

# THE GOLDEN rotarian

LA JOLLA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ROTARY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER

MARCH 12, 2021

[www.lajollagtr Rotary.org](http://www.lajollagtr Rotary.org)



## Rotary Opens Opportunities

RI President 2020-21  
**HOLGER KNAACK**

District 5340 Governor 2020-21  
**STEVE WEITZEN**

LJGT Rotary President 2020-21  
**EMIDIO DELCONTE**

## SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

### MARCH 2021- SPEAKER

19..... Dan Sheehan  
Redefining the Warrior's Journey

### APRIL 2021- SPEAKER

02..... Dr Chris Rogers  
Physical Therapy



Robert R. Rohrbach, J.D.  
Bob, born in "Joisey City" is a transplanted Jersey Boy and has been in California since 1981. Prior to graduation from Iona College in New Rochelle, NY, he attended Maryknoll Seminary in Glen Ellyn, IL, under the misguided belief that he should be a missionary ☹️.

After abandoning that career, and receiving a BA in English Literature, he joined the Navy and entered OCS immediately followed by UDT/SEAL training. He graduated with BUD/S Class 49 in March 1969 and was assigned to UDT 11. During the next few years, amongst other responsibilities, he was privileged to serve his Country with UDT 11 both in Vietnam and as a member of the Apollo 11 swimmer recovery Team and Officer in Charge of the Apollo 14 swimmer recovery team. From August 1971 until retirement in August 1998, he

served in the Navy Reserves as a Navy Salvage Diver and Navy SEAL. He served as Commanding Officer of a Navy Reserve Unit in Philadelphia as well as Navy Reserve SEAL TEAM 1/3/5 in Coronado. Two high points of his career were commissioning his two oldest sons into the Navy and watching their careers mature when they were both selected as Commanding Officers of SEAL teams in 2014 (one on the East Coast and one on the West Coast). Today they are both Active-Duty Navy SEAL Captains. That's the 1st time in SEAL Team history to have three members of one family hold the rank of SEAL Captain.

After serving on Active-Duty, Bob received a JD degree from Villanova University School of Law and a Master's Degree in Taxation from the University of Hartford. His civilian career in-

cluded law department assignments at Provident National Bank, CIGNA and New England Financial. He also owned his own Financial Planning and Registered Investment Advisory firm from 1980-2003. Following the sale of that business he started anew in real estate development and business consulting which he continues to pursue today.

When the "offer of a lifetime" opened in 2009 to create outreach programs for high school and college athletes, he joined the Naval Special Warfare Training Center in Coronado and served as Director of the Navy SEAL & SWCC Scout Team until January 2018.



Bob is married to Ruth Lim; he has five children and seven grandchildren.



# REPORT

from the 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?

HERBERT J. TAYLOR

We started the meeting with our first real behind the scenes look at one of our newest members **Matt Shillinburg**, who was Rotarian of the Day. With just the short amount of time allotted to share, he left all of us wanting to learn more about his story and history. It seemed as though he'd lived multiple lives as he listed just a few of his achievements, but the common theme behind all his endeavors was his heart for service. Matt grew up in a Navy family and served over 20 years in the Army before retiring as the Senior Military Intelligence Officer and he continues to serve our country's finest.

Our club made more than its typical fair share of high 5s as **Lori Bende**

counted the amount of members that have been able to get the first or second dose of the covid-19 vaccine. Everyone shared how grateful they were to see **Bruce** make an appearance, and he was in good spirits sharing about his current journey and the birth of his granddaughter, Lavender.

**Lori** encouraged **Erik Mjoen** and **Sara Miceli** to race to be the first to talk about their chance meeting while resting post covid-19 vaccine at USCD. **Rick Clark** shared a happy reminder of **Denny Jacob's** birthday celebrate last year during Operation Pendleton - one of the last times we saw each other in person as a club, exactly one year ago.

**Louise Andres**

mentioned she would love walking partners from members in the club and **Bonnie** and **Krishna Arora** were one of the first to volunteer as partners, being the excellent and expert walkers that they are.

