

Chulatarian



ROTARY CLUB OF CHULA VISTA

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The weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Chula Vista

Chartered February 16, 1926 - Club Number 908 - District 5340—
Meets Fridays at noon, 4475 Bonita Road, Bonita (CV Golf Course)

Jennifer Castell
ALSAC/St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
Friday, December 10, 2021



Jennifer has been at ALSAC/St. Jude for almost 6 years. Her role is to work with individuals, companies and groups/organizations to provide awareness on St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and to fundraise for the mission of St. Jude: Finding cures. Saving Children. Jennifer focuses her efforts in the Coachella Valley, San Diego and Hawaii. She currently leads the Coachella Valley St. Jude Dream Home Giveaway campaign and supports the St. Jude Walk/Run San Diego event as well as St. Jude Heroes program where individuals run and raise money for St. Jude.

Previously, Jennifer worked in accounting for 7 years, then made a career switch to nonprofit event planning/fundraising. She was with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for 8 years. She has experience as a manager, leader and individual contributor in both for profit and nonprofit companies. Jennifer has spent her nonprofit career focusing on event execution, peer to peer fundraising and portfolio cultivation.

Jennifer has a passion for volunteer service which includes supporting Alzheimer's San Diego as her main personal charity, as well as St. Jude and other sister charities. When not fundraising or volunteering her time, Jennifer enjoys traveling, doing crafts, gardening, visiting with friends and family, and spending time with her 11 year old Dachshund.



MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—DECEMBER 3, 2021

President Neisha Hernandez called the meeting to order.

Neisha shared a beautiful letter from William Rindone thanking the club for the scholarship his daughter received named in honor of his grandfather Joe Rindone who 'was a great champion for education for all and spent his life in service to the schools and the community.' The committee selected her based on merit from the many applications using a non-biased rating system where students names are not listed.

Fine Master Michael Monaco had a very fun time fining Ben Koala on the recent birth of his daughter. Fire was the crux of it, tying in Ben's stint fighting fires in northern California. Ask Michael...

Duane Buckingham rocked the Rotary Member of the Week bling. Did we know he was born in Iowa? We do now.

Ben Richardson visited for some fun fellowship with longtime friends.



Above left: Our old friend Ben Richardson joined us. He is a former member who moved out of the area, and moved back a while ago. Great to see him!

Middle: President Neisha with Rotary of the Week Duane Buckingham. Way to go Duane!

Right: New dad again Ben Koala was called out for his new daughter by Michael Monaco, ace Fine Master.





MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—DECEMBER 3, 2021 (continued)



Chula Vista Police Department Chief Roxana Kennedy gave an excellent presentation, providing great insight into some of the challenges—staffing issues—as well as some good news—crime is down in Chula Vista and may even come in better than Coronado, which is usually the lowest in crime in the region, in the current reporting cycle.

Chief Kennedy celebrated 30 years in law enforcement and currently serves as President of the San Diego County Chiefs' and Sheriff's Association.

Thank you for all you do Chief!



L-R Mora de Murguia with drawing winners Michael Monaco, Rasha Roshdy and Bob Bliss.





SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES
Rotary

JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON

LIVE



Brought to you by:

All those who
logged-on!

With Betty Waznis

Not sure how it happens that, whenever Betty asks me to fill in for her on the Jim Biddle News at Noon, I end up being out of town. No matter, it seems to be a pattern that I end up doing the news from a remote location. As in the past, for the first person who can guess from where I am broadcasting, I will make a \$50 donation to Polio Plus in your honor. Prez Neisha will determine who that is as I have provided her with acceptable answers.

Today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon is brought to you by Mora de Murguia and Baldwin & Sons.

Of course, I will begin the news with the Omicron Variant. Research is just beginning into this newest coronavirus variant first identified in southern Africa. First recognized in South Africa and Botswana, this new variant has prompted concern among scientists and public health officials because of the high number of mutations, possibly making it more resistant to existing vaccines. Let's hope the WHO doesn't run through the entire Greek alphabet!

Speaking of "vaccine," no surprise it has been recognized by Webster's Dictionary as their 'Word of the Year' for 2021. This distinction is bestowed on the word most searched during the year.

More world news from one of my favorite places...Paris! Earlier this week, French President Emmanuel Macron honored American-born dancer, Josephine Baker, as a symbol of unity during a time great division between the U.S. and France. In the 1920's, it was also a time of tension in France over issues of race and gender. Born in Missouri, Ms. Baker experienced segregation and discrimination, fleeing to France as a young woman, she found, as she said, "freedom and dignity." Josephine Baker is the first African American woman to be entombed at the Pantheon, France's hallowed tomb of heroes. She is one of only five women honored at the Pantheon and the first person of American origin to be laid to rest there.

