

Chulatarian

Rotary
Club of Chula Vista 

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ROTARY CLUB
OF CHULA VISTA

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)

DR. RASHA ROSHDY
FLOURISH
Friday, August 1, 2025, Noon

BOARD 2025-2026

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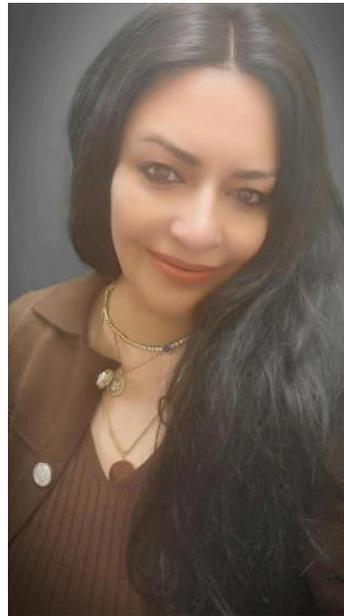
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Based on her research in positive psychology, Dr. Roshdy presents "Flourish," a workshop focused on leading a balanced and thriving life.

She will share research-backed strategies to help Rotarians cultivate greater happiness and well-being.

SAVE THE DATES:

Friday, August 8—CVPD Chief Roxana Kennedy
Friday, August 8—St. Mark Food Distribution—8:30 a.m.
Friday, August 29—DARK—No meeting—Labor Day

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MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FOR JULY 11, 2025

President-elect Rasha Roshdy, filling in for vacationing President Ben Koala, called the meeting to order.

Chris Lewis gave the invocation. Chuck Bevan led a revised Country Road song, tailored just for us.

Board Secretary Bill Torre introduced guests and visiting Rotarians. President-elect Rasha gave a special welcome to Mike Bell on his first meeting with us since transferring from the Sunrise Rotary Club. He was a charter founding member of the Sunrise Club in the 80's and shared he hoped to be invited to join our Rotary Club back then.

President-elect Rasha told us about her work with the Federal government, mentioned she worked in classified areas (secret stuff), and transitioned to administration (not secret stuff) which is more like three positions rolled into one. It was a bit harrowing for a while, but she recently received recognition for her hard work and dedication—someone noticed! To celebrate—she fined herself \$100.

She said a special Interact meeting is coming up, which the Baldwin & Sons company is generously supporting. However, the event was still a bit short. Members stepped up to close the gap. A BIG Rotary THANK YOU to: Mike Green, Past President Jesse Fernandez, Eric Rimmele, Bill Torre, Gary Bryant (\$100 each) and Rasha Roshdy (\$50).

This year's Polio Pig has been re-named PAUL the Polio Pig, compliments of David Hoffman who won the bidding war at \$120. Paul the Polio Pig looks suspiciously like Pancho the Polio Pig. He will be switched out as soon as a new big pig is found. He was circulated during the meeting.

President-elect Rasha reminded members to share Rotary with others. We have a goal to reach 100 members for our 100th birthday. Bring a friend!

David Hoffman shared the Jim Biddle News at Noon, on behalf of the world traveling Betty Waznis. Soraya Martinez was the sponsor and the lucky winners were Nancy Kerwin, Gary Bryant and Michael Oliveri.

Gary Bryant circulated a sign-up sheet to help with the check-in table. Thanks everyone who signed up. Rochelle Carroll has stepped up to coordinate—thanks Rochelle!

Sofia Salgado-Robitaille and Irma Velasco, with Southwestern College, shared much great news happening there. Many new facilities, including a new Botanic Garden, are coming online or recently opened. The Jag Aquatic Wellness (JAWS) center is open to the public for \$49 per month, \$39 for seniors. More than 4600 students graduated from SWC last year. The new semester begins August 12.

Prior to adjournment, soon to be new member Diego Quilantan (sponsored by President Ben), announced a SAVE THE DATE of October 31 for a golf tournament fundraiser to be co-hosted by our Club and the Chula Vista-Eastlake Rotary Club. More details to follow. Please see Diego to help out. PP Jesse is serving as advisor.

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JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON by Betty Waznis

LIVE



Brought to you by:

THIS WEEK'S
SPONSOR

With Betty Waznis

Hello, everyone, and welcome to today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today brought to you by Soraya Martinez and Banner Bank. (*Read by David Hoffman*)

A proposed mixed-use development called *Pangaea* would bring new sports facilities for adults and youth to the Chula Vista Bayfront, including tennis courts, a water polo academy, and space for future community soccer fields. The project, currently under review by the Port of San Diego, is planned for 124 acres at 990 Bay Blvd., within the Chula Vista Bayfront Master Plan area, former home of the South Bay Power Plant.

The first phase of the proposed development includes a tennis center with 34 courts, a central match venue, and a sports therapy facility. A water polo academy, co-founded by Olympic athletes Tony Azevedo and Maggie Steffens, would relocate its training programs to the complex. The second phase includes a 50,000-seat stadium and 9.3 acres of open space that may be used for community soccer fields. In addition to the sports facilities, the plan includes 300,000 square feet of retail, multiple hotels, office and lab buildings dedicated to blue tech and aquaculture industries, public trails, a mini-golf venue co-owned by Tiger Woods, and an IMAX theater.

