

# Chulatarian



## The weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Chula Vista

Chartered February 16, 1926 - Club Number 908 - District 5340

Meets Fridays at 12:10 p.m.—Join Us!

Chula Vista Golf Course Banquet Room, 4475 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA



### ROTARY CLUB OF CHULA VISTA

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**Friday, April 24, 2020—12:00**  
**ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**  
**Cheryl Cox & Mandy Mills**



Re-scheduled from March, we will be hearing all about the Chula Vista Animal Care Facility (CVACF). They take in approximately 6,000 homeless animals each year from Chula Vista, National City and Lemon Grove. Animals housed at the shelter receive personalized care and comprehensive medical treatment to keep them safe and healthy. One of their biggest priorities is reuniting [lost pets](#) with their owners. Last year over 800 animals were reclaimed or returned to their owners.

When animals do not return home, staff work hard to [find a new home](#) for them. Over 60% of our animal intake is rehomed. Almost 2,000 animals are adopted each year from our facility and over 700 are transferred to other partnering shelters that have the available space and/or special resources.

Animal control officers ensure the safety of people and animals in the community. They respond to all sorts of calls - from a stray alligator, to a hoarder case, to a tree stranded cat. They respond 24/7 365 a year to animal related emergencies. Daily they counsel and advise pet owners on welfare issues that have been brought to our attention. Dispatch receives over 10,000 calls per year.

Former Mayor Cheryl Cox is a strong supporter of the CVACF. She and Mandy Mills will provide an update on their latest activities.

*See you via Zoom this Friday!*



## Meeting Highlights of April 17, 2020

**CLUB BOARD MEETING**  
**3rd Thursday of each month**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**DISTRICT 5340 WEBSITE:**  
<http://www.rotary5340.org>

### Publication Information

*Chulatarian* Newsletter is published by The Rotary Club of Chula Vista  
P.O. Box 626  
Chula Vista, CA 91912  
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**Articles & Items:**  
**Please send by Noon Saturday for consideration.**

**Please note: Every submission may not be included due to space constraints.**



Rosy Vazquez, Director of Community Through Hope, joined us to provide an on their work to provide food to the community and assistance to the unsheltered. President Bob shared a news video on a recent food distribution which showed that demand is far exceeding supply with many families in need.

The organization has been working for more than 12 years, a part of a network of faith-based groups in South County. They secured their own non-profit status a couple of years ago and continue to work as an all-volunteer organization with 92 cents of every dollar received going directly to serve the community.

They have gardeners dedicated to growing fresh produce for them and gleaned surplus fruit and vegetables from others who cannot eat or use all they grow in their home gardens. (Great idea!)

Community Through Hope partners with local food banks and others to maximize distributions and has adopted the drive-through, minimal contact model of food delivery, while also ensuring that people without vehicles also participate. Rosy was very appreciative and thanked our Club for our recent contribution (\$2500).

### INVOCATION - By Michael Monaco

Today I pray for peace of mind of those troubled by COVID-19.

Today I pray for clarity and wisdom for the countless health professionals who help the afflicted and seek a vaccine.

Today I pray to be refreshed in the knowledge that "This too shall pass."

Today I pray for the end. The end of COVID -19 and polio.

And today I pray that Rotarians and our global partners will continue to serve the needs of the ill, forgotten, and poor with an unwavering sense of purpose and humility.

In closing, I pray for John Pullen's wife Dolores, that she will find comfort and support in her time of grief. This is my prayer. Amen

### Jim Biddle News at Noon— by Betty Waznis:

\*Highlights: It was announced that 21 acres near the Sweetwater marsh (at E Street) will be developed into a 21 acre park beginning in 2022.

The new Sweetwater Park is a partnership between Chula Vista, Port of San Diego and Gaylord Pacific. It will include meadows, grasslands, nature playground, picnic area and various pedestrian and bicycle paths, some paved and others with softer surfaces.

\*Major League Baseball is using some of its labs and testing facilities to assist with research for COVID-19.

**QUOTE OF THE DAY:**  
**Better six feet apart than six feet under**

### Community Projects Update:

Gary Bryant shared information on a hands on project this coming Monday where our club will assist with transporting food from the San Diego Food Bank for distribution to St. Mark's. Volunteers are lined up. Let Gary know if you have a truck and can help on another occasion.

Ronald McDonald House is seeking assistance for To Go containers for their facility. Can donate online.

### Rotary Club Scholarships

Jesse Fernandez provided an update and said the deadline for student applications has been extended to **May 1**. Please encourage students you may know from Castle Park, Chula Vista, Olympian and Otay Ranch High Schools to apply (plenty of applications from Hilltop).



## More Meeting Highlights



Before the meeting begins, members have the opportunity to enjoy fellowship via the smaller “chat” rooms. Pictured above clockwise: President Bob, Carmen Sandoval, Duane Buckingham, and guest speaker Rosy Vasquez.



These are most of last week’s participants—we had two screens! We welcomed Mike Green for the first time! And we also had our first guest—Albert Aguilera. It was a family affair at Neisha and Bernard’s, Karen popped in for a bit with Duane, Chris Lewis needs a light and find Lisa’s chat message. We are all getting the hang of Zoom. Excellent to connect with everyone!





