

# The Tattler

## Rotary Club of La Mesa

Volume 2019-20, No.307 Meeting Date: 12/9/20

Wednesday's @ 12:30pm Via

ZOOM <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/618141217>

Meeting ID: 618 141 217



[www.LaMesaRotary.org](http://www.LaMesaRotary.org)

## 1<sup>st</sup> Responder of the Year La Mesa Police / Fire

La Mesa Rotary is proud to honor our 1<sup>st</sup> Responder of the Year from the La Mesa Police Department and the Fire Department.

We reached out to the Chief of each department to see who their selection would be and they were very eager to present their selections to us.

**James Lopez** is our 1<sup>st</sup> Responder of the Year from the Fire Department and **Detective Michael Butcher** from the La Mesa Police Department!

The employee of the year for 2019 for the Fire Department is Firefighter/Paramedic James Lopez. James has been with the City of La Mesa since 2013. He was chosen as the employee of the year for his work with Fire Explorers and his overall dedication to the Department.

As an alumni of the Fire Exploring program, James is very passionate about "paying it forward" to the next generations interested in serving the public as firefighters. He is currently an Explorer Advisor with The Heartland Fire Explorer Program is sponsored through the Boy Scouts of America. James Lopez' dedication and commitment to the program is highly inspirational. Throughout his career with the Fire Department, James has spent countless hours of his own time and resources to ensure that the explorers get the best learning and mentoring available.

Additionally, James' commitment to the fire service is also illustrated by the pride in his work ethic and product. He is always looking for ways to hone his technical and professional skills, as well as to better care for the quarters, apparatus and equipment.

### Lunch Time Service Opportunities

#### December 9, 2020

Pledge Martin Brickson  
Thought Courtney Patterson  
4-Way John Fistere

#### December 16, 2020

6:00pm Holiday Party ZOOM

#### December 23, 2020

**DARK**

#### December 30, 2020

Pledge  
Thought Gary Clasen  
4-Way

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

## Important Dates:

- Dec 9<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting on ZOOM – 12:30pm  
Guest Speaker: 1<sup>st</sup> Responder Recognition
- Dec 10<sup>th</sup> Bikes for Kids Bike Build 3:00pm
- Dec 16<sup>th</sup> La Mesa Rotary Holiday Party via ZOOM – 6:00 pm
- Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> **DARK**

## 1<sup>st</sup> Responder of the Year La Mesa Police / Fire (con't)

This was exemplified in 2019 as Firefighter Lopez' did an outstanding job observing Heartland Fire & Rescue's Apparatus Committee by designing and outfitting new fire apparatus for the department.

James is a great example of an employee who embraces excellence.

In 2019 Detective Michael Butcher was assigned to work in the La Mesa Police Department's Investigations Division. As part of his assignment he was assigned to investigate Child Abuse and Elder Abuse. Detective Butcher investigated numerous cases and developed working relationships with the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency's Child Welfare Services and Aging and Independence Services to help protect children and at risk adults.

During a child molestation callout, Detective Butcher responded at 1:00 AM and coordinated a controlled telephone call which lead to admissions from the suspect, who was a close family member of the two victims. Detective Butcher then coordinated the arrested of the suspect as he attempted to flee across the international border into Mexico. Detective Butcher worked with the San Diego County District Attorney's Office which led to a conviction and sentence of 30 years to life.

Detective Butcher also investigated the child molestation of three victims which had gone unreported to law enforcement for over twenty years. Detective Butcher used multiple covert and overt investigative techniques to gain admissions from the suspect leading to his arrest. Detective Butcher worked again with the San Diego County District Attorney's Office to gain a conviction on six felony counts. The suspect faces a likely sentence of 45 years to life.

Detective Butcher also investigated multiple cases where hundreds of thousands of dollars were stolen or embezzled from elderly victims. Detective Butcher reviewed thousands of pieces of data, conducted numerous interviews with witnesses, and conducted interrogations with suspects leading to admissions. Butcher worked again with the San Diego County District Attorney's Office leading to convictions, restitution, or charges being filed with pending prosecution.

Detective Butcher's work and dedication makes the youngest and oldest residents of La Mesa safer every day. It is because of his work and dedication I am nominating him for the La Mesa Police Department's Officer of the Year- 2019.



# La Mesa Rotary Supports the Community with our Charitable Giving Campaign!

Kathy Olsen presents a check for \$1,000 to Mary Case the CEO of Crisis House on behalf of La Mesa Rotary as part of our Fall Charitable Giving Campaign!



