

Chulatarian

Rotary
Club of Chula Vista



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IMPACT**



**ROTARY CLUB
OF CHULA VISTA**

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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)

LANE PEARSON
THE WONDER OF BIRDS
Friday, September 11, 2026, Noon



If you enjoy nature and love to connect with it then you will be interested in knowing that San Diego County has more biodiversity than any other county in north America. We have more plants, birds, insects and maybe mammals to enjoy than anywhere else because of our location to the ocean, beaches, foothills, mountains, and deserts.

Lane Pearson studied Animal Science in school but enjoyed birds the most. For over fifty years he has birded all seven continents including 49 countries. While he does not have an extensive bird life list, Lane has seen and recorded over 20% of the more than 10600 species known today.

He will share a few of the popular locations in San Diego for birding and what you should expect to see there. This promises to be interesting and enjoyable. Good birding!

CLUB HIGHLIGHTS - AUGUST 28, 2026

President Rasha Roshdy called the meeting to order. Jerry May provided the invocation. Jerry pinch hitting for Songmaster Chuck Bevan had two songs—School Days (back to school time) and the ever popular Chula Vista Rotary Fight Song (in order of the District Governor's visit).

District Governor Jeb Bakke assisted in the induction of our new member LaVonne Cashman. Mora de Murguia and Lisa Johnson are her sponsors.

President Rasha questioned Jerry May on whether he had her gavel. Jerry said no.

Rochelle Carroll announced that our Club would once again sponsor the Chula Vista Schools Speech Contest and asked for potential judges and others to help out. It will most likely be next spring.

Lisa Johnson said scheduling for programs has gone very well so far this year. She said the cookie contest will be December 11. Get your recipes ready and practice baking is good!

Betty Waznis gave us the Jim Biddle News at Noon—this week sponsored by Fernando de los Santos. The drawing winners were Rowena Bell, Neisha Hernandez and Ken Weimer. Thanks everyone for your support of the Chula Vista Rotary Foundation.

DG Jeb Bakke gave an overview of his goals for this Rotary year in our region. He is super excited about the growth in our youth outreach programs, especially in local high schools.

He presented Bill Torre with a special pin in recognition of this service to our Club.

INVOCATION GIVEN BY JERRY MAY

Let us Pray

Most gracious and forgiving God, we need Your guidance in our lives. We sometimes know what is right, but we stray into not paying attention to that small voice You gave us called conscience. Life can be a struggle and we sometimes fall short.

Give us the courage to follow the ideal of Rotary "Service Above Self". Contained in that short phrase is what we need to do. When we focus on ourselves rather than others, we fall short.

May we now go into the world, armed with Your guidance and actually make it be a better world because we followed our Rotary ideal..

Amen and Shalom

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●LIVE



Brought to you by:

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 Fernando De Los Santos.

The passing of Dolly Parton this week brought a world-wide recognition of her immense talents and accomplishments not only in music but in so many other endeavors. Alongside her award-winning music and acting, Parton was an astute businesswoman and philanthropist. She founded a film and TV production company which produced hits including Buffy the Vampire Slayer and the Father of the Bride film series. In 1986, she created Dollywood, doubling its size over the next two decades and adding entertainment and resort venues. The Dollywood Foundation awarded college scholarship and helped high schoolers in her hometown get their diplomas. Through it Dolly funded the Imagination Library project, which sends a book, right for their age, to children every month from babyhood to age 5. Created in honor of her father, who could not read or write, nearly 25 million books are now distributed each year across the US, Canada, Australia, the UK and Ireland.

Two things I learned about her that were new to me – she owned a beautiful little century-old farmhouse in Solvang CA. The stained-glass sign above the front door says it all: the name “Dolly” . For about 10 years starting in 2004, she secretly owned the home in one of the Central Coast's most popular tourist destinations, convenient for her to LA and Hollywood. She once said it reminded her of her grandmother's childhood home. She paparazzi-proofed the whole house, with reflective windows and unobtrusive steel lattice fencing. And also – you might not know – I didn't - that she was a keynote speaker and performer at the Rotary International Convention in Montreal in 2010. She had a genius for saying the right thing in the right way at the right time – every time. Just an amazing person.

