

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)

JAMES MORRISON
THE ROTARY FOUNDATION
Friday, March 7, 2025 - Noon

The
Rotary  **Foundation**

Doing Good In The World



The mission of The Rotary Foundation is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, environment, education, alleviating poverty.

James Morrison and Lane Pearson will provide us with an update on the good work undertaken by the Rotary Foundation around the world.

CLUB CALENDAR

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE MEETS—Wednesday,
March 12, noon at La Bella's

FOOD DISTRIBUTION @ St. Mark's, 8:30 am, Friday, March 14—Hilltop & I

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

HIKE & WINE—Rotary Chula Vista Eastlake Fundraiser—
Saturday, March 15, 9:00 am

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

BIKE SAFETY RODEO—Saturday, May 24

INSTALLATION/OUTSTALLATION—Friday, June 27, 12-1:30



MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—February 28, 2025

President Jesse Fernandez called the meeting to order. Lisa Johnson gave the thought of the day. Chuck Bevan selected the Chula Vista Rotary Fight song.

There were three guests from the Coronado Rotary Club in attendance and Jon Miller encouraged us to welcome them with our famous “Welcome” song.

Chris Lewis is having a procedure today, please keep him in your thoughts.

Lori Torio and Sofia Robitaille brought us the Rotarian of the Week and it was Mary Johnson.

Gary Bryant presented Sofia Robitaille a \$1000 check for the Southwestern College Foundation, which provides assistance to students in need in a wide variety of ways.

Ronald McDonald House Red Shoe Day is set for Wednesday, May 21, 7-9:30 am. Save the date! Gary will try to secure the same location as the last two years.

Lisa Johnson provided an update on the Bike Build. We are estimating 150 bicycles will be assembled and donated on Saturday, May 24. The community event is growing and there will be many non-profits on hand.

Kimberly Marshall gave an update on the Scholarship Committee. Applications are coming in slowly and we only have 15 at present. Members are encouraged to spread the word. The high schools we are working with are Chula Vista, Castle Park, Hilltop, Olympian, Otay Ranch and Virtual Academy.

There is also an arts scholarship for a student planning to attend Southwestern College provided by the Paul Veenstra family. Applications can be found online on the Chula Vista Rotary website under the scholarships tab. DEADLINE to apply is **Monday, March 10.**

Bob Silvas said thanks to Bernard and Neisha Hernandez for hosting the finish the youth certification gathering. We now have several members who have completed the process.

Carmen Sandoval invited members to attend the next meeting of the International Committee on Wednesday, March 12, noon at La Bella’s Pizza. The Tijuana Home Build will be Saturday, April 12 and we are anticipating information from Project Mercy on the family we are building for in the near future.

Laura Humphreys provided many fun facts about the benefits of pets. We will once again help build beds for dogs at the Chula Vista Animal Care Facility in May, exact date to be determined.

Finemaster Michael Monaco has not received any calls or tips for fines and decided he may just make things up.

Suzanne Manuel from the Coronado Club invited members to play in their golf tournament on March 14.

Mary Johnson was the sponsor of the News at Noon and was rocking her best St. Patrick’s apparel. Drawing winners were a guest,

Jan Mellinger introduced Thomas Bowse, who gave a very informative talk about addiction. He reviewed the four C’s of addiction: craving, consequences, control and compulsion and he described the varying levels of severity.



JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON by Betty Waznis

LIVE



Brought to you by:

THIS WEEK'S
SPONSOR

With Betty Waznis

BROUGHT TO YOU BY SPECIAL GUEST HOST LISA JOHNSON

Good afternoon, Rotarians, visiting Rotarians, and guests. Today's Jim Biddle News at Noon is sponsored by Mary Johnson.

Much of the U.S. has been enjoying a brief warmup as springlike temperatures invade the nation this week, but for millions in the Northeast and New England, a brutal reality check looms for the weekend when temperatures will plummet back into the 30s as the calendar flips to March.