Visit the La Mesa Rotary online! [www.LaMesaRotary.org](http://www.LaMesaRotary.org)  
Or find us on Facebook! Just search for La Mesa Rotary.

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## La Mesa Rotary 2020-21 Board of Directors

President:  
Scott Elam

President Elect:  
Sue Richardson

Past President:  
Jack Dargitz

Secretary:  
Kathy Olsen

Treasurer:  
Ron Morell

2019-21 Directors:  
Courtney Patterson  
Larry Perna  
Jen Flynn

2020-22 Directors:  
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Mark Matthews  
Becki Schwartz

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Rose Hurst

Speakers Chair:  
Bill Ashman

Membership:  
Jen Flynn  
Marsha Starr

Social Chair:  
Marsha Darling  
Dolly Juntilla

# Greetings from La Mesa DISTRICT 5340

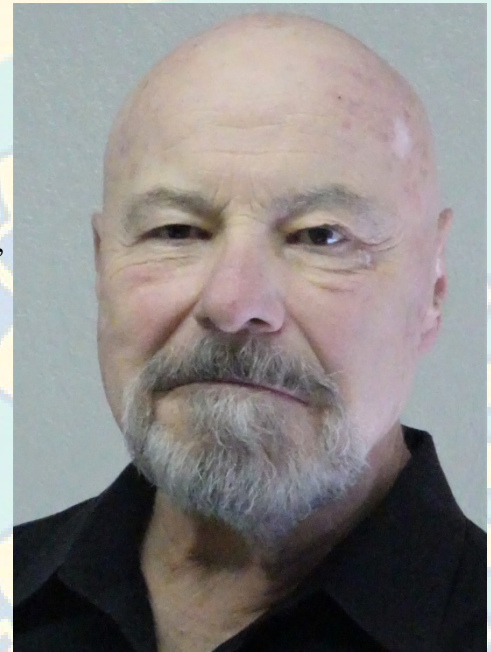
## New Member Reinstatement Jerry Fazio

Jerry Fazio would like to be reinstated as a member of La Mesa Rotary. While with La Mesa Rotary Jerry was with the Boy's & Girls Club of East County. As a member Jerry held Board positions including President. Jerry is the retired CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of East County and its Foundation, having worked there for 38 years. For his outstanding work he was named National Executive Director of the Year from Boys & Girls Clubs of America in 2007.

As a volunteer Jerry was named El Cajon Citizen of the Year (1992). He recently completed his term on the Board of Directors at Sharp Grossmont Hospital where he served as Chair of the Board from 2018-2020. As a proud Rotarian Jerry has a 20 year career as a member of the Clubs in El Cajon and La Mesa.

Jerry is a widower. His beautiful wife Nancy passed away in 2010. He has two wonderful children, Nick and Angela, proud graduates of Grossmont High School (thanks, Mr. Ashman) and the University of California San Diego where they met their spouses (Jennifer and Gabriel) while attending college. Jerry also has two grandsons, Andrew (8) and Zachary (5) who terrorize their parents in Orange County.

For 30 years Jerry has owned the same house in Fletcher Hills where he currently resides with his best friend and walking buddy, Coco, part Lab and part Pit Bull who gives lots of lovin' to everyone she meets.



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## Bikes For Kids



Bikes For Kids Bike Build will be Thursday December 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 3:00pm. We will do a Social Distancing Bike Build at Rancho Spring Valley Elementary School! We will be building 55 bikes to be given to the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders at this school. By building them at the school this year we will not have to worry about transporting them to the school. The Bike Build will be open to all that can come to help out.



City Hope is accepting Food Donations to be distributed throughout Spring Valley & La Mesa. You can drop off donations at the Spring Valley Academy at 2:30pm on Friday's or Bonnie would be glad to pick up any donations you have. Right now they are looking for Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Peanut Butter, Tuna, Cereal, Chili & Soup. They are taking volunteers for the food distribution station at the Spring Valley academy each Friday.

Dani would also appreciate if anyone could call the La Mesa Police Depart Dispatch and just offer words of encouragement. (619) 667-1400

# Greetings from



## Volunteer Work Day

**Saturday, December 12**

**10am – 1pm**

**5080 Memorial Drive**

**Join us for socially distanced volunteer projects**

- Painting
- Adding soil in garden beds



**Supplies and tools provided**

**Please bring painting supplies or wheelbarrows if you have them**

**For more information or to RSVP  
email [lamesacg@gmail.com](mailto:lamesacg@gmail.com)**



**Visit [lamesaparks.org](http://lamesaparks.org) for more information about the La Mesa Community Garden**

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