

# Chulatarian

Rotary  
Club of Chula Vista 



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ROTARY CLUB  
OF CHULA VISTA

## OFFICERS 2023-2024

**President**  
**Mora Keller de Murguia**  
[mdemurguia@baldwinsons.com](mailto:mdemurguia@baldwinsons.com)

**President-Elect**  
**Jesse Fernandez**  
[fernjam@pacbell.net](mailto:fernjam@pacbell.net)

**Ben Koala**  
**Treasurer**  
[koalacpa@gmail.com](mailto:koalacpa@gmail.com)

**Rasha Roshdy**  
**Secretary**  
[sdeducator2014@gmail.com](mailto:sdeducator2014@gmail.com)

**Mark Scott**  
**Past President**  
[mScott@encorerealtysd.com](mailto:mScott@encorerealtysd.com)

**Zaneta Encarnacion**  
**Executive Secretary**  
[zaneta.encarnacion@gmail.com](mailto:zaneta.encarnacion@gmail.com)

**Directors:**  
**Risa Baron**  
**Lisa Johnson**  
**Mary Johnson**  
**Lane Pearson**  
**Leon Redondo**  
**Rick Richardson**  
**Rasha Roshdy**

The weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Chula Vista  
Chartered February 16, 1926 - Club Number 908 - District 5340  
Meets Weekly, noon, 4475 Bonita Road, Bonita (Chula Vista Golf Course)

**DISTRICT GOVERNOR**  
**DON FIPPS**  
**Friday, JULY 28, 2023 - Noon**



District Governor Don Fipps has been a Rotarian for 18 years and is a member of the Rotary Club of Del Mar where he was President in 2018-2019. Don has also served our District leadership as an Assistant Governor and as the Chief Aide to District Governor Dan Gensler.

Del Mar is Don's third Rotary Club. He has been a member of the Rotary Clubs of Wilkes-Barre, PA and West Sacramento, CA. Don is a native Californian, born in Bakersfield. He attended Cal Poly San Luis Obispo majoring in biochemistry and was commissioned in the United States Army through ROTC upon graduation. Don retired from the Army as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Medical Services Corps. He also earned his Masters in Biology from Bowling Green State University. After working for the American Red Cross, then for an independent blood center in Sacramento and finally, UC San Diego Health; Don retired in 2018.

Don met his wife Donna while they were college students working on the Cal Poly University's Rose Parade Float. They have 2 grown children and 4 grandchildren. Don and Donna enjoy raising Canine Companions service dog puppies, having successfully raising 7 puppies in the past 12 years. You will almost always see Don and Donna attracting attention at Rotary events with their latest adorable Canine Companion puppy, Rosebud! Don is a Paul Harris Fellow and a member of the Paul Harris Society. Don and Donna, who is also a member of the Rotary Club of Del Mar, are level 4 Bequest Society members and level 1 Major Donors.



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## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS - JULY 28, 2023

President Mora de Murguia called the meeting to order. Michael Monaco gave the invocation and new Songmaster Chuck Bevan led us in song.

President Mora gave an update on the first Board meeting of the year which was held the past Wednesday.

Committee chairs were invited to attend. The Club budget was approved and will be sent to all members.

Gary Bryant shared an event coming up—A Bike Rodeo—hosted by the Bonita Optimists on Saturday, August 26, 10-2. Flyers were distributed. Members are encouraged to share the information.

Fine master Michael Monaco fined the fishermen group (photos coming soon). A new addition to the group—Leon Redondo—had 25+ catches! All were fined for their fun.

Betty Waznis introduced the guest speaker Elena Lujan Alba, who she met on a recent trip to Europe with a Choral singing group—small world. Elena is passionate about this area of need in the world—basic sanitation for people. Did you know Rotary's very first service project was to provide a public toilet in Chicago? And there was substantial opposition to it by bar owners and department stores. Elena shared that social entrepreneur Jack Sim is one of the driving forces behind "National Toilet Day" on November 19.

### **A Volunteer's Prayer—Invocation by Michael Monaco**

**I thank thee, Lord as a volunteer  
For the chance to serve another year.  
And to give of myself in some small way,  
To those not blessed as I each day.  
My thanks for health and mind and soul.  
To aid me ever toward my goal.  
For eyes to see the good in all  
A hand to extend before a fall  
For legs to go where they need is great  
Learning to love - forgetting to hate  
For ears to hear and heart to care  
When someone's cross is hard to bear  
A smile to show my affection true  
With energy aplenty—the task to do  
All I ask, dear Lord, if I may,  
Is to serve you better day by day.**



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## JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON by Betty Waznis

•LIVE



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THIS WEEKS  
SPONSOR

With Betty Waznis

Hello, everyone. Welcome to today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today's News brought to you by Lori Torio and the Living Coast Discovery Center.

Two months after opening its first bridge shelter, Chula Vista is on the way to transforming a motel into housing and safe parking for the homeless, using state and federal funds. On Tuesday the Chula Vista City Council approved the purchase of the 77-year-old Palomar Motel. It sits on a parcel just over an acre on Walnut Avenue, just east of Interstate 5 near Palomar Street and Industrial Boulevard. It will cost about \$7 million to purchase the motel and \$6 million to convert it into 31 long-term housing units, each with a full bathroom and kitchenette, along with space for management, onsite services, and a safe parking lot. It's expected to open sometime in 2025.

