

# Chulatarian

Rotary  
Club of Chula Vista 



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)

UNIVERSITY NOW INITIATIVE (UNI)  
MARIA KACHADOORIAN & ZANETA ENCARNACION  
Friday, December 6, 2024 - Noon

UNIVERSITY NOW  
INITIATIVE



Maria and Zaneta will provide exciting updates on the University Now Initiative and offer some sneak previews of announcements on results of university planning efforts. There is a reason you have not seen these Rotarians at club meetings for a while.

UNI, established through a partnership with Southwestern College, the City of Chula Vista, and the support from the California State Legislature seeks to build a thriving ecosystem of higher education in Chula Vista by identifying priority academic programming opportunities. This collaborative effort addresses the emerging workforce development needs in this vibrant area of San Diego County. Leveraging existing programs at Southwestern College and partnerships with four-year universities, UNI identifies opportunities through extensive research and data gathering to craft a roadmap to meet the pressing needs of the current and future workforce.

Chula Vista, as the second-largest city in San Diego County, is currently the only city in California with a population over 200,000 residents without a public university within its city limits. In addressing this gap, UNI builds on the City of Chula Vista's longstanding vision, set in motion the adoption of its 1993 Otay Ranch General Development Plan, which included the University vision to be located in the eastern area of the city.



## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—NOVEMBER 22, 2024

President Jesse Fernandez called the meeting to order. Mary Johnson gave the invocation. Songmaster Chuck Bevan led us in a special customized song—just for Troy Ray.

Lisa Johnson filled in for Betty Waznis who was out ill but still got the news together for us. Thanks Betty & Lisa! Mauricio Lutteroth was the sponsor for the News at Noon. Rotarian and former member of our club, Lourdes Valdez, brought additional gifts.

Lisa encouraged members and spouses to enter the COOKIE CONTEST which is part of our Holiday festivities on December 13. Each baker can have up to 3 entries. The BAKE SALE is a fundraiser—bring tasty treats and we will bid on them. Our Club is gathering blankets, woolie hats and scarves for patients undergoing chemo at Sharp Chula Vista. Please bring them on December 13. If you cannot be at that meeting, please bring on Dec. 6.

The Club had a beautiful farewell for Troy and Jeanne Ray. David Hoffman shared personal stories and heartfelt memories of his friendship with Troy Ray over the years. He and Jeanne are godparents to his kids. There were, of course, a few fish stories, but also many Padres games and other fun they had together. Troy was with JC Penney's for 39 years and helped start our project to decorate the Chula Vista Veterans' Home at Christmas.

Lane Pearson told us about their fishing trips and how they always put the fish back. There were also shooting clay objects trips and much more. He enjoyed Troy's saying: Life is short—write the check!

Gary Bryant said Troy is like a brother to him, always positive and he loves him. He shared a story about Troy's sleep apnea machine on a trip which led to Gary getting one too.

Laura Humphreys told us about Troy's work as a Y Board member for many years and how he has literally raised 100's of thousands of dollars to support the Y mission. The many Y Board members (past & present) on hand were a testament to his lasting impact. It was a moving and affectionate send-off for a wonderful giving couple. We wish all the very best in Colorado Springs.

Our guest speaker Sophia Prieto-Guzman, with Just in Time for Foster Youth, gave an informative presentation on their history and evolution into the organization they are today, providing critical services to young people in transition from foster care or recent homelessness.



L-R: The lucky drawing winners, pictured with Mauricio Lutteroth, were Jan Mellinger, Bob Bliss (finally wins again, drought over!), and Laura Humphreys.



## JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON by Betty Waznis

LIVE



Brought to you by:

THIS WEEK'S  
SPONSOR

With Betty Waznis

Hello, everyone, Welcome to today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today sponsored by Mauricio Lutteroth and Eastlake Self Storage.

As part of its "Safe Cities" initiative, the county sheriff's department is asking people to let them know if they have security cameras — including Ring-type doorbell cameras. The idea is to allow residents and businesses to register with the department, acknowledging they would be willing to share security footage with sheriff's investigators if asked. Deputies would not have access to the cameras or the footage. Instead, they would know about the registered camera and could reach out to the owner to ask if they can see what it might have recorded. Any requests must be for specific investigations, with a case number. The owner can then provide the video to investigators.

Several locals have made international sports news this past week. Teams led by racers from San Diego County claimed the featured overall titles Sunday in the 57th SCORE Baja 1000 off-road race. The race course, a loop that starts and finishes in Ensenada, and includes desert trails, sand, and obstacles, is world's oldest, longest continuously held desert race. Luke McMillin of San Diego teamed with Rob MacCachren of Las Vegas to post the top time, covering the 864 mile course in 15 hours, 54 minutes and 38 seconds. And in the motorcycle division, teams led by Justin Morgan of El Cajon and Arturo Salas Jr. of Chula Vista finished 1-2 overall, respectively,

And another local, professional surfer Jojo Roper of San Diego, tackled this mammoth wave at Northern California's Mavericks surf break and earned this year's prestigious Men's Paddle-in Wave of the Year award. One of his next destinations is the "Super Bowl of Surfing", the Big Wave Invitational on Oahu's North Shore in Hawaii. When not competing, he works in the family surf shop in Kearney Mesa.

