

THE GOLDEN rotarian

LA JOLLA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ROTARY CLUB'S NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 13, 2020

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

NOVEMBER 2020- *SPEAKER*

20.....Theodora Africa
Michael Podolny

27.....DARK

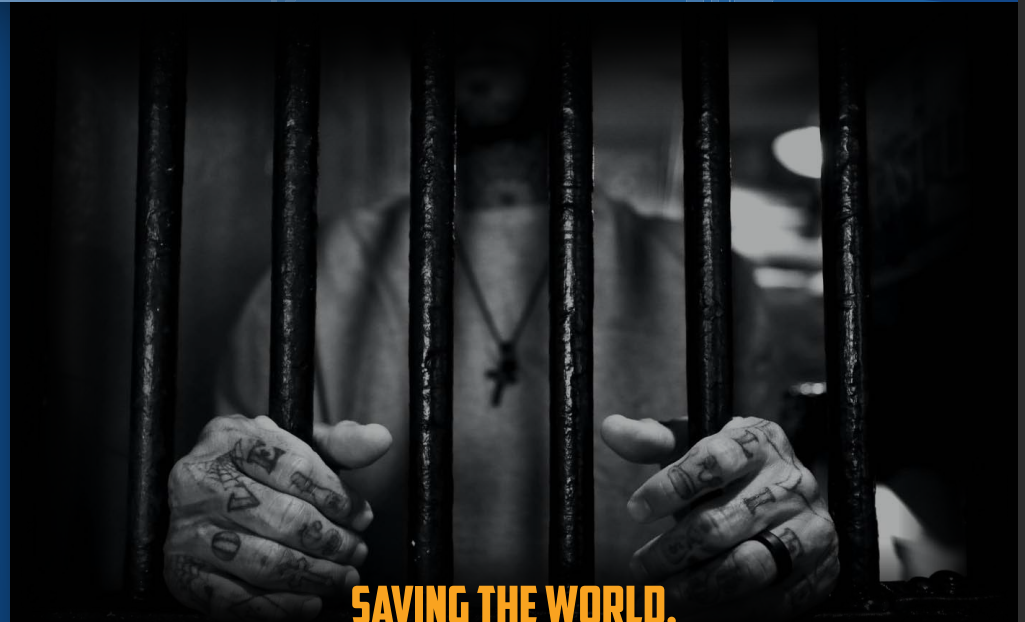
DECEMBER 2020- *SPEAKER*

04.....Museum of Contemporary Art
Kathryn Kanjo

11.....Voice of San Diego
Scott Lewis

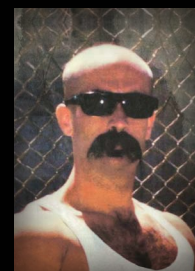
18.....Cogs Playing

25.....DARK

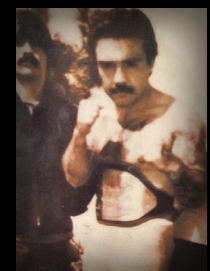


SAVING THE WORLD, ONE LIFE AT A TIME

George Chappell's & Eddie Blajos together served more than 62 years in prison where they were known respectively as "Poison" and "Rock". After many years of hard time, Eddie began a transformation that caused him to give up his gang affiliation, and turn his life to one of helping others transform their lives. One of his beneficiaries was a tough young man named George. Now they have both been released and started a transitional living home and program helping teens as well as men and women who are incarcerated or recently released become positive, productive members of society. They now work with the police and sheriff's Dept., parole, probation, and juvenile hall as well as others helping turn lives around.



GEORGE CHAPPELL



EDDIE BLAJOS

REPORT

from the last meeting



THE FOUR WAY TEST



OF THE THINGS WE
THINK, SAY OR DO

01

IS IT
THE TRUTH?

President Emidio called the meeting to order at 7:31am on this fine Friday.

Our Rotarian of the day was **Dr. Marty Rosenstein**. Marty is celebrating his 45th anniversary with Rotary, and opened the meeting with a very meaningful thought for the day from a Rotarian in his first Club: May Rotary friends and Rotary ways help to guide us all of our days.

Marty shared that he has had the desire to help others from a young age – he came from a humble background and yet realized he had so much more than many. He made the decision to find ways to give back whenever possible. This desire led him to Rotary – his first Club was in New Jersey, and Marty served as President of that Club twice. When he moved to San Diego and joined the LGTRC, he felt like he was in a Rotary candy store, with so many projects and dynamic members. He got to explore all aspects of Rotary for the first time and got to meet some of the most dedicated people ever. He didn't say this part but we know it to be true – **Marty** is one of those incredibly dedicated people who inspire the rest of us!

We were gifted with multiple guests this week, including: **Lyle, Sheila Henry's** guest and partner, who has submitted his application to join club. Yay! Strangely, when introducing **Lyle, Dennis Bucko's** photo came up. What is going on?

Stacy Murphy visited our Club for the first time. She has a background as an architect and entrepreneur in New York, and is also a leadership coach. She races cars and is learning to trapeze (we hope not at the same time). She just moved to San Diego in 2020 and loves the work we are doing with kids. We hope she returns!