To say my dear friend Mora is 'crafty' is not exactly accurate but she is a 'crafter' of beautiful cards and has an eye for decorating. But that's not how Mora spends most of her waking hours. She has spent most of her career at Baldwin & Sons on their entitlement team for nearly 30 years. Mora has a wide spectrum of experience ranging from office management to public finance management and managing special projects.

Her expertise lies in the complicated formation details of Mello Roos Tax Districts and City of Chula Vista development impact fees. Mora has experience on four HOA boards and is currently the president of the Village of Montecito HOA. She leads the entitlement team at Baldwin on four public, turn-key projects in Otay Ranch. No wonder she finds little time for crafting. As you know, Mora is passionate about community service, currently serving on the Southwestern College Foundation Board and the board of the Chula Vista Community Foundation. She will be our club prez in 2023. (Continued on page 4).





JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON (Continued)

Mora is a golfer so she might be interested in this next bit of news...after a long recovery from his near-fatal car wreck, Tiger Woods is talking about his future as a golfer. He revealed this week doctors almost had to amputate his right leg, which is now held together with a rod and screws. Making no commitment on his return to the sport, Tiger did say he might choose a few select tournaments and sports speculators think the annual Farmers Insurance Open at Torrey Pines might be one of those. Stay tuned...

We will also have to stay tuned to hear what actually happened on October 21st when, on the set of the film "Rust," Alec Baldwin accidentally, but fatally shot cinematographer Halyna Hutchins with what was supposed to be a prop gun filled with dummy rounds. New information suggests the possibility the prop master who supplied Baldwin with the gun might have loaded the gun from a container holding a mixture of blanks, dummy rounds, and live ammunition.

"Weekends with Adele" begins January 22nd at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas. The renowned singer will perform two shows each weekend through mid-April.

I will close with local news from Encinitas where the San Dieguito School Board has decided to install vaping sensors in bathrooms at the high school and middle school to discourage students from vaping. This is in response to student and parent complaints that students don't want to use restrooms because they are too smokey. Dare I suggest they bring back a 'smokers' lawn' like we had in high school? Jest aside, this is a real problem needing attention as the CDC estimates 20% of middle school students have tried vaping and that number doubles to 40% by high school.

I hope you enjoy some of the beautiful fall weather this weekend before it warms up again to the 80's on Monday. Check out holiday activities like Taste of December Nights holiday food truck extravaganza this weekend in Balboa Park.

And that concludes this edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today's news was brought to you by Mora de Murguia and Baldwin & Sons.



Please **RSVP** for our Holiday Program next Friday, Dec 17. We have a special day planned with Guest Artists from the Southwestern College Chamber Singers presenting their Christmas Carols. Because we have an increased number of people, we need to get an accurate count of how many Rotarians and guests will be in attendance.

Don't want to run out of food. :)

We will be sending around a clipboard this Friday for RSVP's. If you are NOT going to be at the meeting THIS Friday to RSVP, please email your RSVP to Neisha (neisha@neishas.com) before this Friday's meeting.

Thanks for your help in planning for this very special day!





DECEMBER

DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT MONTH

"By recognizing that infectious disease is not some faraway exotic issue but a global problem, and by sharing the responsibility for its prevention, diagnosis, and control, the whole world will be a lot safer."

Seth Berkley



TAKE ACTION: Join Rotary. Be a People of Action



DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

IF YOU SHOP ON AMAZON:

This holiday season **remember** to designate the Chula Vista Rotary Foundation while shopping on Amazon. Click on the Hello box, click on the Account & Lists. Find the **SmilesAmazon** tab to set up your list. Search for the Chula Vista Rotary Foundation.

AmazonSmile donates 0.5% of your eligible Charity List purchases to your selected charity, **at no extra cost to you.**

We have received \$ from them for those of you who are already using this feature.
Every little bit adds up. Thank you!

GOOD-BYE POLIO

THANKS ROTARY





TOY & GIFT CARD DRIVE FOR PROMISES TO KIDS



PROMISES2KIDS



'Tis the Season to Brighten
the Lives of Foster Children!
THROUGH DECEMBER 17



GIFT CARDS ARE NEEDED FOR THE FOLLOWING STORES

Amazon
Apple/iTunes
Foot Locker

Forever 21
Gap/Old Navy
H&M

Target
Westfield Mall

Our Club is supporting Promises to Kids toy and gift card drive this year. A few weeks back, we heard all about their work with foster children and the difference they are making in our region.

Please bring toys or gifts cards for teens to the next few meetings. Thank you!





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THOUGHTS FOR TODAY

