

# THE ROTATOR

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SAN DIEGO ROTARY CLUB

San Diego  
Rotary



Established 1911

## Discovering Their Magic

## Next Meeting



Patti Roscoe  
Editor

In addition to being Club's 33's leader, **President Suzy** was this week's Chair of the Day. As always, she handled the additional duties with efficiency and enthusiasm. **Duke Sobek's Inspirational Moment** focused on the month of May's salute to seniors theme. Duke asked each of us to express gratitude this coming week and hug a senior in our lives (at which point, many of us hugged each other.) **Barbara Norenberg** and **Larry Showley** led us in honoring our country and **Deirdre Maloney** brought us the News, sponsored this week by **Mark Burgess**. Congratulations to Coronado for having one of the nation's top 10 beaches, as proclaimed by Dr. Beach. Who is Dr. Beach, you ask? Dr. Stephen P. Leatherman is Professor and Director of the Laboratory for Coastal Research at Florida International University. Imagine someone from Florida giving California credit for anything having to do with climate. What a coup!!!

**Steve Coopersmith** was on tap for our Art Moment. He told of a project in Queens, NY, called 5 Pointz. Your editor can't do this interesting topic justice in a few lines, so here is a link: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/5\\_Pointz](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/5_Pointz)

Prez Suzy took back the podium and promptly congratulated PDG Philippe Lamoise and Dugan Moore for tying the knot on May 18<sup>th</sup>. **Jim Hughes** was given a giant atta-boy for being the "Wizard of All Things Rotary." Jim and Carmen Hughes coordinated our club's International Assembly Project, which consisted of buying products and putting together 500 much-appreciated hygiene bags for students of Monarch High.

It was then President Elect-Elect **Judy Thompson's** pleasure to present two talented students with the 2019 Diana Venable Scholarships. Aumoni Hamlin and Monique Cano accepted financial grants while their proud parents watched from the audience. Diana's good work continues on.

Suzy's final announcement was a request for us to join a committee this coming new Rotary year. *Don't just be a ham-and-egger. Get involved!!! (The link to sign up is on page 2.)* Past-president and retired barrister, **Bob Russell**, introduced Niles

(Fremont) Rotarian Aggie Freeman, who bestowed her daughter, Sarah Rosen (one of Bob's former law partners,) with a Paul Harris Fellow and donor pin - because Sarah has a *Rotary heart*. President Suzy then introduced our Rotarian from the farthest distance - an artist from Siberia.

Our guest speaker was Linda Sheridan, Founder & CEO of the San Diego Cultural Arts Alliance. Linda educated us on the mysterious, beautiful, and sometimes frustrating topic of graffiti art. During Linda's presentation, many of us learned a new expression - *aerosol art*. (And I thought that meant using Pledge on my furniture!)

Linda has been involved with aerosol art since the 1960's, when graffiti was created by taggers and written primarily on walls. The art form has since morphed into designer work. Chicano Park has perfect examples of it. To young artists, it is a form of messaging that says, "We need to be heard - *listen* to our art." And when we do "listen" we hear "Beat your kids with love", "Sorrow", and "Smack." Cries for help from kids who feel lost, alone, and misunderstood. Some graffiti artists apologize—"Sorry about your wall." Other graffiti expresses social and political commentary—"Stop making stupid people famous." Much is created by vulnerable young people who don't realize disfigurement of public space is considered a felony with possible jail time. One case is of an 11-year old who was angry and found an outlet with tagging. Fortunately, Linda got him into her eight-week countywide program aimed at young graffiti taggers. He learned a different side of himself to redirect his feelings to legal art and fortunately stayed out of the juvenile court.

San Diego spends over \$16 million dollars a year painting over vandalism only to have it reappear within days. Linda collaborated with the San Diego Police Department, District Attorney's Office, and Probation Department to come up with solutions. To help them better understand the culture of graffiti, she set up tables and chairs under Route 163 near its intersection with Interstate 8 in a place known by locals as "The Pit" and is a jungle of graffiti.

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**Next Meeting:  
May 30**

**Author Adam Ockelford  
&  
Pianist Derek Paravicini**

Blind and autistic, musical savant Derek Paravicini has been featured twice on 60 Minutes and is the topic of the book "In the Key of Genius", written by his teacher and author Adam Ockelford. Both gentlemen will be in San Diego from London for the Mainly Mozart Festival's "Music & Autism: Empowering the Mozart in Us All" from May 30 through June 2. Mr. Ockelford will be discussing the role that music plays in those with physical and mental limitations, and we will have a performance by Derek.

Derek was born extremely prematurely, at 25 weeks. His blindness was caused by an overdose of oxygen therapy given during his time in a neonatal intensive care unit. This also affected his developing brain, resulting in his severe learning disability. He has perfect pitch and can play any piece of music after hearing it once. He began playing the piano at the age of two when his nanny gave him an old keyboard. At age seven, Derek gave his first concert in Tooting Leisure Centre in South London.



Nancy Laturno  
Chair of the Day

## QUICK BITS

### Do you have a change of address? Changed jobs recently or have a new title?

If there are any changes in your contact information that you would like to make for the 2018-19 member directory, please contact the [Rotary office](#) **before May 31** to ensure its inclusion.



