

Chulatarian



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**ROTARY CLUB
OF CHULA VISTA**

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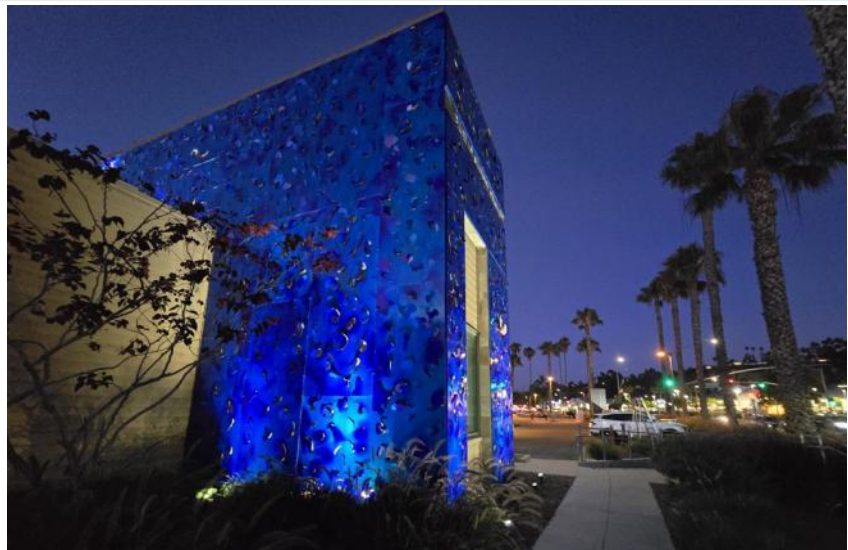
Bonita CA 91908



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)**

**WENDY WILSON
BONITA MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER
Friday, July 24, 2026, Noon**



Wendy, a fourth-generation San Diego native, has been the Executive Director of the Bonita Museum & Cultural Center and Bonita Historical Society since 2018. As a professional arts administrator, Wendy has extensive experience in exhibition creation, arts education, non-profit arts management, media communications and multimedia production. Awards include a National Endowment for the Arts, Artistic Excellence Award, California Humanities for All; Leadership in Education, as well as Distinguished Citizen Award, 75th Assembly District Acknowledgement. Wendy serves on the executive board of the San Diego Museum Council.

The museum is celebrating its 20th anniversary in the current building with a Big Reveal of new sculptures in the sculpture garden. The Bonita Museum & Cultural Center houses the Bonita Historical Society and over 2,000 objects connected to our region. It is the largest museum in South Bay San Diego dedicated to documenting the art, history and culture of the Sweetwater Valley. The nonprofit museum provides a cultural center for local residents through a rotating selection of fine art sculpture, painting, photography, architecture, design and media arts, housed in two interior galleries and an outdoor patio area.

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CLUB HIGHLIGHTS



L: Brenda Byrnes and Suzanne Manuel, with the Coronado Rotary Club, visited us as part of their requirements for new members. Pictured here with President Rasha.

R: A small glimpse into the “Evening in Tuscany” this past weekend at Chris Lewis’ home. Lane Pearson and Chris shared wine recommendations for our delicious Italian food. Great fun, great food and a great time!



L-R: Duane Buckingham with the lucky drawing winners this week—Ken Weimer, Jan Mellinger and Bill Torre. Thanks for your support of the Chula Vista Rotary Foundation.

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**THIS WEEK'S
SPONSOR**

With Betty Waznis

JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON

**BY
BETTY WAZNIS**

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

King tides that reached almost seven and a half feet flooded buildings near Mission Beach's Bayside Walk Monday night — a rare occurrence during summer and higher than the average elevation of 4 to 5 feet. Mission Beach's Bayside Walk saw at least 4 inches of water Monday night, after the tide's peak around 9 p.m. Different from usual tides, these much larger tides — both low and high — happen when there's a full or new moon which causes a greater than usual gravity push and pull.