An algae bloom off the California coast is creating a neurotoxin called domoic acid that has sickened and killed hundreds of sea lions and dolphins. With algae blooms like this one, the domoic acid is transferred to fish, which are then eaten by sea lions and other marine life. As the toxins work their way through the food web, they can cause aberrations in behavior, sickness, and death. It's led to a surge of sick and potentially aggressive sea lions washing ashore. Sea lions sickened by the algae bit and injured at least two people recently at beaches in Orange County, and 5 more in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. SeaWorld San Diego has reported an uptick of rescue calls here in San Diego, where sea lions charged beachgoers at La Jolla Cove just this past Sunday. Marine mammals aren't the only ones affected. Because the neurotoxin can reach fish that are eaten as part of the food chain, seabirds also can be infected. In fact, some in the scientific community believe Alfred Hitchcock's 1963 horror film "The Birds" was inspired by a 1961 incident in which birds in central California were exposed to domoic acid during an algae bloom and became disoriented and aggressive.

The national weather continues to make news. Manatee Bay, in the Florida Keys, has reported a preliminary water temperature reading of 101.1 degrees – possibly the hottest ocean temperature ever recorded, just about the temperature of your backyard hot tub. The heat dome over Phoenix and Las Vegas continues to produce unprecedented strings of record-breaking heat, Phoenix hitting a record high of 119 on Tuesday, for the third time this year.

Coastal Californians haven't had it too bad, and in any case, we have a safety valve not too far away. Mammoth Mountain, still benefiting from its historic 700 inches of snowfall this season, plans to remain open until Aug. 6. Only twice in the resort's 69-year history had this happened.

The United States managed a 1-1 draw with the Netherlands at the Women's World Cup soccer tournament on Wednesday night. With the draw, neither team secured a spot in the knockout round yet, with one group match remaining. Both the Americans and the Dutch top the Group E standings with a win and a draw, but the U.S. has the edge for the lead with more goals. USA plays Portugal in its group finale at midnight local time Monday in Australia.

Today's sponsor, Lori Torio, was born and raised in Chula Vista, father was a farmer in Chula Vista (after the war - on 4th Ave) which explains her love for cucumbers and tomatoes. She is a Chula Vista High grad and graduated with a BA in Economics from SDSU - Go Aztecs! She works at the Living Coast Discovery Center (9+ years) and before that Lori worked at UC San Diego as a fundraiser for 5 years.

Lori enjoys traveling with friends, eating great food, sports and playing as much pickleball as possible.

This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today's news sponsored by Lori Torio and the Living Coast Discovery Center.



## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS - JULY 28, 2023



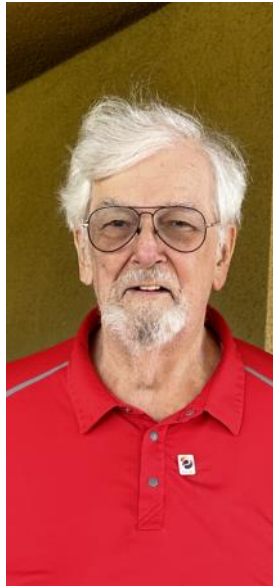
L-R: The drawing included a guest of Ken Weimer, Gary Bryant and Living Coast Discovery Center SUPER FAN and supporter of many years Ken Weimer. Thank you Lori Torio for sponsoring this week!



Eric Rimmel brought his mother and brother, visiting for 3 weeks from Cologne, Germany. They flew home the very next day.



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L-R: It was very nice to see Jim Biddle at the Club meeting. He has been missing in action for a few months. Welcome back Jim! A crowd shot with Risa Baron, Gus Slovinsky and Bob Bliss on one side.



Our speaker Elena Lujan Alba is a wife, mother, teacher, and artist who has lived in San Diego since 1976. She belongs to the La Mesa Sunrise Rotary Club and served as president 2018-2019. In addition to numerous local projects, she and her family of four traveled around the world doing Rotary projects for ten months. In recognition of this volunteerism, the Alba Family was given the District 5340 Pathways to Peace award in 2016.

Elena enjoys talking about all aspects of Rotary and recognizes that Clean Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene is a universal and unifying area of focus that deserves attention year round. Elena has personally used toilets in over 30 countries. While she is not an expert in clean water, sanitation, or hygiene, she believes that we as Rotarians can learn more about this area of focus in order to support efforts around the world to solve one of our most urgent problems. Fascinating topic!

#### CLUB CALENDAR

**Thurs, Aug 3—Urbane Café Share the Love—50% to our Club—PROMO  
CODE: ChulaRotary23**  
**Friday, August 11 - Mayor John McCann, City of Chula Vista**  
**Friday, August 11—St. Mark's Food Distribution**  
**September 1—Roundtable (Labor Day Weekend)**

**GOOD-BYE POLIO**  
**THANKS ROTARY**