Cities such as Boston saw temperatures climb into the 50s for the first time in 2025 on Tuesday. The FOX Forecast Center said the mild temperatures will stick around for many major cities along the heavily traveled Interstate 95 corridor through at least Saturday. But then, it's back to the winter chill just as meteorological spring arrives. The FOX Forecast Center said the spring warmth will begin to fade as the wild temperature rollercoaster continues into the weekend before an almost 30-degree temperature drop.

Many cities along the East Coast, like New York City and Washington, will be near or above 60 degrees on Saturday. But as the nation's next system makes its way across the region, cold air will be pulled back in from the north by Sunday. Real time weather report for Minot, ND provided by past president Mora, who said she lucked out on her trip this week visiting her dad. Last week it was -35 degrees but this week it has been in the 40's.

The New York attorney general's office announced a nearly \$17 million DoorDash settlement after the delivery platform used tips intended for drivers to subsidize their pay. On Feb. 24, New York Attorney General Letitia James said in a press release that between May 2017 and September 2019, an Office of the Attorney General (OAG) investigation found that the delivery platform "used customer tips to offset the base pay it had already guaranteed to workers, instead of giving workers the full tips they rightfully earned." AG James said that customers were misled into thinking their tips would be directly given to delivery workers, aka Dashers. Instead, DoorDash would keep the tips and take it out of their guaranteed pay.

In turn, DoorDash will pay \$16.75 million in restitution for Dashers and up to \$1 million in settlement administrator costs to help issue the payments. **What did DoorDash say?** In a statement to TODAY.com, a DoorDash spokesperson says it remains committed to making sure Dashers' earnings are "fair and transparent" and that the company hasn't used the same pay model since 2019. "We remain committed to making sure that Dasher earnings are always fair and transparent, and the allegations settled were related to an old pay model that was retired in 2019. To be clear: Dashers always keep 100% of tips from orders on the DoorDash app."

Mary Johnson is...wait for it... **RETIRED 6/14/2024!**

Mary is a native San Diegan, living in Bonita, and has been married to a local boy since 1983. She and Robert have two daughters, Lauren – 37, Elise – 33, a Favorite Son in Law-Blair (Lauren) and the loves of their lives, Lawrence-4.5 yrs, Morgan and Marlowe- 2 yrs on -Identical twins. Their second birthday is today! Before her retirement, Mary was the Community Outreach Coordinator for St. Paul's. Prior to joining St. Paul's, Mary enjoyed a career as a multi-agency underwriter in the mortgage banking industry. Following her passion to work with seniors, she completed a degree in Gerontology at San Diego State University (Go Aztecs!) which included an internship with Aging and Independence Services/County of San Diego. Mary's community involvement includes being a Proud Rotarian, Commissioner on the Chula Vista Health, Wellness and Aging Commission, Life Group Leader at New Hope Community Church and a long-standing member and Past President of Las Primeras. (Continued on page 5).





MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—February 28, 2025



L-R: Lori Torio and Sofia Salgado Robitaille honor Rotarian of the Week Mary Johnson. Gary Bryant presenting a check to Sofia for the Southwestern College Foundation to provide support to students. President Jesse presenting a speaker's mug to Thomas Bowse, who gave an excellent talk on addiction.



L-R: Lucky drawing winners with Mary Johnson are Beta Dinsmore and Ward from the Coronado Rotary Club. Mary shares a laugh with Thomas our guest speaker who said he has given many talks on addiction and it was the first time he has been given alcohol as a gift.



In Retirement Mary has enjoyed maintaining her pace with new adventures. In the 7 months of retirement there have been 3 trips to Florida, North/South Carolina, Telluride, Lake Geneva, Hawaii, Palm Desert and Julian. Mary still loves hiking and now a new passion - e-biking. But, most of all, she loves time with the Grands!!!

