

Chartered October 26, 1925
Wednesday 12:00 noon
La Mesa Community Center
4975 Memorial Drive
La Mesa, CA 91942

Board Members

President Gabriela Contreras-
Misirlioglu
President-elect Greg Erickson
Past President Bonnie Welch
Secretary Kathy Olsen
Treasurer Ryan Barnhill

Board Members

Directors

Dale Bailey
Marsha Darling
Mary Elington
Mike Fellows
Louise Herr-Marshall

Membership

Greg Erickson

Youth Service

Mark Matthews

Speaker Chair

Bill Ashman



Rotary Global Grant Peace Scholar Linghan Chen



We were privileged to welcome Linghan Chen, a Rotary Global Grant Peace Scholar and graduate student at the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies at the University of San Diego, as our guest speaker today. As District 5340's Peace Scholar, Linghan is pursuing her master's degree in Conflict Management and Resolution.

Originally from the People's Republic of China, Linghan has served as an intern with the United Nations and later as a staff member with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining. Her Rotary sponsors include the Rotary Club of La Jolla Golden Triangle, Rotary Club of Rancho Bernardo Sunrise, Rotary Club of Nelson, British Columbia, and the Rotary Club of Shanghai.

Linghan shared her journey to becoming a Rotary Global Grant Peace Scholar and her hopes for contributing to world peace and human rights after her graduation in December. While she is still discerning what form her work in human rights will take, she spoke thoughtfully about the experiences shaping her path.

She also reflected on her perception of the United States before arriving—largely influenced by popular culture—and how those impressions have evolved after living here for a year. Three observations stood out: a car is essential for daily life, people are welcoming and genuinely curious about the Chinese language and our education is highly interactive, with one-to-one engagement that differs from the group-based meetings she experienced in China.

During her time in San Diego, Linghan has embraced service wholeheartedly. She has volunteered at RYLA, spends every other weekend with fellow USD students preparing pancake breakfasts for the unhoused downtown, and spent her summer working with the International Rescue Committee.

Her commitment to service and peace embodies Rotary's values, and we were honored to learn from her inspiring journey.

Stephen Brown Past Trustee Rotary Foundation



We were honored to welcome PDG Stephen Brown, past trustee of The Rotary Foundation and a member of the La Jolla Golden Triangle Rotary Club, as our guest speaker today.

Steve has long been a friend of—and collaborator with—the Rotary Club of La Mesa. I was personally privileged to be installed as Club President by Steve in July 1998, a moment I still treasure.

Steve shared updates on several of his many international projects. We learned that the five Rotary high schools established more than twenty years ago have now educated thousands of students. Three of the schools serve girls exclusively, while the remaining two are co-educational.

He also described his work with the Aral Sea Basin project; an initiative focused on addressing water-conflict issues in Central Asia. This complex effort brings together individuals from Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Iran. Academic partners supporting the project include universities in the Netherlands, Costa Rica, and the United States, with Rotarians from all three countries contributing their expertise.

Steve's dedication to peacebuilding, education, and international cooperation continues to inspire our club and exemplifies Rotary's mission of Service Above Self.

Sports 4 Exceptional Athletes



The La Mesa Rotary Club donated \$40,000 to Sports 4 Exceptional Athletes for the purchase of a new van. This donation was due to the generosity of our member Jim Kline. Jim Kline has been active in Rotary and the Sports 4 Exceptional Athletes for many decades.

Donated by the La Mesa Rotary will be proudly displayed on the van. This new van will replace the current fifteen-year-old one used to haul the special athletes to their many athletic events.

Thank you, Jim, for your generosity and your many years of service to Rotary and the Sports 4 Exceptional Athletes.

Lunch Assignments

Please exchange with someone if you're unable to perform your assignment.

October 13, 2026

Greeter Mark Matthews
Pledge Louise Herr-Marshall
Thought Kathy Olsen
4 Way Test Mike Fellows

October 20, 2026

Greeter Dale Bailey
Pledge Mark Matthew
Thought David Petri
4 Way Test Jim Kline

October 27, 2026

Greeter Greg Erickson
Pledge Mary Elington
Thought Mark Matthew
4 Way Test Bill Ashman

October Birthdays

10/11 Ryan Barnhill
10/11 Louise Herr-Marshall
10/17 Mary Elington
10/31 Dr. Jay Thompson

Upcoming Programs

October 14, 2026

East County Cribbage Club
Widows and Widowers

October 21, 2026

Alzheimer's Assoc

Great Job!



