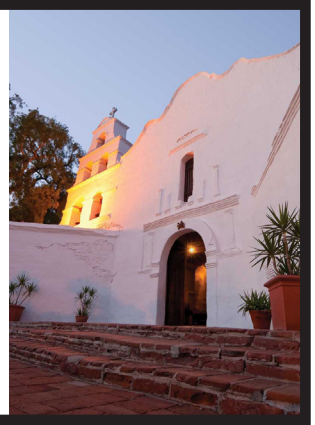




# The Old Mission Bell of Old Mission Rotary

Meetings Every Tuesday at noon  
at the Legacy Resort Hotel and Spa  
[oldmissionrotary.org](http://oldmissionrotary.org)

September 2021- Edition Three



## San Diego River Foundation



*Rob Hutsel or "River Rob" delivered an animated and informative program on the San Diego River Foundation*

Rob Hutsel, President and CEO of the San Diego River Foundation presented on September 21st. In 2000, the largest sewer spill in California's history dumped 34 million gallons of untreated sewage into the San Diego River. This spill ran for almost a week, while few people noticed or cared. Out of this tragedy, a group of concerned citizens formed the San Diego River Park Foundation on July 18, 2001. Since this tragedy, the San Diego River Park Foundation has worked with the community to change San Diego's relationship to its namesake waterway. It is a local, grass-roots non-profit organization and relies on donations, support from the community, and public and private grants for its work creating the San Diego River Park, connecting people to the River, and conserving local resources.

## Art Pratt Foundation of Old Mission Rotary Grant to Americas Foundation



*(L-R Back Row) Art Pratt Foundation Board Members Cynthia Drake and Gary John Collins and Art Pratt Foundation President Miles Durfee. (L-R Front Row) Art Pratt Foundation Board Members Donna Maytum and Larry Edwards, Founder and Director of the Americas Foundation Christine Brady and Old Mission Rotary Executive Secretary Stan Vogel-sang.*

On Tuesday, September 21st, Old Mission Rotary presented a grant of \$7438 to the Americas Foundation. Their mission is to give aid to disadvantaged children and promote binational community development on the Mexican side of the border.

The primary approach of the Foundation is to provide talented, intelligent children living in underdeveloped neighborhoods the opportunity to study, experience the arts, and begin to realize their potential. The grant was accepted by the Founder and Director Christine Brady.

There is a fountain of youth: it is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring to your life and the lives of the people you love. When you learn to tap this source, you will have truly defeated age.

-Sophia Loren

**Old Mission Rotary  
Evening Social  
(No Luncheon Meeting)  
Tuesday, September 28th  
Starting at 6pm  
Teresa's Steakhouse  
No Host Bar and Food**

## Corona Conversation



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

Don Krupp noted that "vital statistics" about the coronavirus pandemic don't tell us anything about the vitality of those good souls we've lost to the virus.

Here in San Diego, the virus has

taken lives of over 4,000 individuals.

On Monday, September 13th, those vital statistics tell us four San Diegans died of Covid-19. One of those four was our own club member, Kevin Cox.

In his memory, Don shared a statement Kevin had posted on his Facebook page in April 2020 as the pandemic was just beginning to take its toll. Kevin posted it again in April 2021:

***"Dear diary 4-1-20: This month will fully test our spirit and resolve as individuals, parents, children, friends, citizens, Patriots, countrymen and humanity worldwide. Don't give in to bad or negative behavior. Stay informed and positive. Do what you can to help others. Pray incessantly. Know we will get through this and be smarter and wiser from the journey. Stay safe!"***

## Community Service- STAR/PAL Open House

A promotional poster for the STAR/PAL Open House. The top left features the STAR/PAL logo with the text "SERVING THE COMMUNITY" and "SINCE 1998". To the right, the words "Open House!" are written in large, white, bubbly font on an orange background. Below the logo, the text "SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 25th" is in bold black, followed by "11am - 1pm" and "At STAR/PAL" in white on a pink background. The address "4110 54th Street, San Diego, CA 92105" is at the bottom left. A circular icon with a face mask and the text "MASKS REQUIRED!" is on the right. A small photo of a group of people playing sports is at the bottom right.

Members of Old Mission Rotary are invited to a STAR/PAL Open House on Saturday, September 25th from 11am to 1pm. STAR/PAL's Open House gives their charity partners and the community an opportunity to learn about their programs, their partnership with law enforcement and opportunities on how to get involved.

STAR/PAL is a nonprofit organization located at Colinas Park in City Heights that is dedicated to bringing youth and law enforcement together. Their programs are led by officers of the San Diego Police Department and are free of charge to youth throughout San Diego. Old Mission Rotary has participated in several of their events in the past year.

To RSVP please e-mail Myra at [mnunez@starpal.org](mailto:mnunez@starpal.org)

## Club Host- Cynthia Drake



*Cynthia Drake was our club host on September 21st. She delivered her Who Am I and great Italian wines for the raffle.*

Cynthia Drake was born and raised in Texas but attended High School in Paraguay. Cynthia attended nursing school in Austin. She worked in operating rooms in Houston for 18 years and was promoted to Director.

Cynthia earned an MBA at the University of Houston and worked in medical device sales for 13 years. She started the Drake Group in 1994 and has been running her own medical device sales company ever since for 27 years.

Cynthia has three children, six grandchildren and two great grandchildren. She has been travelling to Texas regularly to cheer on one of her grand daughters in competitive swimming!

She has been on and off in Rotary for 27 years and was even the president of the Mission Bay Club. Cynthia has been a member of Thousand Smiles for 26 years and has been travelling down to the quarterly clinics in Ensenada. since 2010, Cynthia is an Oblate of the order of Saint Benedict's Monastery. Oblates are Christian individuals who associate with a Benedictine community in order to enrich their Christian way of life.