



# ROTARY CLUB of La Jolla

## *News Bulletin*

04.03.25

**Our speaker for next Tuesday:  
Noah Brown, on the impact of the  
Florence Riford Scholarship has had  
on his life.**



Recently, Noah Brown reached out to us on our website, saying “Hello Rotary Club of La Jolla, I hope you're doing well! My name is Noah Brown, and I was lucky enough to receive the **Florence Riford Scholarship** a few years ago. I graduated from La Jolla High [2020], studied oceanography at UCSD [2024], and now I’m a master’s student at Scripps Institution of Oceanography. I just wanted to say a huge thank you for the support your organization gave me—it truly made a difference in my journey, and I’m so grateful. I’d love the chance to come speak at a Rotary meeting and share how much the award meant to

me, what I got out of my college experience, and where it's taken me so far. Let me know if that's something you'd be interested in—I'd love to stay connected! Best, Noah “

This will be a great opportunity for our club to hear about the impact of our scholarship program has on its recipients and what students do and achieve as the result of the support our club provides.

**Please RSVP to Natasha Vossen's email re:  
our next luncheon on April 08, 2025,  
[nataschavossen@san.rr.com](mailto:nataschavossen@san.rr.com)**

## Last Week's Special Events



On Tuesday Evening, **Davis and Sherry Cracroft** hosted a **Fireside Chat** in their lovely woodsy home. It was a cold night, but once inside their home, our newest members and a few old timers, found tables full of delicious food as well as a warm fireplace to sit around as they learned of the many aspects of our club.

Davis welcomed all and talked about the history of Fireside chats that began with FDR, encouraging all to ask questions as this was a night to learn about the different parts of our club. He was followed by **Russell King** who talked about “Big Rotary” the International Branch of Rotary, **Chuck Dick**, then took over and narrated the history of Rotary generally, the founding of Rotary in San Diego and our La Jolla Club. **Denise McGuire** discussed the many possibilities of Community Service. **Midge Coburn** as Membership Chair, then explained the steps involved in Membership , and the revived



Red Badge Program, as well as mentorship. **Craig Schniepp**, talked about Youth Services, Interact, the Mexico house build project, RYLA and LEAD. **Pat Stouffer**, our treasurer for many years, then ended the program discussing, our Foundation, the scholarship program and the many endowments we have been entrusted with.

It was a lot, like being hit by a firehose of information as Davis said. But a very good start and much appreciated, as the many, many emails of thanks that followed attested to. Hopefully this will become a yearly tradition.



## Community Service, and Food Distribution at the ASYMCA

For more than 100 years the **ASYMCA** has supported San Diego's military community and families. The first location at 500 Broadway opened to military members in 1924. As the need for support grew, so did their programs. In



1970, ASYMCA San Diego moved into the middle of military housing in **Murphy Canyon and Santos Road** and led patient recreation programs at Naval Medical Center. Fast forward to 2020, when they now provided **drive-thru meal distributions**, virtual youth activities, and more to families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Last week at 8:30 AM our club joined 2 other Rotary groups at the Santos location and numerous YMCA volunteers, for **food packing and distribution for the families of our military**. We began by unpacking hundreds of crates of food donated by the **Smart Food Foundation** and the **San Diego Food Bank**, into bags of healthy grains, oats, rice and spices, as well as canned goods, oils and the like.





By 9:30AM a long line of cars and pickup trucks had formed for the food distribution. We were ready.

Depending on the number of families in each vehicle, we placed bags of grains and canned products as well large boxes of frozen meats and fresh produce into their trunks, beds of pickup trucks and/or back seats.

By 11:30 AM, all the food had been distributed to nearly 300 families.

A big shout out to our volunteers, **Dave Weston, Susan Stevens, Cindy Goodman, David Shaw, Russ King, and Denise McGuire**. who came out on a cold rainy morning to serve these military families.



## Hi-lights from last week's Meeting:



**President Bob Teaff** promptly called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.



**Jordan Sargent** led us in the pledge of allegiance and offered the following inspiration.

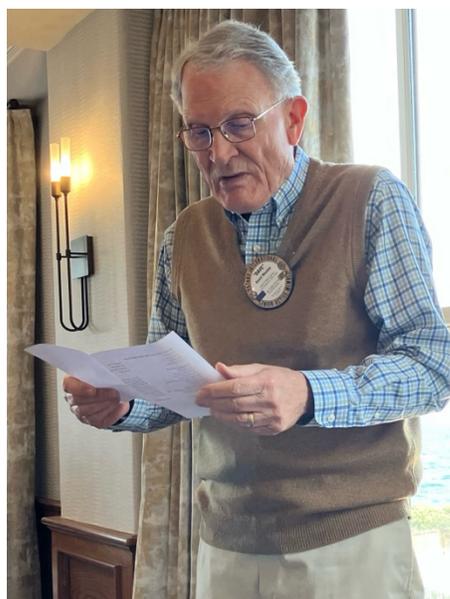
*“As we come together today, let us be reminded of the power of kindness. In a world often filled with challenges, small acts of compassion and understanding can bring light to even the darkest moments.*

