



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

## Board Members

Hook,  
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



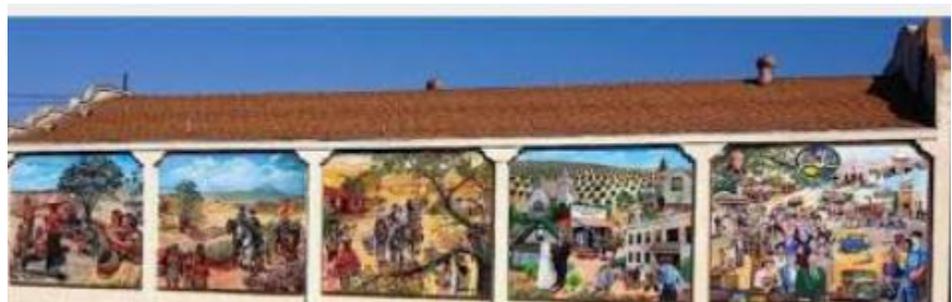
## Lemon Grove Historical Society

Laura Hook, a resident of Lemon Grove since 1981, serving as President of the Lemon Grove Historical Society and is a docent in the Parsonage Museum when not volunteering in other capacities. Laura served as a Lemon Grove Planning Commissioner.

Laura spoke to us today about the Lemon Grove History mural on the south wall of Sonka Brothers General Store. The mural depicts the five eras of Lemon Grove history from the Kumeyaay World to the modern city of Lemon Grove. The mural depicts the 1931 Lemon Grove Incident, the first successful U.S. school desegregation case, where the school board attempted to segregate Mexican American students into a former barn. Instead of obeying and walking to the old barn, the children went home and told their parents. The parents went to the Mexican consulate and obtained support for lawyers. This school board in the 1930's was not prepared for the Mexican community to unite and fight back.

A panel in the mural depicts a lawyer with his hand on Robert Alvarez, Jr., whose father was the lead plaintiff. Alvarez, himself, didn't learn of this incident until he was doing doctoral research at Stanford. He started interviewing elder family members that kept referencing the school thing.

You can find multiple videos about The Lemon Grove Incident by searching "Lemon Grove Incident" on YouTube. One of the videos is narrated by Robert Alvarez, Jr. The second video features narration by Luis Alvarez, a professor at UCSD, and his son.



## Lunch Time Assignments

### 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 & 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**Club is Dark**

## November Birthdays

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

## Upcoming Programs

### November 26, 2025

**Club is Dark - No Meeting**

### December 3, 2025

Randy Seefeldt  
Scouts in America

### December 10, 2025

Matthew Clough  
Plastic Beaches

## Holiday Party



The holiday party will be a New Year Party this year. We will be holding the New Year Party at 5:30 PM on Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 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.

## Foundation Update



Congratulations, everyone!

Mike Fellows, LM Rotary Foundation Chair, proudly displays the banners awarded our club at the District's Foundation Seminar on November 8<sup>th</sup>. The banners show our club ranks second in per capita giving to the Foundation at \$793.87, 100% donation for Every Rotarian Every Year, and being one of the six clubs to be recognized for contributing at least \$1,500 or more to Rotary's Polio Eradication efforts.

## Paul Harris Number 3



Ryan Barnhill was formally recognized today for achieving his third Paul Harris Fellow distinction, presented by Mike Fellows, Chair of the LMR Foundation

Congratulations, Ryan.

## New Member Proposal



Mary England is proposed for membership of the Rotary Club of La Mesa, by Maggie Eggers. Mary is President and CEO of the La Mesa Chamber of Commerce since 2008.

# 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 24<sup>th</sup>, 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.**

## Annual Fill-A-Bag Project



The Rotary Club of La Mesa Fill-A-Bag project will be held on **December 10<sup>th</sup>**. **Please note this is a new date. The La Mesa Spring Valley School District needed time to distribute the bags before Christmas vacation begins.**

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.

Kindly ensure that you bring your food items to any meeting scheduled before or on **December 10<sup>th</sup>**. We will be stuffing the bags at the **December 10<sup>th</sup>** meeting.

Many members signed up for specific items today, November 19<sup>th</sup>. **Below is a list of what remains and is needed. Please notify Bonnie or Mary if you want to contribute to the list below.**

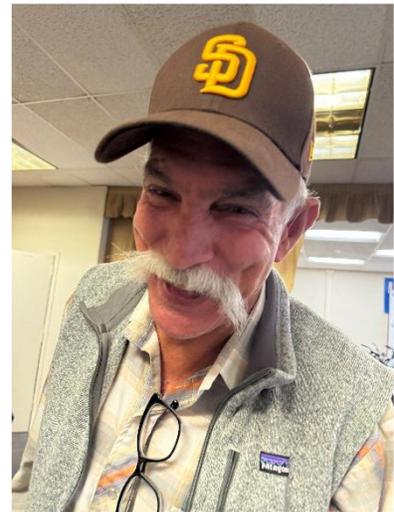
- 40 Boxes of cereal
- 50 Instant Oatmeal
- 40 Mac and Cheese
- 50 Cans of chili
- 76 Cans of soup
- 100 Refried beans, Beans, Rice
- 100 Spaghetti sauce
- 100 Pasta
- 100 Canned meats

# Bike Giveaway

55 bikes were given away at the Bike Giveaway on Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, at La Pressa Elementary School. Principal Eddie Iriqui and the three second grade teachers held an essay contest, asking the students to write why they were thankful. Three excellent essay winners were selected and presented bikes. After multiple calls from the children for "one more bike", three additional winners were selected after which the Bonnie and Bill pulled the curtain to show the kids that everyone got a bike. The kids not only jumped for joy, as in previous years, but stormed the stage excitedly to select their bike. Many parents were present to witness their child win the contest or receive their bike, the first for many of the children.

Thank you to Mark and Nancy Matthews, Gabe Matthews, Bill Ashman, Bonnie Welch, Becki Schwartz, Don Jenkinson, Larry Skeels, Mary Elington, Karen Purog, Mt. Miguel Interact Sponsor and the 3 Mt. Miguel Interact students for participating in the Giveaway.

A fun day for all. Mark, thank you for your efforts towards a wonderful project.



# Interact



The Mt Miguel and Grossmont Interact Clubs have been very engaged in their community projects. On November 11, 2026, Veterans Day the Grossmont High School Interact Students made gift bags for the Veterans at Westmont Senior Living in La Mesa. The bags contained 12 different personal care items and reading materials.

10/26/25 Grossmont High School Interact students walked in Balboa Park to promote eradication of Polio. There were 40 other Rotarians, Rotaractors, and friends walking also. With their bright red shirts and happy smiles, they hoped to make an impact. After the walk everyone enjoyed burritos. Thank you to District 5340 Rotaractors for organizing this walk.

Twelve Interact students and Karen Purog, Mt. Miguel Teacher, and Interact Sponsor, assisted with the Bike Build at Christian Brothers on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Service Opportunities

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