

# Chulatarian



IMAGINE  
ROTARY

ROTARY CLUB  
OF CHULA VISTA

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Lisa Johnson  
Mary Johnson  
Leon Redondo  
Rasha Roshdy

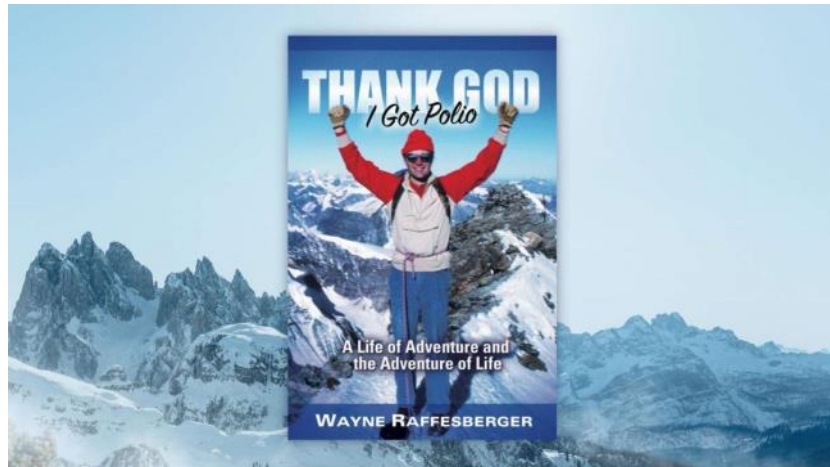
[www.chulavistarotary.org](http://www.chulavistarotary.org)



The weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Chula Vista

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

**WAYNE RAFFESBERGER**  
Author of *Thanks God I Got Polio*  
Friday, JANUARY 27, 2023, Noon



“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do than by the ones you did do.” **Wayne Rafflesberger** remembered that quote from Mark Twain and uses it as a rallying cry for the way he would live his life, as told vividly in his memoir, *Thank God I Got Polio: A Life of Adventure and the Adventure of Life*.

While Rafflesberger refers to polio in his book title, describes the physical and emotional challenges he encountered as a young boy, and acknowledges that it shaped his life, this is not so much a book about polio as it is about a person who rose to the occasion on account of it, wanting to prove something to his early-life naysayers and doubters — as well as himself — and seek out adventures that fully healthy people might be hard-pressed to undertake.

“Polio shaped my entire life ... It showed me the best in people and at times the worst,” he writes. “It led me to adventures and challenges that others would have never attempted.”

## CLUB CALENDAR

February 3 - Baja Home for Abandoned Elderly Men—Anthony Millican  
February 10 - Club Valentine’s Program  
February 17 - Roundtable—Presidents Weekend



## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—JANUARY 20, 2023

President Mark Scott called the meeting to order. Carmen Sandoval gave the invocation.

Lane Pearson presented Reed and Beta Dinsmore with their Paul Harris Fellow which they secured last fall, just prior to leaving for their home in the east. Thank you Reed and Beta!

Maurine Beinbrink made a very special presentation on behalf of the estate of our longtime member, the late Jim Algert. She presented a check for \$120,000 to the Chula Vista Rotary Foundation. A beautiful and touching gift that left most in the room speechless.

There was a reminder to encourage members to help out as judges for the CVESD Speech Contest. See information and contact person on page 7.

Members gave nearly \$300 to members of the Tijuana Rotary Club in support of their annual Three Kings Holiday Party for disabled children. The International Projects Committee also recommended a contribution of \$500 which was approved by the CVR Board and Foundation.

President Mark thanked Rasha Roshdy for her assistance. His mother-in-law recently passed away and Rasha helped re-purpose some of her clothes to help refugees.

Members are encouraged to purchase their own Rotary work vests and keep in our own possession to use when needed. Rotarian at Work Safety vest are approximately \$27 through Russell Hampton Company. [www.bestclubsupplies.com](http://www.bestclubsupplies.com)

Valentines Senior Gift Basket project is underway. Bring items weekly or donate \$\$\$ and the team will shop for you!

