

# THE GOLDEN rotarian

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LA JOLLA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ROTARY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 20 2023



Rotary



IMAGINE  
ROTARY

RI President 2022-23  
**JENNIFER JONES**

District 5340 Governor 2022-23  
**CHARLES PRETTO**

LJGT Rotary President 2022-23  
**NANCY GATSCHET**

## SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

### JANUARY 2023 - SPEAKER

27..... Megan Phelps  
Youth4Climate

### FEBRUARY 2023 - SPEAKER

3..... Tim Quast

10..... Peacemakers of the Year  
Paths to Peace



## JORDAN HARRISON



Jordan Harrison is a professional speaker, DEI consultant and international youth development specialist born in Chicago, IL. He earned his BS from San Diego State and his Masters in Education from Harvard University. He lives a mission driven life focused on eradicating inequality with the constant reminder of our collective shared humanity. His work has allowed him as a keynote speaker to engage 250,000 people in boardrooms, classrooms, prisons and conferences on anti-racism, equity, inclusion, and how to build people and institutions to thrive across differences.

He served in the City Heights community for 8 years as Vice President of Community Impact and Partnerships at Reality Changers where he has worked with over 5,000 8th-12th grade first-generation, low-income college-bound students in San Diego who attend universities around the world. Currently he is the global strategy leader of Inclusion, Diversity and equity at Vertex Pharmaceuticals.



# REPORT

from the last meeting



## THE FOUR WAY TEST



OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY OR DO

01

IS IT THE TRUTH?

President Nancy Gatschet opened the meeting to order at 7:42am to a full room of about ~60 in-person attendees. Lots of guests, our speaker and special guest were in attendance.

Rotarian of the Day: **Christy White**

• Christy opened with an inspirational quote from a Ukrainian author about how our lives can change in an instant as was the case of our guest speaker

• She setup a brief background on the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the plight of refugees one of which is the guest speaker for today

• She talked about her family, introduced her husband, Mitchell, and daughter, Jessica Censotti whom both were present. Also introduced her pets, not present ☹️

• She talked about her journey to LJGT club that started on a Camino de Santiago where she met **Krishna & Bonnie Aurora, Linda Wallis** and several others. She was originally a member of Club 33 joining Rotary in 2013 and joined LJGT in 2021, participating in many, many Rotary projects and traveling to several Rotary International conferences and fellowship travel as well.

• She is board member at Cygnet theatre, a secret desire to be an actress, owns her CPA firm that audits school district and charter schools.

**Stephen Tako** acknowledged additional guests: **Paul Nester**, guest of Christy White from club 33, helped to be photographer for the day.

**Mike McQuary**, hasn't been present in-person for a long period of time, has several guests: **Costa and Irena**, residents of La Jolla, originally from Russia, interested in joining, Costa is a film director who working on a documentary about Ukrainian refugees coming to the US and the people who help them.

**Jessica**, executive director at Sister Cities

**Rick Clark** had a guest, **Carol**, a Rotarian at another club who is planning to join the LJGT club.

**Student of the Month**

**Marty Rosenstein** introduced the following individuals from Preuss School:

**Rowena Tiojanco**, advisory teacher to the student of the month and interact advisor. She has been an outstanding contributor to the Interact Club work including the work with the sister school the students interact with on Zoom in Jalalabad, Afghanistan.

**Sarah Silva**, is guidance counselor for our student of the month

**Albert Cortez Rodriguez**, student of the month, also in attendance were his father, Frederico, and his sister Migali.

**Marty** gave a brief introduction as to why Albert was selected as student of the month and some of the adversities he overcame, starting during the pandemic years, studying from home and caring for his younger sister while his parents were at work. Albert took the podium and talked about his journey, overcoming his difficulties during covid, taking care of his own sister and family friend's children as well. He has turned around his academics and plans to attend SDSU and study business.

**Announcements:**

**Jacque Reilly** announced that there was a lunch hosted by the SD Police Department for the main supporters of the LJGT Club's police station restoration project where they received a proclamation from the SD Police Department, Northeast Division Renovation Day for Jan 11, 2023. This was to thank our club for the work they have done to that facility. The Captain told us that they can host parties and events at the facility because they are very proud and appreciative of the work done by our club.

**Nancy Gatschet** recognized the following individuals: **Linda Wallis, Christy White, Rick Clark, and Erik Mjoen** for their work on the committee to find the new venue, UCSD Faculty Club, for the LJGT club. They each received a Rotary "Superhero" t-shirt.

**Dory Beatrice** announced that our club is continuing to support "Shelter Box" through our International Services Committee. Shelter Box are supporting families and individuals inside Ukraine and in neighboring countries to help support those who have fled Ukraine.

**Christy White** had a special guest, **Ana**, who is an acclaimed opera

singer, originally from Ukraine who had immigrated to San Diego many years ago. Ana took the podium and sang the national anthem of Ukraine.

