

THE GOLDEN rotarian

LA JOLLA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ROTARY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER

MAY 21, 2021

www.lajollagrotary.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

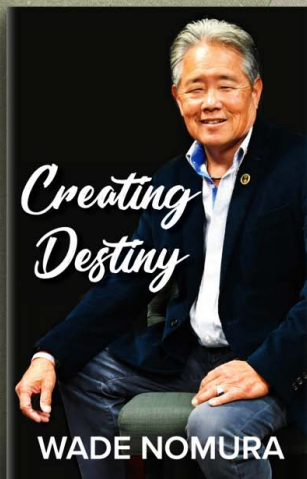
MAY 2021- SPEAKER

28..... Stephen Pultz
College Admissions - VP of Enrollment at USD

JUNE 2021- SPEAKER

04..... Scott Peters
How the new American Jobs Plan will affect San Diego

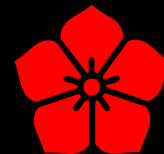
11..... Presidential Fundraiser
TBD



MY BOOK

CREATING DESTINY

IS A **BIOGRAPHY**
WITH A MESSAGE
OF **INSPIRING OTHERS**
TO LEAD A
LIFE OF SERVICE



WADE NOMURA

Wade Nomura draws on his experience as a global humanitarian, community leader and Mayor of Carpinteria, successful businessman and a BMX national champion, to educate and inspire audiences around the world. Within Rotary, he has worked on 200 charitable projects and been on 50 international project missions. He currently serves as the Technical Coordinator of water, sanitation and hygiene projects worldwide for Rotary. In the last 10 years, he has presented to over 200,000 people across 15 countries, illuminating how to maximize success, create impactful projects, and enhance team performance, and has been a speaker on Civil Rights at the last two Rotary International Peace Conferences. Wade is the recipient of the Rotary International highest individual award the "Service Above Self" award and the Rotary Foundation's "Citation for Meritorious Service" and their highest individual award, the "Distinguished Service" award. Wade talks about these experiences in his book "Creating Destiny".



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?

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CONCERNED?

HERBERT J. TAYLOR

Jacquie Reilly, ROD, started off with the pledge, a moment of silence for people worldwide suffering from Covid 19, and then a quote, "Everything you ever wanted is on the other side of fear."

She then went to share slides of her east coast trip, yet they never showed up...you can't go backwards' the computer was telling her.

While **Jacquie** worked on her balking slide show, announcements were made:

Merlot Monday is moving to Nobel Park (carefully situated near the rest rooms); **Rick** will bring a tent, and everyone will bring their own brown bag and chairs; hours will be 5-7pm.

Foundation giving--we are nearing the end of the fiscal year, so time is nigh to make sure you are up to date.

Vocational Committee meeting was to follow the regular member meeting today.

Jacquie has Rotary face coverings for those of you who would like to purchase, please let her know.

Jacquie came back on to try to screen share again and we saw more polar bears in the snow-storm.

She decided to deliver the narrative without all the fancy photos.

Jacquie and her friend **Pamela**

traveled to Savannah and really enjoyed it. She shared some history: Savannah founded in 1732 by **James Oglethorpe** with 1144 men/women/children, with equal land distribution for all, set on a system of squares with 10 homes around each, without slavery and as a haven from debtor's prison. The one physician who traveled with the group passed away early and later Jewish settlers from Portugal were welcomed mostly because they had a physician with them. **Jacquie** and **Pamela** went on interesting tours with ghost stories to share, as well as visited the house featured in the book, "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil."

She then traveled to Charleston, SC, the place of the start of the Civil War. Walking through the old slave market was hard to do, knowing of the treatment of the people brought thought there.

Pam went on to Florida and **Jacquie** went up to the Outer Banks and enjoyed the stories of the Wright Brothers first flight. Then on to New Jersey (don't worry, it was southern NJ, near Princeton) to be with her sister and her boyfriend, and her nieces. eating out was a highlight there.

In total, she was traveling for about two and a half weeks.

