



THE ROTATOR

Vol. 100, No. 7

Aug. 15, 2013

ROTARY CLUB OF SAN DIEGO

Property Tax 101



David Oates
Editor

With Casual Dress Month firmly in place (or as I translated it, Hawaiian Shirt Day) and **President Chuck Pretto's** step stool happily back in its rightful spot behind the podium, our August 15 program got underway with a tribute to our own San Diego County Sheriff

Bill Gore and his department's valiant efforts to bring Hannah Anderson back home safely. Thank you, Sheriff Gore and your crack team, for all that you do!

Deirdre Maloney then delivered a fine inspirational moment on the blessings of families – both our own and with Rotary. **Dominick Addario** trumpeted his way through “America the Beautiful” accompanied by **Larry Showley**. **George Alexander** delivered all the news that was fit to present with special thanks to Manpower's dynamic duo, **Phil Blair** and **Mel Katz**, for sponsoring our ever-present segment.

Phil then introduced Karen Scott, a U.S. Navy Veteran and mother of six-year old triplets (YIKES!) who specializes in workforce training. She was intricately involved in the development of several programs in safety, IT and mobile satellite communications for the military service's Southwest Region. Karen is a graduate of Southern Illinois University (Go, Salukis!) with a Bachelor of Science degree in workforce education. If you know of any potential openings, contact Phil right away. With her credentials, it won't be long for her to become gainfully employed!

The mood then turned a bit somber as **Marten Barry** took to the podium (sans step stool) to deliver shocking news. He is no longer the Rotary Club of San Diego golf champion. **Don Tartre** reportedly toyed with Marten throughout the May 31 tournament, giving his long-time friend,

turned fairway arch nemesis, a false sense of security until that final hole. What's the difference between a winner and loser, you ask? Apparently, the answer is one golf stroke.

Deidre Maloney returned to the microphone wearing her Public Relations Committee Chairperson hat to encourage all of us to follow the news and information of our club through [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#). More important, she asked that we all join in on the conversations that are occurring on these social media channels. It's fantastic that technology now allows us to keep in touch with our club not just weekly, but daily!

Following the call to digital action was **Michelle Candland** who gave us a head's up on the Committee Showcase (also known as “Show Up, Show Off”) taking place before our September 19 meeting. This is an opportunity for committees to show off their work and encourage other Club 33 members to join in on their fun. There are 11 signed up so far, so Chairs, talk to Michelle about securing a table. It is important that we showcase all of our activities to the entire membership body!

Don Kent then stood up to take two \$250 fines. The first was to promote the Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute's 50th Anniversary Celebration, dubbed “Fins, Flukes & Feathers,” on Saturday, September 7. It's hard to believe that great organization for which Don leads is a half century old! He also took a second fine to proudly boast his son's recent graduation from USD Law School and taking of the California Bar Exam. We'll all keep our fingers crossed on the results!

El Presidente Pretto then returned to his podium to make us all aware of the September 17 District Council Dinner at *Please turn to page 4 for more*

NEXT MEETING

Thursday

August 22, 2013

Liberty Station

Conference Center

“Evolution of a Brand”

Henry Ford
Senior Vice President &
General Manager

Henry Ford, Senior Vice President and General Manager of FOX Sports San Diego, will speak on the evolution of the FOX Sports brand and then explain the process of taking that national brand into the community of San Diego. He'll dive into the specifics of who FOX Sports San Diego is, what it's done and most importantly, where it's going.



Kris Michell
Chair of the Day

QUICK BITS

IMPORTANT DATES

Tennis Tournament and Grotarian Event TBD.

Register for events at www.rotary33.org or www.rotary5340.org

DISTRICT COUNCIL 9/17

Register for "Going for Rotary Gold" with keynote speaker Olympian Mary O. Andrews at the Crowne Plaza in Mission Valley. Festivities start at 5:30 PM. Sign up [here](#).

BOARD NAMES TRONCONE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Board of Directors appointed Past President **Dick Tronccone** to be the interim Executive Director while the Search Committee led by President-elect **Michelle Candland** continues the process of finding Bruce A. Hunt's replacement. Watch the News section on our website for information about the timeline and job description.



Through the Looking Glass



The Rotary Foundation enjoys high ratings from charity watchdogs

Many philanthropists say it is more difficult to give money away intelligently than it is to earn it.

As charities' financial practices make headlines, many donors are concerned about how their money is used.

Rotarians can be confident that their contributions to [The Rotary Foundation](#) are being well spent.

The Foundation has earned a grade of A+ from the American Institute of Philanthropy, a top rating of four stars from Charity Navigator, and full accreditation from the Wise Giving Alliance of the Better Business Bureau.

