

	<p align="center"><b>ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE</b></p> <p align="center"><b>SHORELINES</b></p>		
<p align="center"><b>2022-2023</b></p>	<p align="center">Tom Brault Editor-in-Chief</p>	<p align="center">Janet Bledsoe Lacy Bill Dern, Vickie Prosser Anchisa Farrant Photographers</p>	<p align="center">Tom Brault Reporter</p>
<p align="center"><b>CO-PRESIDENTS AJ Mazzarella &amp; Renee Richardson</b></p>			

***SPECIAL DEMOTION EDITION***  
***June 23, 2023***

When we entered the main room of the country club on demotion night, it looked so very different and so much more festive than a normal meeting there, thanks to the weeks-long advance planning and the hours-long setup on that day, miraculously accomplished by our Decorating Committee Extraordinaire NANCY RUSSIAN, ANCHISA FARRANT, JANET BLEDSOE LACY, along with on-the-scene assistant LUIS



RODRIGUEZ (NANCY's husband). We were greeted by tables festooned with maracas and colorful mugs overflowing with succulent plants as centerpieces (the mugs and artificial flowers were donated by NANCY and the live plants, of course, supplied by our resident Green Thumb of the club, ANCHISA FARRANT), sombreros hanging from the podium and the front table and the projector screen, and a festive banner strung up on the back wall which read "FIESTA!" And then the theme was emphasized by the incredible attire of our outgoing Co-President RENEE RICHARDSON who went all out on her outfit for the evening, definitely looking the part of the grande dame of the pueblo. Other folks might have worn some minor Mexican motif touches in their clothes and/or accessories, but none held a candle to Dona RENEE that evening!



The decorating of the space had begun earlier in the afternoon and after the joint got all spruced up, NANCY and her worker bees who had made that magical transformation happen sat around to chat and to get a head start on taking care of the country club's bar minimum for the event. Some ordered wine, but there were more margaritas consumed than normal on this date, in keeping with our Fiesta theme. Cocktail hour officially started at 6 pm, and as the other guests filtered in

two by two and the crowd started to grow, so did the volume level of the friendly chatter between friends as the Rotarians and their spouses gathered together for this special night. With the rise in decibels, our director of the demotion skit TOM BRAULT needed to power up the microphone on a couple of occasions in order to break through the growing crowd noise to call various members of the performing troupe out to another room for some last minute rehearsals.

Then, with everyone prepared for their parts and the buffet tables groaning from the weight of our South of the Border meal of salad, rice, beans, tortillas, carnitas, chicken enchiladas, churros, and flan, we were able to kick off the festivities of the Fiesta five minutes early.

### IT'S SKIT TIME!



At 6:55 pm, TOM welcomed one and all to this annual celebration of the dumping of our club's leadership. He mentioned how RENEE had been trying desperately all year to dictate how this demotion should go, constantly offering verbal and/or email suggestions on "good bits" for the skit. At this point, with a photo of Referee MIKE WESELOH on the screen, his stand-in Deputy Referee ERNIE MASCITTI literally threw a penalty

flag on RENEE, blowing Mike's actual ref whistle and charging our micro-managing Co-Prez for "Personal foul. Unsportsmanlike conduct. Improper influence on the demotion team. 15-yard penalty and loss of presidency."

**OCEANSIDE  
ROTARY  
DEMOTION 2023**

**Rotary**   
Club of Oceanside



We were informed that RENEE had actually tried to dictate the theme for this demotion earlier in the year, suggesting that it would be fun to have an evening based on "Gilligan's Island." Well, we did NOT take her up on that rather odd suggestion, but TOM did craft a tweaked version of its theme song to poke fun at our "Little



Buddy" RENEE. *(Lyrics of this song copied at the end of this newsletter.)*

No, clearly, we already could tell that this was not to be an island motif, but rather a Mexican fiesta, and we set that mood by inviting Co-President A.J. MAZZARELLA up to wield a huge 2-foot-long gavel to take down a circular pinata covered with the Rotary wheel. Little did A.J. know that, after he was blindfolded, we turned that pinata around to show that the other side showed the



smiling face of his Presidential partner this year, so when he demolished the pinata with one mighty whack, he actually was literally destroying his friend RENEE. You should have seen



A.J.'s face when he realized what he had done! (He even apologized to her later, "If I had known, I would NEVER have done that!") Then the Pledge was led and the buffet line was opened for our Cena Deliciosa, with mariachi music playing in the background throughout the meal.

