

# Chulatarian

Rotary  
Club of Chula Vista 

UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD



ROTARY CLUB  
OF CHULA VISTA

## BOARD 2025-2026

President  
Ben Koala

[koalacpa@gmail.com](mailto:koalacpa@gmail.com)

President-Elect  
Rasha Roshdy

[seducator2014@gmail.com](mailto:seducator2014@gmail.com)

Treasurer  
Risa Baron

[rbaron@republicservices.com](mailto:rbaron@republicservices.com)

Secretary  
Bill Torre

[wtorre@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wtorre@sbcglobal.net)

Past President  
Jesse Fernandez

[fernfam@pacbell.net](mailto:fernfam@pacbell.net)

Executive Secretary  
Carmen Sandoval Fernandez

[csandovalzf@gmail.com](mailto:csandovalzf@gmail.com)

### Directors:

Jeanette Badal

Kathleen Carroll

Rochelle Carroll

Mike Green

Bernard Hernandez

Jan Mellinger

[www.chulavistarotary.org](http://www.chulavistarotary.org)

P.O. Box 324 Bonita CA 91908

Editor: Carmen Sandoval  
Fernandez

[csandovalzf@gmail.com](mailto:csandovalzf@gmail.com)

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)

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
SWEETWATER UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Friday, May 8, 2026, Noon



One of our most fun programs of the year—the presentation of scholarships to several of the talented students in our community.

This year the Bill Padleford and Joseph Rindone scholarships were increased to \$2000 for each student—a new milestone for our years-long tradition.

Students, their parents and school staff will converge on the Chula Vista Golf Course this Friday.

They represent seven schools: Bonita Vista, Hilltop, Chula Vista, Castle Park, Olympian, Otay Ranch and Launch Academy.



**JIM BIDDLE  
NEWS AT NOON**

**BY  
BETTY WAZNIS**

Hello, everyone. Welcome to today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today brought to you by Lane Pearson.

In a plus for the county's still rebounding cruise industry, Disney Cruise Line has signed a lucrative deal with the Port of San Diego that promises to deliver more than 1 million passengers over the next four years. Disney has been sailing out of San Diego since 2012. Just last year, the company announced it would for the first time bring San Diego two cruise ships, the Disney Magic and the Disney Wonder, for 60 three- to seven-night cruises during the upcoming 2026-27 season to destinations including Catalina, Cabo San Lucas, Ensenada and Puerto Vallarta.

The new multiyear agreement guarantees an annual minimum of more than 200,000 passengers from 2027 through 2031, the first time in more than 20 years that a cruise line has offered a minimum annual guarantee to the Port. In exchange, Disney will be assured non-exclusive priority access to berths at the B Street cruise terminal. The San Diego Unified Port District aggressively markets San Diego to cruise lines because of the huge ripple effect they and their passengers have on the economy. The port estimates that each ship that begins and ends a cruise in San Diego contributes \$2 million to the local economy.

The so-called Hope Ranch Volcano along the Santa Barbara coast ignited once again. Last Thursday local fire crews rushed to a hillside where flames and smoke seemed to erupt out of an opening in the cliffs. It took the crews hours to put out the flames and hot spots, with no damage to surrounding structures. But it's not a volcano. It's spontaneous combustion, according to geologists. When layers of the cliffside move, oxygen can interact with unstable compounds in the rocks producing heat. That heat can build so quickly and so intensely under the right circumstances that organic materials in the area spontaneously catch on fire. This area has seen such flare-ups since the 1800s. The first recorded report of that "steaming mountain" was made in 1835 by a stagecoach traveler on the way to Lompoc.

The internet is blowing up over the first change to Costco's \$1.50 hot dog combo in 40 years. But don't worry — they are not budging on the price. Shoppers can now opt for a 16.9-ounce bottle of Kirkland Signature water instead of a fountain soda to go with their hot dog. The seemingly minor change has generated major headlines. The hot dog combo is iconic for remaining at its \$1.50 price since its introduction in 1984, while other food prices have soared. The option to swap for water is being rolled out at most locations. The meal has become a joke of sorts. Shirts featuring the Costco hot dog combo with the phrase, "I got that dog in me," have gone viral. So any news about the combo, even watered down, is a big deal to Costco fans.

