

Chulatarian

Rotary
Club of Chula Vista 



ROTARY CLUB
OF CHULA VISTA

BOARD 2024-2025

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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)

PAST PRESIDENTS PRESENT!
Friday, February 21, 2025 - Noon



This Friday is our annual Past Presidents' program. This is where we will learn and in other cases—remember what went on in our club during these Presidents' terms.

We will welcome Diane Wages (first female Club President), Jim Biddle (of the News at Noon fame), Suzanne Catanzaro (lifelong educator and sailor of the open seas), and Dan Dredla (Sharp exec, current Club web master and soon to be retired).

It will be a fun program—see you on Friday!

CLUB CALENDAR

Sat, Feb 22, Finish Rotary Youth Certification Party!
At Neisha's Dance & Music Academy (870 Jetty Lane) 6:30 pm
RSVP to Bernard 619 246-2525

TEAM TRIVIA CHALLENGE—CV SUNRISE ROTARY CLUB—
Friday, March 14, 6:00 pm

SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, April 12—TIJUANA HOME BUILD

BIKE SAFETY RODEO—Saturday, May 24



MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—February 14, 2025

President Jesse Fernandez called the meeting to order. Nancy Kerwin gave the invocation and led the pledge. Songmaster Chuck Bevan had us sing “All I Have to do is Dream.”

District Governor Dianne Crawford helped celebrate our Club’s 99th Birthday—and there was cake!

Upon reconvening the meeting, President Jesse reviewed upcoming District events including a New Member Social at Stone Brewing at Liberty Station. All members are encouraged to attend, however, new members and their sponsors are free!

DG Dianne presented Past President Mora de Murguia with a certificate of appreciation for our Club’s support of the Polio Plus effort.

Bernard Hernandez discussed the upcoming fun way to complete our Youth Certifications at Neisha’s Dance Academy on Saturday, February 22, 6:30. Wine, nibbles and a lot of encouragement will be provided to get a batch of us over the finish line on certification. Please let Bernard know if you plan to attend.

President Jesse highlighted upcoming programs. Our friend and fellow Rotarian, Lourdes Valdez, with the Chula Vista-Eastlake Club invited members to their upcoming Hike N Wine fundraiser on March 15. They will have a couple of options for hiking—easy and not so easy. More information to follow.

Betty Waznis provided us with the Jim Biddle News at Noon, sponsored by Reed and Beta Dinsmore. Lucky drawing winners were Kimberly Marshall, Mora de Murguia and Carmen Sandoval.

Members were treated to a fun music program featuring Joe DeMers and Larry Okmin. While listening to lovely music, members worked on a Valentine Day Trivia quiz put together by Risa Baron. There were a few crazy questions but it was great fun. Thanks Risa!





JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON by Betty Waznis

LIVE



Brought to you by:

THIS WEEK'S
SPONSOR

With Betty Waznis

Hello, everyone, and welcome to today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today brought to you by Reed and Beta Dinsmore.

This year's U.S. winter has brought us the most severe flu season in at least 15 years. The CDC reported last week that the percentage of doctor's office visits due to flu-like symptoms exceeded peaks from any previous winter flu season since 2009-10, even though vaccination rates have remained consistent with previous years. So far, the CDC estimates that this flu season has resulted in at least 24 million illnesses, 310,000 hospitalizations and 13,000 deaths, including 57 children. So stay safe! Doctors tell us - avoid touching your face, wash your hands often with soap and water, clean frequently touched surfaces, and avoid close contact with sick people.

When wildfires destroyed Pacific Palisades and Altadena, people and corporations from around the world responded by opening their wallets in a way that broke records for generosity. Money poured into thousands of different recipients, from big nonprofits such as the United Way and Habitat for Humanity, to our own family of Rotary, to individual families through GoFundMe, to specialized groups working to replace burned musical instruments and stuffed animals.

