

# THE GOLDEN rotarian

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LA JOLLA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ROTARY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 23 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)

3rd Friday of the Month..... Youth Services Committee  
(follows club meeting)

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



## ROSS PORTER



### PRESERVING THE HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND GARDENS OF BALBOA PARK



Born in San Diego and growing up with a brother and two sisters in Mission Hills, Ross acquired a definite sense of place from the stories that his parents and grandparents told about their lives here. Graduating from San Diego High School in the bicentennial year of 1976, Ross attended Yale University where he earned a B.A. in Economics in 1980.

His communications career began with radio news and a political campaign in New Mexico, followed by jobs in public relations, marketing communications and writing. In 1990 he returned to San Diego with his partner, Roy deVries, to work in the family business supporting international trade. During the early 1990s he was a public advocate for the NAFTA treaty and during 1996 he worked at UCSD's San Diego Dialogue in furtherance of our identity as a bi-national region. In 1999, he began a ten-year stint in charge of public messaging for the local American Lung Association.

His first walking tours of San Diego's Bankers Hill and Mission Hills neighborhoods took shape in the early 2000s alongside the History Center's Designer Showcase project that renovated historic homes. Today he regularly offers free walking tours of the Balboa Park historic district. In 2011 Ross began working as the Executive Director of Balboa Park's Spreckels Organ Society – which led to his involvement with the Committee of 100 where he has served as president since 2022.

Along with history, music has been a consistent passion. From 2001 through 2014, Ross sang lead vocals for the Moonlight Serenade Orchestra, a local dance band – and hosted a Sunday morning radio show called the Big Band Brunch.

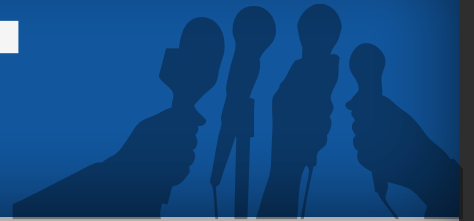
The opportunity to enhance the community's memories of the two great Expositions in Balboa Park is a natural focus for Ross, whose experiences in Balboa Park began as a youngster.

Today Ross and his partner of 40 years, visual artist Roy deVries, live on downtown's Cortez Hill.



# REPORT

from the last meeting



## UPCOMING SPEAKERS



2024

### MARCH - SPEAKER

- 1.....Docent Andy Hill  
The USS Midway Story
- 8.....
- 15.....LJGTRC Financial Members  
Panel of Club Members  
in the financial industry
- 22.....Sophie Williams  
Pointeworks - Arts & Culture  
in San Diego
- 29.....Toastmasters  
The Power of Public Speaker

### APRIL - SPEAKER

- 5.....Divya Kakaiya  
Healthy Within
- 12.....George Haligowski - Tentative  
Wine

Today's meeting started semi-promptly at 7:31 hosted by our **President Elect Luke Ervin**, subbing for our jet setting current President Christy. Our Rotarian of the day was **Douglas Kramer** who has had a multifaceted career in food, custom clothing (where he clothed famous people like Joe Pesci, Shaquille O'Neal and Eric Freeberg). Once the world entered the time of shorts and flip flops, he wisely moved into the solar world where he resides today. It still gives him time to hang out with his two sons and the love of his life, Cheryl.

**Samson** introduced many guests including David Chong's lovely wife **Sarah**, Father Wayne's lovely daughter **Joy** and our former Rotarian, the lovely **John Thill** plus a number of bright eyed, bushytailed rotaractors.

**Ron Spillsbury** talked about the very successful Mission Beach cleanup.

**Carolyn** inducted a new member, **Jane Helmer**, who is the newest Rotarian in the world because her son is marrying Jan Percival's daughter and instead of a dowry, she gets to be a Rotarian!

A number of save the dates:

-**Gary K**-April 26th wine soiree and fundraiser at the Faculty Club

-**Jacquie**-Feb 25th serving dinner at 4:00 for the Urban St. Angels  
**Ron K**-the Ensenada work weekend on September 28-29.

Our amazing finemaster **Tim** basically fined the entire world for almost no reason at all except that it was fun and **Leo** needed the cash.

**Lisa** had a high 20 because hubby **John**, lived through his bike

accident and **Bev** a high 5 because she is coming back to Rotary after hanging out with a bunch of kids.

Our speaker **Michelle Saul**, a bundle of energy, taught us a little about accountability and keeping promises to others as well as ourselves. Also, for those of you that are dating, if someone you just had dinner with tells you that they are going to call you, you are toast and not the kind you have with breakfast! She was great and even fined **Marty** \$5 for not calling her. Marty complained that he didn't have her #, but it cost him 5 anyway!

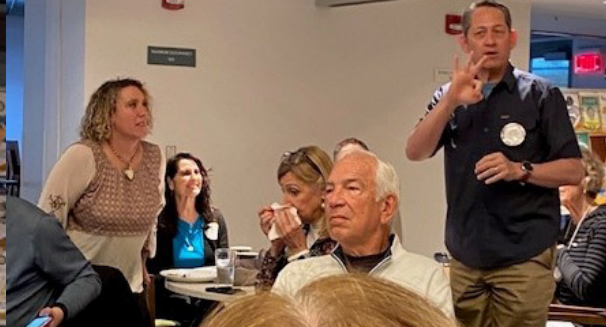
The meeting was adjourned right on time.

~Reporter

*Rich Papike*



# PHOTOS FROM LAST MEETING



## 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**  
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**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



**MARCH 2024**

- March 1 - Carolyn Fritz
- March 8 - Dennis Bucko
- March 15 - Financial Panel
- March 22 - Krishna Arora



**ROTARIAN**  
 OF THE DAY

**THERON MORGAN**

Embodying the Rotary spirit and work ethic instilled by my Rotarian father, I grew up in a close-knit Central California farm community. As an Eagle Scout, my appreciation for leadership and service runs parallel with the mission of Rotary. My professional path began by learning the ropes at my father's wealth management firm, setting the stage for a business degree from Fresno Pacific University.

Post-graduation, I broadened my expertise at LPL Financial in San Diego, gaining access to ways financial advisors best serve their clients across the country. This culminated in the launch of Avidity Capital in 2021, where I now dedicate myself to helping families preserve and enhance their estates.

When I'm not deepening my professional impact, I'm passionate about automobiles and living a healthy life. Whether it's bonding over cars, riding my bike, or completing Spartan Races, I enjoy being on the move.

