



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

Board Members

President Bonnie Welch
President-elect
Gabriella Misirlioglu
Past President
Becki Schwartz
Secretary Kathy Olsen
Treasurer Ryan Barnhill

Board Members

Directors

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

Membership

Greg Erickson

Youth Service

Mark Matthews

Speaker Chair

Bill Ashman



THE MAGIC
OF ROTARY



FIGHTING HUNGER, FEEDING HOPE



Casey Castillo, joined the San Diego Food Bank in 2008 as the CFO and was subsequently appointed CEO 3 years ago.

The San Diego Food Bank founded in 1977 to serve as a food safety net for San Diego County. Today they operate by collecting, storing, and distributing food to over 450 nonprofit partner organizations which then provide food to individuals and families in need.

Key operations include two large warehouses in Miramar and Vista. The 450 partners include Meals on Wheels, Mama's Kitchen, soup kitchens, and church food pantries. The food bank receives donations from individuals, corporations, food manufacturers, retailers, and growers. They also receive food from government programs like the USDA. The food bank has a fleet of refrigerated trucks to deliver food orders to partner groups. The Food Bank is a \$32 million/year organization that currently has 93 cents of every dollar going to operations. The organization has 15,000 volunteers who provide 107,000 hours/yr.

Food insecurity groups include hard working families, seniors, active-duty military, and children facing chronic hunger. The organization serves 300,000 meals a month to those in need.

On November 2nd the Jacobs and Cushman Food Bank hosted a large emergency food distribution supporting 2,181 people at Snapdragon Stadium. The group distributed 63,000 pounds of food, equivalent to 53,500 meals, including dry goods, frozen ground turkey, eggs, fresh produce including yams, pears, and onions.

Lunch Time Assignments

November 19, 2025

Greeter David Petri
Pledge Don Jenkinson
Thought Keith Dindinger
4 Way Test Guy Elam

November 26, 2025

Club is Dark - No Meeting

December 3, 2025

Greeter Dr Jay Thompson
Pledge David Petri
Thought Don Jenkinson
4 Way Test Keith Dindinger

December 10, 2025

Greeter Jack Dargitz
Pledge Dr Jay Thompson
Thought David Petri
4 Way Test Don Jenkinson

December 17, 2025

Greeter Mary Elington
Pledge Jack Dargitz
Thought Dr Jay Thompson
4 Way Test David Petri

December 24 & 31st

Club is Dark

November Birthdays

11/8 Jim Kline
11/23 Rose Hurst
11/27 Ron Morrell

Condolences

Our condolences to Mark Matthews and family on the recent death of his father.

Upcoming Programs

November 19, 2025

Laura Hook
Lemon Grove Historical Society

November 26, 2025

Club is Dark - No Meeting

Holiday Party



The holiday party will be a New Year Party this year. We will be holding the New Year Party on Friday, January 9th, at RCP Offices. Food will be catered by the Pizza Brothers again.

Please tell Bonnie if you plan to attend. We need a head count by mid-December.

Bike Build Project

We had another successful Bike Build Project on Saturday, November 8th in collaboration with Grossmont and Mt. Miguel Interactors, Eric Saretsky, President of Santee/Lakeside Rotary Club and volunteers from Christian Brothers. The group gathered at 8 AM and built 120 bikes for La Pressa Elementary and Lemon Crest Elementary. Please join in on the fun and attend the bike giveaway at **11:30 AM** on **Tuesday, November 18th** at **La Pressa Elementary located at 519 La Pressa Ave, Spring Valley**. Mike and Bill do a great job of getting the kids engaged.



New Member Proposal



Mary England has been proposed as a new member of the Rotary Club of La Mesa. Mary is President and CEO of the La Mesa Chamber of Commerce since 2008.

Annual Fill-A-Bag Project



The Rotary Club of La Mesa Board has decided to move the Fill-A-Bag project to December this year. Our November service projects are the Bike Build and Thanksgiving for the Urban Street Angels.

The Fill-A-Bag project will benefit children and their families in the La Mesa Spring Valley School District.

The goal is to make **100 bags** for distribution to children in need and assist with food over their three-week break. The need may be greater this year due to the current impact on SNAP.

Please bring your food items to any meeting up and by the December 17th meeting. We will be stuffing the bags at the December 17th meeting.

The following is a list of suggested items for the bags:

- Boxes of cereal and/ or Oatmeal
- Mac and Cheese
- Pasta
- Cans of chili
- Peanut Butter
- Refried beans, Beans, Rice
- Spaghetti sauce
- Hearty soup
- Canned meat

Urban Street Angels Thanksgiving Dinner



We have committed to providing the sides and serving a Thanksgiving meal for the Urban Street Angels on **Monday, November 24th, from 5 to 7 PM**. The event will be held at the La Mesa location for Urban Street Angels at **7911 University Avenue, La Mesa**. This location is next to the Social Security Office and was previously a Travelodge Hotel.

Arrive at 4 - 4:30 PM to drop off food, set up and be prepared to serve.

Service Opportunities

Event	Date/Time	Location
Bike Build	November 8 th	Christian Brothers Restoration 10176 Riverford Road, Lakeside
Bike Give Away	November 18 th	La Pressa Elementary School
Thanksgiving Meal Serving	November 24 th 5 PM - 7 PM	Urban Street Angels 9711 University Ave, La Mesa
Club is Dark	November 26 th	
Fill-A-Bag	December 17 th	
Club is Dark	December 24 th	
Club is Dark	December 31 st	
Holiday Party	January 9 th 5:30 PM	RCP Offices 8240 Broadway, Lemon Grove
High School Instrumental Contest	January 21 st	