

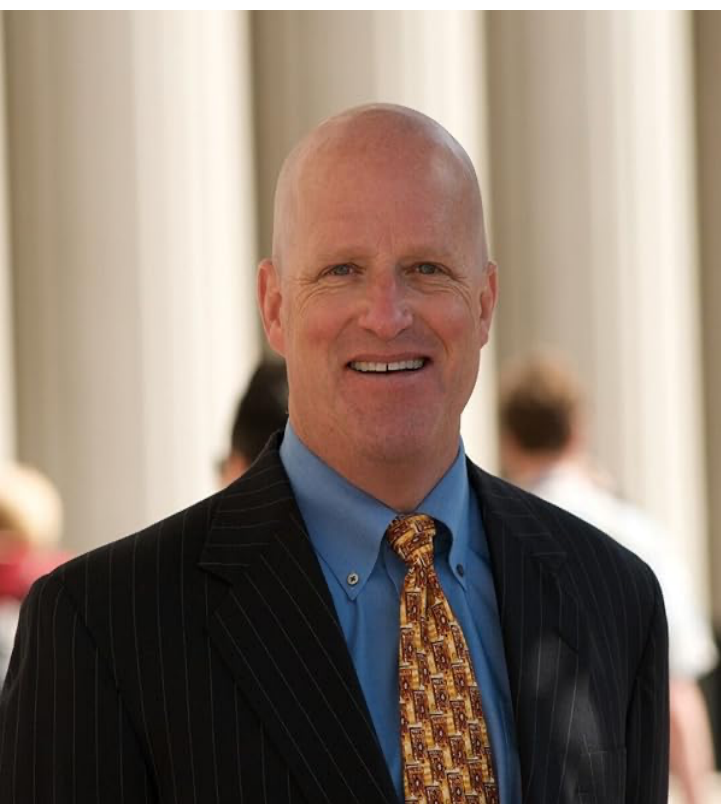


ROTARY CLUB of La Jolla

BITS of News

02.23.24

Coming next Tuesday, May 14th
Author Dan Lawton and his
Book, *Above the Ground, A True Story of*
***The Troubles in Northern Ireland* including**
details of an IRA fugitive hiding in plain
sight in San Diego for decades.



DAN LAWTON is a writer and practicing lawyer. He was born in Los Angeles and raised in Fullerton, California, along with his three younger brothers. He earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Notre Dame and his law degree at Georgetown University Law Center in 1986. After graduation, he served as a law clerk to Ninth Circuit Judge Thomas Tang in Phoenix, Arizona. Following his clerkship, He moved San Diego, and practiced law full-time, starting at a Luce Forward Hamilton Scripps before opening his own private practice in 1995. There he

trained several young lawyers, all of whom had been my law students at Thomas Jefferson School of Law, where he has taught appellate advocacy on and off since 2001.

Throughout his career **Dan Lawton** has taken on pro bono¹ cases. One of those cases was a case concerning the extradition of a member of the IRA **Kevin Barry Hartt**, who was convicted of the 1978 murder of a British guard in Northern Ireland, had escaped from prison and found his way to San Diego.

A colleague told Dan of Kevin, who in 1992 had been arrested by the FBI and was in custody at MCC², facing extradition by the British Government. After listening to his story, Dan took on his representation for 8 years. By 1995, he came to believe his client was innocent.

Eventually Dan realized the complexities of the case and the massive battles with the British Government and the United States Attorney's Office, would require more than he could provide; a big-time trial attorney (Jim Brosnahan) and a large and well financed law firm, (Morrison Forrester), With the agreement of all the parties, Dan withdrew as counsel, remaining however, very close friends with Kevin throughout the litigation and his eventual exoneration in 2020.

Dan Lawton's book, ***Above the Ground***, is about "the Troubles" and the struggle to prove **Kevin Barry Hartt's** innocence. It came out in 2023 to accolades from best-selling authors, historians, correspondents, and editors praising Dan's recounting of the trials and redemption of Kevin Barry Hartt. Today it is the # 1 in best-selling Irish historical nonfiction on Amazon.

We look forward to hearing more of this fascinating story from him.

¹ The term "pro bono," which is short for pro bono publico, is a Latin term that means "for the public good." In law it refers to legal services that are provided without expectation of compensation for the indigent.

² The Metropolitan Correctional Center, **San Diego** is a United States federal administrative detention facility designed to hold both male and female federal prisoners.

Please RSVP to Natasha Vossen's email re: our next luncheon on February 27th nataschavossen@san.rr.com

Last Week's Meeting Highlights



President Barbara Brown opened the meeting.



David Weston led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the following wise words:

"After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along and shot him.... The moral when you're full of bull keep your mouth shut." Samuel Clemons (1835-1910)

Never miss an opportunity to shut up. Will Rogers (1879-1935)



Visiting Rotarians

Herb Liberman From the Del Mar and Solana Beach Rotary, and his guest **Krystsina Shchelkuncva**, an advocate for Ukrainian refugees.



