

**District 5340****11/16/2018****Established 1993**

Opening Remarks and Announcements



President Elena open the meeting by asking a student, Noah, from Harriet Tubman to lead the pledge and Fern to lead the Four-way Test + one.

Announcements

There is no club meeting the day after Thanksgiving.

December 7, is the club's Holiday Party at Hugo & Manuela's home.



There is no morning club meeting that day. It's a pot-luck meal so everyone is to bring a dish that is a tradition reflective of your origins, (or bring a favorite and pretend) but, it should be enough for the expected 50 people to each have a serving. A sign up was sent around to get a more accurate view of who to expect. The invitation was extended to Rotoactors. Members should include

their spouses or significant others.

Board Meeting was held this past Tuesday evening. The board updated our By-laws to be reflective of how things are presently being done. They can be changed at any time. A copy will be sent to everyone via email for your information. Elena had one printed copy if you need one.



La Mesa Sunrise Rotary Leadership 2018-2019

Officers

President: Elena Lujan-Alba
 Imd Past Pres: Betty Howland
 Pres Elect: Jeff Hall
 Secretary: Elly Dotseth
 Treasurer: John Stremlau/
 Laurel Nishida

Directors

Int'l Service: Hugo Marillo
 Branding: Dave Lemox
 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: Noah (Student)
- 4-way test: Fern Hall
- Photos: Bill Pogue
- Drawing: Marlene Morrow (\$20)
- **Minutes: Lynn DeHaven**





Two events will happen this coming **Wednesday January 16, 2019 (save the date)**

- A lunchtime presentation RI Past President, Frank Devlin, will speak at noon on January 16th. The venue and cost is TBA but it will be in East County.
- An evening hosting of 28 Governors here for the Governors training week. We will co-host with Santee and La Mesa Noon clubs. More information to follow.
- December 3, 2019 (Monday) an interesting speaker (Fernando Huensta) at the Crosspoint church 6:00 – 9:00 PM



Jo Ann regarding Interactors at Helix High activities: They've completed two recent activities.



- On a Saturday some of them met at Sharia's Closet a small old motel on University Avenue has been converted into a small business plaza with limited parking. There's a dentist, an insurance office and Sharia's Closet which recycles donated clothing. The Interactors with Jo Ann and another group (about 10) filled this small 2 room place and spent a few hours sorting donated clothes into categories: throw-away, men's, women's, infants, young boys or girls, teens male or female and so on. They have bins and the clothes are folded and placed appropriately. The clothes are clean and very wearable.
- This past Thursday Jo Ann and the faculty advisor, I believe, took a group to Father Joe's to serve the evening meal.

Noah Homes is having an Enchanted Village on December 14, 15, 16 and the following week on 21, 22, 23. There will be a Santa for children to ask for what they'd like, hot chocolate, crafts and so on. Imagine walking into magical twinkling trees, cute cottages, hot chocolate in hand. December 14 @ 8:00 am - December 16 @ 5:00 pm the other days 4:00 – 8:00 PM. Prices \$14.99 per



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adult, \$9.99 for children 3-12, Children under 3 free as are elves with credentials. See their website; it's magical.

Alix says **"Save the date": January 29, 2019** (Tuesday evening) – SDSU- Ethical metal smiths has secured a documentary on Ethical mining vs non-ethical practices on Peruvian gold mining. This showing is being provided through the collaboration of some of our local Universities. It should be an interesting evening..

Aaron reminded us that we've been bringing in food to go to homebound seniors.



- This is the La Mesa Chamber of Commerce's sponsored activity. We have one more Friday to bring in items. Please, small cans and boxed foods because many live alone and have small appetites. Mary England collects this food but has access to two vans for delivery.

- He is putting out another invitation to local business owners offering time (5-10 minutes for them to come and tell us about their business. Two meeting days per month only will be allotted to this activity. We have no idea of who will accept the invitation. Some owners say they don't have time, or many will volunteer.



Special Presentation from Tubman School by Aaron

The first order of Business was to invite the Tubman contingent up for their presentation. Since this was kept secret, it was too bad that Betty was out sick today, because she was the object of their visit. Betty is a weekly volunteer at their school. She has read many books to their classes over the past years, primarily in the Kindergarten classes, but occasionally in another classes. She is much loved by the children. After CEO/Principal Ryan Woodard introduced the staff members and students he explained that they had come to honor Betty with a plaque of appreciation and the two students shared their letters they'd written explaining how much they loved and appreciated Betty's efforts at school. The teachers also attested to her value because she always came prepared and always had interesting little activities to engage students at the ready, freeing them to do class instruction. Betty also would help individual students who need some one on one adult time which the teachers rarely have time to give individual help.



