

THE GOLDEN rotarian

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LA JOLLA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ROTARY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER

MAY 12 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

MAY 2023 - SPEAKER

19.....Dr. Oli Bachie
TBD

26.....Isabelle Phillippe
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute UCSD

JUNE 2023 - SPEAKER

2.....Irene Ekdahl
TBD



INTERNATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE



By the time this Rotary year concludes, our club's International Service Committee will have been involved in projects this year in the following countries: Mexico (5) Afghanistan (4) India, India/Tibet, Indonesia, Niger, and Uganda.

This year our Committee has also assisted Rotary Peace Scholars studying at USD's Kroc School for Peace Studies from Kyrgyzstan, Kenya, and Republic of Georgia and scholars studying in the Joint Program for Water Cooperation and Diplomacy from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan (2) and Uzbekistan (2) sited at the University for Peace in Costa Rica, IHE-Delft in the Netherlands, and Oregon State University. Additionally, this year the ISC has supported several international programs based in the US.

The budget from funds collected through contributions to our club's foundation totaled \$19,000. Through the use of The Rotary Foundation's grants, the ISC has access to additional funds supporting some of the above projects and scholars totaling many thousands of additional dollars thanks to contributions by our club members to The Rotary Foundation.

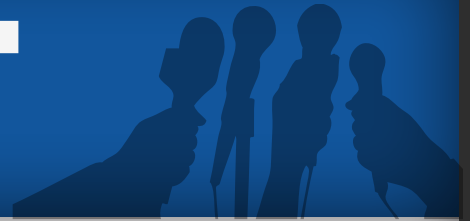
Since the Chartering of the La Jolla Golden Triangle Rotary Club in 1986, the ISC has identified 293 projects, programs and scholarships in which it has been involved in 43 countries (and still counting).

Submitted by Steve Brown, Acting Chair--International Service Committee



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 and introduced our Rotarian of the Day, **Chris Muhart**. After resolving few technical difficulties, Chris read a poem similar to one that hung on her grandma's wall when she was growing up...something like...'remember to walk a mile in another's moccasins before you judge that person'. Chris is the Director of Global Business Operations at Mitek Systems. Their products include digital check deposit technology and mobile ID verification which ties face and fingerprints to prove identification. She's been married for 30 years to husband, **Keith**. Their first trip to California was on their honeymoon. They have one daughter, **Carly**, who attends Our Lady of Peace (OLP) High School. Carly recently turned 16 and now has the keys to Chris' car. Her family does dog fostering and, in addition, Chris is involved in a long list of projects in Rotary and beyond, including the Rotary MUN planning committee, Interact at OLP High school, mentor for low-income students at a middle school, tutor at San Diego Refugee Tutoring, board member at Malashock Dance and member of the San Diego Diplomacy Council. We're so lucky to have her in our club! For sure, Chris embodies the spirit of Rotary.

Luke Ervin introduced the guests, including, **Ron Spilsbury**, who has just been approved for membership this week, and UCSD Rotaracts, **Carlos, Christian, Kurt, Sam** and **Brandon**.

There were just a few announcements today. **Nancy** announced that there would be a CSC meeting following today's meeting and that the annual Club Foundation Meeting would be held at next week's meeting.

Alex Monroe reminded everyone of the Saturday morning walk in Encinitas/Solana Beach. It will be a 2 1/2 mile walk ending at the Self-Realization gardens in Encinitas. Afterwards there will be a potluck lunch and fellowship at Alex's house nearby.

Nancy announced that some will be at the San Diego Humane Society's Walk for Animals, also on Saturday morning.

Today's program was a presentation by our Community Service Committee, led by **Tim Fronczek**. Tim, a new member of our club, did not hesitate to volunteer to take on the role of committee chairman for CSC when the position needed to be filled. When he first joined our club Tim immediately began volunteering for hands-on projects, like the canyon clean-up with Clean San Diego, a beach clean-up with Surfers Unite and, most recently, boxing food at Feeding San Diego. He encouraged others to participate in CSC projects, saying that there's nothing that warms your heart more than looking at all the things that can be done to help the community and all you have to do is put in a couple hours on the weekend. CSC meets the first Friday of each month immediately after our regular club meeting. Tim plans to be working toward more hands-on projects in the coming

year.

