

# Diana Bennett Future of Gaming in NV & The World



A second-generation casino operator, renowned philanthropist, and one of the most effective and respected executives in the gaming industry, Diana Bennett serves as Chairman of the Board and is the co-founder of Paragon Gaming, a developer and operator of gaming-based properties. Under the leadership of Ms. Bennett and co-founder Scott Menke, Paragon has grown its reputation and footprint with the successful management of properties in North America and the development of its premier international destination, Parq Vancouver.

A native of Phoenix, Arizona who grew up in northern and southern Nevada, Ms. Bennett attended college at Arizona State University before beginning her hospitality career in Las Vegas, where she rose quickly from an entry-level to a management position at Flamingo Las Vegas. Ms. Bennett later joined her father, industry icon William Bennett, at Circus Circus Las Vegas, and, as an executive of Circus Circus Enterprises' leadership team, she led the development and operation of several landmark gaming properties, including Luxor Las

Vegas and Excalibur Hotel and Casino. She also led the merger of the executive staffs of the Edgewater Hotel-Casino in Laughlin, Nevada, and the Colorado Belle Hotel-Casino; and directed the purchase, takeover, and integration of new management into one of the timeless icons of the Las Vegas Strip, the Sahara Hotel and Casino, acquired by the Bennett family's Gordon Gaming division in 1995.

Throughout her career Ms. Bennett has been responsible for management of multiple casino operations and has been licensed in multiple jurisdictions. Recognized as an expert in establishing gaming systems, she served as President and Chief Operating Office of Casino Data Systems (CDS), where she planned, grew and managed one of the major gaming manufacturers in North America.

Following the formation of Paragon Gaming in 2000 and the acquisition of multiple properties in the United States and Canada, Ms. Bennett spearheaded development of the River Cree Resort and Casino in Edmonton, Alberta, and led revitalization efforts at Las Vegas' Riviera Hotel. The successful turnaround at the legacy resort can be credited to Ms. Bennett's philosophy of the "circle of service," which empowers employees to address issues of concern without the burden of bureaucracy, forming a personal connection with the customer and ensuring a positive experience at every level of the organization. Under Ms. Bennett's stewardship, Paragon expanded further, assuming operations at Westgate Las Vegas and the Hooters Casino-Hotel, acquiring the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino Lake Tahoe, and developing Parq Vancouver in the heart of that city's thriving entertainment district.

As President of the Bennett Family Foundation, Ms. Bennett has become one of Southern Nevada's most recognized philanthropists, inspiring employees and leading charitable efforts from Paragon's gaming properties and the foundation to support youth and women's organizations, educational and health initiatives, and the arts; including Three Square Food Bank, Noah's Animal House at the Shade Tree Women's Shelter, Communities in Schools of Nevada, Child Focus, and The Children's Heart Foundation. She is the Vice Chair for the UNLV Foundation and has a fellowship in her name at the University, and sits on the board of Noah's Animal House. Ms. Bennett has also served as chair of the National Children's Miracle Network Telethon for the University Medical Center Foundation, has served on the board of the I Have a Dream Foundation, was a founding board member of The Smith Center for the Performing Arts. Ms. Bennett has also been recognized as one of the Outstanding Women of Nevada since 1994, and in 2007 was named as one of the Top Ten Great Women of Gaming in the United States. In 2011, Ms. Bennett received the industry's highest honor with her induction into the American Gaming Association Hall of Fame. In 2018 she was honored by Ellis Island for their medal of honor.

#### The Las Vegas Rotary Club's Mission:

Teaching Youth to Succeed through Literacy, Education & Life Skills Development



# **OCTOBER 22, 2020**

**TODAY'S PROGRAM** 

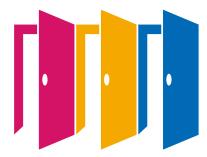
DIANA BENNETT

**CALENDAR** 

**SCRIBE** 

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



#### **Rotary Opens Opportunities**

#### **WHAT IS ROTARY?**

Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.



GOD BLESS AMERICA

2020- 2021 RI President Holger Knaack

District 5300 Governor Greg Jones



Richard Jost President 2020-2021

CLUB OFFICERS 2020-2021
President

**Richard Jost** 

**President-Elect** 

Michael Ballard

Immediate Past President

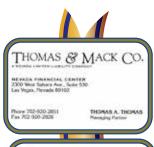
Jacqueline Thornhill

Secretary Treasurer Bill Houghton Tom Brooker

#### **ELECTED DIRECTORS**

Rosalee Hedrick Kirk Holmes Howie Hopkinson Bill Houghton Toni Kern Stuart Lipoff Ted McAdam Anil Melnick Joakim Nyoni

Past President Representative **Ginger Anderson** 





# TOGETHER WE READ PILOT PROGRAM, LVRC

At its core, literacy is the goal of the Together We Read program developed by the Las Vegas Rotary Club. However, the scope of this program while promoting daily reading with your child is much broader. It is designed to help the child develop skills in steppingstone order that are necessary to become "Self-Directed" and engaged in learning.

