

Chulatarian

Rotary
Club of Chula Vista 



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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 Weekly, Noon, 4475 Bonita Road, Bonita (Chula Vista Golf Course)

CLUB VALENTINE'S PROGRAM
Friday, February 9, 2024 - Noon



This week's program is our annual salute to Valentine's Day. It has taken many turns over the years and we are waiting with bated breath to see what our talented fellow Rotarians come up this year—especially with the departure of the legendary coordinator of this event—Glen Googins...

No pressure friends! Whatever happens, we will be sure to enjoy this time with our friends in service.

Remember—if you can—come early to help stuff the gift bags for the seniors at St. Paul's.

Thank you for your donations of items and contributions of \$\$\$.



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MEETING HIGHLIGHTS— FEBRUARY 2, 2024

President Mora de Murguia called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Rick Richardson. Chuck Bevan had everyone sing “It’s a Small World.” Secretary Rasha Roshdy introduced visiting Rotarians and guests.

President Mora introduced Randy Veenstra, son of Past President Paul Veenstra (94-95). The Veenstra Family Trust is donating \$4200 for scholarships for students at Southwestern College who are pursuing Music or the Performing Arts. The Scholarship Committee will work on implementing the request.

President Mora invited members to attend the Rotaract formation meeting at Novo Brazil on Wednesday, February 7, 6:00 p.m. She reviewed the calendar—see page 4 for upcoming events.

Arthur Muniz was introduced. He is the LPL who is investing our Club’s Legacy Fund. It has grown from \$355,000 to more than \$400,000. Art invited Rotarians to participate with the Golf Tournament to benefit Allen School to be held March 1. Flyers were on tables.

Chris Lewis invited members to help with the food distribution at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Betty Waznis provided the News at Noon, sponsored by Bob Silvas. The drawing winners were: Mike Green, Bob Bliss, and Chris Lewis.

In light of the change in program (Supervisor Vargas not able to attend), the Planning Committee for the Chula Vista Centennial (2026) had a unique opportunity to gather ideas, opinions, and suggestions from members for the event. Dan Dredla facilitated a Club Assembly to get the ideas rolling. Bob Silvas collected the comments. More to come!

INVOCATION GIVEN BY RICK RICHARDSON:

Good afternoon, I invite you to join me in a moment of reflection and meditation following your own beliefs. We are gathered today in fellowship, united in service and connection to each other and community.

Please be with those who are suffering from the devastation of the rains, those in need, and those others who we think about in our hearts. We are grateful for the rain, *just not all at once*, for the rain nourishes our ecosystem and provides the water necessary for life.

We are thankful for this time of fellowship around this meal, to strengthen the bonds between us, and be inspired by each other in service.

Blessings upon us and give us the humanity and humility to serve each other and our community well. Amen

JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON by Betty Waznis



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• LIVE



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THIS WEEKS
SPONSOR

With Betty Waznis

Hello, everyone. Welcome to today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today brought to you by Bob Silvas and the Youth Services committee.

For the second time in less than two weeks, a Pacific storm super-charged by extra moisture from the subtropics drenched San Diego County, resulting in flood warnings and advisories. This time the worst of the storm was concentrated in the north coastal area and along the 78 freeway. Strong winds blew ashore with the storm, gusting to 40 mph at Camp Pendleton, and 35 mph in Chula Vista and Naval Air Station North Island. Several areas suffered temporary power outages. Scattered showers will continue today as the storm continues to pass through San Diego County. Another storm is expected to arrive Sunday, bringing heavy rainfall through Wednesday.

Nearly 1,300 acres of wildland in South County once planned for housing development will remain undisturbed. The State Department of Fish and Wildlife has purchased and will manage the area where a developer had planned to build more than 1,000 homes east of Chula Vista and south of Jamul along Proctor Valley Road. On Thursday, the \$60 million sale, funded by multiple conservation agencies, became final.

The Proctor Valley land is now part of the Rancho Jamul Ecological Reserve, currently home to multiple native species, with future recreation uses planned. Although the county Board of Supervisors approved the project in 2019, environmental groups challenged it and a San Diego Superior Court judge struck down the county's approval, citing wildfire risks, gas emissions, and lack of affordable housing.

San Diego's popular whale watching trips have an added attraction this year. Passengers may get to see a local killer whale pod surfacing, seen here off Point Loma on Monday. Though it's not the orcas' first trip to Southern California from their home waters near Mexico and Central America, they're staying much longer than usual this time, giving local marine experts a chance to get to know them. Of the 10 orcas in our local pod, seven are females and three are males. There are two mothers with their calves and what might be a grandmother. They may be staying to teach their young how to hunt in the excellent Southern California hunting grounds, home to one million or more of their preferred food, common dolphins. Plus, this year's [warmer El Nino water](#) temperatures may match the temperatures they're typically used to off the Mexican and Central American coasts, making them feel at home.

Our sponsor today, Past President Bob Silvas, is a native Chula Vistan and has over 30 years in the airport business. His programs earned both local and national recognition during his time at the San Diego International Airport. He now runs his own private consulting practice, devoted to all matters of the airport business, and has been asked to speak at numerous conferences including an international one in Sweden. He leads several initiatives for our club's Youth Services committee, including representing us on the District Anti-Human Trafficking committee, and supporting our new interact club at Olympian High School.

This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today sponsored by Bob Silvas and the Youth Services Committee.





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MORE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



Bob Silvas had some fun with the prizes this week. He is rooting for the Kansas City Chiefs to win the Super Bowl—mainly because he has a contract with their airport. The lucky drawing winners were l-r: Bob Bliss, Mike Green and Chris Lewis.

CALENDAR—UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Friday, February 9—St. Paul's Senior Gift Baskets—Assemble before meeting.

Friday, February 9, 8-11 am—Food Distribution at St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Wednesday, February 14, 1:00—Delivery of Gift Bags to St. Paul's Seniors

Thursday, February 20, noon—International Projects Committee Meets—TBD

May 22—RED SHOE DAY—For Ronald McDonald House

SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, April 20— Tijuana Home Build

SAVE THE DATE! Friday, June 28—Installation/Outstallation



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GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT-ELECT TRAINING SEMINAR (PETS)



Pictured above are the three President-Elects for the three Chula Vista clubs (l-r): Samuel Hernandez, Jesse Fernandez and Ryan Crawford.

FEBRUARY

Rotary 



**PEACEBUILDING & CONFLICT
PREVENTION**



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR ROTARIANS!



Kimberley Marshall - February 4

Suzanne Catanzaro - February 4

Gary Bryant - February 8

Mitch Compton - February 10

Peter Rullan - February 19

Diane Wages - February 21

Max Scrivens - February 25

Jim Biddle - February 27

GOOD-BYE POLIO
THANKS ROTARY