Somehow many of the CSC committee members were unable to make today's meeting but, Tim wowed us with a slide presentation of the CSC members and projects that they have been doing.

Jim Davies talked to us about YMCA TIDES project. CSC has been involved with the YMCA Oz program for years. It started with house repairs then expanded to buying holiday gifts and decorating the house. During Covid we couldn't continue so we got involved with the YMCA TIDES program which supports underprivileged families. We provided food, gifts, books, games at a dinner for the families. The OZ program may start up again as renovations are being made to the home.

Jim Davies also spoke about the most recent Police project. This project has been one of the most challenging but most rewarding projects we've had. The project was to renovate the 34 year old North Eastern Division San Diego Police Department. The David C. Copley Foundation has been instrumental in providing funding and the ability for this project to happen. There were lots of people and groups involved and the work had to be phased, logistics had to be planned and expenditures had to be tracked. The project included replacing kitchen cabinets, new microwaves, electrical work, flooring, carpets, painting, lounge furnishings, locker room flooring and benches, computers, monitors, retractable awning, power washing outside, and more. The estimated donated value of this project is \$331,500, including merchandise, labor and hard funds. Jim gave kudos to **Jim Frost, Tony Grillo, Rick Clark, Kevin Carlson**, for the many hours they spent and to the many others that made this happen. Jim, you're a huge asset to this club.

Sharia's Closet, introduced to CSC by **Fary Moini**, has been helping lower income families with emergency clothing and household essentials. Our club has been donating clothes, diapers, and toiletries to this organization.

San Diego Oasis, has been serving seniors with classes, community engagement and wellness programs. **David Chong** had recently invited Tim for lunch at the SD Oasis Center in Grossmont which included beer tasting and a tour. The best part was that Tim later took his dad for a visit and his dad is interested in participating. The new SD Oasis expansion in Rancho Bernardo is set for a grand opening on June 24 at 10 AM.

Ellen Bryson spoke about the Easter Basket project which began for us in 2011 with 30 baskets made for women and children staying at the Door of Hope. The Door of Hope opened about 50 years ago as a home for unwed mothers and has evolved to house women with domestic violence and now homeless, and, for the first year, fathers are included. Each year the number of baskets made has

increased. This year we made 185 baskets.

Our involvement with Ronald McDonaldhouse, a place where parents of hospitalized children can stay, began with Frank McGrath. We provide the cost for food for a meal which we prepare, serve to the families and cleanup. **Jim Davies** spoke about his experience this year. **Steve Balch** added about his experience there peeling carrots, chopping broccoli and washing dishes.

Linda Andrews talked about the San Diego Literacy project which started 10 years ago when **Jose Cruz** from the San Diego Council of Literacy talked to our club about the impact and statistics of illiteracy. She started a project of collecting gently used books from club members. The next year CSC provided money to buy books. She buys the books from the libraries in North County with stores of donated books, so the funds also help the library outreach programs. This year we're on target to donate about 1400 books which are stored in her garage. Each book is stamped inside with our Club name. This year we've also given books to the TIDES program, to Ronald McDonaldhouse families during our dinner project there, to a 2nd grade teacher of special needs children, to the Boys and Girls Club, and we added books to Christmas baskets.

Other CSC projects mentioned were The Uptown Community Center mail room, Holiday Baskets, VA Hospital visitation, therapeutic horsemanship, bagging cat food for the Humane Society, a Rotaract project for Feeding America, filling backpacks for Boys and Girls Club, Wreaths Across America, Ronald McDonaldhouse Red Shoe Day.

President **Nancy** ended the meeting with a tune to guess...Simon & Garfunkel's, Mrs. Robinson, and a quote, appropriate for today's meeting theme, "You get a lot more out of life when you give service than when you get service".

