

THE GOLDEN rotarian

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LA JOLLA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ROTARY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER

APRIL 12 2024



RI President 2023-24
GORDON MCINALLY

District 5340 Governor 2023-24
DON FIPPS

LJGT Rotary President 2023-24
CHRISTY WHITE BROOK

GEORGE HALIGOWSKI



THE VALLE DE GUADALUPE: THE NEW DARLING OF THE WINE WORLD

A retired San Diego banker, George Haligowski has done what so many of us can only dream of: he makes wine! (And Gold Medal winning wine, at that.)

Capitalizing on his business acumen and leadership skills, George envisioned his “retirement” as an opportunity to celebrate his love of wine and fine art. He moved from Rancho Santa Fe to Baja and spent years navigating the regulatory and cultural hurdles of building there before opening the Palazzo Del Valle last summer. Featuring Tuscan-style architecture, George’s boutique resort has quickly become one of Valle de Guadalupe’s most spectacular new, private bed and breakfast destinations.

Designed in a classic agriturismo palazzo style, eight suites surround an open courtyard, each themed after a renowned artist: for example, Salvador for Salvador Dali, Pablo for Pablo Picasso. The Palazzo is a jaw-dropping showcase of sculpture, art and artifacts curated from George’s decades of international travel. “If you travel around the world and go to Tuscany, Burgundy, Bordeaux or even Napa Valley, the very nice palazzos, villas and chateaux also have great art. I wanted to bring this European concept to the Valle de Guadalupe,” says Haligowski.

When George opened the Palazzo last summer, his foray into winemaking received immediate acclaim, capturing the Gold Medal for his 2021 Nebbiolo Crianza at the Mexico International Wine Competition. It wasn’t exactly an overnight success – Haligowski and his talented winemaker, Gustavo Meillon, had been working together for nearly five years to earn their place among their fellow Valle de Guadalupe vintners.

Given the strain on natural resources in Baja, George’s mission at the Palazzo includes a commitment to sustainability, including deployment of greywater recirculation, rainwater catchments and solar.

Today’s presentation focuses on the Valle de Guadalupe’s international reputation as a premier wine region – and on George’s personal journey to take his place among the legendary winemakers and hosts of the Valle. To view the Palazzo, visit palazzodelvalle.com.

AOS MEETINGS AND SOCIAL EVENTS

April 26th LJGTRC Fundraiser

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)

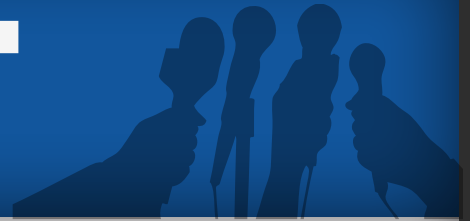
4th Friday of the Month Peace Committee
(follows club meeting)





REPORT

from the last meeting



UPCOMING SPEAKERS



2024

APRIL - SPEAKER

19.....Stephen Tako, Sarah Saluta
The Confident Life Antibullying Program

26.....Maasai Cultural Ambassador
Results of Rotary's work
for their community

MAY - SPEAKER

3.....Matthew Bainbridge, PhD
Bridging the gap: bringing the genomic
revolution to the underserved

10.....Fary Moini & Steve Brown
Fary's Story

17.....Toastmasters
The Power of Public Speaking

24.....Professor Brad Voytek

31.....Community Service Committee
Updates/Successes and Overview

Arriving through sun, rain, and rainbows, **President Christy** opened the meeting introducing our fashionista and songster **Rich Papike** as Rotarian o the Day. After citing memorable song lyrics from Ricky Nelson and others, Rich introduced his guests (cheering section???) to better explain the story of his stripped shirt. Rich, Cheri, and long-time friends and guests Jim and Julie Caputo were traveling together when the girls decided on a shopping spree while Jim stayed back at the hotel. Joining the girls on the outing, Rich spotted his shirt, Cheri wasn't so thrilled about it, but Julie strongly encouraged him to purchase it. That he did and now we are the recipients of this shirt on special occasions such as today.

Responding to a question from **Sandi Rimer** about how "he got this way", Rich regaled us with stories about teaching sons sex education, encouraging the city of El Cajon go give him the address he preferred and after losing a bet with his football league dressing in drag for an evening at Old Town Mex—a very popular tourist restaurant! You can fill in the blanks! Again, ever the fashionista, for this occasion Rich wore his LBD accessorized with black heels and pearls.

Bonni Arora introduced to our other guest **Kyle Choi**, a second-year student at UCSD who was introduced to Rotary as a teenager living in the Redlands area.

Christy welcomed back **Ron Spilsbury** and **Marty Rosenstein** before introducing **Past President Jacquie Reilly** who pinned two of our newest Blue Badgers, **Ron Spilsbury** and **Samson Tse**.

Other announcements: **Christy** is still looking for volunteers for the May 11 My First Home Project which helps young adults who are transitioning out of foster care. Shoppers, drivers, and movers are still needed. We will meet at the Just in Time Warehouse at

8.30 and should be completed by about noon.

May 29 is **Christies' Promote Demote**—not that she is counting the days. She wants us to put it on our calendars for a fun evening at **Past President Alex** and **Alice Monroe's** home. Details to follow.

