THE GOLDEN
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Rotary Club of La Jolla Golden Triangle

LA JOLLA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ROTARY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 18 2026



CREATE LASTING IMPACT

Rotary

RI President 2026-27
OLAYINKA HAKEEM **BABALOLA**

District 5340 Governor 2026-27
JEB **BAKKE**

LJGT Rotary President 2026-27
TIMOTHY **FRONCZEK**

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)

Samson Tse
Software Engineer

Artificial Intelligence: Do Not Be Afraid. Knowledge is Power.



Samson Marcos Tse is a software engineer who has spent his whole life in California and still managed to move constantly: raised on computers, he has called San Diego, Los Angeles, and San Francisco home, collecting traffic complaints and tech jobs in every one of them.

He was there for the last AI rush, building systems at IBM Watson, and he is here for the current one, leading engineering efforts at Unity Technologies, where he helped build the Unity Rewards platform used by players around the world. Along the way he has cofounded a startup, designed backend systems that process billions of transactions a day, taught kids to code, and built games purely for the fun of it, proof that a decade in the industry has not entirely ruined his sense of play.

Samson describes himself as an AI expert, but not an expert on AI, a distinction he promises to explain. A dedicated Rotarian who has led numerous service projects across his community, he believes technology belongs to everyone willing to learn it. His message is simple: do not be afraid. Knowledge is power.



REPORT

from the last meeting



UPCOMING SPEAKERS



2026

SEPTEMBER - *SPEAKER*

18.....Sammy Tse
Artificial Intelligence: Do Not Be Afraid. Knowledge is Power.

OCTOBER - *SPEAKER*

2.....Steve Bender, Chairman
U.S. Green Chamber

President Tim opened the September 4 meeting, welcoming members and guests.

Our Most Most Dynamic and quite honestly Most Gorgeous Rotarian of the Day **Sarah Saluta** shared her story under the theme *"roots, wings, and the world ahead"* — growing up in Traverse City, Michigan, and now serving as Superintendent of the San Diego Cooperative Charter School, a Linda Vista charter school she helped build from the ground up (500 students, in her ninth year leading it), while also teaching graduate students at San Diego State how to become teachers. She closed with a passionate call to awareness around children's technology use and rising youth anxiety, pointing members toward The Anxious Generation and Digital Delusion as resources.

Guests: **Jay** welcomed five guests — **Leo, Wen, Shaney, Ethan**, and returning former member **Peggy Martin**, visiting from Gig Harbor, Washington.

Fine Master **Rich Papike** officially stepped into the role this week, opening with a run of fines and high-fives that included **Steve** and **Rick** celebrating the arrival of their first great-grandchild, **Thea**, born two weeks ago ($20), and **Bonnie** sharing that her youngest son and his family have relocated from London to Thessaloniki, Greece. **Ron Kohl** reported the October Ensenada bus has completely sold out at 56 people — the earliest and strongest interest the trip has ever seen.

Announcements & Upcoming Service Projects

- Next Breakfast Brunch, September 25 at 7:30 a.m.

- Hands On San Diego, seed-ball restoration event at Embolden, October 6, 6:30–8:30 p.m.; Community Service Committee meets immediately following this meeting.

- Life Rolls On, September 19 at La Jolla Shores — 80–100 disabled children and adults surfing, supported by roughly 650 volunteers.

- 100 Wave Challenge for Boys to Men, September 26 at Mission Beach — 260 participants in the water, benefiting at-risk youth.

- PB&J Community Sandwich Build, Sunday, October 18, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. at Fary's Complex — goal of 5,000 sandwiches, benefiting Father Joe's and Interfaith, with outreach to bring in district Rotaract clubs.

- Ensenada Project. new project site secured, Rancho de los Niños — the same location as the club's original 2014 Casa de Paz project — serving 70 children across nine buildings. Payment deadline was this week; passports required for all travelers. Thanks were extended to the International Service Committee, Copley Foundation, and Eric Freeburg for supply donations, and to Community Service and Youth Service for subsidizing Rotaractor participation costs.

- San Diego Museum of Art outing, November 13.

- California Coastal Cleanup, September 19 (district-wide project).

- Next meeting, September 18: **Samson "Sammy" Tse**, President-Elect, speaks on *"Artificial Intelligence: Do Not Be Afraid. Knowledge Is Power."*

Awards & Recognition

Luke was recognized for reaching Paul Harris Society status (five-ruby pin, roughly $8,000 in cumulative Rotary Foundation giving), and **Ron Kohl** received the club's major-donor diamond pin, marking $10,000 in lifetime Foundation contributions. **David Chong** presented the 2025–26 Rotarian of the Year award to **Carolyn Fritz**, recognized for leading the membership committee, recruiting new member **Dan Kisner**, and organizing the club's monarch butterfly counting and habitat restoration projects.

Program Presentation

Jan Percival introduced **Gary Robbins**, science and weather reporter for the San Diego Union-Tribune, who spoke on the developing El Niño and its potential impact on the coast. Robbins explained that this summer's unusually warm coastal water was driven by dry, sunny conditions rather than El Niño itself — but a genuine El Niño is now forming and could become historic, though it tends to amplify existing storms rather than generate them outright. He pointed to the record erosion at Carlsbad's Tamarack State Beach as a preview of what heavier winter surf could do, and noted San Diego is likely to enter drought status again within the next week or two, raising wildfire risk this fall. Any rain from Hurricane Marie in the coming days would be welcome relief.
Robbins was clear that forecasting this far out is genuinely uncertain — citing a 2015 El Niño forecast that didn't pan out — but said the region's biggest impacts, if they materialize, are most likely to hit between late November and March. He highlighted several tools giving San Diego an edge in preparation: UC San Diego Scripps Oceanography's Alert California camera network, new Scripps research that can predict cliff collapses hours in advance, Surfline's expanding camera system for tracking erosion and wave conditions, and a weekly Friday "Southwestern California El Niño Briefing" coordinating the National Weather Service, SDG&E, and first responders. He closed with a caution against sensationalized weather claims circulating on social media, encouraging members to rely on established sources, and noted the UT is preparing a major storm-preparedness special section for readers in the coming weeks.