The Family Reading Program upon which we based our program is designed to promote 7 Executive Life Skills (1) Focus and Control; (2) Perspective Taking; (3) Communicating; (4) Making Connections; (5) Critical Thinking; (6) Taking On Challenges; and (7) Self Directed Engaged Learning. Skills that will help them in school, relationships, and career.

LVRC has permission to use the book collections and tip sheets and owns the rights to the videotaped training session. As a result, the LVRC program can be easily replicated by Rotary Clubs across the USA.

#### The Program

The Program involves reading aloud techniques, guided activities, and providing each participant family with books to take home to keep, building their home library.

Each session involved three components:

Parent/facilitator overview of the day's life skill and book, while

- children, engaged with support staff assistance, participated in a short-related activity.
- 2. Children join parent/facilitator for book reading. Facilitator modeling and cueing parents.
- 3. Post reading family activity to emphasize the skill of the day. Many of the activities were easy to prepare with everyday items from home.

The books used in these sessions were selected from a curated collection with this mission in mind and specifically for our group of 3-5-year old's. Each book came with a free downloadable tip sheet including related activities to help parents continue these lessons with their children at home. Book selections and tip sheets (some in Spanish) are available for 4 age groups ranging from 0-12 years of age so life skill practice can grow with the child.

#### The Team

Five Club Members participated in a 2-hour virtual training session led by a representative from Nevada Literacy Council. Our 6-session pilot program was rolled out at Stonebridge Learning Academy, owned by Rotarian Krista Nicholas, and was completed September 28, 2020. Each session included a Session leader and at least two other volunteers for support.

#### **The Results**

At the end of each session the parents completed a short 4 question survey, evaluating the adult's knowledge/skills before the session and then after completing the session.

Results showed that 91.7% of the 12 participants reported that they increased their knowledge or skill level because of this program. The measurement of improvement averaged +25.6% with a high of 38.8%.



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am beyond thrilled to see that we have so many fantastic programs and events going on right now that there is no room left in this week's Wheel for a full page message from the President. We say that we are the greatest Rotary Club in the World, but as this edition of the Wheel demonstrates it is more accurate to say we are the greatest, busiest and most sharply focused on service to others Rotary Club in the world.

Thank you to all of you for all that you are doing!





Wheelchair deliveries continue on behalf of the Wheelchair Foundation and Las Vegas Rotary.

If any of our members knows of someone with a permanent disability, a Nevada Resident and requires a wheelchair, but cannot afford one, please reach out direct to **Jim Hunt** directly.



