



District 5340

12/21/2018

Established 1993

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year

After today's opening Elena launched directly into **Club Announcements**.



She thanked the members for their votes for Isabel's project. She has 90 plus votes so far. Please, if you have another email account you could vote again for her project. The rules say there is only one vote per email account. Elena said that she's voted more than that. She must have a secret method. She promised to send out the request again.

Lili and Isabel made Christmas cookies for club members to enjoy. We were invited to help ourselves to some at the end of the meeting. The Hershey kisses even have their pointed tops intact. There apparently, has been some news that the kiss tops have been missing for some reason. Theirs did not come with that aberration.

Jo Ann reported that she and the faculty advisor at Helix escorted about 15 Interactors to the Noah Homes' "Enchanted Village", a magical walk through trees emblazoned with beautiful Christmas lights and lighted village houses. This is the last weekend of the event and it costs \$14.99 for adults and \$9.99 for children ages 3-12. After your walk there will be Hot chocolate. Its last days are Dec. 21-22-23 from 4-8



PM. Everyone enjoyed the trip immensely.



Betty shared some pictures of an event at Tubman Charter School. She was accompanied by Bill Pogue and his hat collection to a class of second graders. The children enjoyed having their pictures taken while wearing the hats. A good time was had by all which was very apparent by the smiles the children had on

La Mesa Sunrise Rotary Leadership 2018-2019

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Credits and Acknowledgements

- Pledge:
- 4-way test:
- Photos: Bill Pogue
- Drawing: Lynn to the Foundation
- **Minutes: Lynn DeHaven**



their faces. Bill started sharing “knock-knock jokes” and soon

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La Mesa Sunrise Rotary * Meetings each Friday 7:15 am * Marie Callender's 6950 Alvarado Rd., SD, CA 92120s

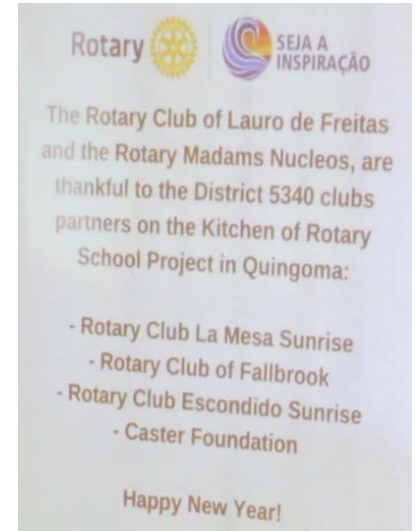


the children joined in with their own jokes. That just added more merriment to the fun!

Fern announced that their orange tree is once again filled with oranges. So please buy some. The money goes to “Produce for Polio.” The polio pig was sent around for us to drop our change into.



Paulo shared pictures from his former club in Brazil, which was the club who spear-headed the kitchen project at the Quingoma Elementary School, which we, and two other clubs helped fund, without a matching grant, for a total of \$10,000. They sent a video expressing their gratitude for our financial help. They gave us a standing ovation on the video. Paulo translated their greetings for us.



Alix had a 3-minute trailer to peak our interest in seeing the full hour video about Peruvian illegal gold mining along the Amazon and its tributaries. The effect is devastating the rainforest and it is reaching a tipping point where the harm will be irreparable. The showing of this important documentary will be at SDSU (in one of their auditoriums TBA) on January 29 at 7:00 PM. Mark Wheeler will be the host/monitor. Please save the date. Gold is now selling at \$1800 per ounce. The people who are doing this dredging and strip mining are trying to feed their families since they can no longer farm effectively. It is a big social and environmental problem that needs to be addressed at many levels.

Aaron came with new Oasis catalogs for the Spring semester. Coincidentally, for the first time, Oasis has placed the catalogs in the restaurant’s reception area for the first time. So, there is no excuse. Get a catalog and find a class that interests you. Our January 11th speaker will be the lady who teaches three neuro-movement classes there. These classes fill quickly so be sure to sign up right away. Registration starts on January 2, 2019 at midnight. Most classes cost \$15. Many of the instructors are donating their time. The money pays for the facility and costs that come with producing a catalog.



Aaron – reported that the LM Chamber of Commerce thanked our club for our donation of food items for their holiday collection. Aaron has also been in touch with the La Mesa Courier and will be forwarding our Gazette to them weekly. We are hoping they will find some of our activities worthy of reporting on.

Finally, we were asked to note and save the date of January 16. There are two important events that day. We’ve all been invited to a luncheon at the Elks Club in El Cajon by the La Mesa Rotary that day. Their speaker will be a man who is past Rotary International Governor, Frank Devlyn. He was described by the man from their club who issued the invitation as the second-best Rotary speaker of all time. Please make time to go.