~Reporter

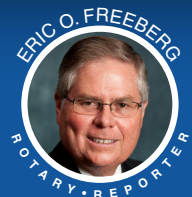
Krishna Arora

03

WILL IT BUILD GOODWILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

04

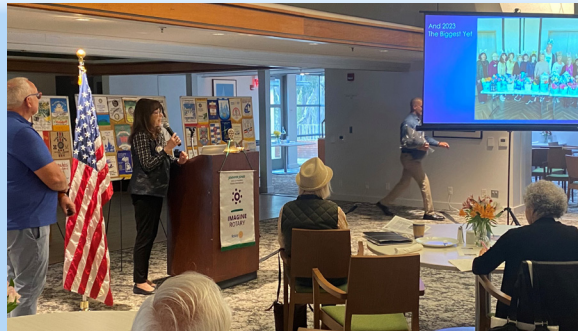
WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?



At the regular club meeting on May 12, 2023, the Club Foundation will hold its annual meeting of its Members who will be asked to approve the election of **Steve Brown, Sara Miceli, and Christy White** as directors, and to vote to approve the Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Foundation.



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) Luke Ervin
 TREASURER Sharon Council
 SECRETARY Christy White Brook
 PAST-PRESIDENT/FOUNDATION Jacquie Reilly



MAY 2023

May 19 - Linda Stouffer-Wallis

May 26 - Tatiana Piotroff

JUNE 2023

June 2 - David Tansey



ROTARIAN
 OF THE DAY

LUKE ERVIN



I was born and raised outside of Atlanta, Georgia and am still a diehard Braves, Falcons, and Hawks fan. I went to college at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, which I refer to as a 4.5 year outdoor adventure with a couple classes in between. I double majored in Marketing and Information Systems with a minor in International Finance. The educational highlights for me were the four study abroad programs I participated in (China, Denmark, Italy, and Scandinavia). My parents just moved

from Asheville, North Carolina to Tampa, Florida to be closer to my sister and her family. I have two brothers that are both in Texas (Dallas and San Antonio).

Just over 20 years ago - two days after graduating I packed up a U-Haul and drove the whole length of I-40 to move to southern California. I had been to San Diego a few times and considered it (and still do) paradise. My plan was just to spend a couple years goofing off, learning to surf, enjoy the sunshine and then move back to the southeast and "get a real job". Needless to say, things didn't go according to plan – they went much better. I instantly found a career I love, a great group of friends, a city I adore, and eventually a family of my own.

Greta and I have been married 9 years and have two kids that we can't get enough of (most of the time). Era is 7 years old and has many interests, each a mile wide and an inch deep. Meanwhile Mac is 5 years old razor focused on all things oceanic and art. They are our pride and joy and I truly feel this is the Golden Age of parenting...although I am excited to see what comes next.

I am the founding partner of the Mission Family & Business Group at UBS. I have been at UBS over ten years - prior to that I was at Smith Barney for nearly 10 years. We are a wealth management team that provides financial planning, asset management, and investment banking services to our clients, who mostly are entrepreneurs and corporate executives. Our main area of focus is exit planning for our business owner clients. The last couple of years have been a roller coaster with significant growth, but with that has come staffing challenges (one reason I have not been as present as I would like here at Rotary), but we now have a great team in place and are close to coming up for air.

I have been a member of the #MDRCITW (Most Dynamic Rotary Club In The World) seven years ago. Although not an official position, I have found a niche in fundraising activities within the Club. For 3 years I led the initiative to obtain corporate sponsorships for our Quintessential Festival where we averaged somewhere in the \$25k range each year that go towards our projects. The last 3 years I have been working with the County of SD to obtain Community Enhancement Grants which have provided \$47k total for our projects. I also have served on the Club's board of directors and the Club Foundation's board the last few years. With two little kids and a busy work schedule I haven't been as active as I would like with our projects and social activities, but that hopefully should change in the near future. Everyone here will get to know and see me more than you probably would like as I am slated to be the Club's president the year after Christy!