Christy also reminded us to sign up for the April 26 Wine Soiree and another evening of fun and festivities with our club. There are some fabulous live and silent auction items so you don't want to miss out. For our newer members, this Most Dynamic Rotary Club in the World does know how to put on a great party. All proceeds with go to the operations of the club.

Jacquie is the point person (pun!!!) for the Point Works Dance recital happening on June 20. The tickets are \$78 per person and can be purchased from Jacquie before she heads off to Europe. The deadline to purchase tickets is April 15.

Brett Morey and **Father Wayne Sanders** promoted the Red Shoe Day which is a really fun way to stand in the middle of La Jolla Parkway and annoy drivers by asking for money to support the Ronald McDonald House of San Diego. Truly, if you have not done this, it is very special and really lots of fun.

Brett also announced the June 15 Annual Switchfoot BroAM for Surfers United.

Coming out of Fine Master retirement **Rich** attempted to auction off some wine donated by our wine connoisseur **Eric Freeberg**, until Eric took the mike to do the wine justice. Our guest outbid **Dianne Day** for one of the bottles while **Sharon Council** outbid others for another bottle. **David Tansey** gave \$45 in celebration of 45 years of marriage to **Kathleen Roche-Tansey**.

Jay Hatfield donated a magnum of Kindall Jackson that **Christy** purchased and immediately donated to the promote-demote.

The club acknowledged and celebrated the birthdays of **Kathleen Roche-Tansey** and **Wayne Davis**.

Stephen Tako auctioned two tickets for the Pointwork inaugural performance on June 20. After quite the bidding war, **Dory Beatrice** outbid everyone displaying great strategies to get the tickets.

Christy introduced her friend and speaker **Divya Kakaiya** who spoke about the importance of having a healthy brain and how to achieve that. Divya gave us a short overview about how lifestyle affects the health of our brain, the most important organ in our bodies. She stressed the importance of environmental, psychological, and biological factors to our health. During her presentation Dr. Kakaiya shared with us how the brains of London cab drivers are so advanced due to the complexity of their streets. They continue to challenge themselves by learning all the streets and how to navigate them. Dr. Kakaiya further presented the concept to change talking about mental health to speaking about brain health and to take a more holistic approach to our health. She suggested we go to our discomfort zone, learn new things, take on new tasks, slow down, get sleep, and exercise.

In closing **President Christy** committed to becoming a taxi driver in London, playing ping pong, run a marathon, meditate, and sleep more when she retires!!

Before closing the meeting, **Christy** mugged **Jane Helmer!**

~Reporter
Beverly Fritschner



PHOTOS FROM LAST MEETING



HELLO!
New Members!



PHILLIP MORGAN

Our newest member is Phillip Morgan, a 37-year-old professional from Kansas City, Missouri. His academic journey began at a community college in Nebraska on a basketball scholarship. Further educational pursuits included prerequisite coursework for Pharmacy school while working as a pharmacy technician in a hospital setting.

With over a decade of experience in the medical domain, he transitioned into entrepreneurship establishing a successful carpet cleaning company. He now works for Servpro in La Jolla and Chula Vista.

Phillip has a lovely wife and two young children ages two and one. He is deeply grateful for the opportunities afforded to him and eagerly anticipates the challenge and growth opportunities that lie ahead!



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

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

LJGT ROTARY LEADERSHIP 2023 - 2024

PRESIDENTChristy 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



APRIL 2024

April 19 - Allan Galgut

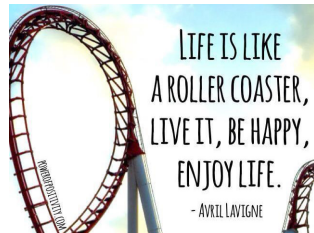
April 26 - Irwin Rubenstein



ROTARIAN
OF THE DAY

JIM DAVIES

DAVIES-ROTARIAN OF THE DAY 2024



Post wedding activities included chillin' on the bay and hosting a father's day BBQ.

Good news- My son's and my recoveries are going very well.

B. Work:

We completed constructing the new 60,000 SF. Math, Science & Career Complex at Grossmont Community College.

Retirement: As of April 1st, I decided to retire after 20 plus years of employment at Gafcon. As a parting gift I was provided with my PH.D in "Stakeholder Herding"



A. Family:



We surprised my youngest sister Mary in the photo above with a surprise 60th Birthday party in our home town of Fond du Lac, WI. in October. The trip included attending a nephews wedding held in Door County, WI.



Pam and I are celebrating our 40th wedding anniversary this June.

C. Rotary:

This year will be my 30th year as a member of "The Most Dynamic Rotary Club in the World". I look forward to my continuation as a member of this active one-of-kind club.

Pam and I treasure the relationships that we have developed with fellow Rotarians and look forward to growing new relationships.

Cheers



Collin married his high school sweet heart Hayley Conway of (16) years, this June. That beats Pam and me (8) years of dating.

The wedding was held at the "Brick" located at Liberty Station in Point Loma.

Pam did a wonderful job coordinating/decorating with the assistance of Hayley's mom and my sister Laurie.

Laurie is the owner of Five Star Wedding Planning and an Assembly Women and in District 74.planners. She served as the wedding officiant.

My daughter was stunningly beautiful!



This year our family has experienced several unforeseen events, including:

- Our son Collin was injured while brewing beer
- Pam's mother un-expectedly passed
- I experienced a mild stroke mid-January. Since then I took a leave of absence from work to tend to my medical concerns.

