

Chulatarian

Rotary
Club of Chula Vista



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GOOD



ROTARY CLUB
OF CHULA VISTA

BOARD 2025-2026

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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)

PROGRAM TO BE DETERMINED
Friday, September 19, 2025, Noon

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It happens sometimes—the confirmation comes late or there was a change in plans. Or the editor is leaving town...

It will still be a fun time at our next Club meeting, with an element of surprise!

If you have a suggestion for a program, please share the possibility with Risa Baron.

On **September 26th**, our own member Maria Kachadoorian—current City Manager of Chula Vista—is RETIRING and will share her thoughts on the experience with us. We know this means she will be able to come more often.

Be sure to bring a friend!

Next Chulatarian will be a double issue at the end of September.

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MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FOR SEPT. 5, 2025

President Ben Koala called the meeting to order. Carmen Sandoval gave the invocation. Chuck Bevan helped us sing.

President Ben fined Lisa Johnson for her interviews on local news regarding the grand opening of The Joan theatre, the new home of the Cygnet Theatre. Lisa took the opportunity ask members to bring scarves for cancer patients for the speaker representing the group “Loving You Through It,” who is coming in a few week. Rochelle has created a box in which to deposit them. After that concludes, we will be collecting old eye glasses to donate to the Lions Club.

David Hoffman shared about the recent Rotarian fishing trip to Alaska which was a little rougher than usual. It rained the whole time. There were NO ROADS in or out, so they were flown in. Club alumni Steve Miesen and Nick Gistaro were also along for the fun. A few trips back Steve broke his ribs and on this trip, he fell and broke ribs on the other side. Bob Bliss also took a tumble but looks no worse for the wear. (Did not sound fun to me...) Ken Weimer, Mauricio Lutteroth, Mark Scott, Mike Green and a couple of friends/family were also on the trip. Gary Bryant had to cancel and missed out.

President Ben welcomed new member Krystina Torres as a member of our Club. She has her own accounting firm and has worked on our books for ten years. She plans to help with fundraising. Welcome Krystina!

President Ben adjourned the meeting and Nominating Committee Chair David Hoffman re-adjourned the Club to vote on a replacement on the Board of Directors for Max Scrivens, who recently resigned from the Club due to excessive work commitments. Rasha Roshdy made the motion, second by Nancy Kerwin to nominate Rochelle Carroll to fill the remainder of Max’s term. Approved by acclamation. Nominating business concluded, the regular Club meeting re-adjourned.

Lisa Johnson introduced Lucy Eggleston, the Executive Director of ARTS—A Reason to Survive, an innovative creative program based in National City. She shared her own personal evolution and the organization’s growth over the years. She invited us to visit and to check out their upcoming events.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Saturday, October 25—**Christmas in October**

Friday, October 31—**Golf Tournament Fundraiser**—Chula Vista Golf Course

CHULA VISTA ROTARY 100th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
Sunday, February 15, 2026

Tijuana Home Build—Saturday, April 11, 2026



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JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON by Betty Waznis

LIVE



Brought to you by:

THIS WEEK'S
SPONSOR

With Betty Waznis

Hello, everyone. Welcome to today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today brought to you by Rochelle Carroll. More than 300 truckloads of sand from a quarry near Palm Springs are being delivered to a San Clemente beach this week as part of emergency efforts to protect the coastal tracks that are a critical San Diego County rail connection to the rest of the United States. This is the initial deposit of a planned 540,000 cubic yards of sand from various sources, including the ocean, to shore up the tracks in four different areas against beach erosion and sea-level rise.

Before 2021, the seven-mile stretch of tracks through San Clemente operated largely uninterrupted for more than 125 years. Since then, multiple landslides in the area have forced the suspension of train traffic for months at a time. Officials are working together on possible long-term solutions, which could include moving the segment of tracks to a new inland route, possibly along Interstate 5 and rerouting the train tracks away from the eroding coastal bluffs in Del Mar.

Some travelers on San Diego Bay are about to get an upgrade. Two diesel-powered ferry boats that have been used by the San Diego-Coronado Ferry for many years will soon be replaced by fully electric boats. The sleek modern boats, which cost more than \$21 million in total, will take passengers on the usual routes — one from Coronado to Broadway Pier, the other from Coronado to the convention center.

In addition to reducing emissions to zero, the switch will eliminate fumes, make the boats quieter, and have more space for bicycles and strollers. The new boats will be ready to take over in fall 2026 with no fare increase expected. The new boats will also operate the ferry's free commuter service, open to anyone, which includes six trips each morning from Coronado to Broadway Pier and six trips each evening from Broadway Pier back to Coronado.

During Sunday's mass in Rome, Pope Leo XIV made saints of two well-known young Italians considered to be models of the saint next door - ordinary people who did extraordinary things. Carlo Acutis, a teenage computer whiz born in 1991, combined a youthful tech expertise with an intense religious devotion. In 2006, at age 15, he fell ill with acute leukemia and died within days. He earned the nickname "God's influencer," thanks to his main online legacy: a multi-lingual website documenting miracles recognized by the church.

Pope Leo also canonized Pier Giorgio Frassati, who died in 1925 at age 24 of polio. Born into a wealthy family, he devoted his short life to serving the poor while inspiring his young friends with his faith. Pope Leo told the 80,000 gathered in Saint Peter's Square, many young people among them, that the new saints "are an invitation to all of us, especially young people, not to squander our lives, but to direct them upwards and make our lives masterpieces."

The Padres are keeping us on pins and needles with 15 games left before post-season, where we confidently expect to be. They lost this week's series 2 to 1 to the Reds thanks to a couple of very tight games, and last night faced the Rockies for the second time in a week, shutting them out 2 - 0. The four-game series continue tonight at Petco Park at 6:40.

Today's sponsor, Rochelle Carroll, is a lifelong Chula Vista resident. She recently retired after 37 incredible years with the Chula Vista Elementary School District, where she served as a teacher, academic coach, district administrator, and concluded her career as the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum. Now she's enjoying more time with family and friends, volunteering in the community, and working on self-care. She's especially looking forward to this next chapter filled with more time for Rotary and fun adventures with her family Chris and Kai, along with dog Mikey. Plus a picture of the Taco Bar Serving set for 4 with a bottle of margarita mix in each raffle bag.

This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at noon, today brought to you by Rochelle Carroll.

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MEETINGS HIGHLIGHTS—September 12, 2025

WELCOME NEW MEMBER KRYSTINA TORRES!



President Ben is Krystina's sponsor and provided her with the new member packet and Rotary pin. Welcome Krystina!



L-R: News sponsor Rochelle Carroll with this week's lucky winners Rasha Roshdy, Duane's guest and Nancy Kerwin.

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ROTARIANS WHO FISH



Ken Weimer and David Hoffman seeing the sights which include a Rotary plaque on a local building.



See what happens when Gary is NOT on the fishing trip...All the pictures have DAVID in them. David caught a big salmon. David with Nick Gistaro—a longtime member of our Club who relocated to Montana when he retired.