash I earned being a campus guide. I was on my way back to America a few days before the 1956 war broke out. Lucky.

The job was as a lab tech at an open pit phosphate quarry in the desert. I realized that, if I wanted to be an engineer, I

would need an MS in Chemical Engineering. Reaching out to administration friends at Caltech, I learned that a couple of Caltech Ph.Ds. were expanding the department at Stanford. They admitted me on the condition that I "would have to buckle down". My GPA went up 1.5 points. Lucky.

At Stanford I looked up a woman I had met a year earlier where there had been some mutual attraction. We courted that first year there and married in Summer before the second year. Lucky.

I was interviewed and hired by the process engineering director at a factory across the bay from Palo Alto which manufactured phosphates for detergent builders. He had seen the phosphate quarry in my resume. Lucky.

The job went well, the marriage went well, and we had a baby, Lisa. Lucky.

My father was not impressed with my prospects, and decided to buy an aircraft pulley manufacturing business, if I would join him as chief (and only) engineer. He took over 11/60, I joined 2/61, he had a heart-attack 5/61, he died, and I became President 9/61. I was just 27 and didn't feel lucky.

My son Ben was born that December. Lucky.

The narrow-margin business operated mostly with small profits for 10 years, during which we created thermoset-plastic pulleys with the ball bearings molded in, big metal pulleys with thermoset-plastic grooves molded in place, and custom-molded parts that were not pulleys.

In 1971, I took a course in running encounter groups at UCSD. By the end of the first weekend, I looked around a room in which no-one needed defenses and asked myself what I had to do to make a living that way. The answer was a PhD in Psychology. Lucky.

That same year, a man walked into the pulley factory and said he wanted to buy it. It was not the best possible deal for my mother, but it was an effective way out for me. Lucky.

In the course of the next six years, I ran the pulley company until the new managers could take over, took 37 units of undergraduate psychology, earned a PhD in clinical psychology (with a dissertation on treatment outcome), did field placements in child education treatment, adolescent residential placement, adult psychotherapy, completed 300 hours of my own psychotherapy (Jungian and Bioenergetic), was divorced by my pretty much abandoned wife, met Kathleen, and moved to San Diego. My license was granted 07-07-77. Lucky.

I'll tell you about 40 years of practice next ROTD.