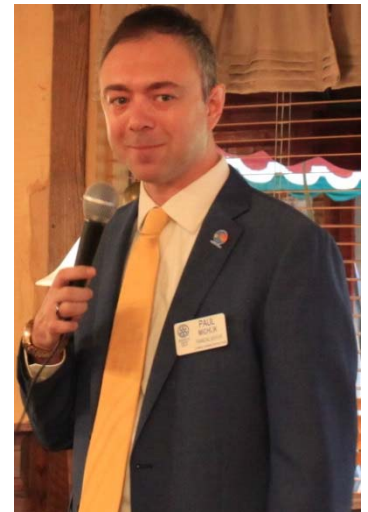
That same evening, our club will team with another club to provide a dinner to host the incoming Governor Elects at 6:00 PM. Details will follow. We do know we will be charging \$20.00 for that affair.

The Meeting: Three “Who Am I?’s” from Paul, Max, and Ivan



Paul was first: Paul told us that he grew up in the Seattle area and has always felt that he was an introspective person who likes to contemplate things like “What defines my own sense of work?” Do I do it for only the money or do I do what I do for the sense of accomplishment and the enjoyment I derive from it? Do I just do the job within the amount of allowable time, or do I push beyond that minimum level of comfort? Do I work for others or do I want to own my own business? Because of his nature he has dabbled in a number of endeavors. He majored in environmental sciences at first, but dropped that to try his hand at the recording business, as a young man. From there he moved to the guitar business and from there to his own “lighting and sound” business where he set up stages in different night clubs. That morphed into a “Booking Business.” It was Seattle’s weather (a lot of rain) that prompted him to vacation in San Diego. That prompted him to decide to leave family behind and on one visit he leased a small house in San Diego’s North Park and

moved down, with no real plan in mind. He worked for a while at Wells Fargo in Vons and started getting licenses for working with insurance, then a securities license, and he started working in mortgages and banking with the commensurate licenses. He also met his significant other, Emily. Now he contemplates the world’s banking future. He likes being in this club because he likes the kind of people who are in Rotary and they help keep him grounded.



Max, our newest member, was next. Max was a Rotarian in the Torrey Pines Club for a while. For various reasons, he gave up on that and started looking for a club with a meeting time and proximity to work that would be more compatible with his work. Max is a Funeral Director/Embalmer here in La Mesa. He lives in Chula Vista with his wife and family. His daughter is living and going to school in Spain for a year. He also has a son. He is the youngest child of 8 children and is 51 years old. He grew up in Erie, Pennsylvania. In 1986 he joined the Navy and got out in 1989. But, when the Persian Gulf started, he was moved to join the Army to fight in it. After that he wanted to return to San Diego. He was essentially on his own at 16 and he

knows the fear of not having anything to eat or a place to stay. He has long felt that he didn’t and couldn’t fit in with the awesome people in Rotary. But, when he met and worked with a Rotarian named Gordon, who had a family member die, he began to believe in himself more. Gordon told him Rotarians are just people; people who care for others, and anyone can do that. Finally, he saw that he was too concerned with himself and now,



especially in this club, he feels he “fits in.” He likes that we are concerned with and helping in our community, not just fixing things in Africa, South America, and places that are not near.



Ivan was our third speaker. Ivan sees himself in three ways, as a family person, a teacher, and athlete. He was born in Tecate', Mexico. His parents were poor immigrants. His father had to leave school after the third grade to help support the family, his mother made it through the sixth grade and then became a live-in nanny. His father, when Ivan was growing up, was a foreman on a chicken ranch within sight of the Tecate' border crossing. That's where Ivan grew up and to this day smelling the smell of a chicken ranch is nostalgic for him, while others are wrinkling their noses. His parents didn't know education but they knew it was the “way out” of poverty, because they wanted their 3 children to be educated. All three of them have college degrees. Ivan's brother is a scientist, his sister a Principal in El Cajon, and Ivan is a math consultant who helps teachers learn to teach math so that it is understandable for students. Ivan's mission is for everyone to understand math makes sense and his vision is that everyone will be good at math.

Ivan glossed over his accomplishments as a family man, however, those of us who've been around for a while and have watched his daughters grow and mature know the kind of effort he (and Elena) have put into their family and believe the girls' poise, developed sense of compassion, and their zest for helping others speaks volumes for those endeavors.

Ivan is very much an athlete of the individual kind. He holds three different black belts for different kinds of jujitsu. He attributes competitive jujitsu (a Japanese system of unarmed combat and physical training) with his change in attitude toward others. He initially wanted to be strong and able to beat up others who tormented him. This training is controlled and demands a lot of physicality, but it also demands you be in control of your temper. He learned that he really wasn't mad, he wanted to feel confident. That is what he learned with the training. He could feel confident with his skill and strength. Now he would never use physical power to overpower someone. His jujitsu training makes him confident of his strength and his education gives him the power to not need to use force.



Member Highlights



Guests/Visitors



Member Highlights

