

THE GOLDEN rotarian

LA JOLLA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ROTARY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER

MARCH 19, 2021

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

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

APRIL 2021- SPEAKER

02..... Dr. Christopher Rogers
Orthopedic Stem Cell research



Learn about the forefront of cancer testing that can help patients understand their inform risks of developing cancer, optimal therapies and the risk of recurrence.

ALI KURAISHY

From a young age, Ali Kuraishy had a mission to use technology to improve our lives. He spent the first portion of his career hard at work in a laboratory, earning him a PhD from UCLA along with numerous publications. His patented work at UC San Diego identified a new way to fight cancer and is currently being used in clinical trials.

While his favorite pastime is making people laugh, he also has a passion to form new connections, both between ideas and people. After getting his MBA from UC San Diego, he has used this passion during the second portion of his career, as a business strategist in the biotech industry.

While this work has led to commercial success, it has also led to numerous medical advances in the oncology field. While he still can do so much more, Ali has achieved his mission to use technology to improve our lives.

ADVANCEMENTS - IN THE - GENETICS OF CANCER





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?

After our now traditional 15 minutes in breakout rooms for socializing, **President Emidio Del Conte** called us to order as the Most Dynamic Club in the world! He called our Rotarian of the Day **Garry Kachkovsky** to begin the meeting. **Garry** asked us for a moment silence for those who have been impacted by the pandemic. He then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Garry** joined our club in October of 2017. He was born in Russia (behind the Iron Curtain), and in 1985, his family migrated to Chicago where he lived for the next 12 years. He graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University with a dual major in Economics and Russian Studies. Not enjoying the winters in Illinois, he moved to Arizona and started his career in financial services. When his firm merged with a larger firm, **Garry** found that opening his own firm with a partner would allow him to deal with his clients in his own way, and Kachkovsky Fisher (Registered Investment Advisors) was born in 2001. Struggled for a few years but his time in Russia had prepared him for this and eventually built a thriving business, with offices nationally. He met his life partner in 2004 in Scottsdale, and together they moved to San Diego in

2017 with their 2 daughters **Ava & Elle**. Fast forward to surviving the pandemic with 2 young girls – the family went back to nature: hiking, biking, camping, and developing hobbies like cooking, rescuing reptiles, and making slime (huge mess!). **Garry** has created a garage gym – which even the girls enjoy! Next project is a remodel. Considering his firm, **Garry** reminded us that being a financial advisor is more complex just than picking stocks and bonds. His firm uses lots of options to help their clients become financially secure.

Emidio thanked **Garry** and welcomed guests. **Omolara McCloud** is a CPA in La Jolla and was a Rotary member in Decatur AL about 2 years ago. **Bob** and **Diane** from Gainesville FL were welcomed and shared that **Fary Moini** would be speaking to their Club at an upcoming meeting.

Fine Master **Lori Bende** fined our Rotarian of the Day **Garry** \$2 for today being one of only 2x that he has showed his real face on our Zoom meetings. Also subject to fines were **Alex M.**, **Kim S.**, and **Jacquie R.** Happy \$5's were offered by **Rich Papike** (story of **Bonnie** and **Krishna** – ask about garlic), **Bonnie & Krishna**, **Brett** (\$24 for his

daughter's birthday), **Denny** for a bunt single, **Antonio** for our guest speaker coming back to our Club if only for a day, **Sheila** for her 1st in-person dinner party since the pandemic began, and **Ranjan** for running into soon-to-be-new member **Niki Brown** at a Rotary gathering and getting to meet her in person! And last but certainly not least – **Bill Keane** \$100 for his mother's 100th birthday!!

Emidio announced the meeting of the Vocational Meeting immediately following this meeting, and to hold the week of April 19 as open as possible for Career Day at Preuss. Please let **Nancy** know if you want to participate. **Emidio** spoke of the recent survey monkey on the possibilities for future meetings with 41 responses. 80% are open to meeting again at the Marriott, 90% open to some combo of meeting types/venues, 76% in favor of some indoor and some outdoor. Board will discuss to come up with a plan.

Emidio welcomed our presenter's wife **Ruth** with a caution that he hoped **Bob** would not say anything to embarrass her! **Bob Rohrbach** is a former member of our LJGT Rotary and lives near **Emidio**. We all have seen his bio, but a



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high point for **Emidio** is that **Bob** and his 2 sons are all Navy SEALs and, like their father, are both Captains. It may be a first in Navy history that one family has 3 SEALs and 3 Captains! Not in his bio is the fact that he saved many homes in their mutual neighborhood during the Cedar Fire in 2003. **Emidio** invited **Bob Rohrbach** to the virtual podium to much virtual applause!