After dinner, the hilarity continued as various members of our Rotary Players for the evening (VICKIE PROSSER, DAVE and TERRI HALL, BILL DERN, JANET BLEDSOE LACY, and TINA ORTIZ) took turns up at the microphone reading from the Roast script and keeping us chuckling for the next 35 minutes or so. We laid out the ground rules for the roast material, documenting how A.J. had only led (or co-led) just 20% of our meetings this year – Therefore we would aim for him to get only about 20% of the attention in this skit. We did make sure, however, to take some time to poke fun at how he had insisted on being in every possible photo with our guest speakers, whether he had actually helped to manage that meeting or not. RENEE also inserted herself into more than her share of official club photos, popping her face into our "Best Birthday Ever" pictures multiple times, even though she only has one birthday per year, like the rest of us.

Other things that did not synch up with reality this year were -- How our presidents promised in July that "We are bringing back songs", but that ended up being true at just two of our meetings in the whole year / Despite his claim that he was looking forward to the year ahead, our Immediate Past Co-President L.J. FIMBRES has been A.W.O.L ever since his first meeting out of power, so we played a Waldo-like game of "Where's L.J?", but he was nowhere to be seen / Our leaders kept promising that there was \$1,000 in the Opportunity Drawing jackpot up for grabs, but no one ever came close to finding the Joker.

We touched upon RENEE's insatiable need to be in control, and even had a bit in the skit where her stand-in (JANET) acted the part of "Gunny Richardson" putting her actual board officers (A.J, SHOR, LES, and ANCHISA) through the paces of marching, chanting, and physical training.





But then we noted that some of her control started slipping through the year as we observed a gradual and consistent decline in her attention to detail, with many instances of wrong dates (... and even wrong MONTHS), wrong addresses, messed up travel plans, and misspelled words, and failing to follow her own carefully written agenda – all documented by projecting copies of her own documents and email messages onscreen. Her official justification for these lapses was captured in a video which was shown in which she said, “Nobody reads my emails unless I make a mistake.” This lame excuse got a lot of laughs!

Then, in our attempt to keep the spotlight on A.J. for his 20% quota, we looked at an actual, bona fide Google search which led to a bunch of citations from scientific papers written by “A.J. Mazzarella” on such wide-ranging topics as “Children’s Video Media” and “Cardiovascular Response” and “Split quasars.” What a brainiac A.J. must be! Not only that, “A.J. Mazzarella” also serves as the custodian at “The Parish of Saint Isidore the Farmer” in New Egypt, New Jersey. Who woulda thunk it? And, because “Behind every great man, there is an even greater support animal”, we looked at A.J.’s attachment to the famous “Mr. Snugglepants.”

Then we spread the attention around to some *other* members of Oceanside Rotary: ANCHISA FARRANT and her “Miss November” cat Coco / DAVE and TERRI HALL’s “Hall’s Hall of Precious Gems”, highlighting the sapphires and rubies on their impressive Paul Harris +4 and +9 pins / ANCHISA made sure that her colorful sash would fit the incoming Sgt. at Arms BRAD FISHER, using BILL DERN as a stand-in model. (This sash did double duty, with the backside of it emblazoned with “Miss Oceanside Harbor Days 2023.) / And Pres Elect SHOR DENNY learning at her PETS training just how much booze Rotarians could go through at one conference party. We touched on other times when booze might



have been a factor in Oceanside Rotary this year, including our suspicion that some of RENEE’s email mistakes may have been a result of the glasses of wine she would glug while doing her late night Rotary secretarial duties!



*“I shouldn’t have had those last 3 glasses!!”*



We read through a list of “Notable Quotes” from the year in Rotary, finishing with RENEE saying both, “I never want to be president again!” ... and ... “I’m going to be another Randy Mitchell.....I am going to just keep going and going!!!” This made us wonder if and when she might ever step down from Rotary service, which

led to another song – this one to the tune of the Beatles “When I’m 64” (which we amended to “When she’s 84”). (*Lyrics at the end, again.*)

So many of our Past Presidents have come back to lead the club over and over that we started to worry about this trend toward “recycling Zombie leaders”, which was demonstrated by photos as well as a disturbing video of a pack of Oceanside Rotary’s past leaders, grunting, clawing, and staggering toward the camera. This was followed by a series of photos of RENEE in various costumes over the years, and then A.J.’s version of getting into different costumes (.... Just putting on a different baseball cap or hat.)