We were delighted to have **Bradley Day** join us! There were many cheers when he was introduced.

We had a wonderful presence from the Preuss School today, including **Tom Meka, Dr. Matthew Steitz** (Principal), and **Dr. Helen Griffith** (Executive Director). We were delighted to have them attend and support the Student of the Month.

Matt Schillenberg joined us – **Matt** is in the process of becoming a new member.

Ria Hosseini joined us for her third meeting and plans to submit an application to join the Club. Thank you **Brett** for inviting her!

Erin was also in the house – she is the Service Director for Rotaract at the district level and Service Director for PB Rotaract.

Marty Rosenstein introduced our Student of the Month, **Richard Quang Nguyen**, who is a Senior at Preuss. **Richard** has improved his GPA since middle school and now has a GPA above 4.0. He is very active in athletics, participating in the Preuss squash program, playing varsity basketball, and more. While in school he has also been helping to care for his ailing grandmother. During this time, Preuss has been more like a family than a school. His goal is to attend UCSD, and his long-term goal is to give back to low-income kids, including tutoring and giving resources such as computers. We are sure he will do great things!

Our program was hosted by the Community Services Committee, highlighting many of their projects. It was really neat to hear about the breadth of their work, and also to reminisce about some of the impactful and fun projects the Committee and our Club have done.

02

IS IT
FAIR TO ALL
CONCERNED?

03

WILL IT
BUILD GOODWILL
AND BETTER
FRIENDSHIPS?

04

WILL IT BE
BENEFICIAL
TO ALL
CONCERNED?

REPORT

from the last meeting



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Denny did the talking and **Jacquie** was the Zoom Tech Whiz. The Community Service Committee offers club members the opportunity to improve the quality of life in our local communities. LGTRC has implemented a variety of local service projects that help our neighbors overcome challenges, address basic needs, and enhance their quality of life. Projects are predominantly hands-on.

HERE IS A BRIEF SAMPLING OF PROJECTS:

Literacy Promotion Project – Linda Andrews. This project provides literacy outreach to underserved areas of San Diego and has been well-appreciated by the recipients.

Easter Basket Project - Ellen Bryson. This project occurs about a week before Easter each year. It is completed at the Salvation Army near Sharp Hospital, and helps women and kids in need. This year they expect 170-200 kids on campus – the Easter Bunny will be busy and will need lots of baskets and tissue paper this year.

Police Project – Kevin Carlson. To date, the Club has completed 7 police projects. This initiative was started by the late Stuart Brown, and has grown to involve many members. Kevin reviewed slides from our project at the Police Training Academy by the airport. That was such a fun day, including celebrating Brett and Frank's birthdays with a big cake!

Ronald McDonald House – Jacquie Reilly. The Club provides funds for food and also provides person-power to prepare it. Hair nets are required – they look equally good on everyone. This is a heartwarming project that brings joy as well as nourishment.

VA Hospital Project – Charlie Mackay. This project has been going on for over 10 years. Charlie inherited it from Alan Galgut. Once a month, Club members bring fried chicken and potato salad to patients in the VA Hospital Spinal Cord Injury Unit. The main goal is to bring good cheer, fried chicken and good stories to patients. With COVID, the committee is now just sending over donations and gifts, and will resume food service as soon as they get the OK from the VA Hospital. It is very rewarding to help those who have given so much.

Oz Project– Jim Davies. The Oz project supports non-profit shelter services for kids and families in times of crisis. The Club started working with Oz in 1995. The project started out completing repairs on the shelter homes, and now has moved to holiday decorating for 2 houses, as well as donating funds for holiday dinners and exercise equipment.

But wait – there's more!!! The Committee supports the Boys and Girls Club Project led by Sharon Council, the Therapeutic Riders Project led by Cynthia Villis, which provides horsemanship for kids, Operation Pendleton, led by Rick Clark and a cadre of others (50-100 volunteers at each Operation Pendleton project), the Oasis project led by Bonnie and Krishna Arora, and the Rotaract projects.

This was a very impressive array of projects and shows what we mean by our Club being The Most Dynamic Rotary Club in the World!!

Emidio closed the meeting with words of wisdom from **Will Rogers** and from **Meg**. This reporter especially liked **Meg's** motto: Forward ever, backward never.

La Jolla Golden Triangle ROTARY CLUB

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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



NOVEMBER 2020

20 - David Tansey
27 - Dark

DECEMBER 2020

04 - Rich Papike



ROTARIAN
OF THE DAY



This January will mark my **two-year anniversary** with “The Most Dynamic Rotary Club in the World!” Joining this Club was one of the best decisions I ever made. You are all doing wonderful things in this world and I feel lucky to be a part of such an amazing group!

Some things have not changed since I was Rotarian of the Day about a year and a half ago. I am still with Eakes & Company, I continue to foster dogs for Open Arms Rescue, and I’ve been staying active mostly by hiking.

What has changed? I am now involved with two additional organizations. The first is Tu Casa. Tu Casa is located in Tijuana and is a sanctuary for refugees. Most of the residents are from Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador. The second is Voices for Children. During COVID I became a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) and was matched with a wonderful sibling group of 4. I look forward to sharing a little more with you on Friday.