In sum, it was another exceptionally well-run meeting where **President Tim** magically both led our meeting and helped run A/V. **True wizardry.**

~Reporter

David Chong

PHOTOS FROM LAST MEETING

BRETT MOREY
ROTARY • REPORTERS

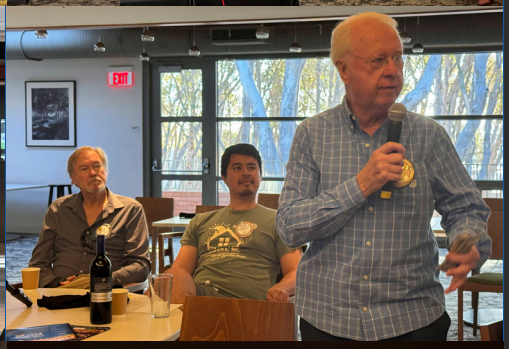






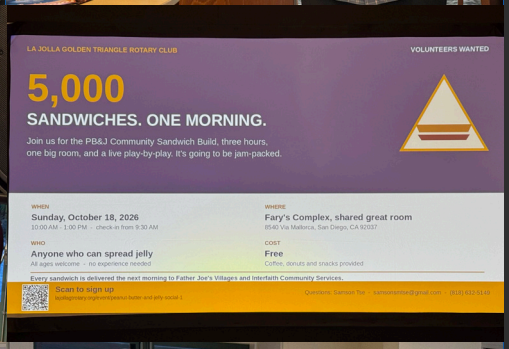




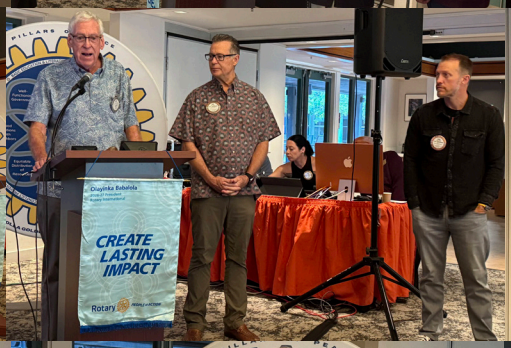






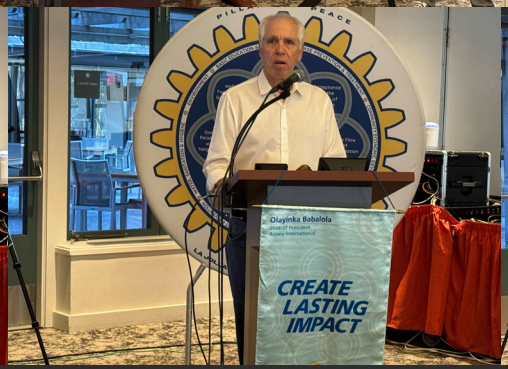














La Jolla Golden Triangle
ROTARY CLUB
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LJGT ROTARY LEADERSHIP 2026 - 2027

PRESIDENT	Timothy Fronczek
VICE PRESIDENT	Christy White Brook
PRESIDENT ELECT (2027-28)	Samson Tse
TREASURER	Sharon Council
SECRETARY	Lisa Galstian
PAST-PRESIDENT	David Chong

ROTARIAN OF•THE•DAY



JAN PERCIVAL LIPSCOMB

I know everyone's eyes glaze over when someone starts rattling on about **"The Camino."** But it actually does change your life and help you realize what true freedom feels like. Today I'm just going to share a few photos of my 2025 journey across Spain on the Camino Frances. I CANNOT WAIT TO DO IT AGAIN. And … since you all know my Rotary story from our 40th Anniversary event, here's a quick personal snapshot.

IN SAN DIEGO: Since 1955 (born in St. Louis, 1954). My parents bought our Pt. Loma home for $12,000.

SCHOOL: Point Loma High. University of Arizona. Degree in journalism. Career in media relations.

PARENTS: Awesome. Jack was in Pt. Loma Rotary 50 years. They donated their bodies to UCSD Medical. I'm doing the same.

BROTHER: Awesome. First round draft choice out of high school, Boston Red Sox, roommates with Fred Lynn. Unfortunately his arm blew out in AAA.

HUSBAND: Super awesome. Professional athlete, waterman, finance guy. Best father ever, loved his Shaney.



DAUGHTER: The best. Professional athlete, future Rotarian, wife of Awesome Sean, mother-to-be (2/27).

PETS: My dog Lucy is a member of the Rotary Polio + Society Kennel Klub. (The cats refuse to wear the bandana.)

FAVORITE STUFF*: Taking Lucy to the beach for low tide, newspapers, hiking Torrey Pines, cheese enchiladas, Hero Rats (look them up!), red licorice, going to the airport to go ANYWHERE, Ted Lasso, coffee, street protesting, Jacobs Music Center, my in-laws John & Jane, The Shell, Rancho La Puerta, Montgomery Alabama, any high school gym to watch kids play, badass investigative reporters, Paula Poundstone. And, of course, Rotary and the incredible people - past and present - in our club.



OCTOBER 2026

October 2 - Ajay Asher

October 16 - Jan Bernardy