Pope Francis has shown further slight improvement as he battles double pneumonia, but doctors say his prognosis is still "guarded," the Vatican said Wednesday. A CT chest scan taken Tuesday evening showed the "normal evolution" of an infection as it is being treated. Blood tests have confirmed an improvement, according to the Vatican's update. The slight kidney insufficiency detected a few days ago has receded, and Francis is continuing to receive respiratory physiotherapy. This is the first time the Vatican has said Francis was receiving physiotherapy to help him expel fluid from his lungs. A complex lung infection has kept the 88-year-old pope hospitalized since Feb. 14. Francis has chronic lung disease and was admitted to Rome's Gemelli hospital after a bout of bronchitis worsened.

Francis resumed work in the afternoon Wednesday after receiving the Eucharist in the morning, according to the Vatican, which also said the pope had a peaceful night and was up, sitting in his armchair on Wednesday receiving therapy. The pope continues to receive high flows of supplemental oxygen but has not had any further respiratory crises since Saturday. Pope Francis has been working from his hospital room. On Wednesday, the Vatican said Francis had appointed four new bishops and approved the creation of a new fundraising initiative.

Monday was the first full-squad workout of 2025 Spring Training for the San Diego Padres. As manager Mike Shildt can attest, this is the day the season truly begins. "We talk about all winter, you know, when pitchers and catchers report, and the first day of them is really exciting. But now we got all the dudes here," Shildt said. "We got everybody in full camp, and we're excited to finish some business."

And guess who also made an appearance... Yes, it is Joe Musgrove. He can't play catch until the end of March and can't throw off a mound until at least July. He won't pitch in a game until, well, that can be addressed later. (It's Musgrove, so it isn't difficult to imagine what his target involves.) The point is, the man is not able to play baseball right now, four months after Tommy John surgery. But he is around.

And not just around. "Joe being out, that's going to hurt," manager Mike Shildt said. "But Joe is not out. Joe just is not able to perform on the mound this year. Joe is still an integral part of our clubhouse, in our leadership group." Musgrove plans to be with the Padres for the entire season. With them at home, on the road, in the dugout. As much as he can be. As much as he can stand.



From Lisa Johnson

A Reflection on Friendship

The third tenant of our Rotary Four-Way-Test is:

Will it build goodwill and better friendship? Let us take this moment to reflect on friendship and friendships.

Friendship is a life-line. Connecting with like-minded people who genuinely care about one another is a gift we take for granted all too often.

Friends are people we feel good with. Some make us laugh, some hear us out and really listen to our hearts, others support us when the going is tough, and still others just hang with us when we need down time.

A true friend holds up a mirror in which we see ourselves.

They are the ones who show us our strengths when all we see is weakness; they point out our good character traits, like courage and loyalty, when we are down on ourselves. They remind us of past accomplishments and spur us on in our future. They are a part of our lives and we are richer for having spent time with them. We come away with a stronger sense of "self" because we have been together.

But friends don't just expose our good qualities; they tell it as it is. They are the people in our lives who aren't afraid to tell us what they really think, who hold us accountable when we're out of line. They speak the truth in love, and in the process, make us better.

One of the many gifts of Rotary is an opportunity to be surrounded by true friends. I hope you will find time today to kindly greet and thank one of your friends here today.

Thank them for their gift of friendship.

Rotary
Chula Vista Eastlake

HIKE & WINE

Hike, Drink & Support Good Causes

Register & Donate \$40



<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/10108/Events/2025-hike-and-wine>

When: Saturday, March 15
Meet-Up Time: 9:00 AM
(Hiking promptly at 9:15 AM)
Where: Granite Lion Cellars,
2801 Jamul Highlands Rd,
Jamul, CA 91935

Choose between a 2 hr. round-trip challenging trail for the daring at heart and a 1 hr. family-friendly trail for a leisurely walk. Get a complimentary glass of wine and snacks at the end of your journey.





HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR ROTARIANS!



Chris Lewis - March 7

Mark Scott - March 12

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETS

Wednesday, March 12, noon at La Bella's

New members welcome!

Contact Carmen for information/questions: 619 948-1703

GOOD-BYE POLIO
THANKS ROTARY