Bob started by saying how lucky he felt, only 3 months after SEAL training to be selected for the Apollo 11 recovery team and sent to Hawaii. **Bob** was a back-up swimmer for Apollo 11. **Shepard, Roosa, and Mitchell** were to be the astronauts on Apollo 14 and trained with the recovery team. **Bob** shared many photos of the recovery team, including the lead swimmer who was an Olympic swimmer. He explained how the extra-heavy wet suit protected them from the high water temperature and the fuels in the water. **Bob** explained the tradition when crossing the equator, a new SEAL goes from a polliwog to a shellback. A SEAL is required to kiss the “royal baby”. When crossing, SEALs are beaten with rubber hoses. **Bob** grabbed a companion and asked him to head-butt (along with

himself) the royal baby. He fell off his throne and great madness ensued with **Bob** and his buddy getting tossed into a tank of odiferous material! Back to work! They laid out all materials for the recovery on the hangar deck and practiced this every day. They trained astronauts on the exit routine – on the ground, in the bay and in the ocean. They checked materials every day for days on end prior to going live. They had 6 backups for everything. The doctor for the crew wanted to experience everything the astronauts would, including jumping out of the helicopter. **Bob** told him to hold his legs together when he jumped, but he did not and landed in the ocean from 40 feet up and when he got into the raft, he was a bit SORE! The team spoke constantly about communications, communications. Always worked in practice. But on the day of recovery, did not work. But the good news is that **Bob** had worked out hand-signals for egress if communications did not function. He spoke of how the team played jokes on each other. Every man had to practice every job so that there would be backup for everything. **Bob** showed photos of practices and stuff they designed after Apollo

11, like weighted bags to secure the raft in the water under helicopters.

Bob’s description and photos from the actual recovery were riveting and bought this event from almost 50 years ago to life. And remember the bag **Bob** had brought with him the actual day of recovery? It held a bottle of Champagne, which was popped and shared by his team when the carrier hid them from view! Any incredible story! **Bob** was thanked by many in the Club for such an exhilarating presentation!

Since the presentation ran just a little overtime, there were only a few questions allowed, then **Emidio** reminded the group of the Vocational Committee meeting. **Emidio** announced that **Pete Griffith** would be the Rotarian of the Day next week, and **Dan Sheehan** our speaker on “Redefining the Warrior’s Journey”. **Emidio** closed with these thoughts: **Norman Vincent Peale** “Change your thoughts and you change your world” and from **Robert Frost**: “The only way out is through.”

~ Reporter

Nancy Gatschet



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
26.....Janine Pack



ROTARIAN
OF THE DAY

GoodMorning Folks!

Good morning folks! As you can see by my photo, Dory and I have relocated to our “new digs” at Rancho Bernardo’s “Silvergate”. Leaving our home to downsize into a cottage was both challenging and a daunting experience, many of you may yet have to go through. I chose this new picture for my “Rotarian of the Day” for two reasons. My new look with a recurring moustache and by including both Dory and I, reminded me that we were the **First Club Presidents** that were also **Husband and Wife** members in LJGT Rotary history.

**** I must also pause and look back and refer to the passing of Bobby Foushie last week, as he was club president when he left our club to move to LA, leaving me with the task of leading the club for 18 months. I was much younger then and Zoom had not been invented, so life was very different at all levels. ****



PETE GRIFFITH

Thank You All

For being such an important part of my life over the past 37 years, since I helped Charter, “The Most Dynamic Rotary Club in the World”!

Until we meet again stay healthy and safe!

As most of you know I am a retired Insurance Agency owner who decided to marry a lady I met at UNC Chapel Hill and to move to San Diego to try to settle down, after relocating, as a child with my family from Northern Jersey, where I was born, to Spokane, to Chicago, to the Bay Area to Reno to Richmond, VA and finally to Chapel Hill, where I met **Connie**, my first wife. Upon her passing after thirty five years of marriage, I met

and fell in love with fellow Rotarian **Dory Beatrice** for a match made in “**Rotary Heaven**”. Connie and I had two wonderful daughters who have had five wonderful, “covid modified” daughters. They all live up in the Bay Area, so we look forward to our visits up North to that beautiful part of California. I am not a “good Zoom person”, so I’m really looking forward to seeing you all in person, just as soon as the Governor will allow.