**Brett Morey** introduced our speaker, Kelly Breitenbecher, previous senior vice president of Petco and current CIO of Love's Furniture, and she shared her insider look at the shifting terrain of retail and commerce. She has been involved in the process from merchandizing to supply chain, to IT over the past 30 years within the industry. She shared the impact of covid on the inevitable digital acceleration, and the difficulty of working



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in brick and mortar currently, as noted by staples such as JC Pennys, Macy's and even Nordstrom's suffering from the change in consumer's purchasing habits. The headline of the presentation was 'The Rise of Amazon' as it was noted Amazon's total consolidated net revenue for 2020 alone was \$386 billion owning 38% of online retail with the next closest competitor Walmart coming in at 5%. Paralleled with the 'Rise of Amazon' was the 'Decline of malls' with a survey response of 74.2% of people reporting they would avoid in-store shopping because they didn't feel safe this past year due to covid-19. She shared examples of physical store companies affected by the shift that were both

gone (Sports authority, Borders, Blockbuster, Pier 1 imports), and troubled (Big 5, Barnes & Noble, JCPenneys, Sears, Nordstrom, and Macys). Only a few surviving companies were in the green (Best Buy, Dicks, Amazon, HomeGoods). The online retailers however, have been seeing an incline in usage and a few of the online only stores are now opening some brick and mortar locations (Casper and Allbirds) as they look to decrease delivery costs. Another profitable space within the retail online arena are the subscription box companies including Fit Fab Fun, Stich Fix, and Bark Box - boxes that allow for a monthly engaging experience to surprise the consumer. This plus Costco, Walmart, Dollar

Store, Petco, Target and Home Depot have been excelling with the shifted purchasing trends. Kelly shared her parting thoughts on how to prevent Amazon from becoming a monopoly by helping our small businesses survive via buying local. She mentioned the best way to keep the malls surviving is by having a blend of engaging and innovative experiences in tandem with the typical retail staple - think old school Hudson's with delicious food options, customizable makeup centers, and entertaining music and engaging experiences.

~Reporter

*Kaci Madden*



# La Jolla Golden Triangle ROTARY CLUB

Chartered - June, 1986 • La Jolla, California

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## LJGT ROTARY LEADERSHIP 2020 - 2021

PRESIDENT ..... Emidio DelConte  
PRESIDENT ELECT (2021-22) ..... Jacquie Reilly  
PRESIDENT ELECT ELECT (2022-23) ..... Dennis Bucko  
TREASURER ..... Sharon Council  
SECRETARY ..... Nancy Gatschet  
PAST-PRESIDENT/FOUNDATION ..... Kimberly Schafer



MARCH 2021

19.....Pete Griffith

26.....Janine Pack



ROTARIAN  
OF THE DAY



KACHKOVSKY & FISHER  
REGISTERED INVESTMENT ADVISOR



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**GARRY KACHKOVSKY** I was born and spent the first ten years of my life in the then Soviet Union. My clearest memories of growing up in Moscow are playing outside for hours with kids from my neighborhood, terrorizing my cousin who I spent what felt like every week-end with, seeing completely empty shelves in grocery stores, and waiting hours in line for bread only to be told that the rations ran out. And, despite that, being completely happy. When I was ten, my family and I immigrated to Chicago. In 1997 I received my bachelor's degree from Illinois Wesleyan University in Economics and Russian and immediately moved to Arizona to escape the crummy Chicago winters weather.

There I met my wife Emily and started a family. In our bi-lingual household, we are raising two daughters – Ava who is nine and Elle who turned six this week. The kids are bi-lingual

and Emily knows enough to be dangerous. We moved to San Diego four years ago to be closer to Emily's family and have loved every minute of it. What's not to love about paradise?! Well, may be taxes, real estate prices, congestion... but I digress.

My career in the financial services industry began in Phoenix in 1997 where I spent the next twenty years. My business partner and I are celebrating our company's twenty-year anniversary next month. We specialize in helping uniquely successful individuals and families by coordinating the different aspects of their financial lives and act as long-term stewards of their assets through comprehensive financial planning, sophisticated wealth management and strategic legacy planning. We have offices in Arizona, Colorado and in San Diego. This past year has been challenging, interesting and reward-

ing. I lost my local office support (Emily) due to kids' distance learning from home, but hired an amazing human in AZ, who has been instrumental in our growth during these unprecedented times.

My past volunteer interests have included coaching a boys' after school basketball team, being a big brother for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Arizona, and helping build homes for Habitat for Humanity. Emily and I have volunteered at our daughter's Russian school in Phoenix and her elementary school in UC. I've had to devote more time to our business; thus, my involvement in our club had to take a back seat. I look forward to re-engaging this year and making a difference through Rotary in the years to come. Aside from these charitable endeavors, as a family, we enjoy beach time, camping, trail running, hiking, mountain