The Padres split a two-game series against the Diamondbacks in Mexico City last weekend in front of very enthusiastic fans, most of who were cheering for us. Then they came home to lose their home series to the Cubs this week, 2 games to one. Next up — a home series against the other Chicago team, the White Sox, opening tonight at 6:40.

Today's sponsor, Lane Pearson, serves as our club's committee chair for the Rotary Foundation, the organization that turns our local donations, support, and work into a better life for needy deserving people all over the world. Ask him about the Rotary Foundation and how you can help and contribute. This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today brought to you by Lane Pearson.

UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—MAY 1, 2026

President-elect Rasha Roshdy called the meeting to order. President Ben was tending to his monthly military commitment. Songmaster Chuck Bevan shared a favorite—Country Roads with a Chula Vista twist. Jerry May gave the invocation and led the pledge.

President-elect Rasha reminded everyone that we will be DARK on May 22—the Friday before Memorial Day. No meeting, no roundtable.

Youth Committee Chair Bob Silvas asked for help for Saturday, May 9 for the Just In Time move-in. Various tasks are needed.

Mark Scott provided details about the upcoming Bikes for Kids. On Friday, May 29, the bikes will be moved from Mark's home to Rick Richardson's office, both in Bonita. The second part of this day is assembling the bikes. Bike distribution will be Saturday, May 30 at Rick's offices. Please see Bob Silvas (volunteer coordinator) to sign up and help.

Superman Mark Scott is also hosting our next Club Social Friday, May 29. Please sign-up if you plan to attend.

This week's sponsor of the Jim Biddle News at Noon was Lane Pearson who shared his love of wine and birds in the gift bags. The lucky drawing winners were: Rochelle Carroll, Darrel Johnson and Ken Weimer. Congrats!

Rochelle introduced our guest speaker Tina Chin from the Living Coast Discovery Center. She shared highlights of their activities and urged members to consider booking its space for special events. We are going there for our Installation & Outstallation on Friday, June 5!



Thanks everyone for your donations for the Just In Time food bank—great support! (This was early...)

UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—MAY 1, 2026



President-elect Rasha presenting Tina Chin from Living Coast Discovery Center with our speakers' mug.



This week's sponsor Lane Pearson presenting the drawing winners with their gifts: Darrel Johnson, Ken Weimer and Rochelle Carroll. Thank you for your support of the CVR Foundation.

UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The annual Manny Adler & Jon Miller Bike for Kids is coming. This year, we will be assembling 150 bicycles. We are looking for volunteers to help Friday (May 29) in the afternoon and Saturday (May 30) morning/afternoon.

A sign-up sheet has been circulated during the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting but want to volunteer, contact Bob Silvas via email. Let him know the date and times you are available.

- WHERE:** CDA (Rick Richardson's office) located at -  
**180 Otay Lakes Road, Suite 103, Bonita, CA 91902.**
- SCHEDULE:** Friday - assembling from 3 to ? (Will need a few strong volunteers to help transport bikes from Mark Scott's house to the CDA at 2:00)  
Saturday - distribution from 8:30 to 2:00
- TO VOLUNTEER:** Sign up during the club meeting or contact Bob at [bsilvas@silvygroup.com](mailto:bsilvas@silvygroup.com).
- BONUS:** The Social Committee is planning a social event after the last tire has been inflated. More to come!

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**DARK—NO MEETING—MAY 22**

**RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE RED SHOE DAY—Wed, May 20**

**BIKE ASSEMBLY—Fri, May 29**

**CLUB SOCIAL—Fri, May 29 at Mark Scott's Home**

**BIKES FOR KIDS EVENT—Sat, May 30—@ Child Development Association (Bonita)**

**INSTALLATION/OUTSTALLATION LUNCHEON  
Friday, June 5—Noon—Living Coast Discovery Center**

**DISTRICT 5340 GOVERNORS' DINNER—June 26, 5:00 pm**

**2026 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
TAIPEI, TAIWAN—June 13-17**