Rotarians who fish (and put them back...) were recognized (and fined) for having fun in Louisiana.

The guest speaker Tony Pauker provided an excellent overview of the upcoming project at Otay Town Center which could see many new housing units added to the existing footprint there. Changes to create a community feel and event area may be implemented as well, including closing the road running through the center.

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





## JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON

LIVE



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THIS WEEK'S  
SPONSOR

With Betty Waznis

Hello, everyone. Welcome to today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, sponsored by Risa Baron and Republic Services. Negotiations between Bayview Point LLC, the city of Chula Vista and San Diego Metropolitan Transit System are now under way on the topic of Bayview Point, a proposed \$900 million development that would transform a 10-acre site between 707 F Street and 750 E Street into a mixed-use project where people can live, work and play within walking or bus-riding distance. A proposal for the site has been in the works for years but stalled because of the pandemic. The site consists of 4 acres of MTS property on E Street and 6 acres of city-owned land on F Street. The MTS site currently holds a support center and parking for the trolley, plus bus transfer terminals and the Cool Down Coffee shop. For more than 20 years, Chula Vista has leased its site to businesses for construction, storage, and distribution services. Together, the parcels make up one full city block.

Under the proposal being discussed, the E Street side of Bayview Point would hold a four-story medical center, retail and more than 260 affordable housing units. The F Street area would include two luxury residential towers and a five-star hotel. If negotiations conclude successfully, groundbreaking is estimated to start late 2024.

The Internal Revenue Service has offered a lifeboat to California residents and businesses affected by recent weather: more time to pay their income taxes. The agency announced that taxpayers in any county covered by a federal emergency declaration would have until May 15 to file their income tax returns for 2022. This includes San Diego County. The relief will be offered automatically to anyone whose address on file at the IRS is in a disaster area. The California Franchise Tax Board is following the federal government lead with a deadline for state taxes extended to May 15 as well.

One of our local Chula Vista businesses continues to thrive and grow. Novo Brazil Brewery is celebrating its recent expansion into Imperial Beach, its fourth location in San Diego. Since Novo's Chula Vista flagship opened in 2015, the company has added outlets in Otay Ranch and National City, with a Mission Valley location expected in November. At 535 Florence Street., the Imperial Beach location is Novo's biggest one yet, with a 7500 square foot dining room, a 3,000-square-foot patio, seating for 300 people and views of the Coronado Bridge and downtown skyline.

Risa Baron is a New York native who moved with her family to California during her senior year of high school. She is an SDSU graduate and was the first in her family to attend college. She was a nontraditional student, and while working full-time, earned both a bachelor's and master's degree. After working at San Diego County Water Authority, SDG&E and Caltrans, she joined Republic Services in March 2021 as Municipal Manager. Among her other accomplishments, she's been president of I Love a Clean San Diego and the SDSU Alumni Association. She and husband David are also small business owners. Their family had been fans of San Diego-based Jackie's Jams for years when they learned the owner intended to retire and sell the business. David was ready for a career change, so they decided to buy it. David and a team of employees handcraft the specialty jams using fresh local ingredients, while Risa handles the administrative side. Risa said she never dreamed of owning a small business. Now, her whole family is involved. She says, "It has brought us the most joy and is one of our greatest accomplishments."

This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today's News sponsored by Risa Baron and Republic Services.







## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—JANUARY 20, 2023



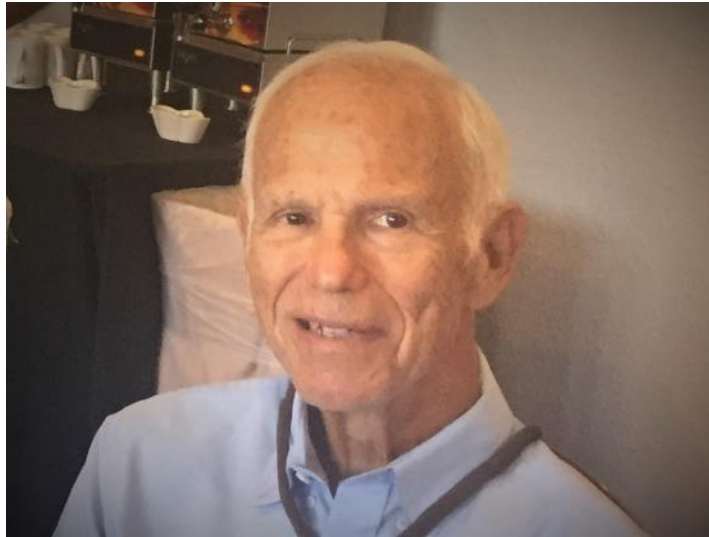
Top: L-R—Reed and Beta Dinsmore received their Paul Harris Fellows from Foundation Chair Lane Pearson, and President Mark Scott.

Above: L-R—Maurine Beinbrink, Jesse Fernandez and Bob Bliss (his streak begins anew!) all received a half case of the much coveted Jackie's Jams from Risa Baron, Republic Services, and this week's sponsor of the News at Noon.





## Jim Algert Made Major Bequest to the Chula Vista Rotary Foundation



Long time Rotarian **Jim Algert** passed away May 4, 2022. He was a successful engineer, avid sailor, and passionate runner. Jim spoke fluent Portuguese from his time working in Brazil.

He served on the International Projects committee for many years and assisted with several home builds in Tijuana. There was a funny incident where Jim installed a window upside down. No, we did not let him forget it (remember – he was an engineer) and yes, he fixed it.

Jim was a passionate Rotarian and member of our Club for nearly 30 years. We are very thankful and in awe of his gift of \$120,000.



Maurine Beinbrink, widow of Jim Algert, presents check on behalf of his estate. Standing ovation followed.



## **FEBRUARY SERVICE PROJECT – SENIOR GIFT BAGS FOR VALENTINE’S DAY**

**On February 10<sup>th</sup>, before our Valentine’s Day program, we will assemble 50 gift bags to be distributed to seniors through St. Paul’s. Thanks to Mary and her team, we have suggestions of items we can donate for the bags. If you don’t want to provide 50 of something, please just provide what you can. We will have plenty of items. Lisa has donated 50 red bags and Cheryl has donated 50 Chik Fil A gift cards - so we are off and running!**

**Option – make a cash donation or donate on our website and specify this project, and Mora, Cheryl, and Lisa will shop for you.**

**There are many seniors who can’t get out for holidays and special occasions, but we can still make occasions special for them with our gifts!**

- Canned/non-perishable food items
- Cleaning supplies
- Kitchen, bathroom and home care items
- Hygiene care items
- Clothing
- Cleaning supplies
- Laundry detergent
- Fabric softener
- Dish sponges
- Toilet paper, kleenex, paper towels
- Blankets
- Socks
- Sweatshirts
- Trash bags
- Denture cleaner
- Eye glass cleaners
- Puzzles
- Gift cards for fast food restaurants
- Note cards
- Pens/pencils
- Crossword, Sudoku, or other brain game books
- Candy/treats (wrapped)







## JUDGES STILL NEEDED!

Chula Vista Elementary School District is reaching out to invite us to be judges at the upcoming annual speech contest in February.

This year, there will have two sessions - one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Judges will need to arrive at the District office at 7:30 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. on the designated date for each grade level. The dates are as follows:

- 4th Grade: February 21
- 5th Grade: February 23
- 6th Grade & Middle School: February 24
- Finals: February 27 (morning session only)

Please let Giovanna Castro know if this is something you're interested in by January 13.

If you're interested, please indicate whether you prefer the morning or afternoon session and your availability for each of the days listed above. I appreciate your consideration!

[GIOVANNA.CASTRO@cvesd.org](mailto:GIOVANNA.CASTRO@cvesd.org)

JANUARY IS

*"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*



VOCATIONAL  
SERVICE  
MONTH

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