### ROTARIANS IN ACTION - TAG TEAMS DELIVER 3K POUNDS



On Monday, April 20, Chris Lewis and Gary Bryant went to the San Diego Food Bank to load nearly a ton and a half of food (2970 lbs.) in their trucks and took it to St. Mark's for Project Hand. David Hoffman and Nora Johnson (Lisa's daughter) were there to meet them to unload. Our Club is now on a volunteer list at St. Mark's so there will be future volunteer opportunities. We will be donating \$1750 to them which includes a \$250 District 5340 grant. This donation will purchase 17,500 lbs. of food for 1500 boxes to assist homeless and families impacted by COVID-19. Thanks everyone!





## Chula Vista Rotary Stepping Up in the Pandemic

### The Chula Vista Rotary Foundation approved the following expenditures:

- **Salvation Army Chula Vista Corps - \$2,500** to purchase dry/canned food and diapers. In a normal month they would assist 600 families at a cost of \$2,000. In a recent week they provided assistance to 300+ families in one week.
- **Feeding San Diego - \$1,500** to purchase food/dry goods/perishables which they will distribute thru drive-thru distributions, launching regional emergency distribution sites (some that we are already supporting in Chula Vista), working with community partners and school districts to provide meals for children and families impacted by school closures. We have assisted this program in the past with hands-on at their main facility.
- **Southwestern College - \$1,400** to support urgent needs other than food through the SWC Cares Emergency Grant Program. Last month we donated \$1,100 to this program. Funds will be used to support students who are in need of financial assistance because of lost jobs, etc. They are averaging 10 grants a week and will run out of funding by May. They are actively seeking funds to fund 30 more emergency grants. This brings our total donation to SWC for this program to \$2,500.
- **St. Mark's Lutheran Church - \$1,500** plus \$250 District grant—Total \$1750. See photos for more information. A special thanks to Chris Lewis for bringing this project to our attention and making it happen. **Thanks Chris!**
- **Ronald McDonald House Charities of San Diego – Approved up to \$525** to purchase food-to-go containers for families staying at or using the facilities of the Ronald McDonald House. The “House” wish list is through Amazon. Purchases are made online by the donor and are shipped by Amazon directly to the Ronald McDonald House along with an acknowledgement as to who the donor was.



On April 19, 1868, Rotary founder Paul Harris was born in Racine, Wisconsin, USA.







## Adventures with Rotarians: Spotlight on Gary Bryant

Here are some pics from Gary's fishing trip to his place in Utah last October for 12 days. He has been going up there since 1980. The town is 8,300 feet elevation with the mountain's peaks at 9,500 to 10,000 feet. There are only 35 houses left and no facilities. The nearest town is Price, Utah (60 miles east). The town dates from the late 1800's and winter temps can get to -30 below and -40 in the old days. Average snow fall is 18 feet.

There is no cell reception which Gary likes. He does have a land line which he has turned on when he goes and turned off when he leaves. TV is only off satellite. There were several storms during his time there. These two pics were taken the morning he left to come home; the one with his truck shows the house (built in 1910) and the other pic is a shot of the town from the patio. The two-story houses in town were built in 1890. (Continued on page 7)



ROTARIAN ADVENTURES—CONTINUED



**In Gary's Words:**

Top: The first trout picture is of a Tiger Trout which is a sterile cross between a Brown Trout and a Brook Trout. They are real fighters. The second fish pic is of a Kokanee Salmon which is a form of Sockeye Salmon but they don't migrate to the sea and live out their entire life in fresh water.

The third fish pic is a Cutthroat Trout. The morning I caught him the temp was 8 degrees. All these fish were released.

The morning we left the temp was a minus 14 degrees below zero.





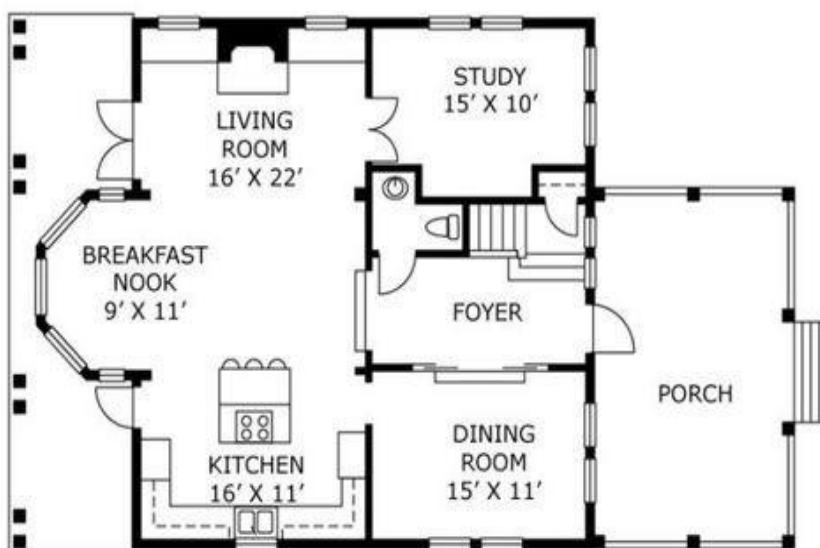


## KEEPING OUR SENSE OF HUMOR...

Turns out my top three hobbies are:

- 1) Restaurants
- 2) Bars
- 3) Non-essential businesses

Looking at the map for some weekend travel ideas



**CORONA BEER CHANGES THEIR NAME  
TO AVOID ASSOCIATION WITH THE  
CORONA VIRUS OUTBREAK**

