Grossmont Community College Athletic Program

Grossmont College is one of eight San Diego County Community Colleges and is a member of the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference. The Griffins offer 16 women and men's sports that serve roughly 400 student athletes. This past academic calendar year the Griffins won the coveted Chet Devore Cup for the second straight year. This is the first time in cup history that a PCAC institution has won the award two years in a row. The Chet Devore Cup is awarded to the top overall athletic program from the PCAC Conference and this is the 3rd time in the last decade that Grossmont College has won the award. Recently, the Griffins became the first San Diego Community college to win the baseball state title in history. The Griffins also won 6 PCAC titles this past season and crowned the college's first ever single and doubles state champions in the history of the college.

Thomas Armstrong returns home to Grossmont College as the Associate Dean of Athletics on August 15, 2016. Armstrong began his coaching career as a student assistant at Humboldt State University where he received his BS in Kinesiology. Thomas coached running-backs with the Lumberjack football squad while assisting with the softball program under Hall of Fame Coach Frank Cheek. After serving a brief internship with the San Jose State University Football program under legendary coach John Ralston, Armstrong accepted a graduate assistantship and scholarship to the University of North Dakota where he completed graduate studies in Kinesiology and Administration Leadership. In Armstrong's first year as a full-time faculty instructor and coach, Mayville State University Football broke 21 single season school records in the 2000 season and the Comets softball program won over 20 games for the first time in school history. Armstrong continued coaching both sports until 2004 when he resigned from football to focus on teaching and softball alone.
Important Dates:

Aug 5th  Global Grants Hands-On Computer Lab  9:00 am – 12:00 pm  USD
Aug 9th  Grossmont Community College Athletic Program – Thomas Armstrong
Aug 16th  District Governor Scott Carr
Aug 23rd  CalTrans
Sept 5th  La Mesa Rotary Board of Directors meeting – 5:30 pm
Sept 9th  Interact Club Symposium – Liberty Station – 8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Sept 16th  District Peace Leadership Seminar – Ronald McDonald House – 9 -12:30

New Member Profile

We have a prospective new member to La Mesa Rotary: Jerry Esqueda

Major Jerry Esqueda is an Associate Pastor in the Salvation Army with his wife Vicky. Jerry received his Bachelor’s degree in Biblical counseling and began with the Salvation Army in the Palm Springs area. Jerry & Vicky helped develop a church in the City Heights area and was on the ground breaking development team for the Kroc Center on University. Jerry has turned in an application to become a member of La Mesa Rotary. President Jack is his sponsor.

Please introduce yourself to Jerry at lunch and welcome him to La Mesa Rotary!
La Mesa Rotary Charitable Giving Campaign

Our annual fall Charitable Giving Campaign has begun. Each member of the La Mesa Rotary can submit a request to the Charitable Giving committee for their consideration.

If you have a 501©3 charitable foundation that you support you can get a letter from them with the reason for the request. Then you must write a letter explaining why you think La Mesa Rotary should consider the request in your name. Please keep the goals of La Mesa Rotary in mind when choosing your charity. We do focus on East County.

These requests then must be submitted to Sam Bauchmann who is chair of that committee. Once the committee receives a budget from the board they will go through all submissions and get them to fit within the budget. The committee will then submit this to the board for final approval.

Someone from your charity must be able to attend a lunch meeting to receive their check.

Visit the La Mesa Rotary online! www.LaMesaRotary.org
Or find us on Facebook! Just search for La Mesa Rotary.

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La Mesa Rotary Shoe Drive

A few people have asked for a more detailed explanation of the shoe drive, so in case you want to know more as well here are the details:

The company who processes the shoes ([www.Funds2Orgs.com](http://www.Funds2Orgs.com)) pays us 40c a pound. They ask for up to 25 pairs of shoes for each bag, and the estimated value of each bag is approximately $10.

We are committed to 300 bags which would equal $3,000. With all of our members putting in a little effort I bet we could do 500 bags.

At the end of the drive the company picks up the shoes. They sell them at a slight profit, probably 70c a pound, to “micro-enterprises” people in 3rd world countries, in this case Haiti and Africa. These are people who have almost no employment opportunity at all, the poorest of the poor. So the most enterprising of them gets these shoes for very little and sells them for a bit of profit. I was just informed that one of these “entrepreneurs” in Haiti made enough in his shoe stand to send his son to law school. Beautiful stories like these warm the heart because here is an example of someone escaping poverty, a destiny he was able to detour.

As for acquiring the shoes, you don’t have to be the supplier if you don’t have any shoes of your own to part with. If you are courageous enough you could take a flyer to your local grocery store, dry cleaner, bank, etc… anywhere there is foot traffic, speak to a manager and ask if you could put a bin there for collection. Most of them are quite happy to be of help when they hear what we are doing with the funds generated......Would you be open to putting a bin in your store????..........If you feel like sticking your hand in your pocket you could do what I did yesterday afternoon. I went to a thrift shop and made a pitch to the proprietor, who gladly sold me shoes at a 50% discount (already priced very cheaply to begin with). So I got a huge bag of shoes for very little money outlay.

Oh, the shoes need to be tied together at the laces, hooked together with their straps of rubber banded together so they don’t get separated...

Marsha Starr
New Member Profile

We have a prospective new member to La Mesa Rotary: Bridgette Tabor

Bridgette is a Commercial Insurance Specialist with an emphasis in sales and marketing within the community association industry. She has intimate knowledge of community associations not only as an agent but as a Community Volunteer Leader, having served on her board of directors for a number of years. Bridgette also brings over 16 years of experience in the legal industry working mostly with construction defect litigation and has an understanding of the complexities of the insurance industry concerning these matters.

Bridgette also works with Non-Profit Boards of Directors to improve communication and enhance its ability to relate effectively with one another. She also, maximizing productivity of non-profits by assisting them in enhancing their ability to provide services to their members through clear, concise and on point agendas and meetings. Bridgette is sponsored by Jen Flynn.