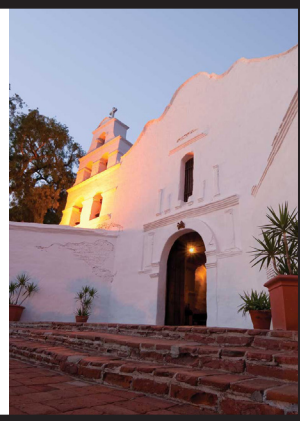




The Old Mission Bell of Old Mission Rotary



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

May 2021- Edition One

Cal Expo and State Fair



Jess Durfee is the Chair of the Board of Directors for the California Exposition and State Fair in Sacramento

Jess Durfee spoke to the club on Zoom on Tuesday, May 4th. He is the Chair of the Board of Directors for the California Exposition and State Fair in Sacramento. While we may be hundreds of miles away, Cal Expo and the State Fair are well worth visiting especially once the Covid-19 pandemic precautions are lifted. Chair Durfee reflected upon the impacts of the corona virus on the State Fair, as well as other traditional county fairs across the state. The California State Fair is the annual state fair for the state of California. The fair is held at Cal Expo in Sacramento, California. The Fair is a 17-day event showcasing California's industries, agriculture, and diversity of people. The CSF features blue-ribbon animal displays,

California State Fair
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An Opportunity to Serve in the Art Pratt Foundation

The Art Pratt Foundation's board of directors will have two openings for its upcoming 2021-2022 Fiscal Year (beginning July 1, 2021). If you would like to be considered, please send a note to Art Pratt Foundation President Eric Benink at eric@beninkslavens.com. The term lasts for 3 years. The duties include attending a monthly board meeting, setting an annual budget, and vetting and voting on grant requests. It is a great way to learn more about the non-profits serving San Diego County.

The Art Pratt Foundation started from a gift from the estate of Rotarian Art Pratt. He owned the Coca-Cola bottling distributorship in San Diego and left stock to the now defunct Kearny Mesa Rotary Club. The Foundation grew to be able to support numerous charitable organizations and by tradition has favored grant requests that help our local community. Grants typically benefit children and youth, persons with disabilities or those who are otherwise disadvantaged.

The Art Pratt Foundation is separate from the Old Mission Rotary Foundation but its board of directors is elected by the membership of Old Mission Rotary and must be members of the club.

District Finals of the- Four Way Test Speech Contest

Thursday April 29th was the finals of the District's Four Way Test Speech Contest hosted virtually by the San Diego Downtown Club 33. The four high school students (all young ladies) who participated were outstanding and their presentations were the best of their efforts. No notes, no prompts and a 5-7 minute window to complete their speech.

Reality Changers student Rekik Fikre took 2nd place at the Rotary District 5450 Finals and was awarded with a \$750 prize! She won first place and a \$150 prize at the Old Mission Rotary Club contest on February 16th when she competed against other Reality Changer students. Her speech throughout the different levels of the contest was a powerful and heart felt examination of her younger brother's autism and his struggles to achieve his dreams.

Program Calendar

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

- Tuesday, May 11th **Border Patrol Community Liason Vincent C. Pirro** to discuss the current situation along the U.S./ Mexican border in San Diego.

California State Fair *Continued from Page One*

culinary delights and competitions, live music concerts, a carnival, fireworks, and other family fun. In 2018, officials reported daily attendance drew between 20,000 and 60,000 people per day and about \$8.5 million of food and beverage expenditures. The fair is policed by the California Exposition and State Fair Police.

The Covid-19 pandemic caused losses of around \$16 million in revenue and impacted over 800 seasonal workers. Cal Expo is now a temporary Covid-19 testing site, homeless trailer site, and a go-to partner during the state's battle with wildfires.



Mark your calendars for an exciting opportunity to connect with Rotary members worldwide at the 2021 Virtual Convention from June 12th-16th. Registration is now open offering a limited time special rate of \$49. The regular rate is \$65 to register.

The 2021 Virtual Rotary Convention and preconvention events are open to all Rotary members and participants. Both the convention and preconvention fees include access to the virtual House of Friendship. Don't forget to visit the convention event page on Facebook to connect with others and stay up-to-date on event news and program highlights!

Corona Conversation



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

The big question on everyone's mind and in the media is when will we reach herd immunity? That's the point in time when enough people have been vaccinated that the virus can't find enough new hosts to continue to replicate and spread?

The safest bet is we'd need to have 80% of the population immune to the disease in order to get there. At present 32% of the U.S. and Diego County populations have been fully vaccinated. That means we've got to have at least another half of our total population get vaccinated to achieve herd immunity. Some public health experts are now thinking we might not get there, primarily because there are so many people who are hesitant to get the vaccine.

It probably means we'll be getting annual booster shots to reinforce our immune systems and cope with the inevitable variants of the virus – much like we do now with the flu.

But the good news is that even without herd immunity, we can expect hospitalizations and deaths attributable to COVID will decrease significantly in the next several months.

This has led to one public health expert, Dr. Ashish Jha, Dean of Brown University School of Public Health, to predict that something akin to normal might be found by early July.

We can all help that along by getting vaccinated as soon as we are able to.

New Trees at Foster Elementary



Lyndsey Carpenter is a parent volunteer at Foster Elementary School in Allied Gardens. She sent us a picture of the trees that have been planted on the school grounds that were funded by an Art Pratt Foundation grant. They are deciduous trees and will have a full canopy in about two years to provide ample shade for the kids in the playground area.

A Master Gardener has volunteered her time to the school to create a garden that the kids can help build and tend to. Some of the Art Pratt funds will be used for flowers, vegetable plants, soil, watering cans, and other gardening tools.

Lyndsey and the Foster Elementary community wanted to thank Old Mission Rotary again for the Art Pratt grant. They look forward to watching these trees grow and provide shade for many generations.

**Old Mission Rotary
Board of Directors Meeting
Meet on Zoom
May 11th
After the Regular Meeting**