It was very apparent that Betty provides a vital service to the school. Fern videoed the presentation and

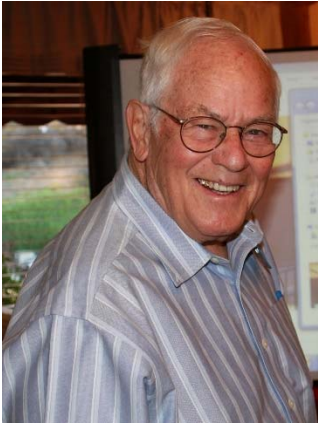
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collected the children's letters and the plaque, to give to Betty. We other members felt very proud of the impression Betty has made on these students and staff at Harriet Tubman school. Aaron, from our club, is the President of Tubman's governing Board and is a significant presence at that school too. Their presence there speaks well for our club's reputation in the community. Ryan Woodard is a club member, although he rarely has the time for an early club meeting because of school obligations. He has a staff member join us, when they can, in his stead.

Another special presentation was by Bill on the Diego Hills Thanksgiving luncheon, November 14. We thank Ivy for inviting us to this excellent function. From Rotary, Ivy, Fern and Jeff Hall, Betty Howland, Lynn DeHaven and Bill Pogue attended. Betty and Lynn were in the long serving line, smiling. A lot of students came for this event, I would estimate 175. They were all in great spirits, happy, talking, laughing. The line of food, supplied and served by teachers and friends of the school, was about 25 feet long. The food was excellent. The staff was delighted that we Rotarians had come to enjoy this event with the students, and with the staff. We talked with many of the students, and we were announced, with three other guests, to the students and staff.



The rooms are all pleasant, with some interesting wall hangings, tiles, etc. There is a music room with instruments, a library/study room, and several other rooms, all bright and delightful. Diego Hills has several campuses; this one is on the corner of College Ave and El Cajon Blvd, in a shopping center, very convenient for the students, many of whom hold jobs. A few brought their beautiful babies.

The staff was outstanding. The teachers all are very, very interested and involved in the development of their students. We discovered that the school promotes several trips during the school year, at no cost to the students. For instance, one group went to Washington, D.C. to meet Congressmen, see Smithsonian museums, the Mall, Congress, White House, etc. Another group went by bus around California to visit several colleges/universities, to see how they were. All in all, about ten trips were taken during each year, to many different locations/functions.

Several of the staff mentioned appreciation for Jeff Hall tutoring each week.



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Speaker: Veronica Musa, Lawyer and Advocate from Argentina



(vmusa@sandiego.ed)

Hugo introduced Veronica Musa, a lawyer and advocate from Argentina, specializing in human rights. She has worked in several countries and lectured at universities in the US, Argentina, Spain, and The Netherlands. In the US she served as a human-rights monitor for the Fair Food Standards Council, in charge of the implementation of the Fair Food Program, the only comprehensive corporate social responsibility program in the agricultural sector of the USA.



Previously, she monitored the conditions of confinement of immigrant detainees on behalf of Florida Institutional legal Services. She has worked for the Justice, Memory and Truth Center of Istanbul, Turkey, and for the Center for Peace Studies in Bogota Colombia. She has 2 degrees in law from Universidad Nacional de Rosario, Argentina and LLM in Comparative Law from the University of Florida. Currently she is a Grillo-Marxuach Family /TRF Scholar at the University of San Diego. She's been here 2.5 months and is working on a Masters in Human Rights and Peacebuilding.

Veronica explained how she got to being invested in the human rights. As her first job after getting her Law degree she was assigned to the grunt work of contacting people who were in default on loans, during one of the most long-lasting and worst failing economies in South American history in Argentina, and telling them they had to pay or lose their business or homes. She found that she was, instead moved to write long treatises pleading for clemency or exception to the rules. After a few weeks she was summoned by the lead lawyer who told her that while she was a personable person, she was a terrible lawyer and not doing her job. She was fired for having too much empathy. So, after introspection, she realized she couldn't work where empathy didn't factor in. Later she worked in USA, Bogota Colombia, for the conditions of confinement of immigrants in Florida and similarly in The Netherlands where she worked and lectured on human rights and peace and justice.



She located the small village where she grew up near the northern border of Argentina and Bolivia. It is the last city founded by the Spanish when they were conquering in S. America. Then it was under military rule in the 1970's followed by Democratic rule after the Falkland Islands coup 1985. There were investigations into the total disappearances of many, many people. Top military men were sentenced to life imprisonment and they were all pardoned by the following administration. After working for the Fair food program, one day she was summoned by her boss, who, commended her work and told she was one of the best attorneys he'd ever known. She went on to say that her experience with Rotary and being a TRF Rotary Scholar, she is so impressed with the organization where there are so many empathetic people. This is what she hopes for the world.



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Member Highlights



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Guests and Visitors



Sabrina Laut/Josh Barfuss/Paige Doherty/Lauren Millori/Montana Farrow (SDSU Rotaract)



Sheri Sorively (Miramar Club) / Richard Macau (El Cajon Club with our ow Clara Harris)



Ryan Woodard (CEO/Principal)/Ellisa Williams/Kelsey Frye/Samantha Porter/Katie Dinh
(Harriot Tubman School)

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