From the Downtown San Diego Breakfast Rotary Club.
Cheri Choi

Our Guests

Our speaker, **Diane Kane**, and former **Club President Kate Adams**





Brian Earley *Enhance La Jolla*, and *District Manager Maintenance Assessment District* and **Mary Soriano**, Trustee of the **La Jolla Town Council**, guests of **Barbara Brown**

Happy Moments (Bucks ³)

Leanne MacDougall, for her grandson's recent acceptance and Merit scholarship Award to the University of Miami 's Music Department



Bob Pecora at the pleasure of being able to award \$10,000 in Strive Scholarships last weekend with fellow Rotarians to 10 deserving students, (\$1000 a piece) at Garfield High School.

³ So thrilled with their grandchildren's accomplishments etc. not a one, offered \$\$\$. Thus, **Happy Bucks** for this go around only, has been renamed "Happy Moments."

Don Lincoln, who attended a women's volleyball tournament at the convention center in Las Vegas watching dozens of teams play. His granddaughter Riley is a member of the San Diego team **Wave**, which played more matches than any other team. Yes, they won the tournament!



President Barbara Brown, who will attend her Granddaughter Hannah's College Graduation from the Berklee College of Music in Boston this weekend.



Chuck Marsh, who will attend his granddaughter's graduation, (Summa cum laude) from Occidental College next weekend.



Auction Items



John Hoss generously offered \$400 worth of Padre's Baseball tickets. They were scooped up for \$100.00 by **Natascha Vossen**. (what a deal!)

Announcements

The Alison Brown Fundraiser

Cindy Goodson announced 190 tickets have been sold thus far, with 30 that will go to military families. Cindy is looking for a Van that can hold 11 or 12 people to pick up the band and their instruments at the airport for the concert.



Vince Glorioso reminded us of the upcoming Flags for Vets on May 28th, and our ½ Marathon Yearly Water Station adjacent to Scripps Green.



The Rotary 5340 District Military Coordinating Committee (DMCC) is proud to be sponsoring the inaugural “Operation Flags for Vets” at Miramar National Cemetery this Memorial Day weekend. In cooperation with the cemetery administration, members of Rotary District 5340 will be placing a small American flag at every gravesite to honor our fallen heroes. This effort is one that the cemetery has no funding or personnel to complete so they are excited to welcome Rotary to what will be a long-term commitment. to help participate. To volunteer go to the Rotary 5340 district website rotarydistrict5340dmcc.com/volunteer.

May 18th, Our Yearly Water Station for the La Jolla ½ Marathon at Scripps Green



Our yearly volunteering at the Kiwanis La Jolla ½ Marathon Water Station, is coming soon. It will be on Saturday May 18th, adjacent to Scripps Green Hospital between 6:30 to 9 AM. This year they are expecting 6,000 runners. Thus far we have 12 volunteers, we need 8 more. Please, contact **Denise McGuire@mac.com** if you can help. **It's going to be fun!**

A Changing of the Guard



Barbara Brown announced sadly due to work constraints, **Wade Aschbrenner** has had to resign from the Club and his position as Secretary on the Board of Directors.



The Board has now appointed **Dave Brockett** to take Wade's position of Club Secretary. **Dave** immediately wisely signed up to help at the **Water Station** on the 18th. **Will you too?**



Our Speaker from Last Week

Diane Kane, PhD



Dr. Kane, a former senior planner from the city of San Diego, where she coordinated large scale historical surveys, gave us a thorough understanding of how historical preservation provisions do not slow down permitting time and reduce the availability of affordable housing.

She said San Diego's two-year permitting is a lengthy & expensive process.

resulting in an expensive and insufficient housing supply. Only a tiny part of the expense and time can be attributed to historical preservation review.

She described in some detail that the city is way behind in the development of housing and one thing they should consider is adaptive reuse of older buildings.

She mentioned and showed maps of some large neighborhoods in the city that have sought a federal historical designation, so they become exempt from the added density allowances of controversial SB 9. They're doing this so that their neighbors will not be able to add an ADU (Accessory Dwelling Unit) to their lot or developers tear down a single family home and replace it with a multi-unit building.

She also lamented the loss of NOAH (Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing). Bungalow developments and other older buildings torn down and replaced with market rate housing with only 20% affordable.

Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing



Affordable Housing Math

Existing Conditions

10 Unit Bungalow Court

12 Unit Zoning

New Construction

10 market rate units

2-3 new affordable units

7 affordable units lost

“Preservation of existing unrestricted, naturally occurring affordable housing (NOAH) can be more

She presented many more interesting details, pictures and graphs. As always, and as we've mentioned before, the best way to learn what our fine speakers have to say is to come to the meeting. (CMarsh)

In Two Weeks, Our Speaker will be Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Danielle Glorioso, LCSW on Human Resilience



Danielle K. Glorioso is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and has been a member of the UCSD Division of Geriatric Psychiatry since 2001. She currently serves as the Executive Director of the Center for Healthy Aging and the Stein Institute for Research on Aging.

A look ahead:

Future speakers and events:

See: rotarycluboflajolla.org

Our Social on May 28th,

And, Coming **June 24th**, The District Governor Awards Dinner at the Del Mar Hilton. You will need to sign up soon.

<https://rotary5340.org>