Emidio then introduced guest **Hashaw Elkins**, Director of Development for the NALA Foundation, with a focus on curing neglected tropical diseases and breaking the poverty cycle, especially in Ethiopia.

Nancy shared an announcement regarding the San Diego Festival of the Arts--have you all been to this show? It had been at the Waterfront Park for the past few years. They are looking to partner with GTR on the silent auction, looking for club volunteers to help run the Silent Auction. GTR will get some of these funds, have a Membership tent at the festival, and be able to wander around before and/or after their shifts and enjoy the juried art, music, food and beverage. **Nancy** promises to keep bugging us until a crew is assembled to help this event.

Brett shared an announcement that the UCHS Interact Club will be doing a beach cleanup on 5 June, beach TBD. Contact **Brett** to register. He also shared that he was on his way home, currently in southern Colorado, after traveling the nation to the tune of almost 9,000 miles.

Susan handed out fines to **Frank** for 'multi-tasking', that is reading the newspaper--**Frank** agreed to pay \$5; **Dave** was fined \$5 for referring to the members of this august group as a 'motley crew.'

High 5s...well a very high \$50 from **Marty** who celebrated 50 years of wedded bliss; **Antonio** pitched in a high 5 for his grandson's 17th birthday; Ellen matched **Marty** with \$50 celebrating a house sale (the one that was on the cover of The View); **Dennis** chipped in \$5 to celebrate the CDC policy for no mask if you have been vaccinated; **Susan** chipped in \$5 for **Rick** filling in while she was



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away; **Brett** chipped in \$5 for his long, productive business trip through 27 states.

At this point **Jacquie** tried one more time to share a photo of Savannah--when we saw the same polar bear, she exclaimed that someone at Zoom was going to get a phone call.

Kaci, whose kids were playing with the lawn mower, then introduced our speaker, **Cade Metz**, from the New York Times, about his new book, "Genius Makers", published in March by Random House. This non-fiction book explains a history of Artificial Intelligence, and the serious changes that are coming about because of AI. He takes a look at the idea of AI dating back to the 1950s, and how it developed, through a neural network (using math that learns skills by analyzing mountains of data), to now make up the 'brains' behind face recognition, driverless cars, voice recognition, etc. For instance, Siri was created using thousands of hours of spoken work, looking for patterns of speech and analyzing them.

Only a small group believed in this for the years 1950 to roughly 2000, and once AI became more real, many of the biggest companies in the world began bidding for the humans that created it.

The book's central character, **Jeff Henton**, and two of his students, wrote a paper about the accuracy of AI and then they were the most sought after people who were making AI real.

Cade talked about **Jeff** as the 'man who didn't sit down' for seven years. A back injury as a teenager made it painful to get up and afterwards if he did sit down...standing desks, train travel, laying down in taxis...

Antonio asked about the technology helping quadriplegics move limbs. **Cade** answered that while this is a bit outside the AI world, the electrode tech that is used in this case is risky, including brain surgery for implanting the electrodes. Should this technology be commonplace (don't ask **Elon Musk**) **Cade** thinks it is a step too far.

Nancy asked about the concept of singularity--are we on a path to a machine that is smarter than us and will endnager humans? **Cade** replied that there is an acknowledgement that we don't know if/when this will happen, and even those helping create it are warning that we may need protections.

Mike commented that Sci-Fi happens. What we have seen as tech tools thought of as impossible in the past via movies, etc, are now real. 'Is there a way to build in protections or are we headed for a tech Pandora's Box?'

Cade acknowledged that it is worth being concerned and tech is already creating problems today--tech is learning from all the data, and is learning things we did not expect. We are on the verge of autonomous weapons, face recognition is an issue in a free society (it can identify terrorist but still

invades privacy of regular citizens.

Brett like the Jestons as a kid and wants a maid like they had...

Krishna asked about China's level of AI and is it a threat? **Cade** acknowledged that China is spending enormous amounts of money to this, and because of the close government/industry relationships, they may have a competitive advantage over the US. But the US is now seeing some cooperation with the tech companies and would like to see a more level playing field.

