



District 5340

3/06/2020

Chartered 1986

## Opening Remarks and Announcements



Elly led today's meeting in Jeff's absence. Jim Clark our winter-time member/visitor from Montana led us in the pledge and our Rotaractor President, Josh Barfuss, led the Four-way Test recitation. Our visitors were Rotarators (see photos below): Josh, Matt, Natalie, J.R., Evan, Melissa, Christian, and Marianna.

Our speaker, Torgen Johnson, speaking on the now closed nuclear power plant, San Onofre, cancelled because his child had come down with a serious cough, and in an abundance of caution because of the current outbreak of Corona Virus, stayed away. Mike McAnear stepped up to the plate and spoke on his recent visit to Nicaragua which included reaching out to Rotary clubs there and attending their Rotary Convention.

**Jo Ann** asked for drivers for Interactors to attend RISE at SDSU on March 21, 2020. Josh Barfuss spoke to what RISE is; a kind of "academy" for graduating Seniors who will be attending college in the fall. It is modeled, somewhat, on the Rotary Training sessions. There will be speakers who will inform them on things they can expect in college and how to survive and be successful. They will be told things like, "Yes, you really can skip going to class. BUT, you probably won't pass the class. Also, they'll learn how to start



### La Mesa Sunrise Rotary Leadership 2019-2020

#### Officers

President: Jeff Hall  
 Imd Past Pres: Elena Alba  
 Pres Elect: Elly Dotseth  
 Secretary: Lynn DeHaven  
 Treasurer: Laurel Nishida  
 RI Foundation: John Stremiau  
 Membership: Christine Evans  
 Youth: Joanne Bergquist  
 Community Service: Peggy Davis

#### Directors

Int'l Service: TBA  
 Pub Relations TBA  
 Peace Chair: Clara Harris

### Credits and Acknowledgements

- Pledge: Jim Clark
- 4-way test: Josh Brfuss
- Greeter: Christine Evans
- Raffle: Diane Wilson
- **Notes: Lynn DeHaven**



an Interact club or join the Rotaract club. They'll become somewhat familiar with the SDSU campus and given the chance to ask questions.



**Elly** announced that the District has cancelled both the District Training Conference and the District Conference this year because of fears of the spreading outbreak of Covid 19, (Coronavirus). As yet, there isn't a specific vaccine for it, and it spreads very rapidly in large group gatherings.

We were reminded of the "First Friday Vegetarian food truck" event tonight at Grossmont Center. Elly announced she had 3 solar-lights left for sale. They were sold by the end of the meeting. Hooray!!!!

**Lisa** told us about a clean-up at her school being planned. Date and time and address TBA. They are shooting for making this on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March.

**Janet** told us that the La Mesa City Council has just passed a "no smoking ordinance for La Mesa." It is no longer legal to smoke in outdoor dining areas or on the streets in La Mesa. There will be an informative meeting on how to make this happen in your town or just on the ordinance itself at the La Mesa Police Department on March 12, 2020 from 6 -7 PM .

She also shared that the next step of the **Four-way Test Contest** will be held **March 31, at 7:00 AM at the Rancho Bernardo Country Club.** Our winner, Avery, will be competing with her speech, which now must be memorized.



**Fern** reminded us of the Produce for Polio fruit from her orange tree. She passed out samples of them just before the meeting started and the left-over slices were on the breakfast bar. Please take some fruit and leave some dollars for our polio fund.

She also reminded us that we should be selling lanes for our bowling contest on May 8<sup>th</sup>. The theme is "Super Heroes". Come dressed as your favorite super hero. Bring your friends and bowl in costume. Please send out the e-mail Fern sent us with a link to the flier for information to everyone you know in our area. This is **our only fund-raiser this year.** **Please, please, please, do your best to make it successful.**



Next Friday, March 13, 2020, we will be, once again, feeding the homeless at the safe parking lot on Balboa Ave, for Jewish Family Services. This is the place where they open up their employee lunch area and we can serve the people inside the building. A sign-up sheet was passed around for signing up to go be there, and/or



bringing baked cornbread, or salads or desserts. Only one person brought in food to be added to our “Stone-soup” Chili today. Thank you, Christine!



So, next Friday bringing in your cans to our meeting is your last chance to remember!!!!

