



The La Jolla Rotary Club News Bulletin

JUN 3, 2025

**Our Speakers for our Upcoming June 10 Meeting:
Lidia Rossner & Phyllis Pfeiffer**





Today's Meeting:

Prez Bob, Called the meeting to order for the Thought of the Day. As members rose to their feet scraping their chairs, he exclaimed how much the sound of chair-scraping cheered him up.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Letting Go by Anya Singleton

Letting go at the right time is a secret of success. It may feel counterintuitive, but it can clear the way for a goal to happen. Reflect on the issues in your life where you may be pushing too hard. If you feel frustrated, say to yourself: "I will take a pause. I will take a break. I will practice letting go." A strange and wonderful joy comes over you when you just let go.



Guests of Rotarians:

- **Jordan Sargeant** introduced **Ian Lino**, president of Echelon, a group of diverse young adults supporting The Salvation Army.
- **Penny Shurtleff** invited **Fatmeh Muhareb**, the new VP and branch manager of Poppy Bank at Pavilions. Fatimeh was a Rotarian in Solana Beach when she worked for a bank there.
- **Midge Coburn** introduced **Jose Castillo**, an orthodontist and prospective member sponsored by **John Haas**.
- **Ahmad Kadry**, visiting again, a retired doctor and longtime friend, of **George Wahab** expressed interest in joining •

Midge also welcomed former member **Eleanor Ellsworth**, visiting from Maryland to see friends she made here when she was a priest on the staff of St. James by the Sea.



Sunshine committee chair, Penny Shurtleff let us know that **Jane Reldan** had a very successful hip surgery last Tuesday and is recovering nicely.

Penny also offered to collect any additional funds to add to the funds that **Cindy Goodman** has raised for the families impacted by the airplane crash in the **Murphy Canyon military housing**.

Bylaws Updated

Chuck Marsh described updating our bylaws in 2016 with Pat Stouffer. RI now has Recommended Bylaws as of 2022. So, adding an attorney to the team, Dave Weston, we have now updated our bylaws.

He spared us the changes but did mention that one change they made was in the preamble. They changed the number of clubs in RI from 33,000 to 46,000.

The restated bylaws need to be adopted by a 2/3 majority vote at a Club meeting where we have a quorum of 1/3 of our members after having given members five days to read it. The proposed draft is attached to this email.

The vote, by a show of hands, is scheduled for Tuesday, June 17

A Bit about The Lot Social by Russell King:

The Lot was lots of fun, great visiting, more in the future!



Membership chair Midge Coburn presented **Darlene Disney & Mel Siegel** as our prospective members to **President Teaff**, who explained the significance of the Rotary wheel and officially inducted them into our club as our newest red badge members.

Happy Bucks\$\$

David Shaw gave \$60.00 honoring the graduation of his grandson from Brown and David's 63rd reunion from Brown. Go Brown bears!

Zeke Knight left a donation at the front desk in recognition of Eleanor Ellsworth returning to the club for lunch and he and Helen's great great grandchild Lucy who recently arrived at 6 lbs.

George Wahhab celebrating their 59th wedding anniversary, which means they have been married 60 years, donated \$60.00 as well.

Vince Gloriosa celebrated his birthday on Saturday with a 50-kilometer trail run along the Sonoma coast 7000 feet of climb. He missed a turn and increased his run to the 32 miles, so he donated \$32.



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Why the World's Buildings Are Safer Now Than 20 Years Ago & How UCSD Became the 'Big UCSD!

Russell King, UCSD
1994–2024

Russell opened his talk about the increased safety of buildings by describing the UCSD shake table located near Miramar. *(A recent newspaper article is attached for more details.)*

He explained how UCSD has grown through strategic partnerships. He highlighted major research contributions in oceanography by Walter Munk and noted that UCSD played a significant role in managing and developing a COVID-19 vaccine, including being one of the first institutions to implement wastewater testing to monitor infection rates.

Russell recalled arriving at the Mandeville Auditorium 30 years ago, and described his progression through various leadership roles, including:

Mandeville Theatre Operations

Chief of Staff, Advancement

- Associate Director for Strategic Initiatives, Housing
- Administrative Officer, Theater and Dance Department
- Project Advisor in the Chancellor's Office (at retirement)

He joined UCSD in 1994 during a difficult budget period. By the late 1990s, UCSD recognized a growth opportunity and began planning to add 5,000 students by 2010. The long-range (50–100 years) development plan is now updated every 10 years.

He emphasized that most new construction projects are no longer state-funded. Instead, earned revenues and private philanthropy play key roles.

He discussed the rising costs of building, especially in healthcare infrastructure, where new earthquake-resistance requirements are driving a \$2.5 billion redevelopment of the Hillcrest Medical Campus.

Russell also spoke about the impact of the new trolley line, long discussed and finally opened in 2021. Originally projected to serve 4,000 riders per day, it now supports 5,000 daily riders, demonstrating its success.

He closed his presentation by reflecting on the long-standing relationship between the La Jolla Rotary Club and UC San Diego:

- Rotary provided educational materials for school children through the Walter Munk Foundation, which included descriptions of the La Jolla water table. (*See Our Community Service committee report attached.*)
- A Rotary scholarship recipient, Noah Brown, is now conducting research on beach erosion, and recently spoke to our Club about his work.
- The Rotary Scholarship Committee decided to include The Preuss School UCSD (a charter school operated by UCSD) as a scholarship-eligible 'La Jolla High School'.

June 17 Program: an update on **fentanyl** in San Diego presented by a representative from the DEA and Social Advocates for Youth.

June 24 Dark

photographer, Barbara Brown, reporter, editor in chief: Chuck Marsh

