



District 5340

05/25/2018

Established 1993

**Reminder: We will NOT have our regular morning meeting at Marie Callender's on June 1, 2018!**

## Opening Remarks and Announcements



Betty was out for family reason, Past President Ivan Alba started the morning with the pledge (Lynn) and the 4-way test (Ellie). After introducing guests, meeting was filled with announcements and special awards to Helix High School and LMPD.

On June 1, 2018 we will meet at Lynn's house for the In & Out Dinner. BYOB for any alcohol. Sodas and water provided.

Meat is provided by the club with chef Jeff doing the cooking. (Please let Fern know if you do not wish to eat steak. She'll provide salmon for those people) Bring a side-dish to share. Parking limited until 7:00 PM, when ticketing ceases. Before 7:00 PM parking on the street is only for residents who have paid for parking and those with handicap parking stickers. If you are coming to help set up at 5:30, park in Lynn's driveway or between houses on the long driveway to avoid being ticketed.



### La Mesa Sunrise Rotary Leadership 2017-2018

President Betty Howland  
Imd Past Pres Lynn DeHaven  
Pres Elect Elena Alba  
Secretary Elly Dotseth  
Treasurer Laurel Nishida  
CommService Len Gamble  
Club Service Fern Hall  
Int'l Service Hugo Marillo  
Club Programs Betty & Aaron  
RI Foundation David Ballesteros  
Membership Bobbie Warren  
Pub Relations Aaron Landau  
Youth Interact JoAnn Bergquist  
Greeter Muff Warren  
Peace Chair Clara Harris

### Credits and Acknowledgements

- Pledge: Lynn DeHaven
- 4-way test: Elly Dotseth
- Photos: Floyd Morrow and Bill Pogue
- Drawing: Celia Ramirez. Guest

**Minutes: Lynn DeHaven**



## Club Business and Announcements

- Fern announced, that the very last oranges from her tree are offered for a donation to Polio Plus.

She also announced that our fund-raising “Tea” will be held in September at a new place; The Bankers’ Hill site. Because



Banker’s Hill was originally built to accommodate and facilitate those with physical limitations we will be honoring the person who is in charge of the facility, Wheel-chair Dancers, & Challenged Sailors. If you have any other suggestions for honoring people or charities that work with physically challenged people please submit them right away.

- Diane is selling tickets to the “Taste of La Mesa” held on June 11, 2018. The tickets are \$40 per person. A number of La Mesa restaurants will be providing the food booths. There is no limit to how many times you can go to each booth. Until they run out of food, you’re good to go back repeatedly. It’s a lot of fun!

- Janet announced that many of our guests today were from Helix Charter High School. They were here to thank us for sponsoring them to participate



in the Model UN and to report on it’s success and value as a learning tool and fun! Lloyd Sabin the teacher who supports this valuable endeavor, sponsored by Rotary, trains the students who wish to participate, was present. He told us that he has participated for the past 11 years, but the event was actually begun before that. He said he has seen the event grow and improve with each passing year. Students came from a number of countries to participate. Our club sponsored two who came from Costa Rica and the four Helix HS students who participated. Three of those students were here today, Mahamed Abdulahi, Muna Abdulahi, (brother & sister of Sade Abdulahi (pronounced Suad) whom we



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have supported in the past and is now in college) and Zoe Kulhken. The fourth student, Madeleine Denison was unable to be present. Each student described how they participated. Two represented Australia and argued on “Climate Change” from the position of Australia’s stance on that subject. The other two argued from the stance that South Korea has maintained on the same subject. All students told us how much fun it was and how much researching effort went into understanding the topic from another country’s point-of-view. They each were presented with a certificate from our club



## Guest Speaker: Police Chief Vasquez



Janet introduced Police Chief Vasquez, today’s speaker. Chief Vasquez, who has spoken to the club before, chose to share with us how much the crime in La Mesa has gone down recently. He had a chart that showed that the crime frequency for 2017 is now equal to that of 1962 down from a peak almost double of that in more recent intervening years. He attributes that to a number of changes in the work of policing the community: The police have worked to build working relationships with people,

businesses, and schools. Slowly, they’ve rebuilt attitudes of trust and admiration. They now have strong commitment to community involvement and working together. They have benefitted from increasing availability of video technology. Security camera footage and smart phones give people the means to immediately supply footage revealing license numbers and pictures of crimes and the people committing them as they happen. They analyze data continually. They have a young staff of people facile with the available technology and with using Facebook, Twitter, and Next Door. Neighborhood Watch groups are also helpful.

He spent some time telling us how crimes are categorized; violent assault (murder – rape), property, (now at the lowest point in 50 years), robbery (someone takes your valuables using force or threat of force) burglary (entry into a building or cars to take valuables). He defined



prolific criminals as those people with multiple burglaries both in buildings and taking cars. On that note he reminded us that car theft is up so don't leave any valuables in your car, in sight, and always lock your car. He bragged on their 911 team. They are evaluated on how many call answers they have in 15 seconds. They have 95% of the calls are answered in 15 seconds or less, 95% of the time.

One reason he was here was to introduce Officer Michael Chiaverini, an Army veteran who has been with the force for close to 4 years. Michael Chiaverini was selected as La Mesa's Officer of the Year 2017 for many reasons. He treats everyone with respect, he has established good rapport with his fellow officers and with the community members he works with. He engages with the community, pays attention to crime trends, has great computer skills and expertise with the law. He is a superb communicator and had the most arrests in 2017. He turns in great crime reports showing good attention to detail. He is good at interviewing and asking the right questions. He has had no complaints.



Janet presented Chief Vasquez with a Rotary plaque honoring him for his leadership and a check as a thank you. She also presented Officer Michael Chiaverini with a certificate from our club along with a check for \$250 as a thank you for being an exemplary Officer. The club gave him a standing ovation.

**Guests:** Lloyd Sabin, Helix instructor and trainer for Model UN students;



- Mahamed Abdulahi, Helix student & Model UN participant, Sade's brother;
  - Muna Abdulahi, Helix student & Model UN participant, Sade's sister;
  - Zoe Kulhken, Helix student & Model UN participant, & the La Mesa Police's Youth Commission;
- Walt Vasquez – La Mesa Police Chief;  
Mike Chiaverini – La Mesa Police officer, Officer of the Year 2017;  
Celia Ramirez, San Diego Rotary Club 33, aka "The Big Club";

Paul Michlik, our "new- member-in-waiting"; Jim Eliah – writer, specializing in film for Legacy Productions

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## Member Highlights



## Guests and Visitors



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