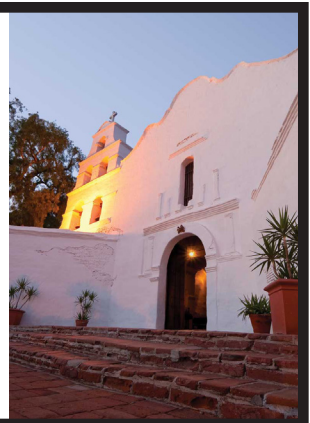




The Old Mission Bell of Old Mission Rotary



Meetings Every Tuesday at noon on Zoom
Post Pandemic at the Legacy Resort Hotel and Spa
oldmissionrotary.org

January 2021- Edition Three

The Global Care Alliance



Niles Sharif is the founder of the Global Care Alliance.

The Global Care Alliance was born in 2005 with a bag of rice and beans donated to a kitchen for underprivileged children in the rural community of Colonet, Mexico. Since that time, Niles Sharif and his Global Care Alliance has grown into an important international humanitarian organization with many projects in Mexico and the African nation of Burundi. They are continuing to grow and expand every day as they build on their successes of the past and look forward to the future.

Global Care Alliance, formerly known as The Frances Kitchen Project, Inc., was founded in 2007 by Niles who is a long time member of Old Mission Rotary. His very first project was to build

a stand-alone kitchen at a severely impoverished school in the Mexican farming town of Colonet in Baja. Nile's partner in that project was a lady named Frances Sifuentes, who was driven to feed 125-150 children a hot and healthy meal each and every school day throughout the year. For many of the children attending the school, the meal they are served by Frances is the only hot meal they ever get.

Achievements in Baja:

- 275,000+ meals served at Frances Kitchen in Baja
- 2500 people using the community center in Baja every day to attend a variety of classes.
- Opened a medical clinic to provide free healthcare to the community with new doctors from a medical school.

In 2011, Niles met refugees from the central African nation of Burundi at his church here in San Diego and made the first of 23 trips to the impoverished Batwa tribal region

Achievements in Burundi:

- 72 Houses built in a Batwa tribe village in Burundi.
- 100 school uniforms for Batwa tribe children in Burundi.
- 120,000 Bowls of porridge served to the Batwa tribe children of Ghaararo Burundi.
- 5000 people per day with clean drinking water in Burundi.

Niles is of Iraqi and Lebanese Arab

ancestry and has also made exploratory visits to the Bekka Valley in Lebanon after his aunt asked him to go

Achievements in Lebanon:

- Started a food bank after the catastrophic explosion in Beirut.
- Sponsoring a young American to teach music and provide musical instruments in a Syrian refugee camp.

Nepal also made a trip to Nepal and plans to return soon.

Achievements in Nepal:

- Funded a grain mill for a small village.

Old Mission Rotary was very much impressed by Niles and his projects that are changing and saving lives all over the world.

Corona Conversation



The Corona Conversation with Don Krupp is a weekly feature now included in our Old Mission Rotary ZOOM Meetings.

**Corona Conversation
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Corona Conversation

At this week's meeting, Program Chair Don Krupp delivered another one of his weekly Corona Conversations. This week's topic was about vaccine distribution and availability.

While there is a national conversation underway about how better to expedite the delivery COVID-19 vaccines to local clinics where inoculation can be given, much is being done at the state and local to meet the need.

This is happening at a time when we are experiencing an unprecedented post-holiday surge in new coronavirus cases. Even more troublesome is that the number of fatalities due to the disease is about to exceed 400,000.

All this makes getting vaccines into peoples' arms all the more important. So far, nationally only 10,6 million Americans have been vaccinated.

Here in California and San Diego County there are plans in place for prioritizing those eligible for vaccinations. As of this week that includes all health care workers, nursing home residents and workers, and now any individual age 75 and older. The County Health Department is anticipating expanding eligibility to include individuals age 65 and older before the end of January, contingent upon the availability of the vaccine.

The County has now opened up a vaccination superstation at Petco Park and plans are to carry out 5,000 inoculations a day there. For more information on when and where you can arrange a vaccination appointment check out www.vaccinationsuperstationsd.com

*Without unity there is no peace.
-President Joseph Biden Jr.*

VIIDAI International Service in the Spotlight

VIIDAI (Viajes Interinstitucional de Integracion Docente, Asistencial y de Investigacion) is a unique, international public health field program in Baja Mexico.

This story is the result of a 12 year ongoing commitment by Old Mission Rotary to support this joint effort of UCSD School of Medicine, SDSU School of Public Health and the UABC Medical School in Tijuana.

The VIIDAI public health teams go twice a year to help a community of migrant farmers in Colonia Lomas de San Ramon near the town of San Quentin some 200 miles south of the border. The farmers, who work on huge tomato plantations, are mostly Mexican-Indians from Oaxaca.

Projects funded for the Salvador Diaz Miron School by Old Mission Rotary::

- A kitchen at the school
- A library
- A computer center with 15 PCs
- Electrical and Plumbing improvements
- Painting the school in dramatic and bright Mexican Indian colors!
- An enclosed patio for protection of the students from sun and rain
- A state of the art water recycling system to provide safe drinking water
- A full size van to the UABC Medical School in Tijuana.
- Soccer uniforms and equipment for a youth league

Old Mission Rotarians Bob James, Stan Vogelsang, Gerry Hosenkamp and Mark McAnelly have been intimately involved in the project and made the 200 mile six hour drive many times.

Due to the pandemic,, the VIIDAI spring and fall clinics for 2020 were cancelled.

Old Mission Rotarian Bob James was proud of the fact that we listened and helped the people of the colonia achieve the goals that they wanted and that we did not impose our charity on them.



Old Mission Rotary funded a beautiful enclosed patio that provides protection from sun and rain for the students of Escuela Primaria Bilingue Salvador Diaz Miron. The school is the center of life in the Colonia Lomas de San Ramon.



Old Mission Rotary presents the keys to a van to the Universidad de Autonoma de Baja California (UABC) in Tijuana. The van is used by the medical school to deliver people and equipment to VIIDAI.

Program Calendar

*Why not invite a friend to
ZOOM with us?*

- Tuesday, January 23rd-**Rotary Children's Fund with Founder Vitaliy Bedroznov**
- Tuesday, February 23rd- **Art Pratt Foundation ZOOM Board of Directors Meeting**