Reminder: our next Board meeting is March 11<sup>th</sup> at Elly's house. 6:00 PM.

**Speaker Presentation on “Annual Rotary Conference Nicaragua – Feb 15, 2020”,  
By Mike McAnear,**

Mike McAnear, one of our newest members, who joined Rotary almost one year ago, stepped up to be today's speaker. He did a great job. He has a special interest in Nicaragua because his youngest daughter and her family live there. She and her husband went there and opened a business providing paddle board tours on Lake Nicaragua (as big as one of our great lakes for sure). That business was closed about two years ago, yet they continue to live there. They now have two children so Mike and Marlowe, his wife, go down there pretty frequently to be with their grandchildren. They have one other grandchild from their oldest daughter.

On one of his trips, Mike made it his personal goal to build some contacts with Rotary members in Nicaragua, so that we might have some projects with



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[www.LaMesasunriserotary.com](http://www.LaMesasunriserotary.com)



La Mesa Sunrise Rotary \* Meetings each Friday 7:15 am \* Hooleys Irish Pub, Grossmont Center, La Mesa, CA 92142

some or one of their 16 clubs. He attended their annual Rotary Conference, a one-day affair, this past February 15, 2020. It was hosted by Club Rotario Chinandega San Cristobal which he located on the map for us. It lies north of the capital of Managua, about a 3-hour drive. Their district is 4240 and the conference was well-attended.

After some motivational speakers in the morning the attendees were entertained by the blind musicians with some remarkable music, and some traditional dancers who were of professional quality. The afternoon's entertainment was followed with rum and food. It was a great day!!! The video he showed of the affair would certainly bear out that opinion. He remarked that the President of this club is a woman and it is a fairly new club. They were somewhat "deer in the headlights" over the process of becoming a Rotary Club. They had no idea, initially, of all that was involved, but they got it done! Mike shared pictures of some of the members.

He also showed us pictures of a well-known school started in the 1970's by an Italian Priest. It is for the children of the very poor, those making a living from recycling stuff found at the dumps. There is a group of about 8 blind students, who are amazing musicians, (and performed at the conference) products of the music conservatory at the school. They have a hospital, a vocational/technical center that includes wood working, sewing, and a metal shop and jewelry making from recycled paper. They have a museum and have archaeologists who come to evaluate things that they find. They have hospitality training as well as basic education and they teach English. Mike taught English for a day while he was there, to students who were about middle-school age. He remarked that the students were very well behaved because they know the value of education. There is also a newly built theater for drama and the music conservatory. This coming August 6<sup>th</sup> they will host a celebration of the Birthday of this priest who started the school and to celebrate what the school has become. They can even boast of connections with now famous musicians, like Luciano Pavarotti.

Mike is now involved in The Model UN thanks to Manuela and his Nicaraguan connections. This year we are supporting two teams (2 person teams) from Helix, one from Nicaragua, and one from Costa Rica.

**Opportunity Drawing:** Anna won today's \$20. She will use the \$20 to replenish supplies for the students at her inner

## Guests/SDSU Rotaractors



barrio school. They have needs for lotions, soaps, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorants and other toiletries



**A warm note from Uganda visitor to Bill Pogue:**

"Hi Bill, I am happy to hear back from you. I am glad you still attend Rotary. Rotary is making a significant contribution to the world. Thank you to all the fantastic Rotarians in Lamesa Sunrise Rotary club. Please also send my regards to Gwen. I will let you know of my planned visit to the US later this year. My family and I live in Uganda. I work for CARE International in South Sudan now. South Sudan has experienced conflict for many years, and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is common. Many of the victims of sexual violence are women and girls. In CARE, I lead the implementation of activities in the community to prevent sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls and promote access to response services for survivors. The Government of South Sudan and different rebel groups recently agreed to a peace deal. The peace deal paved the way for a unity government that took office on 22 February 2020. We hope that the peace deal will be implemented and bring sustainable peace to the country after many years of conflict." --- Alex Ouma Okello



**See you next year, our guest friend:**

Jim Clark, our winter Rotarian visitor from Montana bade us farewell for the summer today. He will spend his last week here at the Silver Strand and then wend his way back north for the spring, summer, and early fall. We shall miss him.

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## Member's Highlights



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