The HMS Surprise, a replica of an 18th century sailing ship, has been a movie star and a training vessel for young seafarers. It's currently docked off the Embarcadero in San Diego Bay as part of the Maritime Museum of San Diego. Now, the ship may be sailing into retirement as the Museum plans to permanently close the Surprise to visitors next summer after an detailed professional assessment of all the museum's major vessels. Built in 1970 and originally named HMS Rose, the HMS Surprise is a replica of a 24-gun British frigate used to hunt smugglers off Newport, Rhode Island.

For decades, the replica ship served as a east coast dockside attraction and training vessel. In 2001, it was sold to 20th Century Fox and underwent modifications for the film "Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World." In the film, the tall ship portrayed the original HMS Surprise, a Royal Navy ship from the late 18th century. When the ship joined the Maritime Museum's fleet it was reregistered as HMS Surprise in honor of the film. After the museum restored the ship to sailing condition in 2007, the Surprise sailed in San Diego Bay many times. But despite the museum's restoration efforts, the modifications for the film led to lingering structural issues that could not be overcome. The ship's interior and accompanying historic exhibits has been open to visitors at the Embarcadero for more than two decades. The Museum is planning special music, lectures and performances to celebrate HMS Surprise before it closes to visitors next August 1 and is exploring options for the ship's future.

For the first time in more than 25 years, the San Diego Zoo has welcomed baby binturongs in March, twin males named Pulong and Tau. Sometimes called "bearcats" because they have a face like a cat and a body that looks a bit like a bear, these endangered animals are native to rainforests in South and Southeast Asia. When fully grown, they are the size of a dachshund, with shaggy black coats, wiry whiskers, small round ears and tails that grab and hold. There are only 12 pairs of binturongs in U.S. zoos. The San Diego Zoo holds 6. For now, the twins and their mom are living in an off-exhibit area at the Wildlife Explorers Basecamp and can be seen on some behind-the-scenes tours.

The All Star Break was this week, and the All-Star Game was Tuesday. Seven former Padres but only one current Padre, closer Mason Miller, were tapped for the NL team. Miller struck out the only batter he faced in the ninth inning, but not as a closer, since the American League team won for the 11th time in 13 years with a 4-0 victory.

The worldwide excitement of the World Cup ends this Sunday as Argentina plays Spain in the final match. Here's the tens of thousands celebrating in Buenos Aires after their semifinal win over England. Third place playoff between England and France is tomorrow at 2 pm.

Today's sponsor, Duane Buckingham, is a dedicated Rotarian with 28 years of membership. He served as club President in 2008-2009, Assistant District Governor from 2010 to 2014 and is a Paul Harris Major Donor. He recommends Rotary networking; it's worked well for him, both as a business owner and a customer. He wants you to know that he is now a proud great-grandfather — here he is with his new great granddaughter on a July 3 visit.

This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today brought to you by Duane Buckingham.

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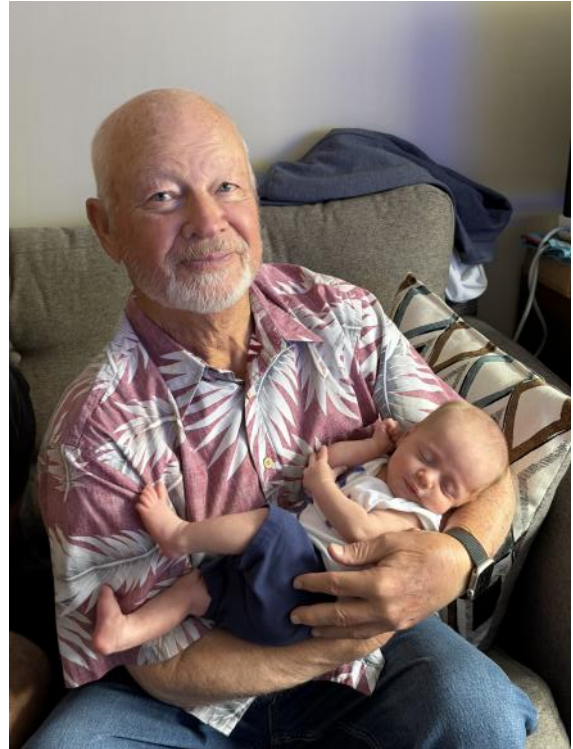
MEMBER NEWS!

There is a new addition to **Duane Buckingham's** family!