Ryan, great job organizing and coordinating Rotary's **WALK 4 ALZ** at Liberty Park on Saturday. Thank you for getting this into Rotary's Action Group.

In spite of the heat, we had a great turn out of club members.

Thank you for participating and donating.

FALL CHARITABLE GIVING CAMPAIGN - Deadline 10/31/2026

The Rotary Club of La Mesa, California, Foundation (the "Foundation") is proud to support deserving programs in need through its Charitable Giving Program. Through the generous contributions of community members and members of the La Mesa Rotary Club, the Foundation offers semi-annual donations following a review and approval process for each Charitable Giving Request submitted to the Foundation by the Rotary Club of La Mesa. The following are the Foundation's guidelines for Charitable Giving Requests. The Foundation reserves the right to waive, amend or supplement these guidelines at any time or as circumstances may require.

1. Charitable Giving Requests may be made be submitted by any person on behalf of a charitable organization qualified as a charitable entity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
2. Each Charitable Giving Request must be accompanied by a separate letter from a member of the La Mesa Rotary Club who shall serve as the sponsor for the Request. Each sponsor letter shall specify why the Foundation should consider the Request.
3. Each Charitable Giving Request shall specify how the charity will use the funds being requested.
4. The combined amount of Charitable Giving Requests submitted by any one charitable organization during each fiscal year (July 1 through June 30) shall not exceed the sum of \$1,000.00.
5. Each Charitable Giving Request must contain the organization's federal and state tax identification numbers.
6. Each organization must be able to attend a La Mesa Rotary Club meeting via a representative for the purpose of receiving the donation, as subject to the deadlines set forth below.
7. Charitable Giving Requests will be provided to the Foundation through the La Mesa Rotary Club.
8. The Foundation will duly consider Charitable Giving Requests recommended by the La Mesa Rotary Club. However, the Foundation reserves the right to increase, decrease, deny, approve, or place any limitations or restrictions on any Charitable Giving Request.

The La Mesa Rotary Foundation was created as an Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) Foundation to accept donations to support the work of the La Mesa Rotary Club. The La Mesa Rotary Club supports activities to benefit underprivileged, elderly, children, and world-wide projects. Evaluation of competing applications to determine which activities will be funded and the amounts shall be based on "impact": Relative Impact. Preference shall be given to activities that will be significantly impacted by the amount of the contribution. For example, a contribution of \$1,000 to an organization with a \$25,000 budget has more impact than one to an organization with a \$1,000,000 budget. Impact might, however, be assessed on specific projects within an organization. Local Impact. Preference shall be given to projects that specifically benefit La Mesa and East San Diego County. Organizations that serve East County shall be given preference even if the organization is located elsewhere.

Member Impact. Preference shall be given to projects in which La Mesa Rotary Club members have invested substantial time and treasure. All submissions need to go to Kathy Olsen, Chair of the Community Giving Committee at kolsen@rcpblock.com by October 31, 2026

Visit to the United States District Court for the Southern District of California (CASD)

Friday, November 13, 2026, 8:30 am to 12 noon.

<https://www.casd.uscourts.gov/judicial-learning/>



District 5340 Rotarians and guests are being offered a unique invitation to visit the federal court in San Diego, observe criminal court proceedings and then discuss the process with United States District Judge Janis Sammartino. Judge Sammartino has served on the federal bench since 2007, prior to which she was a San Diego Superior Court Judge. Judge Sammartino chairs the Community Outreach Committee for CASD and has also served in this same role for the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals.



Following the in-court observation and presentation, Rotarian Kathleen Walford will take us on a guided historical walking tour of the Federal Judicial Center which encompasses three buildings on the downtown campus.

Because we will be observing an actual criminal calendar, we will need to gather downtown at the corner of Front St and Broadway by 8:30 a.m. to get through the screening process. Because most people don't like to drive downtown, and parking is always a challenge, you may want to consider ridesharing or utilizing the San Diego trolley and exiting at the America Plaza stop and walking one block south to Broadway.

Following the tour, you will have access to the many nearby eateries if desired. There is no cost for this opportunity other than optional trolley tickets, parking and/or lunch. However, there are a limited number of spots available and you MUST RSVP with your name, guests' name & club name to Kathleen at the-walford-astoria@cox.net no later than November 6 if you plan to participate in this event. You will need to bring your ID with you to get through security at the courthouse. The less items you bring, the easier it is to get through security. **NO PHOTOGRAPHY IS PERMITTED IN THE COURTROOM!** Any additional questions or concerns may be directed to Kathleen at the email address above.