In a move many months in the making, three male 1,500-pound beluga whales from a shuttered marine park in Canada were gently lowered into a pool at SeaWorld San Diego on Saturday, saving the animals from possible euthanasia. Xavier, Cyprus and Jasper traveled more than 2,500 miles to San Diego from Marineland in Niagara Falls which closed in 2024 and was no longer able to care for the animals. They came to San Diego via a Qatar Airways cargo plane after months of planning by marine scientists, animal trainers, and logistical specialists. The three belugas were each placed on padded stretchers that featured small holes for their pectoral fins. They were then placed in individual transport boxes filled half-way with water the same temperature that they are used to. The belugas spent close to 4 1/2 hours in the air before they landed in San Diego just after 7 a.m. Saturday. Workers then transported the animals to the Wild Arctic area of SeaWorld, where they are getting used to their new surroundings. They'll be introduced to the general public sometime in the future. .

Our two hometown hero teams are finally back this week after being eliminated from the Little League World Series Final. Sweetwater Valley Little League went down after a 12-2 loss to Southeast Region champion Phenix City, Ala., on Saturday. After winning its opener against Australia last week. Tijuana fell to teams from Nicaragua and finally Japan on Tuesday.

Moving to the majors, the Padres concluded a 3-game home series against the Pirates on Wednesday, losing the series 2 games to 1 but with the final game a win on Wednesday 3 to 0. Jackson Merrill led the offense by doubling, tripling, driving in a run, and scoring another. Randy Vásquez pitched 5 scoreless innings to earn his 10th win of the season. Luis Rengifo and Jake Cronenworth contributed crucial RBI hits to secure the shutout. The win keeps the Padres in the National League's third wild-card position. They travel to Florida for a 3-game series against the Tampa Bay Rays, starting today at 4:10.

Today's sponsor, Fernando De Los Santos, joined our club a year ago last April and has already stepped up to be a club director. He tells us: This is how I got involved with Rotary: In 1985 I was reading a newspaper and there was a note from the Tijuana Rotary Clubs about a Rotary Group Study Exchange (GSE), a cultural and vocational mentoring grant program for young business and professional adults. (Continued on page 6)



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CLUB HIGHLIGHTS - AUGUST 28, 2026



District Governor Jeb Bakke joined in the fun of welcoming and inducting a new member into our club. L-R: DG Jeb, sponsors Mora de Murguia and Lisa Johnson, newbie LaVonne Cashman and President Rasha Roshdy. DG Chief of Staff LuAnn Miller (Coronado Club), President Rasha, DG Jeb and Ana Fernandez with the Tijuana Club.



L-R: Fernando de los Santos was this week's sponsor for the news and the lucky drawing winners were: Rowena Bell, Neisha Hernandez and Ken Weimer.

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CLUB HIGHLIGHTS - AUGUST 28, 2026



L-R: Gary Bryant with Beta Dinsmore on her last day on duty at the welcome table. Rochelle Carroll needs everyone's help please. Toni Andrade inviting us to the Oktoberfest event being held in South County this year. Please join the fun on Saturday, October 17, 1-6 pm. She also invited everyone to the Valle de Guadalupe fundraiser hosted by the Chula Vista—Eastlake Rotary Club. See page 6 for both flyers.



(Continued from Page 3)

I applied and went for interviews with Rotarians, and I was one of five that were chosen from 25 candidates. This exchange was with Pennsylvania, around the Pittsburgh area. We were hosted by Rotarians and spent several days in different cities. I was impressed by the things Rotary was doing with the community & International projects. When I returned to Tijuana, I was invited to join a Rotaract Club in which I spent several years.

Years later I was invited to join the Rotary Club of Tijuana where I serve as International Projects committee for many years, at that time I was in contact with Rotary Clubs in California, including the Rotary Club of Chula Vista where I made many good friends. In 2014 I was invited by San Diego Rotarians who were members of the board at the YMCA of San Diego to visit the YMCA of Tijuana.

There was no board and nobody was helping the Y. So, I decided to leave the Tijuana Rotary Club and start at the YMCA as a volunteer. I was involved in the establishment of a partnership with YMCA of San Diego & México and now we have a bi-national board.