If you would like to propose a candidate for this year's prestigious annual "Mr.-Mrs.-Ms. San Diego" award, which will be selected in late June by our Past Presidents, please contact [click here](#) for a nomination form.

**The last day to submit a nomination form is June 3.**

## BIRTHDAYS

	May
Ray McKewon	27
Marie Raftery	27
Scott Schindler	28
Bennet Greenwald	29
Mark Neville	29
Deirdre Maloney	31

## Discovering Their Magic *Continued from page 1*

For many, this first encounter with the art form in a non-confrontational way led to a more intimate understanding of the messaging being created. The group created a Memorandum of Understanding and a solution: create an "Art Park" in the under the interchange between Mission and Fashion Valleys. A place where graffiti artists can legally express themselves. She convinces the artists that there is no thrill from hanging upside down from a freeway sign. Not when there is a safe place for their art.

Linda developed an eight-week, after-school graffiti arts curriculum, recruited reformed taggers, respected mural artists, and formed a mural team. Upon completion, students are invited to join the mural team doing commissioned public artworks throughout San Diego. So far, 650 youths have become involved, creating 15 murals, with 3 more in the planning. None of these young people have reoffended and many are moving on to higher education. Many have said they discovered their "magic" inside, a talent they didn't know they had. They also teach potential offenders that their crime can lead to costly restitution, jail, and even felony records. Linda has also created a group of mentors and involved the local communities to become part of the solution. Community leaders like Linda Sheridan are helping to make San Diego a safer place for all of us, especially our young people, to live and thrive.

## 2019-20 COMMITTEE SIGN-UP

Every year you have a new opportunity to select where you wish to serve. Even if you have participated in certain committees this past year, you must re-sign-up to remain on them. The [club's website](#) identify our committees and their purpose. Some of the committees meet monthly, and others only meet on an as needed basis.

[Click here to sign up.](#) Simply click on the buttons next to the committee(s) you would like to join and then click the "Done" button at the bottom of the page to submit your selections.

Some of the committees will need to prepare their schedules and rosters prior to the start of the new year [so please sign up by June 3.](#)

***Remember, the Rotary year begins anew on July 1st, so you must re-enlist for the committees you have worked on in the past. We thank you for your service!***

## CALENDAR

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT LIBERTY STATION CONFERENCE CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

### May

**30 Pianist Derek Paravicini and author Adam Ockelford**

### June

**6 The California Cannabis Supply Chain**

**13 San Diego LGBT Pride**

## GROTARIAN EVENTS

*Details on our June event is coming soon!*



### Volunteers needed for our City Heights Youth Soccer Tournament

Our second youth soccer tournament will be held on **Saturday, June 1 and Sunday, June 2 from 8am-4pm at the Rosa Parks Field in City Heights (4380 Landis St., 92105).** We need volunteers to help with organization in leading up to the event and during the tournament.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact [Nick Bernal](#) or [Daniel Amaro](#).

**Meetings: Every Thursday at Noon, Liberty Station Conference Center, 2600 Laning Road, San Diego, 92106**

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# ROTARY INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY SERVICE PROJECT



The Rotary International Assembly is held each year in January here in San Diego. Five hundred thirty-three District Governor-Elects from around the world and their partners attend one week of intense training.

One half-day midweek is set aside for a service project and a Host Hospitality evening. The service project is identified by the incoming President Elect's partner the prior year. This past January, Gai Maloney selected something to help the Monarch school. Club 33 member and past president Jim Hughes led the charge and drafted volunteers to help.

The Jan. 16 service project was putting together 500 personal hygiene bags and 500 snack packs for the Monarch students. Then came the idea of adding an art element; painting a mural for Monarch that all the volunteers could participate in. (At the same time, our volunteers were organizing the Host Hospitality event, matching hundreds of DGE's with local members for a night of fellowship, food and fun.)

**Next year will be the last year the Int'l Assembly will be held in San Diego. We want to make it best participation from Club 33 ever. It is set for 1/19-1/24/20, with the service project and Host Hospitality tentatively set for 1/22/20. We will be asking for volunteers so please join us in making this the best International Assembly ever!**

*The finished mural as seen in the photos above was named the "Circle of Hope", representing many different parts of Rotary coming together to create something beautiful.*

# FACES IN OUR CROWD

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PAUL NESTOR



(Left) President Suzy with guest speaker Linda Sheridan; (right) Steve Coopersmith discusses the 5 Pointz mural building in New York for meeting's Art Moment.



(Left) Bob Russell helped to facilitate a surprise Paul Harris Fellow presentation to one of his former law partners, Sarah Rosen, by her mother Aggie Freeman; (right) Past President Michelle Candland and Past President Jim Hughes shared the success of the recent service project for the RI International Assembly.



Congratulations to our 2019 Diana Venable Scholarship winners: (left) \$20,000 winner Armonni Hamlin (who wants to be an engineer) with his parents; (right) \$10,000 winner Monique Cano (who wants to be a nurse practitioner or mental health therapist) with her parents.