Only 2.3 percent of Foundation expenditures go to administrative expenses, and 7.3 percent go to fundraising. The Foundation focuses more than 90 percent of its spending on programs, far exceeding the threshold of 75 percent that independent charity-rating services view as a measure of high efficiency.

As many of you know, \$100 of the \$250 Club 33 annual contribution goes to The Rotary Foundation. Multiply \$100 by the number of members in our club and you can see the impact our contributions have on the good works Rotary is doing throughout the world — and we are just one of 33,000 clubs. We all can be proud to be "Rotarians."

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CALENDAR

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT LIBERTY STATION CONFERENCE CENTER

AUGUST

29 *Jerry Sanders
President/CEO
San Diego Regional
Chamber of Commerce*

SEPTEMBER

5 *Fred Saxon
Speaker, Entertainer
& Author*

12 *Mr. San Diego Award*

19 *Rotary District
Governor Carl Kruse*

26 *New Library*

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

AUGUST 22
Cardinals Interact
Girl Scouts
Tennis

BIRTHDAYS

Marten Barry	Aug. 19
Paula Cordeiro	19
Penny Robbins	20
Ellen Casey	20
Michael Jones	20
Rodger Dougherty	20
Charlie Van Vechten	21
Jon Fleming	21
Ben Clay	22
Pete Wilson	23
Pat Caughey	24
Burt Nestor	25

Meetings: Every Thursday at Noon, Liberty Station Conference Center, 2600 Laning Road, San Diego, 92106
 Charles J. Pretto, President ♦ Bruce A. Hunt, Executive Director
 Rotary Club of San Diego ♦ 2247 San Diego Avenue, Ste. 233, San Diego, CA 92110-2943
 Phone: 619/299-3309 Fax: 619/299-3340 ♦ e-mail: bruce@rotary33.org ♦ website: <http://www.rotary33.org>

FACES IN THE CROWD AT OUR MEETING



Pictured at left from top to bottom:

Deirdre Maloney gave the Inspirational Moment

Dominick Addario accompanied our patriotic song

George Alexander delivered the news



Michelle Candland encouraged Rotarians to showcase their committees at our upcoming Sept. 19 Rotary meeting

L to r: **Phil Blair**, U.S. Navy Veteran **Karen Scott**, and **Trevor Blair**

Pictured at right from top to bottom:

Marten Barry presented the Golf Trophy to **Don Tartre**

Don Kent was fined for promoting Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute's 50th Anniversary Celebration

Chair of the Day
Will Newbern

Guest speaker **Ernie Dronenburg**

L to r: Standing: **Faruq Darculel**, **Don Teemsma, Jr.**, **Randal Densley**; Sitting: **Don Teemsma, Sr.**, and **Dick Tronccone**

Photos courtesy of
Paul Nestor



MORE “PROPERTY TAX 101” BY DAVID OATES

Continued from page 1

the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Mission Valley. Former U.S. Olympian Mary Andrews, now a certified business and life coach, will be the keynote speaker. Sign up at the District’s Website, <http://www.rotary5340.org>.

Our Chair of the Day, **Will Newbern**, swam his way from La Jolla Cove to the Liberty Station Conference Center to introduce our guest speaker, San Diego County Assessor, Recorder and County Clerk Ernest Dronenburg. Before doing so, he did give away some bedtime reading materials on the history of real estate in San Diego to our own **Pauline Hill**, or as Will described her, “the hardest working person in the room,” as there were no visiting Rotarians present for the meeting.

Mr. Dronenburg then took center stage and, contrary to recent statements made by the elected official, decided to stick to the topic of how the region’s property taxes are calculated and how his office is structured administratively. For those of you seeking a summary of how such fees are tabulated, I am sorry to disappoint you here. I was told when I took

the job of Rotator Editor that there would be no math and my slide rule is out for repairs. However, I can tell you a few things from Mr. Dronenburg’s talk. First, county property tax revenues are up. The assessed property values throughout the region rose \$13.6 billion to a total of more than \$408 billion. That’s due to property values rising enabling the county to reassess homes and businesses which received special dispensation a few years ago in response to the market crash. Mr. Dronenburg also pointed out the re-opening of two offices, expanding customer service hours and making more of his department’s forms available to be completed and submitted online. He did this while simultaneously reducing costs by \$1 million over the past three years.

Mr. Dronenburg closed by also forecasting that many of us who have been in our homes for some time may see our property taxes drop. So I guess that means I can purchase a few more Hawaiian shirts to wear for the next couple of weeks until Rotary Casual Dress Month expires. My financial plan is working perfectly.

I’ll see you all soon in service, my fellow Rotarians!

Grotarians Visit the Media Arts Center’s Digital Gym