I was invited a year ago to become a member of the Rotary Club of Chula Vista and it has been a very satisfying experience with great friends.

This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today brought to you by Fernando De Los Santos.

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A BEAUTIFUL FAREWELL TO FRIENDS



Nearly thirty Rotarians and spouses came out to wish Reed and Beta Dinsmore all the best and a fond farewell as they head off to Boston for a new chapter. Everyone enjoyed amazing chili and mac n' cheese prepared by Tana Lorah and Rochelle Carroll.



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR ROTARIANS!



Eric Rimmele - September 1

Soraya Martinez - September 3

Bob Bliss - September 4

Steve Brodbeck - September 4

LaVonne Cashman - September 11

Monica Lehpamer - September 15

Jeanette Badal - September 20

Gus Slovinsky - September 22

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UPCOMING EVENTS

The Rotary Club of Chula Vista Eastlake
PRESENTS A
A Day in
VALLE DE GUADALUPE
MAGONI & DECANTOS

FUNDRAISING
SUPPORTING OUR
COMMUNITY PROJECTS
AND LOCAL INITIATIVES

SPACE IS LIMITED
Reserve Your Seat Today!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2026

DEPARTING AT 9:30 AM | **RETURNING AT 10:00 PM**

YOUR TICKET INCLUDES:

- LIGHT SNACKS
- DRINKS, WINE & BEER ON THE BUS
- ENTERTAINMENT ON THE BUS
- VISITING 2 WINERIES MAGONI & DECANTOS
- LOBSTER DINNER IN ROSARITO

VISIT 2 WINERIES

TICKET PRICE \$125 PER PERSON ALL THIS INCLUDED!

Good Wine, Great Company, Greater Cause!

All proceeds support our community projects and local initiatives.

PAY WITH VENMO
Rotary Club Chula Vista Eastlake
@rotaryclub-chulavista-eastlake

PAY WITH PAYPAL
Scan QR Code or Click Link
paypal.com/rotaryclubchulavista-eastlake

MIRIAM GONZALEZ
619-259-9810
miriam.cvrotary@gmail.com

TICKET INFORMATION
ANTHONY MILLICAN
619-849-0260

PAYMENTS BY
CASH, CHECK,
VENMO OR PAY PAL

PAYMENT DUE AT
TIME OF RESERVATION

*** THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY! ***

Rotary District 5340

Oktoberfest

FAMILY FUN FOR A GREAT CAUSE!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026
1:00 PM – 6:00 PM

RANCHO SAN JERONIMO
2012 A Sunset Avenue
San Diego, CA 92154

ENTRANCE: \$20 PER PERSON
CHILDREN UNDER 12 ENTER FREE!

With your \$20 entrance donation, you help sponsor Rotary District 5340 youth programs and support opportunities that make a *positive difference* in the lives of local youth.

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

- MUSIC
- GAMES
- PRETZELS
- SAUSAGES & HOT DOGS
- HAMBURGERS
- ICE CREAM
- DRINKS & REFRESHMENTS

And lots of family fun!

★ Food and drinks will be available for purchase at the event.

LOCAL VENDORS & HEALTH FAIR BOOTHS WELCOME!

Want to promote your business, organization, or health-related services? Booth spaces are available for rent!

- JEWELRY
- PURSES
- CLOTHING
- LOCAL PRODUCTS & CRAFTS
- HEALTH FAIR BOOTHS
- HEALTH & WELLNESS INFORMATION
- AND MORE!

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE YOUTH PROGRAMS OF ROTARY DISTRICT 5340

FOR INFORMATION, EMAIL CHANY MARTINEZ AT chanymartinez47@gmail.com

CALENDAR

Food Distribution at St. Mark's (Hilltop & I) - 8:30 am—Fri Sept 11

International Projects Committee Meets—Mon Sept 14—noon @ CV Filippi's

CV-Eastlake Rotary Valle de Guadalupe Fundraiser—Sat October 3

District 5340 Oktoberfest for Youth Programs—Sat October 17, 1-6 pm

Christmas in October - Sat, October 24—Save the Date!

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