#### PAST PRESIDENTS

PASI	PKE	21DFU12	
Les Saunders*	1923-24	Angelo J. Manzi*	1972-73
Bill Ferron*	1924-25	Keith Ashworth*	1973-74
A.A. Hinman*	1925-26	Robert E. O'Connell*	1974-75
Frosty Mildren*	1926-27	Don Ashworth*	1975-76
Fred Hesse*	1927-28	David F. Welles*	1976-77
Dr. F.M. Ferguson*	1928-29	James J. Corey*	1977-78
Dr. William S. Park*	1929-30	Darrell Luce*	1978-79
Charlie Dimock*	1930-31	Albert H. Purdue*	1979-80
Leo McNamee*	1931-32	Michael Hoover	1980-81
A.E. Cahlan*	1932-33	Donald L. Aikin*	1981-82
Douglas Dasheil*	1933-34	Joseph J. Buckley*	1982-83
Marion Earl*	1934-35	Irwin Kishner*	1983-84
Dr. Roy Martin*	1935-36	James Cashman III*	1984-85
K.O. Knudson*	1936-37	Mike Meyer	1985-86
Frank Gusewelle*	1937-38	Doug L. Peterson*	1986-87
Tom Connolly*	1938-39	M.J. Wiens, Jr.	1987-88
Archie Grant*	1939-40	Keith W. Bassett*	1988-89
Otto Underhill*	1940-41	Kenneth E. Miller*	1989-90
Bryan Bunker*	1941-42	James M. Gamett	1990-91
Cyril Wengert*	1942-43	Robert L. Moore	1991-92
Fred O'Donnell*	1943-44	Robert L. Forbuss*	1992-93
Frank Case*	1944-45	Gary A. Martin	1993-94
Victor Shurtiff*	1945-46	John A. Smith	1994-95
Max Kelch*	1946-47	Caty Crockett	1995-96
Ed Ciliax*	1947-48	Clifford R. Beadle	1996-97
Lorin Ronnow*	1948-49	Ralph J. Rohay	1997-98
Leonard Fayle*	1949-50	Dr. James M. Jones*	1998-99
Allye Lawson*	1950-51	Tom A. Thomas	1999-00
Harry Allen*	1951-52	Tom J. Krob	2000-01
Les Edwards*	1952-53	James E. Hunt	2001-02
Wavne Kirch*	1953-54	James R. Tucker	2002-03
George Boman*	1954-55	Kathy Dalvey	2003-04
Spence Butterfield*	1955-56	Steve Casev	2004-05
Walt Hunsaker*	1956-57	Ned Phillips	2005-06
Ted Brandt*	1957-58	Brock Fraser	2006-07
Julian Moore*	1958-59	Randy Campanale	
Ray F. Culley*	1959-60	Russ Swain	2008-09
C.T. Harris*	1960-61	Karen Whisenhunt	
Ollie Gardner*	1961-62	Tom Axtell	2010-11
Tom Underhill*	1962-63	Sharon McNair	2011-12
Vern Willis*	1963-64	Randy Donald	2012-13
Ward Wengert*	1964-65	Ginger Anderson	2013-14
Bill Southard*	1965-66	Steve Linder	2013-14
Dr. Vince Sanner*	1966-67	Mary Ann Avnet	2014-13
Walter Wehner*	1967-68	David Thorson	2015-10
Dr. Robert Robinson*		David Thorson  Dr. Michael Gordon	
Harold Wandesforde*		James Kohl	2017-18
Mark C. Mielke*	1969-70	Jacqueline Thornhill	2018-19
Dr. Harold Boyer*		Jacqueinie i normilli	4019-40
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# THE LAS VEGAS **ROTARY CLUB**



**Judith Pinkerton** delivered invocation.



Joan Murdock generously donates to the Foundation.



Niki Bates asks questions of our speaker.



President Jost and Speaker Ryann Juden.



Jamie Goldsmith with Officer Magadan and the Mesquite Poilce Dept. **SOAR 2020** 



Officer Magadan, SOAR Mesquite Rotary Liason, Rick Tuttle and Jamie Goldsmith.

# RAFFLE AMOUNT \$1,191.00

#### **Megan Comfort**

SVP/SBA & Small Business Manager 702.855.4670

#### **Rosalee Hedrick**

VP/Business Relationship Manager 702.706.9050



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# THE LAS VEGAS **ROTARY CLUB**



Arlene Sirois picks 4th from the right.



Krista Nicholas wins the Lawry Bucks.



Fabulous Halloween Candy Elves.



Toni Kern finishing up the day.



Jamie Goldsmith with Firefighter-Paramedic Walt West from the Boulder City Fire Dept., Committee Members and Rotarians.



Walt West and Jamie Goldsmith, honoring 20 years of service. **SOAR 2020** 



#### The Officers for the 25 Club

President - Rene Gamero VP - Rose Falocco • Secretary - Keri Serrano The 25 Club meetings are held on the 1st Thursday each month at 11:15 A.M. at Lawry's The Prime Rib



#### JASON BUCKLEY

VP OF TECHNOLOGY

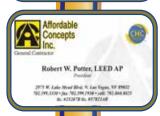
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## **SPACE AVAILABLE**



