

# Chulatarian



**ROTARY CLUB  
OF CHULA VISTA**

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**Mary Johnson**

**Mora de Murguia**

**Rasha Roshdy**

[www.chulavistarotary.org](http://www.chulavistarotary.org)



**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)**

**FELIX SALAZAR**  
**Elder Justice Task Force**  
**Friday, January 14, 2022—Noon**



The Elder Justice Task Force (EJTF) in San Diego County is led by the FBI in partnership with the San Diego District Attorney's Office, U.S. Attorney's Office and several other law enforcement agencies. We developed an innovative vision for solving complex elder scams that ultimately prompted the development of a task force capable of tracking down and holding accountable those responsible for scamming elders out of billions of dollars. The task force is the culmination of years of work and the beginning of a new era in attacking crime syndicates that prey on the elderly.

Every year, San Diego senior citizens are scammed out of tens of millions of dollars, which happens through phony scenarios that often involve a loved one, such as a grandson or granddaughter needing urgent help or scammers posing as government agencies such as the IRS or Social Security Administration calling to demand money.

Without knowing it, seniors are sending their hard-earned retirement money to international scam syndicates. For years, these criminals operated across the U.S. and out of the country. They were hard to pin down because they committed their crimes in so many different jurisdictions and there was no way to connect the dots.



## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—JANUARY 14, 2022

President Neisha Hernandez called the meeting to order. Rasha Roshdy gave the invocation. President-Elect Mark Scott introduced guests and visiting Rotarians.

President Neisha called on Lisa Johnson and Mora de Murguia for a special “recognition.” Mora called up Fine Master Michael Monaco and provided a brief synopsis of his career path—banker, publisher and even Uber driver. Lisa and guest, Kevin Marshall, past Chamber President, shared the rigorous competition for the position of Chula Vista Chamber Executive Director— 110 applications! Kevin mentioned many of Michael’s special talents, including being an accomplished limoncello maker, his boundless enthusiasm, a profound love for our city. All of this was the build up for what most already knew: Michael Monaco is the NEW Executive Director for the Chula Vista Chamber of Commerce. Shouts of ‘100 bucks!’ rang through the room. As Chris Lewis was returning to his table in the midst of this, he was called upon and without missing a beat says: 300 bucks!

Michael has already hit the ground running. He thanked everyone for their support and gave a special shout out to Lourdes Valdez for all of her help along the way. Great congratulations to Michael!

Betty Waznis provided an update on the news of the day. Mary Johnson was honored as the Rotarian of the Week and was also the News at Noon sponsor. The drawing winners were: Jim Biddle, Duane Buckingham and President Neisha.

President Neisha called on committee chairs to provide updates on projects and work to date for the first half of the Rotary year. Gary Bryant discussed the upcoming hands on work event on January 29. Members can sign up online or call him.

Jesse Fernandez said we are on target in our fundraising—great job everyone! Rotarians, sponsors, participants. Funds raised for our good work: to date \$18,127! Plans are in the works for a St. Patrick’s event on March 12. SAVE THE DATE!

Carmen Sandoval shared the just confirmed date for the Project Mercy Tijuana Home Build—Saturday, April 23. International Projects is considering additional projects including partnering with two other clubs.

Rasha Roshdy discuss Youth Projects which will include Model UN, 4-Way Test Speech Contest. She will also oversee the Scholarships this year.

Lane Pearson, RI Foundation Chair, commended our Club on the many Paul Harris Fellows and donations over the years. He highlighted the areas of service. Thanks!

President Neisha gave an update on our PolioPlus . The Polio Pig brought in \$670.65 this quarter.

Mark Scott discussed the Legacy Fund which has \$132K. The committee is laying the groundwork for a long term strategy which will grow through additional donations, bequests and investment. More on this to follow.

### INVOCATION GIVEN BY RASHA ROSDY:

In the Sufi tradition, we believe that the highest form of worship is service. The prophet once said, “The best of my people are those in service of others.”

We believe that God blesses these servant leadership in life for their services and in the afterlife their good deeds will make them shine like stars.

As Sufi we believe that we are rewarded double if we gather to do good things. May our gatherings and good deeds bring us blessings and be rewarded double for the rest of the year.





## JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON

●LIVE



Brought to you by:

All those who  
logged-on!

With Betty Waznis

Good afternoon, Rotarians, and guests. Welcome to today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today's News sponsored by Mary Johnson and St Paul's Senior Services.

On Wednesday the San Diego County Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance that allows home cooks to sell freshly cooked meals from home kitchens. The program is authorized for two years. Under the new rules, home cooks must prepare, cook, and serve food the same day, may sell up to 30 takeout meals per day or 60 meals per week, along with other health and safety provisions.

In 2018 the California Legislature passed statewide rules to legalize this kind of operation, known as Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operations, or MEHKOs. Since then, the program has been adopted by eight other California counties. The Board described the experience of Riverside County, which authorized MEHKOs two years ago and currently has over 130 licensed home kitchen enterprises. These MEHKOs have prepared and served over 100,000 meals with not one case of food-borne illness being recorded and virtually no noise or neighbor complaints.

Just like every other business right now, the US Army is having a hard time finding personnel. So, they've raised the maximum enlistment bonus to \$50,000 for certain skilled recruits in high-demand career fields who join for six years.

Aztec men's basketball has been forced to take a timeout – they officially went on a Covid 19 pause Tuesday, postponing tomorrow's game at New Mexico and possibly the Jan 18 contest at home against UNLV. The entire team was tested Monday and were unable to provide the conference with the minimum seven healthy players and one coach necessary to play. SDSU and UC Santa Barbara were the last remaining of the 27 Division I men's basketball program in California that had not shut down this season or last. Too bad, especially after San Diego State beat number 20 undefeated Colorado State by 30 points last weekend.

In happier Aztec news, SDSU football was ranked No 25 on Tuesday in the final AP top 25 poll, marking just the third time in program history that SDSU was ranked in the season ending poll.

Mary Johnson is Community Outreach Coordinator for St. Paul Senior Services. She is a native San Diegan – one of 13 children. She lives in Bonita and is married to a local boy since 1983. She and Robert have two daughters, and the newest love of their lives, 19-month-old grandboy Lawrence. Before joining St. Paul's, Mary enjoyed a career as a mortgage underwriter, then completed a degree in Gerontology at SDSU. Mary's community involvement includes Chula Vista Rotary, Chula Vista Commission on Aging, Chula Vista Chamber of Commerce, and Las Primeras.

This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today's News sponsored by Mary Johnson and St Paul's Senior Services.





## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—JANUARY 14, 2022 (Cont.)



Michael Monaco receives a fine type roast on his new job. Betty Waznis welcomes Donna Moss back after a very trying few weeks.



Rotarian of the week Mary Johnson brightens up the room—always! Long time no see—Rotarians welcomed Steve Brodbeck back after a long while—missed you—working too hard.





## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—JANUARY 14, 2022



L-R: Jim Biddle, Duane Buckingham and an exuberant President Neisha were the lucky drawing winners.

**JANUARY IS**

**VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH**

"Vocational service gives Rotarians the opportunity to help others escape poverty and gain a measure of self-respect. As business and professional leaders, we have a duty to lead and encourage good ethics through vocation."

Carlos Frum, PDG D6440

Rotary  

[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)





SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES  
Rotary

## THOUGHTS FOR TODAY

If  
you are the  
smartest  
person  
in the room,  
you are in the  
wrong room



Fear less, hope more; Eat less,  
chew more; Whine less,  
breathe more; Talk less, say  
more; Love more, and all  
good things will be yours.

- Swedish Proverb

