

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



Guest Speaker: Hilary Ego, Environmental Sustainability Manager, City of La Mesa



Today we welcomed Hilary Ego, Environmental Sustainability Manager and Climate Action Plan Administrator for the City of La Mesa. Hilary provided an informative update on the City's 2025 E-Bike Incentive Program, a pilot initiative funded by a \$45,000 grant from San Diego Community Power. The program was designed to encourage cleaner transportation options by offering vouchers to La Mesa residents and workers for the purchase of e-bikes. Participants could receive \$800 for standard applicants or \$1,200 for income-qualified applicants, redeemable at Stay True Cycleworks. Eligible purchases included Class 1 or Class 2 e-bikes with UL certification.

To qualify, applicants needed to be 18 or older, live or work in La Mesa, and describe how they intended to use the e-bike. Recipients were also required to complete a virtual e-bike safety course.

Interest in the program was strong:

- 652 applications were submitted
- 44 vouchers were awarded
- 53% of applicants were income-qualified, with several recipients relying on the e-bike as their primary mode of transportation

Of the \$45,000 grant, \$5,000 supported the safety training, with the remainder funding the 44 e-bike vouchers. The city is monitoring opportunities for future grants, but no additional funding is currently available.

Lunch Assignments

April 8, 2026

Greeter Ron Morrell
Pledge Martin Brickson
Thought Jay Thompson
4 Way Test Bonnie Welch

April 15, 2026

Greeter David Petri
Pledge Jim Kline
Thought Marsha Starr
4 Way Test Jay Thompson

April 22, 2026

Greeter Jim Kline
Pledge David Petri
Thought Marsha Darling
4 Way Test Mary Elington

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

April Birthdays

4/16 Marsha Darling

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences to President Bonnie Welch on the death of her husband, Ron.

LA MESA CHAMBER



Gabriella Misirlioglu, President-elect and Mary Elington manned the La Mesa Rotary booth at the La Mesa Chamber of Commerce meeting on Wednesday, March 25, 2026.

Several excellent contacts were made by Gabriella and Mary.

Volunteers Needed

Earth Day will be celebrated on Saturday, April 18th at the Grossmont Center Kids Zone.

Please let Bill know if you can help out for a few hours between 11:00 AM and 3:00 PM. GH Interact students will be assisting as well.

Earth Day 2026 will be held on Saturday, April 18, from 11 AM - 3 PM at MacArthur



The poster for the La Mesa Earth Day Fair features a green background with the title 'La Mesa Earth Day Fair' in large, stylized letters. The City of La Mesa logo is in the top right corner. Below the title, it says 'CELEBRATE EARTH DAY WITH A DAY DEDICATED TO SUSTAINABILITY AND PROTECTING OUR PLANET FEATURING ECO-FRIENDLY VENDORS, A KIDS ZONE, FOOD TRUCKS, ACTIVITIES, AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES FOR ALL AGES'. There are three photo cutouts: one of a group of children, one of people at a table, and one of bicycles. The text 'FREE!' is written in red. The date and time are 'SATURDAY APRIL 18, 2026 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM'. The location is 'MACARTHUR PARK 4900 MEMORIAL DRIVE'. The 'AMERICA 250' logo is at the bottom left.

Mexican House Build



Mark Matthews is busy putting together our annual Mexican House Build project to take place on Friday, April 3, 2026. At this time, the Santee Lakeside Club will also be participating in the very worthwhile event.

Funding for the \$8000 project with Project Mercy is also needed. Mark is coordinating the following funding events:

Sunrise Service



Becki Schwartz is looking for volunteers to assist with loading buses at Grossmont High School for the 2026 Sunrise Service on Mt. Helix. Legacy Church of La Mesa is putting on the service. Volunteers are needed at Grossmont High on Sunday, April 5th from 5:30 AM to 6:30 AM. Please let Becki know if you can help.

Meals on Wheels Recognizes Ron Morell for 20+ Years

*Honoring our volunteer **RON MORELL***



Meals on Wheels' East County office is congratulating long-time volunteer **RON MORELL**. Last month, we honored Ron with an award recognizing him as a community champion for seniors!

As you may have read in our January newsletter, Ron has volunteered with us for more than 20 years, through our Adopt-A-Route partners La Mesa Rotary Club and Foothills United Methodist Church. He came to San Diego in 1954, and served 24 years in the Navy. Ron was also nominated for El Cajon's 2025 Citizen of the Year award.



Meals on Wheels is lucky to have many other long-time volunteers as well. We appreciate **EVERYONE** who makes sure our homebound seniors get healthy meals and safety checks. None of this would be possible, without **YOU!**

Service Opportunities

Event	Date/Time	Location
Mexican House Build	April 3, 2026	
RYLA	April 10-12, 2026	Idyllwild
Kids Zone	April 18 9 - 4 PM	Mc Arthur Park
NAMI Walk	7 - 11 AM April 25, 2026	NTC Liberty Park
Multi-District Conference Register on line at rotary5340.org	April 24 - 26, 2026	Gaylord Pacific Resort & Convention Center 1000 H Street, Chula Vista
Camp Enterprise	April 23 - 25, 2026	
Epic Day of Service	May 16, 2026	TBD