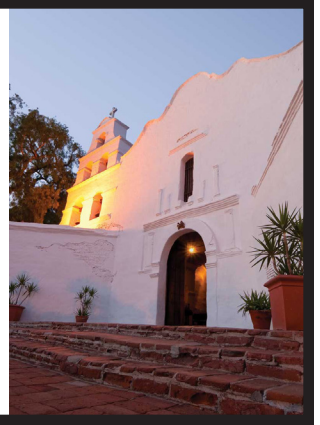


Old Mission Rotary

Meets Every Tuesday at noon on Zoom
(Post Pandemic) Legacy Resort Hotel and Spa
oldmissionrotary.org



November 2020- Edition Three

Moreton Fig Tree Project



John Boalthouse is the Executive Director of The Friends of Balboa Park.

During our November 17th Zoom meeting, John Bolthouse, Executive Director of the Friends of Balboa Park, briefed Old Mission Rotary on the innovative Moreton Bay Fig Tree Project.

The Friends of Balboa Park exist to assist the City of San Diego to maintain the 1200 acres of the park. They were founded by volunteers in 1999 and have since contributed eight million dollars with 300 separate projects. Last year, the Art Pratt Foundation supported them with their restoration of the Balboa Park Carousel.

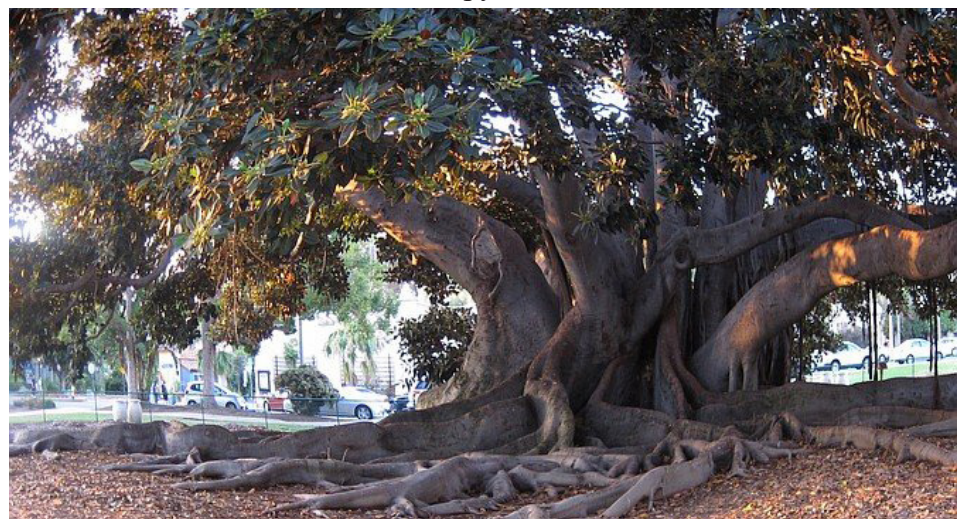
Located in Balboa Park, the Moreton Bay Fig tree measures a staggering 78 feet tall and is among

Moreton Bay Fig Tree
Continued on Page 2

Art Pratt Foundation of Old Mission Rotary San Diego Military Outreach Ministries



On Tuesday, November 17th, the Art Pratt Foundation of Old Mission Rotary presented a grant to Sandy Carter (R) who is the president of San Diego Military Outreach Ministries, . Their mission is to serve active duty junior enlisted families (E5 and below) with basic needs to help stretch their limited funds. Everything is given free in appreciation for their military service. Families can visit their center or “pop the trunk” pick up events on military bases to pick up children’s clothing, infant diapers, baby food, toys, small household items and furniture. The Art Pratt funds of \$3800 will be used for an office printer, a freezer to store frozen food and a new branded event canopy..



The iconic Moreton Bay Fig tree, in Balboa Park was in danger due to the huge crowds that crowd the tree every day and compress the sensitive root systems.

Moreton bay Fig Tree Continued from Page One

the largest of its kind in California. Unfortunately, this iconic tree has been fenced off to the public since 1989 due to previous damage to the roots. Friends of Balboa Park have raised nearly 98% of the \$485,000 required to build a viewing platform that would once again allow an up close view of this lovely, century-old tree, while also ensuring its preservation. The platform will allow visitors to appreciate the ambience of the tree's canopy without actually standing on the roots. The platform will offer a unique and intimate venue for live performances to be held there in the post Covid-19 future..

The platform will be composed of durable Trex reclaimed wood and plastic composite material. New interpretive signs will be made from wood from fallen trees in the park and will explain the history of the tree and its botany.

Our program chair, Don Krupp was so impressed by last year's Friends of Balboa Park club program that he became a very valuable volunteer! Jackie Carpenter's husband, Jack, is a member of the Board of Directors and has been instrumental in many park improvements.

Thanksgiving with STAR/PAL

Old Mission Rotary will be funding full Thanksgiving meals for two deserving families. The meals will be delivered by Star/Pal on Saturday, November 21st by a procession of five low rider cars! Charlotte Cofield will represent Old Mission Rotary.

The mission of STAR/PAL is to engage under served youth with law enforcement and develop trusting and long term relationships.

Doors of Change Zoom Event



Doors of Change assists homeless youth in Ocean Beach by reaching out to them with art and music programs.

Old Mission Rotary has embraced Doors of Change as a Community Service partner. Before the pandemic, our members had the opportunity to cook and serve two Sunday dinners to homeless youth at the Episcopal Church in Ocean Beach. Face to face programs were put on hold with the pandemic. Our club foundation has since donated money and obtained a district Covid-19 Grant to fund packages of food and toiletries that Doors of change distributed to the kids living on the street.

Doors of Change will be presenting many remarkable and inspirational testimonials during their zoom event *From Invisible to Invincible* program scheduled for December 1st.

Program Calendar

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

- November 24th- **Captain Encouragement** and empowering kids with Nicholas Domingo.

Corona Conversation



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

Program Chair Don Krupp gave another Corona Conversation talk on Tuesday, illustrating the dramatic rise in cases across the country. In just the past week, the U.S. saw 1.1 million new cases. That's nearly a 40% increase over new cases from the preceding week. In the same time period, weekly deaths from COVID-19 increase nearly 20%, rising by 8,200 during the week between our November 10th and 17th club meetings. Over 250,000 Americans have died from COVID-19 since the pandemic began.

This dramatic rise in cases is principally due to the approach of cold weather driving people indoors. It's also a consequence of people being less diligent about following social distancing guidelines. Indoor family gatherings is quickly becoming a major source of new cases.

While there is good news regarding the development of vaccines, we won't see widespread distribution of these until the middle of next year. The best thing you can do to stay safe and healthy is to follow the County's public health guidelines. Wear a mask, keep your distance and wash your hands.