

# The Old Mission Bell of Old Mission Rotary

Meetings Every Tuesday at noon at the Legacy Resort Hotel and Spa oldmissionrotary.org

August 2023- Edition Two



# District Governor Don Fipps



Our new District Governor is Don Fipps of the Del Mar Rotary Club. This seasoned Rotarian visited Old Mission Rotary at our August 8th meeting.

Don Fipps has been a Rotarian for 17 years and is a member of the Rotary Club of Del Mar where he was president 2018-19. Don had been an Assistant Governor2019-2021 and Chief Aide to Rotary District 5340 Governor Dan Gensler.

Del Mar is Don's third Rotary Club, he was also a member of the Rotary Clubs of Wilkes-Barre, PA and West Sacramento, CA. Don is a native Californian born in Bakersfield. He attended California Polytechnical State University in San Luis Obispo majoring in Biochemistry and graduated in

DG Don Fipps
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# Paul Harris Fellowships



(L-R) District Governor Don Fipps presents Paul Harris Fellowships to Stan Vogelsang (PLUS 5 Award), Steve Nuñez (PLUS 8 Award) and Bob Self (PLUS 1 Award). Money raised in honor of the founder of Rotary, Paul Harris, goes to the Rotary International Foundation.

# **Thousand Smiles Summer Clinic**



The Thousand Smiles Summer Clinic took place over the weekend of August 4-5.

Once again, the clinic was a great success with seven surgeries, four ear tube implants and 130 dental procedures. The new on site surgical suites now allow for the volunteer staff to start surgeries on Friday night.

### STAR/PAL Back to School Event



Old Mission Rotary is proud to support the STAR/PAL Program that connects at risk youth with San Diego law enforcement. The next opportunity for Rotarians to participate is with a Back to School event on Saturday morning, August 19th. All members, family and friends of Old Mission Rotary are encouraged to attend to help out with the distribution of school supplies. Our club Community Service Chair, Charlotte Cofield, is coordinating our participation.

When Alexander the Great visited Diogenes, the Greek Philopher and asked whether he could do anything for the famed teacher, Diogenes replied: "Only stand out of my light."

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1977 and was subsequently commissioned in the United States Army through ROTC. Don retired from the Army in 1997 as Lieutenant Colonel in the Medical Services Corps. He also has an MS in Biology from Bowling Green State University. After working for the American Red Cross in several locations, an independent blood center in Sacramento and finally the University of California San Diego Health, Don retired in 2018. Don married Donna McIlwain in 1975 after meeting at Cal Poly. Don and Donna have two children, Aaron married to Colleen with two children Burnie and Ben; and April, married to Ray with two children Charlie and Caroline. Don is a Paul Harris Fellow PLUS 8 and a member of the Paul Harris Society, Don and Donna (also a member of the Rotary Club of Del Mar,) are LEVEL 4 Bequest Society members and LEVEL 1 Major Donors.

Don was very impressed by Old Mission Rotary and our achievements with International Service (Thousand Smiles and VIIDAI) and Community Service with STAR/PAL. Don was amazed by the number of grants awarded to local community organizations by the Art Pratt Foundation and by the Old Mission Rotary Foundation. Don's one burning question was how does such a successful club have only 32 active members and

#### Program Calendar

Why not invite a friend to an Old Mission Rotary meeting?
• Tuesday, August 15th- Kathleen T. Harris, Ph.D., J.D.ill speak about **One Kid At A Time Inc.** which is a project to help orphans in Tanzania.

not 100? He noted that the great challenge to Rotary worldwide is declining membership. He suggested that the best approach to soliciting a new member is to invite them to a hands on service project such as our upcoming STAR/PAL Back to School event on Saturday, August 19th.

Don asked us "What is your passion and to bring it to Rotary." For Don and Donna, their passion is Canine Companions and they have raised eight young dogs in 12 years before giving them up for for advanced training and service work. Don encouraged all of us to attend the Rotary Foundation Seminar on November 4th and the District Conference four day cruise in April.

Our members were very impressed by District Governor Don and look forward to a remarkable year!

#### **Stock Market Report**



Brian Dempsey is a past president of Old Mission Rotary and delivers an almost weekly "Stock Market Report" at our meetings.

On August 1st, Brian reported that the DOW Jones Industrial Average was up 7% for the year and that the High Tech NASDAQ was up an impressive 36%. Brian was wearing his non political *Make Wall Street Great Again* cap.

### **Rotary Calendar**

- Saturday, August 19th at 10am- STAR/PAL Back to School Event 5249 52nd Place
- Saturday, August 19th at 10am- San Diego Festival of Books at the University of San Diego. Contact Rotarian Jessie Case to volunteer: info@handsonsandiego.org
- Tuesday, August 22nd- Art Pratt Board of Directors Meeting immediately after the regular club meeting..
- Tuesday, September 12th **Board of Directors Meeting** immediately following the regular meeting.

## Membership Rotary International Theme for August



August is when Rotary Clubs around the world focus on membership in Rotary. This is the perfect time to celebrate your club's members and the amazing work they do in their communities and consider the many options available for strengthening your membership. Our club's Membership Chair is Shari Stauder so please include her in any efforts to attract and enlist new members into Old Mission Rotary.