

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)

JORDAN MARKS
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO ASSESSOR
Friday, January 17, 2025 - Noon



Jordan was elected as the San Diego Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk in 2022 to oversee the 5th largest jurisdiction in the U.S. Their mission: to "Put people first with great customer service." Prior to his election, Jordan served as Chief Deputy Assessor/Taxpayer Advocate, where he resolved over 1,000 cases and the office's award-winning educational outreach.

As Assessor, Jordan oversees assessing the value of real estate and personal property, which includes aircraft and boats. As Recorder, Jordan oversees the recording of birth, death, and marriage certificates and all real estate-related documents. As County Clerk / Commissioner of Civil Ceremonies Jordan oversees Fictitious Business Name Statements, marriage services, including issuing marriage licenses and performing ceremonies. Local media has dubbed him the "Maestro of Marriages." Lastly, Jordan oversees the County of San Diego Archive protecting your property records. Jordan ushered in the office's award-winning community outreach and education programs that have resulted in record-high property tax savings of over \$300 million for homeowners, veterans, seniors, small businesses and property owners.

Jordan created an innovative award-winning outreach program that has made San Diego County the #1 Assessor office in the State of California saving our disabled veterans over \$30 million annually off their property taxes. Jordan also led the implementation of San Diego's nationally recognized Owner Alert Service, California's first free electronic real estate fraud service tool that fights real estate fraud and protects San Diego County property owners.

Jordan was awarded the "San Diego County Taxpayer Watchdog" in 2024 for his efforts in expanding tax relief for disaster victims and seniors. He is a licensed attorney and a California Certified Property Tax Appraiser, with degrees from UCLA and the University at Buffalo, and holds a Cybersecurity Executive Certificate from the University of San Diego. Jordan serves on numerous boards and resides in San Diego with his family.



MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—JANUARY 10, 2025

President Jesse Fernandez called the meeting to order. Rasha Roshdy asked for a moment of silence for President Carter who passed away this week at the age of 100. Rasha gave a beautiful invocation highlighting new beginnings that come with the start of a new year. Jerry May stepped in for Chuck Bevan as the Songmaster.

After reconvening, Pancho the Polio Pig was circulated and President Ben Koala introduced guests. Members with January birthdays were celebrated with the traditional birthday song, ending with...”you’re getting old!”

President Jesse said to watch for the all-member email coming soon—information from District Governor Dianne Crawford about support for the two Rotary Districts in Los Angeles that are affected by the fire. If you would like to make a donation, links are included. Thank you.

President Jesse reviewed the last six months of our Rotary year and highlighted the many projects our Club has supported. We are a very active Club doing excellent work in the community. Projects included the 4th of July picnic with veterans at the Chula Vista Veterans’ Home, Veterans Day visit including Interact students, Christmas decorating (including new trees), Christmas dinner/program at Ronald McDonald House, providing 25 bikes for kids there, community clean up, St. Mark’s monthly food distribution, Sharp Cancer patient blanket drive and more! Programs have been excellent and we have learned much more about mental/behavioral health. We had two social events and a fun holiday program and bake sale. Thank you Rotarians!

Gary Bryant shared highlights from the Community Service committee meeting this week which included a discussion on better sharing of information about our work, possible project with Mary’s Guest House, activities where we can involve Interact students and a review of recent activities. Bob Silvas encouraged members to sign up to help with yard work at the Generate Hope (shelter for survivors of trafficking) event on January 18.

Betty Waznis gave the News at Noon report—informative as always!

President Jesse introduced Alan Turner who is a member of the Rancho Bernardo Rotary Club and Chair of our Rotary District 5340 Mental Health Initiatives Rotary Action Group and also oversees District Grants. He gave a compelling presentation about recent trends with behavioral health and the need to continue to encourage frank and open discussions about it.

President Jesse gave a warm “Welcome Home!” to Reed and Beta Dinsmore—back to sunny Cali from Vermont.

Right: Mark Scott giving an update on the growth of our Club Legacy fund.

President Jesse with guest speaker Alan Turner, Chair of our District 5340 Mental Health Initiatives Rotary Action Group.





JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON by Betty Waznis

• LIVE



Brought to you by:

THIS WEEKS
SPONSOR

With Betty Waznis

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

Big news this week are the fires in Los Angeles County. The situation there is changing rapidly. As of this morning, more than 10,000 structures have been destroyed, and 10 deaths have been reported. 153,000 people are under evacuation orders with another 166,000 under evacuation warning. At this point the Eaton fire in Altadena is 3 % contained, the Palisades fire is 8% contained, the Kenneth fire in the West Hills area of LA County 35% contained, and the Hurst fire near Sylmar 37% contained. The Sunset/Hollywood Hills fire has been stopped. Here in San Diego County, the high-fire danger warning was extended until 6 p.m. tonight. The National Weather Service says Santa Ana winds hitting Los Angeles from the north will shift and come in from the east — blowing directly into San Diego County canyons — bringing winds of 40 to 70 mph in areas east of Interstate 15. SDGE announced a new round of power shutoffs this morning for areas including Alpine, Boulevard, and Pine Valley, affecting 8000 people, with another 6600 at risk of shutoff.