JULIAN OAKS AUTUMN BENEFIT

19th Annual, 2026

OCT 24
11:00-3:00

\$15/person
\$45/family of 4

TICKETS!



SPONSOR

HIKE

JULIANOAKS.ORG

Come enjoy a fun filled day at the camp and support Julian Oaks Youth Ministries! Your participation will help to provide both a summer and winter camp experience, and year round events for children who have been abused or neglected and are now living in foster and group homes.

- BBQ Lunch
- Raffles
- AUCTION
- Boutique
- Horses
- Live Music
- Kid's Carnival
- Camper Testimony

S A M E D A Y !

HIKE *for* **J.O.Y.**
Ministries

4TH ANNUAL HIKE-A-THON

Help send a foster child to camp by enjoying a hike around the beautiful property in Julian and inviting friends to support the work of the ministry by sponsoring you. The ministry of Julian Oaks is completely supported by donations, so hurting children are blessed by your efforts! There will be two hikes available, one for those wanting a leisurely walk and one that traverses the hills of the camp. **Participants will then enjoy the usual festivities of the Annual BBQ Benefit, free of charge.**

Top three Fund Raisers will receive a prize!

Contact us to let us know you'll be hiking! (or walking!)



IMMEDIATELY PRECEEDING BBQ - 10:00AM

Yes, I would like to attend the BBQ Fundraiser!

Please count on _____ adults & _____ children attending

I've enclosed a check in the amount of \$ _____

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Make checks payable to "Julian Oaks Youth Ministries" and use the envelope provided to mail to

PO Box 835
Julian, CA,
92036

TO PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE
VISIT
JULIANOAKS.ORG/EVENTS

EVENT SPONSOR \$2000



- 20 MEALS
- COMPANY BANNER AT ENTRANCE
- PROMINENT RECOGNITION ON BANNER
- COMPANY SIGNAGE AT REGISTRATION TABLE

BBQ SPONSOR \$1000



- 15 MEALS
- RECOGNITION IN PROGRAM
- PROMINENT DISPLAY OF COMPANY BANNER
- COMPANY SIGNAGE AT BUFFET LINE

ENTERTAINMENT SPONSOR \$750



- 10 MEALS
- RECOGNITION IN EVENT PROGRAM
- COMPANY SIGNAGE ON EVENT'S MAIN STAGE

AUCTION SPONSOR \$500



- 8 MEALS
- RECOGNITION IN EVENT PROGRAM
- COMPANY SIGNAGE ON AUCTION TABLES

DESSERT SPONSOR \$500



- 8 MEALS
- RECOGNITION IN EVENT PROGRAM
- COMPANY SIGNAGE ON DESSERT TABLES

-COMPANY SIGNAGE ON DESSERT TABLES

TABLE SPONSOR \$200



- 4 MEALS
- COMPANY SIGNAGE AT ONE TABLE
- RECOGNITION ON BANNER AND IN PROGRAM

FAMILY SPONSOR \$100



- 2 MEALS
- RECOGNITION IN EVENT PROGRAM

ALL SPONSORSHIP PROCEEDS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE, OFFSET EVENT COSTS, AND FUND THE MINISTRY YEAR ROUND

Event	Date/Time	Location
Charitable Giving Opens	10/1/2026	Guidelines listed below.
Walk to End Alzheimers	10/3/2026 8 AM	Liberty Station
Rotary Board Meeting	10/5/2026 5 PM	
End Polio Now Walk	10/24/2026 8 AM	1788 El Prado
Camp Julian Oaks BBQ Hike for Joy	10/24/2026 11 AM - 3 PM \$15.00	See included flyer
Fall Charitable Giving Closes	10/31/2026	
20 th Annual Historic Home Tour	11/7/2026	
US District Court House Visit Rotary Tour	11/13/2026 8:30 AM-Noon	See included flyer
Fill-A-Bag	November 2026	
Urban Street Angels Thanksgiving Dinner	TBD	Urban Street Angels 7911 University Avenue La Mesa, CA 91941
Bike Build	December TBD	Christian Brothers Resortation 10176 Riverford Rd, Lakeside
Bikes for Kids School Presentation	December TBD	Harriet Tubman School 6880 Mohawk St, SD 92115
New Year Club Social	January 2027	
District 5340 Picnic	4/18/2027	TBD
District 5340 Trip to Rotary Headquarters Chicago	5/3 - 5/7/2026	
RI Convention - Barcelona	6/26 - 6/30/2027	