*May we approach one another with grace and patience, listening with open minds and open hearts. Let us celebrate the fellowship we share, knowing that our collective strength grows when we treat each other with respect and empathy.*

*As Rotarians, may we carry this spirit of kindness beyond this room, extending it to our families, our communities, and all those we serve. Together, let us strive to build a more compassionate world. “*



## Announcements



Past President **Dave Weston** gave the third Reading of the proposed Slate of Officers and Committee Chairs for the Rotary Club Of La Jolla Board 2025-2026

President - Russell King  
Treasurer - Pat Russell  
Secretary – Barbara Brown  
Past President – Bob Teaff

President Elect 2026- 2027 – Denise McGuire

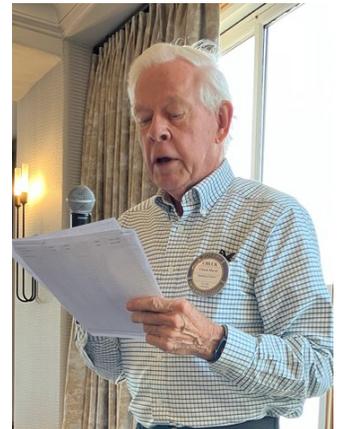
## Avenues of Service

Club Service – Penny Shurtleff  
Community Service- Denise McGuire  
International Service - Anya Singleton  
Membership Chair - Midge Coburn  
New Generation/Youth Service - Craig Schiepp  
Vocational Service- Vince Glorioso  
Senior Citizens - Penny Shurtleff  
Scholarship – Natascha Vossen  
Florence Riford La Jolla Community fund – Bob Teaff  
Rotary Foundation President – Bill Burch

## The Use of our Club Website

Our webmaster, the ever-patient **Chuck Marsh** read off the stats of club members who have checked into our website. For the first time the haves exceeded the have nots: that is those who have logged in and can access the Club directory. 22 people still have never logged in.

Chuck also announced that there are now visual aids available to learning how to navigate our club website, and as ever, if you need help get in touch with him. [cmarshjr@gmail.com](mailto:cmarshjr@gmail.com)



## Interviews at Garfield High for Scholarships



**Bob Pecora**, chair of the committee, announced this year's interviews will be held at the school on April 11<sup>th</sup>. The students are at Risk – teens who seek some type of vocational training. This year they have received 19 applications. The amount they have for distribution is \$15,000. Contact Bob, if you are interested. [robertjpecora@aol.com](mailto:robertjpecora@aol.com)

## Guests of Rotarians

**Denise McGuire** proudly introduced **Thomas Jos**, a former **Interact member** from the San Francisco area who is now a first-year student at UCSD. Thomas will be working with our Communications Unit and assisting **Chuck Marsh** with the Club website as well as formatting our weekly newsletter.



**Penny Shurtleff** introduced her guest, **Darlene Disney**, Executive Director of the **Social Service League of La Jolla**.

## Happy Buck's \$\$\$

**\$\$\$100**, Again, **Don Lincoln**, is so proud! **Duke** is now in the top Four! **Go Blue Devils!!!!**



**\$\$\$100.00 Charles Hartford**, is so grateful, he will taking his last son, George Hartford on a college tour this summer. Further, 22 years ago to the day, he was part of the US Spec Ops Team who rescued POW Jessica Lynch in Iraq.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Editor's note, that now is noteworthy

**\$\$\$20.00** Bill Boehm was delighted that his daughter was visiting him.



## Last Week's Speaker Maud Moe on the History of Aviation in San Diego.



Our speaker with a few new friends

Madhukar (Maud) Rao is a retired Chemical Engineer and currently serves as the Chief Strategy Officer for Workforce Development at Innovation Impact Partners, LLC. He holds a Ph.D. and M.S. in Materials Science from The Pennsylvania State University, and a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from The New Jersey Institute of Technology.

For the past 3 years, Maud has been a docent at the San Diego Air and Space Museum. He serves on the museum's Scholarship Committee and is a training coordinator for new docents. He enjoys engineering, history, and teaching, so being a docent at the museum is a perfect fit.

His talk to us centered on three periods of Aviation History in San Diego,

Early Aviation, 1834-1918, The Golden Era, 1923- 1940, and World War II. Each period was rich with invention and creative men and women who would change air travel forever.

It was surprising at least to this observer, how hungry and daring all of them were. Like Icarus, they ignored all warnings in pursuit of their dreams, and often many fell tragically to earth. Nonetheless, it is because of their early devil may care adventures that we can fly all over the world today.

As the scribe for this newsletter, I have chosen to include a pdf of Maud's extensive talk for those of you who may wish to review this rich Aeronautical history.



Aviation History San Diego Presentation v2.pdf

## Coming in two weeks, Don Kent, CEO Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute



Reporter and editor: Denise McGuire  
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Technical Assistance- Thomas Jos