Her name is Nora and she is Duane's **FIRST** great-granddaughter!

He traveled to meet Baby Nora earlier this month.

Congratulations to Duane & family!



Rotarian **Kathleen Carroll** is on the mend from a big fall a few weeks back. She fractured her left dominant wrist and had surgery a few days later. She also banged up her leg pretty badly, but is now on the road to recovery.

Let's cheer her on!



Rick Richardson was on the local news this past weekend as part of his Porsche Club. Could not really see his cool car but it was on hand also. He was a happy and informed interviewee by the car guy on KUSI.

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HELPING TEACHERS FOCUS ON TEACHING

**COMMUNITY SUPPLY DRIVE
JUNE 15 – JULY 19**

Together, we can make a difference in our classrooms!

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SCEDC South County Economic Development Council

SB ELEVATE

REPUBLIC SERVICES Sustainability in Action

PSAR Pacific Southwest Association of REALTORS®

Casa Sur HACIENDA

LA VOZ SAN DIEGO PUBLIC AFFAIRS Strategic Community Engagement & Partnerships

THE RAMBLER HOTEL

WE NEED THESE ITEMS!

CLASSROOM ESSENTIALS



- Pencils
- Erasers
- Notebooks
- Folders
- Loose-leaf paper

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPLIES



- Dry erase markers
- Printer paper

ART & CREATIVITY SUPPLIES



- Crayons
- Markers
- Glue sticks
- Scissors

HEALTH & HYGIENE ITEMS



- Disinfecting wipes
- Tissues
- Hand sanitizer



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR EDUCATORS!

THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS!



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4th Annual Southwestern Summer Shakespeare Festival

AS YOU LIKE IT *Como Gustes*

By William Shakespeare y Mabelle Reynoso
Directed by Tori Rice



ROTARY NIGHT AT THE FESTIVAL

— Friday • July 24 —

Join Rotarians and Rotaractors for a special evening of Shakespeare, fellowship, and a reception following the performance.

As You Like It/Como Gustes is a Shakespeare adaptation with a Rotary flavor.

Director Tori Rice is a member of the La Mesa Sunrise Club, and Bob Silvas of the Chula Vista Club makes his stage debut.



Mauricio Lutteroth (center) visits the cast during rehearsal of the *lucha libre* scene.



JOIN FELLOW ROTARIANS & ROTARACTORS!

After the performance, enjoy a reception hosted by Bob & Patti Silvas.

PLEASE RSVP

bsilvas@silvygroup.com

(to help us plan refreshments)

RSVP HERE



PERFORMANCES

July 22, 24, 27, 30,
Aug 1 – 7:00 PM
July 25 – 2:00 PM



LOCATION

Studio Theatre
SWC Performing
Arts Center



TICKETS & INFO

swctheatre.com
(619) 421-6700



ROTARY NIGHT

Friday
JULY 24TH



ANOTHER ROTARY CONNECTION

Shakespeare's wrestling match becomes a *lucha libre* contest.

Mauricio Lutteroth, whose great-grandfather founded *lucha libre*, attended rehearsal and noticed one scene that seemed unlikely.



THE LUCHA LIBRE CHALLENGE

Can you identify the one thing in the *lucha libre* scene that Mauricio thought was unlikely?

Attend the performance and reception and submit your answer.

In the event of a tie, a drawing will determine the winner.
Cast, crew and Mauricio are ineligible.



POST-SHOW RECEPTION

Hosted by
Bob & Patti Silvas



WANT A PREVIEW?

For those who would like a brief tutorial on the play before you attend, reach out to Bob.

SCAN FOR
TICKETS
& MORE INFO



Read more about the play in the
The San Diego Union-Tribune

AS YOU LIKE IT
Como Gustes
DEBUT

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JULY IS

**NEW
LEADERSHIP
MONTH**

True leaders don't create followers, they create new leaders.

Rotary 

www.rotary.org



GOOD-BYE POLIO

THANKS ROTARY



CLUB CALENDAR

Rotary at the Theatre—Fri. July 24, Southwestern College

Food Distribution@ St. Mark's (Hilltop & 1st) - Fri. August 14, 8:30