Michael thanked **Cade** and the NYT for their reporting.

Dave related that we have become so reliant on technology, to the point where we can start a sentence and a report can be written.

Emidio closed the meeting noting that a contribution will be made to Angel Flights West.

He then had two quotes for us, first from **Edison**: Opportunity is often missed because it is dressed in overalls and looks like hard work; and then **Jefferson**, which said in essence, the harder I work the luckier I get.

~Reporter

Peter Ballantyne

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) Nancy Gatschet
 TREASURER Sharon Council
 SECRETARY Nancy Gatschet
 PAST-PRESIDENT/FOUNDATION Kimberly Schafer



ROTARIAN
 OF THE DAY

NIKI BROWN



Niki Brown is originally from the town of Paradise in Northern California and moved to San Diego in August of 2020. She is settling in nicely after living on a boat for the few couple months. Niki attended BYU Hawaii and Capella University to obtain undergraduate and masters level degrees in Communication and Culture Studies, Public Administration, and Nonprofit Management. Niki is passionate about organizations serving youth and has enjoyed working with international nonprofits, children's hospitals, and foster family agencies for the past 12+ years. She joined the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego family in fall of 2020 as the Director of Individual Giving. Niki enjoys traveling and exploring, trying new things, hiking and camping, going to the beach, reading, kickboxing, and doing just about anything with her rescue French bulldog, Franky.

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PADS AT THE BORDER

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE'S NEWEST PROJECT COMES TO LIFE DURING BORDER VISIT

When we pulled our car into the middle of Tijuana's migrant street camp, the call went out quickly: "Mujeres! Solamente Mujeres!" (Women! Only Women!) and within 45 minutes, we finished distributing over 1,200 sanitary pads to a long line of women and teenage girls.

These women and girls are among the 1,500 residents of the El Chaparral migrant camp, just a stone's throw from the U.S. border. This unofficial – and unwanted – tent city materialized in February, shortly after President Biden's inauguration. Fleeing violence at home in Central America, Haiti and Africa, these migrants refuse to leave as they wait for a chance to apply for asylum in the U.S.

We visited in order to help relieve the distress of women and teenage girls whose menstruation is a monthly nightmare. With no money to purchase pads and no privacy to wash and dry their underwear, it's a barbaric and humiliating situation, with the potential to be a public health crisis.

Before heading back to San Diego, we made a second stop at the Templo Embajadores church located in the rugged Scorpion Canyon on the west side of Tijuana. This church-turned-shelter now houses an additional 500-600 asylum-seekers. We quickly distributed clean, new underwear to women and girls, in addition to Pedialyte purchased at Costco in Tijuana. Dehydration is taking a terrible toll on some of the children housed at Templo Embajadores.

We realize that long term solutions are beyond our short-term scope, but we are committed to helping NOW. With support from organizations like Rotary, we hope to continue our deliveries as long as there are women and teenage girls in these grievous circumstances.

Our recent visit was made possible by our alliance with Linda Carroll, co-founder of [One Story at a Time](https://www.justlatatime.org/), a non-profit that provides humanitarian aid to the most vulnerable people and sentient beings in Mexican border towns. Case manager Maria Lourdes Arias Trujillo (known as "Lulu") was our guide and translator. A long-time humanitarian activist, Lulu's compassionate familiarity among the migrants made our visit to the street camp, and shelter, feel non-invasive.

To neighbors, friends and Rotarians who donated to support this visit, please know that we pledge to use all resources with integrity and care. We will not give up. To donate to Pads at the Border, please visit [justlatatime.org](https://www.justlatatime.org/). Where it says "write us a comment" please designate "Pads at the Border."

Respectfully submitted by:

JAN PERCIVAL LIPSCOMB
FARY MOINI

La Jolla Golden Triangle Rotary

MCKENNA AVERY
SDSU Rotaractor, class of 2021



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