



The Weekly Roundup

A 501 (c)(4) Organization

MARCH 11, 2010

THE ROTARY CLUB OF RANCHO BERNARDO

ESTABLISHED 1964

Algae-Based Biotechnology



Dr. B. Greg Mitchell will speak to our club on Thursday about Algae-Based Biotechnology.

He is a Research Biologist and Senior Lecturer at the UCSD, Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

As the leader of the Scripps Photobiology Group, his present research focuses on use of satellites to monitor change in global ocean ecosystems, including the impact of

the El Nino Southern Oscillation on the California Current, and future changes in the primary production of the Antarctic Ocean caused by glacial melt associated with climate change.

For more than two decades he has promoted mass culture of algae to mitigate CO₂ and wastewater nutrient



Dr. Mitchell

loading, and to create biomass for fuel and animal feed. Applied research currently focuses on optimization of yields of bioenergy molecules in the light-temperature-nutrient matrix that regulates algae growth, numerical modeling of algae yield optimization and design of closed and open photobioreactors that optimize yields.

Dr. Mitchell received his Bachelor of Science degree with Honors in Aquatic Biology and Special Honors in Botany

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The RB Rotary Club meets Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. at Bernardo Heights Country Club at 16066 Bernardo Heights Parkway, San Diego 92128. Address correspondence to the club at Box 28005, San Diego, CA 92198. Telephone 858.485.5820.

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

By John O'Neill, Scribe Extraordinaire

President Barbara, after waking from her nap, jumped up and managed to successfully open the meeting only five minutes late. Good hustle, Babs!

Gary Saks capably handled the Pledge of Allegiance and Arilla St. Laurent rendered a nice and personal invocation. Jack Mitchell led us in rousing song titled A World of Understanding Through Peace.

President Barbara opened the meeting by thanking greeter Benita Page, plus John O'Neill for the lottery drawing and scribing duties. She also acknowledged the invaluable assistance of our setup crew Bill Bonner, Paul Donick and Ken Larson.

Benita introduced our guests and Jack regaled them with our special welcome song.

Ron Hunt informed us about the upcoming MusiCamp. He asked if any members would be willing to host the arriving foreign students in their

home. The students will be arriving on 7/17 & 7/18, and will depart on 8/8. The hosting duties include airport pickup and drop off, transporting them to and from practice and preparing breakfast and dinner on most days.

The next TGIX mixer will be hosted March 18th by that fine Irish fellow, Dan Malloy, and his lovely wife Sharon. Mike Sullivan lugged in a bag of cans and food items to demonstrate what is suitable for our Boy Scout food drive at our March 11th meeting. Mike informed us that we should avoid perishables, cereals and anything packaged in glass. Finemaster John O'Neill decided to show mercy on the membership (except for Mr. Canada, Ed Knight) and led a spirited and generous round of Happy Bucks.

Ed Knight, wearing his genuine Panama hat from Ecuador, introduced



John O'Neill

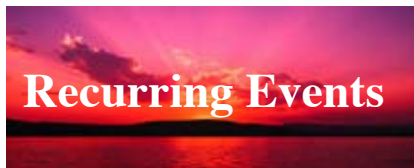
our speaker. She is Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar Lisseth Vega from Cuenca, Ecuador. Lisseth, now an undergraduate student at Cal State San Marcos, is the first Rotary Scholar to study there. The purpose of these Ambassadorial Scholarships is to further international understanding and friendly relations among people of different countries and geographical areas. While abroad, scholars serve as goodwill ambassadors to the host country and give presentations about their homelands to Rotary clubs and other groups.

Lisseth informed us that she is the only scholar chosen from South America. She is single and was chosen queen of her university in Cuenca. Her home town of 400,000 citizens, located in the high plateau country of Southern Ecuador, is considered the third most important city in Ecuador and was the second most important city center of the Incan Empire. She says that Ecuador is rich in its people and is comprised of three primary regions; beach, mountain and forest. There are 13 million people living in 24 provinces and parishes in Ecuador.

The opportunity drawing is now at \$985.00, and will remain intact for at least another week. Using consummate skill president Barbara adroitly rang the bell and adjourned the meeting.

President Barbara with Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar Lisseth Vega from Cuenca, Ecuador. -- Photo by Arilla St. Lauren.





Rotary Club Meetings: Weekly on Thursdays from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Buffet opens at 11:30 a.m. for early

birds to socialize.

Rotary Golf: Meets 1st Wednesday of each month at the Oaks North Golf Course at 10 a.m. Reservations are a must! Call Dan Malloy for information.

Rotary Board: Meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the San Diego Na-

tional Bank in the upstairs conference room at 4 p.m.

Rotary Foundation Board: Meets the 4th Wednesday of every third month at 4 p.m. at Rancho Financial in the conference room.

Newsletter Deadline: Thursday 5 p.m. the week before the speaker speaks.

Biotechnology

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from the University of Texas at Austin. At the University of Texas he carried out his Honors research project with Dr. Richard Starr, founder of the UTEX algae collection, and Dr. Harold Bold, the leading pioneer of algae research. In 1987 he received his PhD in Biological Oceanography from the University of Southern California with a focus on physiological ecology of algae as related to absorption, fluorescence and aquatic optics.

After a year as a Postdoctoral Scholar at SIO he joined the permanent staff as a Research Biologist. From 1990-1992 Dr. Mitchell served the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) as

Program Manager for the Ocean Biology and Biogeochemistry Program and as Program Scientist for NASA's SeaWiFS and MODIS ocean color satellite missions.

His research on phytoplankton photosynthesis and growth models, aquatic ecology, ocean optics and satellite remote sensing has been sponsored by NASA, the Office of Naval Research, the National Science Foundation and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Dr. Mitchell has published more than 65 articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals and more than 150 conference proceedings or abstracts for national and international scientific meetings. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Houston Advanced Research Center, the Algal Biomass Organization, and the San Diego Center for Algal Biotechnology.

VOLUNTEERS

	Greeter	Pledge	Invocation	Raffle	Scribe
3/11	Lew Tyler	Bob Wells	Jim Wise	Rick Bramble	Bill Angus
3/18	Mike Sullivan	Tim Whyte	Frances Blair	Mira Bozanich	John Goodrich
3/25	Rick Bramble	Spencer Wright	Gabriela Brown	Ann Calvert	Sandie Dewane
4/1	Paul Casterline	Janice France	Mike Sullivan	Sherry Collins	John O'Neill
4/8	Rick Bramble	Carol Corey	Charley Crew	Mike Sullivan	Bill Angus

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<http://www.r Rotary.org/Lists/Volunteers/CurrentList.aspx>