In a sight rarely seen anywhere, three aircraft carriers sailed out of San Diego Bay on the same day this Monday — one headed to Japan, one to the Indo-Pacific Ocean and one to the waters off Southern California. The 49-year-old USS Nimitz, the world's oldest nuclear-powered carrier, was the first to leave, pulling out of Naval Base Coronado to perform readiness drills in local waters. The Nimitz was followed by JS Kaga, one of Japan's two aircraft carriers. It's headed home after spending more than a month off San Diego so that our F35-B stealth jets pilots could test take offs and landings from its deck. Japan is buying these American-made aircraft to help keep international marine trade routes open. The third ship to weigh anchor was the USS Carl Vinson, which is deploying to the Indo-Pacific region— replacing the carrier USS Abraham Lincoln, which is on its way back to San Diego after a long, tense mission in the Middle East.

We have to not say good bye but "see you later" to our good friends Troy and Jeanne Ray, who are leaving us to move close to their family in Colorado. Troy has been a member of Chula Vista Rotary for 20 years, since 2004 when Tina Willians was club president. Troy has successfully avoided being club president for these last two decades, but maybe a Rotary club in Colorado Springs will get him to sign up.

Our sponsor today, Mauricio Lutteroth, is the generous and community minded owner and manager of Eastlake Self Storage. We also know him as snake lover and snake handler in chief. They sponsor the Southwestern Knights Pop Warner team and provide free storage for Chula Vista High's football team and Bonita Vista High's Sports program. Eastlake Self storage supports many other community organizations, including Chula Vista Ballet, Chula Vista Public Library, Chula Vista Altrusa Foundation, Eastlake Educational Foundation, and the Bonita Museum and Cultural Center. See Eastlake Self Storage for all your off-site storage, packing and moving materials, document shredding and electronic disposal needs. This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today sponsored by Mauricio Lutteroth and Eastlake Self Storage.





## HOLIDAY FUN!



### COOKIE CONTEST COMING UP!

Prizes are great but bragging is better—and we have both!

To enter, just bring two of your finest cookie creations on a plate.

Presentation is fine...last year's winner, Mary Johnson, blew our celebrity judge away with her sides of whisky and milk.

**Date:** Friday, December 13, noon

**Who:** Any CV Rotarian or spouse

**Limit:** Three entries per baker

**Judge:** Surprise celebrity judge

**Prize:** \$100 Gift Card

### SECOND ANNUAL BAKE SALE

*Donations will support our Rotary Programs*

**Bring anything Homemade,  
Bakery made— Sweet or Savory!**

*Pies, Cakes, Cookies, Brownies,  
Bread, Candy, Toffee,  
Empanadas, appetizers etc.*

***Be ready to bid on items!***  
Friday, December 13, noon







Great photo that surfaced in the search for Troy Ray photos. There are ten Rotarians in the pic. Hint: Troy is in the red hat. Not sure what year this is, but note how YOUNG everyone looks, especially David Hoffman and Max Scrivens.



L: President Jesse with Lourdes Valdez who had more prizes for us. Winners were Jeanne Ray, Tom Davies and Bob Silvas.



Lower left: President Jesse thanking our guest speaker Sophia Prieto-Guzman and program coordinator Bob Silvas.



Above right: The Man of the Hour Troy Ray gave us a art piece painted by local notable Tom Hom, which was auctioned off to highest bidder. The lucky winner was Eastlake-Chula Vista Rotarian Toni Andrade who donated \$250 to our Rotary Foundation. Thank you Troy!



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR ROTARIANS!**



**Tom Davies** - December 7

**Ken Weimer** - December 8

**Chuck Bevan** - December 10

**Carlos Sanchez** - December 12

**Kathleen Carroll** - December 16

**Mary Johnson** - December 18

**Brad Wilson** - December 28

**CLUB CALENDAR**

**Saturday, December 7, 8:30 a.m.—Chula Vista Veterans' Home Decorating**

**Wednesday, December 11—Ronald McDonald House Christmas Dinner  
Various shifts starting at 4:00 pm—Sign Up for a Shift—see email 11-25**

**Food Distribution at St. Mark's—Friday, December 13, 8:00 a.m. (Hilltop & I)**

**Friday, December 13—Holiday Program, Bake Sale, Cookie Contest!  
Blanket, scarves, wooly hat drive for Sharp Cancer Patient Unit**

**Friday, December 22—Roundtable, noon**

**Friday, December 29 and Friday, January 3—DARK—No meetings**