

The Tattler

Rotary Club of La Mesa

Volume 2017-18, No.161

Meeting Date: 10/11/17

Wednesday's @ Noon, La Mesa Community Center,
4975 Memorial Drive, La Mesa CA 91942



Big Animals For Little Kids



Who We Are

Big Animals for Little Kids is an all-volunteer organization in San Diego. Our sole purpose is to bring joy into the lives of at-risk and underprivileged children. Our slogan is "Magical Moments for Little Children". We visit kids in homeless shelters, hospitals and foster care facilities. During an event, we dress in animal costumes, paint their faces, make balloon hats, we take Polaroid™ pictures of the kids with the big animals.

Most of all, we hope to leave each child with a fond memory and the assurance that there are people in the world who really do care.

How It All Got Started

In 1996, a small group of friends, inspired by their love for children, decided to do something special for children at-risk in San Diego. After considering various possibilities, they found something that fit their busy schedule and sense of adventure. They dressed in animal costumes and entertained the kids at Children's Hospital's annual Celebration of Champions.

It was an unqualified success! The kids were thrilled by the big goofy animals that were only there to love them. The volunteers were so touched by the experience they all asked to come back the next year. The Big Animals have been at every Celebrations of Champions since, and hold events for at-risk kids regularly.

How You Can Help

One thing we learned is that we really make a difference in these kid's lives, but we can't do it alone. In order to keep the special moments coming, we depend on members of the community for donations to help purchase and maintain the animal costumes, as well as all of the fun, balloons and other materials we use. We rely completely on volunteers and have no paid staff, so 100% of our collected donations go toward providing events for the children. Any donation you make will be greatly appreciated and will be used to make a difference in the life of a child. Together, we are a force of good in the lives of San Diego's precious children.

Lunch Time Service Opportunities

October 11, 2017

Greeter	Scott Elam
Songs	Don Jenkinson
Pledge	Mark Matthews
Thought	Larry Scott
Raffle	Dale Bailey
Fines	Parker Cox
4-Way	Alex Mikolajczak

October 18, 2017

Greeter	Mike Fellows
Songs	Dolly Juntilla
Pledge	Alex Mikolajczak
Thought	Marsha Starr
Raffle	Sam Bauchmann
Fines	Marsha Darling
4-Way	Mark Matthews

October 25, 2017

Greeter	John Fistere
Songs	John Kalas
Pledge	Tim Miller
Thought	Jay Thompson
Raffle	Martin Brickson
Fines	Keith Dindinger
4-Way	Mike Mascari

**If you cannot perform
your assigned duty,
please arrange for a
replacement.**

Important Dates:

- Oct 11th Big Animals Charity
- Oct 12th Intergenerational Games – La Mesa Arts Academy
- Oct 14th LEAD youth Conference
- Oct 22nd World Polio Day
- Oct 25th Lemon Grove Sheriff Department
- Nov 1st La Mesa Rotary Club Anniversary – Keith Dindinger
- Dec 6th La Mesa Rotary Official Club Picture

World Polio Day



There is much to celebrate. In this calendar year, there have been only 11 polio cases in the two remaining endemic countries - six in Afghanistan and five in Pakistan. We have come a long way since Rotary we started its polio eradication campaign in 1985 when there were over 350,000 cases a year in 122 endemic countries. Advocacy by Rotary and others has resulted in more than \$7.2 billion donated by governments and more than \$1.2 billion has been provided by Rotarians for this initiative.

The end of this marathon is now within reach but it will take perseverance and persistence to cross the finish line. To this end, the Gates Foundation has committed a 2 for 1 match to Rotary for polio eradication for up to \$100,000,000 per year for the next three years, challenging Rotary to spend \$50,000,000 annually for polio eradication to attain the full benefit of the matching proposal.

Rotary clubs around the world are encouraged, in their own ways, to celebrate during the week that includes World Polio Day - October 22 through 28. Certainly, an announcement at your club meeting regarding progress made to-date and that the end is sight is encouraged. Public awareness campaigns and events are encouraged as well. Also, now is the time for clubs and Rotarians to "invest" in this historic initiative by making a contribution to the Rotary Foundation to the designated fund for polio eradication.

This is such an important endeavor that Steve Brown stands by to help as Vice Chairman of Rotary's Countdown to History Committee with responsibility for the Western United States for Major Gifts to the polio Initiative. Let's all do our part and we will succeed at eradicating Polio from the world.

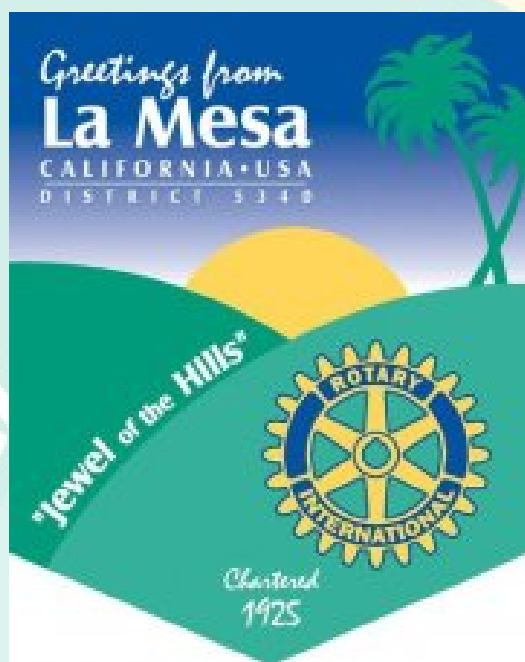


La Mesa Rotary Board of Directors

Our President Elect announced that the Board of Directors has been working on cleaning up our By-Laws. They will be sending out a new set of By-Laws to be voted on by the club membership. Watch for this!

Club Picture

It has been a number of years since we had an official club picture. We will be taking a Club Picture on Wednesday December 6th! Mark your calendars so you can plan on attending lunch that week! We would love to have every member of the club in the picture!



Visit the La Mesa Rotary online! www.LaMesaRotary.org
Or find us on Facebook! Just search for La Mesa Rotary.

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