Fire crews in San Diego County are on high alert, quickly responding to and eliminating brush fires in Otoy Mesa and Crest yesterday

In somewhat related news, on December 19, The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) authorized a rate increase of 7.5% for Sempra, which includes SDGE, through 2027. A typical residential electrical customer can expect an average monthly increase of \$4.38 or 2.6 percent, and an average residential monthly natural gas customer can expect an increase of \$1.02 or 1.8 percent. Rate changes go into effect in January for natural gas ratepayers and February for electric ratepayers. Since more than 60% of SDG&E's system is located in back-country and rural high-fire-threat districts, they were able to make a case to the CPUC that they needed to replace aging infrastructure and make an investment in undergrounding 35 miles of electric lines, as well as covering 100 miles of above ground wiring with insulated protective covering. This will supplement SDG&E's fire risk reduction measures of hundreds of digital weather stations, and teams of meteorologists monitoring more than 130 cameras in high-fire risk areas.

A 23-year-old from Santa Cruz, California, may have just set a world record for riding the biggest wave ever surfed --- and the big wave was right here in CA. On Christmas Eve, Alessandro "Alo" Slebir caught the wave at the Mavericks surf spot near Half Moon Bay, a popular surfing destination just south of San Francisco. Slebir's wave is estimated to have been 108 feet tall, which would beat the previous world record of 78 feet set in Portugal in 2022. The big wave record is determined each September by a panel of experts evaluating photo and video submissions from all over the world. The most common spots are Half Moon Bay, home to the mighty break known as Mavericks; the North Shore of Maui, home to a crushing wave known as Jaws; and the west coast of Portugal. This photo of Slebir on the Christmas Eve wave went viral, launching a tidal wave of excitement over the possibility — for many the near-certainty — that the big wave world record could be returning to California. Today's sponsor, Rasha Roshdy, tells us that she joined our club a few years ago but she has been a Rotarian at heart all her life. She has lived many lives and continues to reinvent herself, so talk to her sometime for an update. This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today brought to you by Rasha Roshdy.



L: New member to our Club (transfer from Carlsbad High Noon Rotary Club), Michael Oliveri receives his new blue badge from President Jesse. Sofia Robitaille receives a bonus gift from Rasha Roshdy.



L-R: News at Noon sponsor Rasha Roshdy presents Jan Mellinger with her gift, Bob Bliss' winning streak continues from the Holiday Party and Ken Weimer wins again. Congratulations!



Please be sure to check out the email about this event.

We will be working with our friends from the Chula Vista Sunrise Club and other community volunteers.

- Home goods
- Canned/non-perishable food items
- Cleaning supplies
- Kitchen, bathroom and home care items
- Hygiene care items
- Cleaning supplies
- Laundry detergent
- Fabric softener
- Dish sponges
- Toilet paper
- Kleenex, paper towels
- Blankets
- Socks
- Trash bags
- Denture cleaner, Eye glass cleaners

Volunteers Needed!



Register to volunteer by scanning the QR code



SCAN ME

HELP US PACKAGE 15,000 MEALS FOR SOUTH BAY FAMILIES IN NEED!

Saturday, February 1, 2025
8am - 12pm
Allen Elementary School Auditorium
4300 Allen School Lane, Bonita
Sponsored by



Have fun while fighting hunger!
Join us for a high-energy hands-on volunteer project where you'll help assemble thousands of nutrient-rich meals in just a couple of hours!



ST. PAUL'S SENIORS GIFT BAGS


Our Club will once again be providing Valentine Gift Bags to Seniors through St. Paul's


**Please see the list to get an idea of what we have provided in the past.
An updated wish list is coming soon.**

We will provide information on when to bring items.

Bag assemble is Fri. February 7 at 11:00 a.m.



Rotary  Mental Health Initiatives
Rotary Action Group
District 5340



**FREE QPR
TRAINING FOR
SUICIDE
PREVENTION**

QUESTION, PERSUADE, REFER



**Wednesday, February 12, 2025 |
6-7:30PM**

Bonita-Sunnyside Library
4375 Bonita Road
Bonita, CA 91902

Limited to 25 people

CLUB CALENDAR

Saturday, January 18—8:30-noon—Anti-Trafficking Work Project

Fri, January 24, noon—Speaker: J.D. Wicker, SDSU Athletic Director

Fri, February 7, St. Paul's Senior Gift Bags assembly, 11:00 am

Sat, February 1—Food Packing Project with Sunrise Rotary Club, 8:00 am

Fri, February 14, St. Mark's Food Distribution, 8:30 a.m.

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