**SPACE AVAILABLE** 













# **SCRIBE - OCTOBER 15, 2020**

- President Richard Jost called the meeting to order.
- Judith Pinkerton gave the invocation.
- Kirk Holmes played "The US Navy Hymn," followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Our photographer was **Tina Bishop**.
- The Sergeant at Arms was Mike Mewborn.
- We had 6 guests of Rotarians and 1 visiting Rotarian.
- **Jim Hunt** announced the donation of our 30th wheelchair. Please continue to get the word out that we have new chairs available for those in need.
- **Karen Whisenhunt** introduced our global grants scholar from Tel Aviv, Chantay **Ben Shimon**, who also joined us via Zoom at 10:30pm her time. She gave us a briefing on the start of her coursework.
- **Richard Jost** announced that we need 4-5 volunteers to help bag the last 100 bags of candy for Bracken.
- Richard Jost reminded everyone to RSVP for in-person meetings as this is still a requirement.
- Janice Lencke announced that we are holding a virtual auction from November 19th December 3rd. LVRC Foundation sent out an email detailing 75 different auction items. Expect another email with a link to the auction. Pass it on to anyone in the world as international shipping is available. Currently, we have about 12 items secured for the spring fundraiser including art, certificates, jewelry, and sports items.
- Rose Falocco announced that the 25 club continues to sell raffle tickets during the meetings. Please buy your tickets online or in person. Also, we have an active Facebook fundraiser for those who are interested.
- President Richard Jost announced that we are still selling masks. Bob Werner modeled the masks for us, so mask sales are sure to take off.
- Joan Murdock announced her incredibly generous of \$2,500 to the LVRCF.
- The Ticket Winner was **Arleen Sirois** who received a prize of \$10, and the Lawry's Bucks Winner was **Krista Nicholas**.
- Tom Thomas introduced our program speaker: Ryann Juden, City Manager of the City of North Las Vegas. Starting seven years ago the city was reconstructed by Ryann and a City of North Las Vegas team. The focus was to increase revenues for the city by expanding the tax base. Today, if you look at the top 10 businesses ranked by tax sales revenue, 8 of them were not in North Las Vegas 5 years ago.
- **Richard Jost** presented our speaker with a "Share What You Can" award to benefit a veteran in need and then adjourned the meeting.

# **Rimini Street**

NASDAQ: RMNI



**Garbis Peace Institute** 31st Annual Peace Conference

PEACE out of CHAOS - a Pandemic

Saturday, October 24, 2020 / 9:00 am—1:00 pm VIRTUAL — Free via Zoom

### ANNUAL CUISINE & OCTANE VIRTUAL FUNDRAISER

Presenting Sponsor:

#### **Morgan Stanley**

THE ANDERSON MILLER PINKELMAN GROUP AT MORGAN STANLEY



oin, but rather an invitation to endless Rotary



#### **ANNUAL CUISINE & OCTANE VIRTUAL FUNDRAISER**

Join us as we virtually kick off this year's Annual Fundraiser just in time for the holiday season. This year has certainly proven to be an unpredictable year, thus making us rethink and realign our fundraising efforts. No matter what the challenges are, we as Rotarians come together to do the most-good.

We look forward to seeing you virtually.

**Virtual Fundraising Event** Thursday, November 19 - Thursday, December 3



WHAT IS A ROTARIAN?

A Rotarian is some ugh membership of a Rotary Club



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### **SPACE AVAILABLE**











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## October 22, 2020

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District 5300 Club 813

Website: www.lasvegasrotary.com Email: admin@lasvegasrotary.com Executive Director: Shawn Noorda

#### LAS VEGAS ROTARY FOUNDATION 2020-2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Dan Adamson
Vice President: Bob Werner
Secretary: Gary Vause
Treasurer: Jerry Engel
Immediate Past President:

**Randy Campanale** 

**Senior Members:** 

Steve Casey Caty Crockett
Paul Maffey Thomas Thomas
Sharon Mcnair Lawrence D. Rouse

Trustees:

Michael Ballard Michael Gordon Richard Jost William Stieren



Don't miss
The October Issue of
THE ROTARIAN



# THE FOUR-WAY TEST OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY OR DO



- 1. Is it the TRUTH?
- 2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**
- 4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

### **CALENDAR**

ROTARY EVENTS ARE LISTED IN RED / GUEST SPEAKERS & PROGRAMS IN BLACK

10/24 Peace Conference

10/29 Senator Richard Bryan - Nevada History on Nevada Day

11/05 Dr. Melody Rose Chancellor - NSHE

11/12 Ted McAdam - Honoring Veterans

11/19 Don Snyder & Myron Martin
- Building Modern Las Vegas
and the Smith Center

11/19 Cuisine & Octane Virtual

Fundraiser (11/19 thru 12/3)

11/25 Dr. Niki Bates - Creating Education for Youth in a Digital Age

12/03 DARK

12/10 Holiday Music Program

12/17 Religious Traditions



#### MAKE-UP DAYS AND PLACES

\*Please visit www.lasvegasrotary.com for local locations and times.

Wheel Print: Bill Houghton, Horizon Print Solutions
Wheel Creative & Editor: Fawn Chandler, Horizon Print Solutions

Programs: Tom Thomas Pictures: Jim Tucker The Scribe: Janna Velasco

Rotary Web Sites

Rotary.org - Rotary International District 5300.org - District 5300 Site

www.LasVegasRotary.com - Our Club Site



#### Rotary At A Glance

Rotarians Members - 1,207,102; Clubs - 34,823; Districts - 538; Countries - 200+; Rotaractors Clubs - 7,868; Members - 180,964; Countries - 162 Interact Clubs - 18,005; Members - 414,115; Countries - 132