

# The Tattler

## Rotary Club of La Mesa

Volume 2018-19, No.180

Meeting Date: 3/14/18

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



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

### Words Alive! Advocates for Reading Christina Meeker

Words Alive was established in 1999 by Leslye Lyons, a social worker and voracious reader. The organization was founded on the belief that if you value reading and understand its fundamental connection to all aspects of your life, then you will be better equipped to thrive as a lifelong learner and productive member of your community.

Leslye and a team of volunteers had the idea to implement a book club program for at-risk populations. This idea would become our flagship program, the Adolescent Book Group (ABG). Based on the traditional book club model of reading a book and hosting a facilitated discussion with club members, this program was created and then tested with the help of another local entity serving at-risk populations. After it proved successful, Words Alive developed curriculum and training materials and piloted the program at Lindsay Community Day School, a site that serves pregnant and parenting teens. This program continues to be administered today by highly trained book group facilitators and volunteers who use books and thoughtfully planned curriculum guides to reach at-risk teens.

After establishing the first ABG site, the Words Alive founding volunteers turned their focus to early literacy. Research shows that teaching children reading proficiency before third grade is instrumental in ensuring their success as readers in the future. For this reason, Words Alive developed an integrated read aloud program for preschoolers from low-income households. This Early Literacy Intervention model (ELI) ensured that these children would receive the same critical reading experiences crucial to pre-literacy development as their more affluent peers, preparing them for kindergarten and beyond.

In January 2014, Words Alive welcomed Rolling Readers to our family of literacy programs. For over 20 years Rolling Readers has provided read-aloud opportunities for elementary school students throughout San Diego. From this addition, we repackaged our programming to provide services to our littlest learners, teens and families through the Family Literacy

### Lunch Time Service Opportunities

#### March 14, 2017

|         |               |
|---------|---------------|
| Greeter | Ron Morell    |
| Songs   | Jay Thompson  |
| Pledge  | Gary Clasen   |
| Thought | John Fistere  |
| Raffle  | Jerry Esqueda |
| Fines   | Larry Mascari |
| 4-Way   | Mike Fellows  |

#### March 21, 2017

|         |                  |
|---------|------------------|
| Greeter | Nathan Oestreich |
| Songs   | Bonnie Welch     |
| Pledge  | Bridgette Tabor  |
| Thought | Jenny Flynn      |
| Raffle  | Jim Kline        |
| Fines   | Mike Mascari     |
| 4-Way   | Keith Dindinger  |

#### March 28, 2017

|         |                |
|---------|----------------|
| Greeter | Bill Ashman    |
| Songs   | John Witt      |
| Pledge  | Gary Clasen    |
| Thought | Ben Hamilton   |
| Raffle  | Dennis Knight  |
| Fines   | Mark Matthews  |
| 4-Way   | Marsha Darling |

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

## Important Dates:

- Mar 14<sup>th</sup> Words Alive! Christina Meeker
- Mar 15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> Camp Enterprise
- Mar 21<sup>st</sup> Catholic Services
- Mar 24<sup>th</sup> District Training Assembly – USD
- Mar 24<sup>th</sup> Global Grants Management Seminar – USD
- Mar 28<sup>th</sup> Patrick Henry High School Interact Club
- Apr 11<sup>th</sup> View from the Dugout: Tales of a Padres Bat Boy – Scott Elam
- Apr 12<sup>th</sup> Rotary Baseball Night – Padres vs. Giants
- May 16<sup>th</sup> District Attorney Summer Stephan

## Prospective New Member Bio: Courtney Patterson

We have a prospective new member applying for membership to La Mesa Rotary.

Courtney Patterson is Business Development Manager for  
Benchmark Mortgage here in La Mesa.

I grew up in Rhode Island, but after 2 decades of the cold, wind, rain and snow I smartened up and moved to the San Diego area post college! I have been a La Mesa resident for the last 6 years with my husband Jeremy and our Carolina Dog named Penny (photo for your amusement here). Last January we opened our Benchmark Mortgage branch office on La Mesa Blvd, right next to Allen's music. There, I am the Business Development Manager where my main focus is to represent the Patterson Team in the community, and to help our team have an impact on others through relationships with clients, partners and community organizations. Prior to the mortgage industry, I spent close to 10 years working in the non-profit sector for organizations such as the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation and the American Cancer Society. My heart has always been focused on giving back to the community and I believe the La Mesa Rotary will definitely help me to fill that need.



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## 4-Way Test Speech Contest



Pictured: President Jack, Meredith (3<sup>rd</sup>), Andrew (2<sup>nd</sup>), Zoe (1<sup>st</sup>) & 4-Way Test Speech Contest Chair Steven Looser

This year we had 5 high school students compete in the 4-Way Test Speech Contest. Two students from Patrick Henry and 3 from Mount Miguel.

Congratulations to the winners of our 4-Way Test Speech Contest! This year our winner was Zoe Benink a sophomore from Patrick Henry! 2<sup>nd</sup> place went to Andrew a senior at Mount Miguel and 3<sup>rd</sup> place went to Meredith Drake a senior at Patrick Henry.



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 2017-18 Board of Directors

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# Rotary Baseball Night

## Padres vs. Giants

Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:10pm



Join Rotary members from across the District as we watch the San Diego Padres beat the San Francisco Giants. District Governor Scott Carr will throw out the honorary first pitch, along with a special Rotary Flag Raising from the Rotary Flag Court.

We have a block of terrific seats in the Section 109 along the first base side. Tickets are only \$36.50 plus processing fee. These specially-reduced tickets are now on sale by clicking here:

<https://groupmatics.events/event/Rotary0412>

Don't delay! Deadline to purchase these specially-reduced tickets is March 30, 2018.

Special thanks to [Sean Nickelsen](#), our inside source at the San Diego Padres, for his help in arranging this special evening event.

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