Responding to a lot of resident concern about safety, the Chula Vista city council took action last week to address the danger posed by young kids on e-bikes. Without a single speaker in opposition, the Council voted unanimously to adopt the strictest e-bike regulations in San Diego County. The new rules, set to take effect next month, ban children under age 12 from riding e-bikes, require riders under age 18 to wear helmets, forbid riders under 18 from carrying passengers, and require all riders to obey traffic laws and stay off sidewalks in business districts and other designated areas.

Research compiled by city staff showed that e-bike injuries are on the rise and are more severe than regular bicycle injuries. In just the past 12 months, 16 people in Chula Vista were injured in e-bike accidents, 12 of them requiring emergency room care. The city will partner with local school districts to inform students and parents about the new regulations. For the law's first 60 days, police will issue warnings. Starting in late October, police can issue \$25 tickets, which riders can waive by completing an online safety course. Repeat violators will be subject to increasing fines up to \$250 and could have their bikes confiscated by police.

Comic Con is back! Starting yesterday, 135,000 fans and industry professionals began to converge for four days of entertainment, creativity, and sneak peeks at upcoming movie and TV releases. ComicCon started in **San Diego in 1970**, as a one-day comic book convention with about 100 attendees. Since then, it has been held **every year** in San Diego—making 2025 its **56th consecutive year**. Over time, it's evolved into the world's largest pop-culture convention celebrating comics, movies, TV, games, and fandom, with the over-the-top costume show we've come to expect inside and outside the Convention Center.

If you're looking for entertainment on a less stressful scale, our local major league soccer team, San Diego Football Club, kicks off two weeks of home games at Snapdragon Stadium. San Diego FC is currently ranked first in both the MLS Western Conference and in the overall MLS standings based on their performance in the current season - very impressive for an expansion team in their first season - they didn't start playing until February. SDFC has been putting on quite a show for fans. Goals are the most exciting part of soccer games, and SDFC has scored more than any other team in the MLS, with a fast-paced, high-pressure style of play. The game day atmosphere is lively with drinks, food, music, drums and chanting fans with lucha libre flair. SDFC also hosts a family-friendly pregame fan fest. Their next game is tonight at Snapdragon Stadium against Nashville at 7:30pm. Tickets start at about \$20.

This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today sponsored by Soraya Martinez and Banner Bank.

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MEETINGS HIGHLIGHTS—JULY 25, 2025



Soraya Martinez, our member who works with Banner Bank, was the sponsor for the News at Noon. L-R: Lucky drawing winners were: Nancy Kerwin, Gary Bryant, and Michael Oliveri.



Sofia Salgado-Robitaille and Irma Velasco provided a very comprehensive overview of what is new at Southwestern College. They will be celebrating 65 years soon, dedicating state of the art facilities and developing innovative partnerships. Sofia is the Executive Director of Advancement and Community Engagement. Irma supports the new Jaguar Alumni Association.

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MEMBER NEWS



Congratulations to Chuck & Marilyn Bevan on the arrival of grandson, James Scotch Hogan, born June 25 in Chicago. Their daughter Carolyn had tried IVF multiple times without success, was 40+ and yet—here he is—a little miracle baby in perfect health! Welcome to our world Baby James. Mom, proud dad Justin, and baby are doing great. Mary and Rob Johnson enjoyed the great northwest, hiking around Mt. Ranier for five days recently. Check her feet!



Beta & Reed Dinsmore, pictured here with granddaughter Sofia, are back in Vermont for their son and his family's turn to share them until December when they come here. They have a home in White River Junction. Beta says it is HOT and humid, but they are acclimating. Rick & Carmen Richardson had always wanted to go to Yellowstone and finally made it!

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR ROTARIAN!



BERNARD HERNANDEZ - August 25

GOOD-BYE POLIO
THANKS ROTARY



MORE MEMBER NEWS

ON LEAVE: Michael Monaco has requested and the Board has approved a six-month leave of absence from the Club until Dec. 31.

CHANGE IN STATUS: Longtime member Bud Wilson has requested a change to inactive status. He joined the Club in 1967 (!).



NEW JOB: After 16+ years, Lori Torio has left the Living Coast Discovery Center. She was the Director of Community Engagement and Development. She has a new position at Rady Children's Hospital Foundation. Congratulations!

We wish Lori all the best in her new role and thank her for her many contributions to our Club.

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SAVE YOUR 2026 CALENDARS!

Hello Chula Vista Rotarians!

By way of introduction—this Newsletter Note is from Beverly Sumwalt, one of your new transfer members from Chula Vista Sunrise Club. This is a request for a future opportunity we can blend in to one of our end-of-year service projects.

You know those advertisement/donation request calendars that we all get in the mail, starting about now?? Well, if you would kindly save them, (pick out your favorite for your refrigerator, and save the rest)—we can donate a large stack of “New Year Calendars” to the Veterans’ Home, or to one of the many Assisted/Memory or Skilled Nursing Care Facilities in South Bay, lots of options—and cheery for people who are more “room bound” and likely don’t use a digital calendar.

Thank you in advance, as we are always looking for ways to provide Service Above Self—and this is one small way to bring a little New Year Cheer to those who may enjoy the gorgeous photos!

Yours In Rotary, Beverly Sumwalt



AUGUST DESIGNATION IS

MEMBERSHIP AND NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT MONTH

“The things that are worthwhile take time, and it is not the I’s of the world but the We’s who achieve them.”
Past RI President H.J. Brunnier 1952-53

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TAKE ACTION: Join Rotary, Get Involved