**James Morrison**, from the Point Loma Rotary Club, took the podium. He announced his involvement with the Ukrainian refugees in San Diego and introduced the guest speaker, **Olga Illinska**. James gave the historical timeline of when Ukrainian became a free and independent country and key milestones till today.

**Guess Speaker: Olga Illinska**

Olga born in 1986 in the city of Kyiv, Ukraine. She is an only child raised by her single mother. She is from a family of doctors (Grandfather and mother, and grandmother all doctors). She is a single mother of a 3yr old boy named Lev. On Feb 24, 2022, during a missile attack, Olga began her journey to flee Ukraine, ultimately traveling through Moldova, Romania, Hungary and ultimately arriving in San Diego. She had powerful home videos of her journey. She traveled with her ex-husband to the border, but men were not allowed to leave Ukraine, so Olga and her son joined another mother with her child in their car who were also fleeing. It was an unbearable decision to decide to leave her family and flee the country with just her 2yr old son, at the time, with no real plan or destination.

It was a harrowing journey and found the kindness of so many people along the way. With the support of another Rotarian who helps to pay for her son's daycare, Olga has found work. She shares a home with others in the Pt Loma area.

Olga Illinska and James Morrison will be speaking at other Rotary Clubs. If you missed her presentation, I recommend that you join another club meeting to hear it.

James Morrison announced a call to action to get involved or help with temporary housing if possible. Contact James for more information.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45am

~Reporter

Christine Muhart



# PHOTOS FROM LAST MEETING



## 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?

La Jolla Golden Triangle  
**ROTARY CLUB**  
 Chartered - June, 1986 • La Jolla, California

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**LJGT ROTARY LEADERSHIP 2022 - 2023**

- PRESIDENT ..... Nancy Gatschet
- PRESIDENT ELECT (2023-24) ..... Christy White Brook
- PRESIDENT ELECT ELECT (2024-25).....
- TREASURER ..... Sharon Council
- SECRETARY ..... Christy White Brook
- PAST-PRESIDENT/FOUNDATION ..... Jacquie Reilly



**JANUARY 2023**

January 27 - Brian Eichenberg

**FEBRUARY 2023**

February 3 - Matt Clarke

February 10 - Dennis Bucko



**ROTARIAN**  
 OF THE DAY

**JAMES FROST**

I was born in San Diego, the youngest of five kids, whose roots arrived in San Diego in the late 1800's. Growing up in the Point Loma area and whose family were active members of the San Diego Yacht Club, I was introduced to water sports, in particular, sailing. One of my fondest childhood memories was trailing my boat across country and winning the 110 Nationals sailing regatta in Ocean City New Jersey in 1974.

My love of scuba diving has taken our family to many exotic waters, such as Grand Caymans, Fiji, Cook Islands, Great Barrier Reef and annually on the family boat "Yacht Helen" to Catalina Island.

I graduated in 1978 from University of Oregon (GO DUCKS!!!) with a BS in business management and was active in the SAE (Sigma Alpha Epsilon) fraternity from 1975-78. I married my college sweetheart, Kim Kellum, in 1979 and we moved to Utah to start our careers. I spent two years working at Weyerhaeuser in the wood products business and Kim with US Forest Service in recreation. During the winter months, Kim worked at Snowbird Ski Resort, which allowed me to get a \$5.00 season pass.

With a job offer from my father at the family lumber yard, we moved to Memphis TN to attend Lumber grading school before we moved to San Diego. We returned to San Diego in 1981 and have lived in Encinitas for the last 36 years. We have three children: Nick, 40 (graduated from the University of Washington), Ryan, 36, (graduated from Northern Arizona University) and Kayla, 32, who graduating recently from University of St Augustine with a doctorate in physical therapy. We have 4 grandchildren (Alistair, Cleo, Addie, and Jaxon) ages 5, 7 and 9.

I am President/General Manager of the family lumber business, a 112 year old establishment. A few years ago, we received the Centurion Award and honored as one of the top 20 oldest businesses in San Diego. My cousin Gordon (GT - a Rotary Club 33 member) and Byram my nephew (BBB Board member), are also involved in the family business. I am past president of the San Diego Lumberman's Club, Pacific Coast Wholesale Hardwood Distributors Association and served on the board of San Dieguito Tennis Club.

Currently, I support my wife Kim, who is a musician so if you see me at dive bars around town you know that I am her actual part-time Roadie. The pay is not great, but the fringe benefits are priceless.

I joined Rotary in 2004 and it has been a good 19 year run. I really enjoy giving back to the community and have been a team captain in many of the local military/police station projects as well as our Mexico projects.

I really have great respect for this group of individuals for all the good you have done at home and abroad and look forward to continuing to serve and support the club in the future.