The amount raised and pledged is well above \$650 million, according to nonprofit executives. That appears to set a fundraising record for wildfires and exceeds giving for recent natural disasters, Charitable giving for Maui's deadly 2023 fire totaled about \$450 million. Fundraising for Hurricanes Milton and Helene, which devastated the southeastern U.S. last year, topped \$278 million. This most recent charitable outpouring reflects the horrible scale of Los Angeles destruction, and the connection people far from California feel to L.A. and Hollywood.

Hundreds of millions of dollars have already been spent. Online GoFundMe drives, the L.A. Regional Food Bank, and groups of nonprofits have already distributed over \$200 million for emergency needs: food, shoes, clothing, laptops for students whose computers burned in the fires, grocery gift cards, funds for lodging, and much more. Charitable spending will play out alongside other money for rebuilding: billions of dollars in expected federal aid, individual insurance settlements and potential payouts from legal action.

For the first time, Chula Vista Animal Services will be celebrating National Walk Your Dog Day by hosting "Walk a Dog Day" right here in Chula Vista. On Saturday, February 22, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 130 Beyer Way, volunteers can make a shelter dog's day by spending quality time, enjoying fresh air with four-legged friends and making them feel loved with a fun walk. This event is open to current Chula Vista Animal Services volunteers or those volunteering for just one day. Volunteers under the age of 18 are welcome as long as they are accompanied by an adult. Visit the Chula Vista Animal Services website for more information and to RSVP, because the dogs can't walk themselves.

Today's sponsors, Reed and Beta Dinsmore, have been married for 55 years this coming May. They joined the Chula Vista Rotary in 2015. They spend part of the year in Vermont and the rest in Chula Vista. They love to travel and enjoy their five grandchildren greatly. They enjoy the interaction and friendships with other members of Rotary and to have the opportunity to volunteer.

Here they are at Rotary at Work Day 2019, pitching in as always. This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today brought to you by Reed and Beta Dinsmore.



MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—February 14, 2025



L-R: This week's lucky winners: Kimberly Marshall, Mora de Murguia and Carmen Sandoval. Thank you Reed and Beta Dinsmore for the lovely gifts!



L-R: Bernard Hernandez explaining the importance of completing our Youth Certification. President Jesse presenting our News at Noon Wonder Woman Betty Waznis with a "Magic of Rotary" pin. Larry Okmin and our own Joe DeMers provided a fun music program.



VALENTINE QUIZ WINNERS!



L-R: Bernard Hernandez, Karen Torre, Ben Koala, Highest Score 11—Jan Mellinger, Carmen Sandoval and Betty Waznis take home the prizes! Thank you to Risa Baron for a VERY comprehensive Valentine quiz with which to amuse ourselves.



Chula Vista-Eastlake Rotarian Lourdes Valdez brings sunshine with her wherever she goes!

Here she is catching up with Board Secretary and Program Chair Risa Baron.

**GOOD-BYE POLIO
THANKS ROTARY**





Our most sincere condolences to Past President Chris Lewis on the unexpected passing of his beloved wife, Jean, on the morning of February 14th.

Services have been scheduled for Saturday, March 22, 11:00 a.m. at St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

The family requests no calls yet please.

Cards and notes can be sent to his home: 2766 Degan, Bonita, CA 91902

Rotary 
District 5340

ROLL OUT THE RED CARPET

**CELEBRATE OUR NEWEST
ROTARIANS**

**ROTARIAN
SOCIAL**

“

“Connect, mingle, and network with fellow new Rotarians who are just starting out and are just as excited about Rotary as you are!”

Dianne Crawford, DG

**FEBRUARY 26 | 4 -6:30 PM
STONE BREWERY LIBERTY STATION**

Rotary  *In a few words:*

Acquaintance
Fellowship
Connections Ideas Opportunity
Expertise **Integrity** Action Fair Respectful Ethical
Accountability Honor
Understanding International
Diversity Youth
Membership Commitments Peace
Community Education Health
Vocational **Service**
Economy Club Scholarship Friendship
Relationships Development
Leadership
Sincere Responsible Professional