THE GOLDEN
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Rotary Club of La Jolla Golden Triangle
LA JOLLA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ROTARY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 4 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)

Gary Robbins

Veteran Union-Tribune reporter



WINTER '26: THE COMING STORMS
UT is preparing for El Nino coverage this fall/winter, and how it will collaborate with first responders.

Maine native Gary Robbins decided to become a newspaper reporter in December 1972 when he saw "His Girl Friday", a comedic newspaper movie starring Cary Grant and Roseland Russell. About a month later a weekly newspaper debuted near his home outside Bar Harbor, Maine. He asked its editor for a shot at writing and got it. Robbins went on to journalism school at Northeastern University in Boston. In 1980, he joined an afternoon newspaper in Hollywood, Florida and covered, among other things, the Cuban boat lift and Haitian boatlift. He later moved on to the Orange County Register, where he spent 25 years as a science and technology writer. He joined the San Diego Union-Tribune in 2010 and now covers science and research universities, the military and the weather. His one idle year came on 2000-21 when he was a Knight Science Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Robbins later taught journalism at USC and Cal State Long Beach. He is married to Diana McCabe, the U-T's business editor. They have a cat -- Sweet Pea -- who basically does nothing 35 hours a day.



REPORT

from the last meeting



UPCOMING SPEAKERS



2026

SEPTEMBER - *SPEAKER*

4.....Gary Robbins
San Diego Union-Tribune

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

OCTOBER - *SPEAKER*

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

President Tim welcomed members and guests to the August 21 program.

Rotarian of the Day **Johnathan Chittuluru** shared his life story, detailing his upbringing in Illinois, his education at Cornell University, and his graduate studies in computational structural biology at the Scripps Research Institute. He discussed his passion for teaching and his experience coaching football for the San Diego Enforcers.

Jay welcomed six guests to the meeting, including our longtime friend and former member, **Leanne Cusick**. Jay announced that he and the Beowulf Band will be performing classic rock and blues at the Coronado Ferry Landing next Saturday from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

Ron provided details on the upcoming Ensenada Project scheduled for October 3, which will pivot to a local orphanage and will include a dinner at Chateau Camus.

Cami announced a social hiking event in Rose Canyon followed by a potluck brunch. Additionally, **Dori** confirmed next Friday's Breakfast meetings and a group tour of the Navy SEAL Museum on October 9.

Community Service Awards and Contributions

• **Steve** reported that **Fary** won $170 in a raffle, which she is donating to the club foundation.

• **Fary** introduced **Kush Shah**, the incredible young man who raised $3,500 for an Afghanistan technology grant project through his "Coding for Kids" organization.

• The Peace Committee presented **Kush** with a Peacemaker Certificate of Achievement for his dedication to fostering peace.
Recognition of Longtime Members

• **President Tim** presented challenge coins to **Steve Brown**, **Fary,** and **Nil** to thank them for their extensive service and leadership roles within Rotary. He presented a second coin and asked them to share that coin – the goal: talk to someone else about our Rotary club.

Program Presentation

• **Sou Fang,** Director of the USD Trio Upward Bound program, shared his incredible and inspirational personal life story. He then presented Upward Bound's mission of providing free college access to low-income and first-generation students in communities like Linda Vista and City Heights. Sou highlighted the work of the late **Dr. Cynthia Villis**, who established the program as an anchor institution at USD that promotes economic mobility through education. He detailed many of Cynthia's other incredible contributions and legacy programs.
Sou Fang detailed the core services provided by the program:

• Academic services including tutoring and mentoring.

• Professional development such as resume building and internship placement.

• College preparation through summer residential programs and campus visits.

The presentation emphasized that while the program is federally funded through the Trio pipeline, the university has increased its support to ensure services reach students regardless of income status.

During the Q&A session, members asked about ways to volunteer beyond financial contributions. Sou suggested that industry leaders could assist by providing professional mentorship and introducing students to various career trajectories.

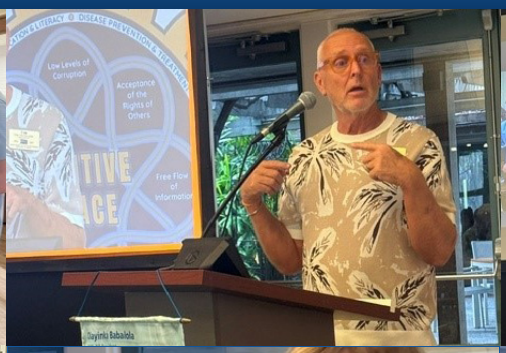
~Reporter

Jan Percival Lipscomb

PHOTOS FROM LAST MEETING

JAN BERNARDY
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



SARAH SALUTA



SEPTEMBER 2026

September 18 - Jan Percival

OCTOBER 2026

October 2 - Ajay Asher

October 16 - Jan Bernardy

Sarah Saluta grew up in Traverse City, Michigan, surrounded by lakes, cherry orchards, snowy winters, and the kind of small-town community where people look out for one another. A proud Michigan State University graduate, Sarah traded lake-effect snow for San Diego sunshine—but she still carries her Midwestern roots, strong work ethic, and love of community wherever she goes.

For nearly 30 years, Sarah has dedicated her career to education. She has served as a teacher, instructional coach, administrator, and now Executive Director of San Diego Cooperative Charter School. She is passionate about progressive, child-centered education and believes school should be a place where children are known, challenged, celebrated, and encouraged to think deeply about the world around them.

Sarah also teaches future educators at San Diego State University, where she enjoys helping new teachers find their voice and develop the confidence to create meaningful, joyful classrooms. Whether she is mentoring an aspiring teacher, solving a complicated school puzzle, or sitting down with a student who needs a little extra support, Sarah leads with humor, heart, and the firm belief that relationships come first.

Outside of work, Sarah is a wife and the mother and stepmother of four grown children. She loves travel, time with family and friends, Rotary, creative projects, and any opportunity to bring people together. She may have left Traverse City years ago, but she will always be a Michigan girl at heart—just one who now prefers palm trees to snow shovels.