



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

February 2021- Edition One

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego



For Danny Sherlock, what began as a part-time summer job at minimum wage turned into a fulfilling career that has spanned 47 years with the Boys & Girls Clubs of America!

On February 2nd, we were very impressed by a club program on the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego which was presented by Danny Sherlock. Danny was introduced by our very own Michelle Malin who is the Vice President of Development at Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego.

In his current role as President and CEO, Danny oversees 20 centers covering a service area of over 2,000 square miles from National City to Borrego Springs. More than 25,000 school-age children participate in year-round programs after-school and during school vacation periods.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego change lives through quality programs and guidance in a safe, affordable, and fun environment. They serve kids of ages 5-18

with programs focused on academic success, character development and healthy lifestyles.

The San Diego program ranks in the top 2% in the national BGCA ranking for number served and budget.

Many families receive scholarship assistance. For example in 2018, \$816,155 in scholarships were distributed. 65% of the club members live at or below the poverty line and 24% are from single-parent households

During a typical non pandemic year, 1500 kids attend summer programs and the clubs serve over 294,245 free meals and snacks. The Covid-19 pandemic has been an unprecedented challenge. In March, Danny closed all 20 locations and furloughed most of the staff. Four of the facilities reopened in the summer and at the moment they are serving 315 children per day at five sites.

Danny sums up his life's work with the goal "My dream would be that all youngsters have an opportunity to pursue whatever healthy activity they choose".

Program Calendar

Why not invite a friend to ZOOM with us?

- Tuesday, February 9th- California Oil Museum with Executive Director Jeanne Eigner

Rotary Theme 2021-2022



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Rotary International President-elect Shekhar Mehta encourages members to be changemakers and announced his theme for the 2021-2022 Rotary year: *Serve to Change Lives*. Not to be confused with *To Serve Man* which is a cookbook.

Corona Conversation

At today's installment of our weekly Corona Conversation, club member Don Krupp talked about the emerging variants of the COVID-19 virus. He noted that viruses naturally evolve over time and the Coronavirus is no exception. In fact, since it was first identified, the Coronavirus has seen thousands of variant versions. Fortunately, most of these, referred to as "passengers," don't really change the behavior of the virus.

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The Art Pratt Foundation of

Old Mission Rotary

The Art Pratt Foundation originally grew from a bequest of shares in Coca-Cola stock by Kearny Mesa Club Rotarian Art Pratt. Under the stewardship of the Kearny Mesa Rotary Club, the Foundation grew to be able to support numerous charitable organizations. When the Kearny Mesa Club closed, the foundation was transferred to Old Mission Rotary.

The Foundation by tradition and practice has favored grant requests that:

- Benefit children and youth
- Benefit persons with disabilities or who are otherwise disadvantaged
- Organizations and not individuals
- Involve the acquisition of facilities or equipment
- DO NOT provide operating funds for programs or payroll
- Benefit the local community, especially the service area of Old Mission Rotary
- Can provide a tangible, permanent recognition of the gift by the Foundation and its founder, Art Pratt.

The Foundation has not, historically favored requests that:

- Support ongoing programs and operations

The Foundation prefers to give annually, a greater number of smaller grants in the range of \$3,000 to \$5,000. New grant applications can only be submitted after three years. The Board of Directors are elected by Old Mission Rotary and must be members of the club:

Our current board is made up of President: Eric Benink and our Directors are Mark McAnelly, Matt Risi, Gary John Collins -Term

Larry Edwards,
Charlotte Cofield and Cynthia Drake.

Non-Voting members of the board are the Treasurer Jacqueline Carpenter, our Assistant Treasurer, Stan Vogelsang and Secretary Judi Copeland.

When requests are made to the Art Pratt Foundation, the board reviews the application and then the next step is to send a team of two board members to meet with the applicants at their facility or office. If the board approves a grant, the funds are disbursed at a club meeting with our large ceremonial check. Typically, grant recipients will present a program to the club on their good work.



In normal times the Art Pratt Foundation presents a check at a club meeting. During the pandemic, this is done over Zoom. In July 2019, Boys & Girls Club received a grant of \$8500 to help furnish and provide computers to the remodeled William J. Oakes facility in Logan Heights.

Rotary Calendar

- To be determined- February
Thousand Smiles Clinic in Ensenada
- Tuesday, February 9th- **Old Mission Rotary ZOOM Board of Directors Meeting.**
- Saturday, February 13th at 10am- **Crystal Pier Beach Clean-Up with Pacific Beach Rotaract**

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However, as the virus continues to spread almost exponentially, medical scientists are concerned about five specific variations that have possible deleterious consequences. First discovered in Spain, South Africa, the United Kingdom and Brazil, three of these variations have now been detected in the United States.

Of most concern is the variant from the United Kingdom which appears to be about 50% more transmissible than earlier versions of the virus. Scientists are now worried it may be more deadly as well. This British version of virus appears to have gained a significant foothold in both Florida and California, notably in the cities of Miami and San Diego.

While scientists are seeking to better understand these mutated versions of the virus, there is still belief that existing vaccines will remain effective against them. However, if we don't get control of the community spread it's entirely possible that a strain resistant to these vaccines could emerge. Moreover, we may begin to see variants emerge which are more virulent with younger adults and children.

Don, asserts that until we reach herd immunity through vaccinations, we must continue to follow expert advice from our local public health officials. Wear a mask, keep your distance, avoid large gatherings and wash your hands.

A merely fallen enemy may rise again, but the reconciled one is truly vanquished.

-Friedrich Schiller, poet, philosopher, physician, historian, and playwright