After the obligatory segment on all of the various good deeds the club has done in this past year and all of the financial contributions we have made to community projects and to the Rotary International Foundation, we celebrated our recent successes in bringing in new members, hitting the milestone number of 50 members once again for the first time in a long, long time.

And we wrapped up the skit portion of the evening by returning our focus once again to “Mr. 20%” A.J. as we displayed Photoshopped images of him



meeting with several famous folks, including Fernando Tatis, Vladimir Putin, and Jesus Christ, followed by a song written just for him by TERRI HALL and crooned at the mic in a duet by her and husband DAVE. (*Lyrics later, as you may have guessed already.*)



“I forgive you,  
A.J. ....  
.... even though  
you really don’t  
deserve my  
forgiveness ....  
... That’s just the  
kinda guy I am.”

### **ENOUGH OF THE MONKEY BUSINESS ... NOW TO THE REAL BUSINESS PART OF THIS MEETING**

But wait! As it turns out, the shenanigans of the skit weren’t quite done, because our outgoing Co-Presidents had a joke of their own up their sleeves. As RENEE approached the podium to start the awards presentations, she called out, “Could I get my towel boy up here?” Dutifully, A.J. draped a service towel over his left arm as he brought a big glass of wine up to the front for his Partner / Boss, then went back to his seat. We all howled with laughter at this hilarious surprise!

RENEE actually quickly asked A.J. to rejoin her at the podium so they could share the spotlight and bestow the club awards together. First up was a stack of certificates of appreciation, which went to:

JANET BLEDSOE LACY- for her longstanding service as Program Chair and Chief Photographer

TOM BRAULT – as Editor of our Shorelines newsletter and Demotion Skit “Mastermind”. (For his photo opp, TOM give A.J. a big kiss on the cheek. RENEE seemed a bit jealous and wanted a kiss of her own, which TOM obliged. “I’m an equal opportunity kisser”, he told us. A.J. then commented, “As an H.R. person, I appreciate that!”)

ANCHISA FARRANT – our Sgt. At Arms for many years and Grower of Gifts to give to our speakers

MIKE CURTIN – for the unsung Logistical Duties in setup and teardown of our meeting space as well as for just his General Support



And PAUL WENDEE – who served as our “Designated Presidential Driver.” (RENEE added that he might have thought he was up for the “Husband of the Year” award, but “That is not happening!”)



There were a few boxes on the front table holding the official year end awards. The first one was held back, since our NEW MEMBER OF THE YEAR was not in attendance at this event, so stay tuned for that winner to be announced.

The MARTY SCHRODER AWARD is given to the member who best represents the club in their community service outside of Rotary projects. This year it was awarded to PABLO ACOSTA who, as he walked up front to accept the award, joked, “To think that I almost left!” One of our resident hecklers quipped, “At least you dressed up for the occasion.” PABLO chuckled and responded, “This is my *suit*.” RENEE congratulated him for “exemplifying what Rotary stands for in the community” in his work through TriCity Pantry.



The EL TORO AWARD goes to a distinguished vocal participant who promotes fellowship and good feelings in the club (through the slinging of B.S. right and left). RENEE set up the announcement of our





2023 recipient by reminiscing, “I work with seniors every day, and at some point, they tend to lose their filter and just say whatever they want whenever they want ... (I’m looking forward to getting to that point myself ... I’m getting close!) But if you could see the emails and text messages that we received from this member, you would know why the El Toro Award this year goes to TERRI HALL.”

The PRESIDENT’S AWARD goes to an individual who has given standout support to our leader in the past year. Well, this year we had two presidents who had two different opinions – Hence we had TWO Presidents’ Award winners! RENEE’s choice was DAVE HALL who is appreciated for “writing our District matching grants forever and ever and ever” as well as for taking the text from our rotating reporters and editor and then organizing and inserting photos, formatting, publishing, and distributing our Shorelines newsletter for every meeting. Since DAVE travels a lot, the gift that he was given was a suitcase with the Rotary emblem on it. DAVE asked, “Are you telling me that you want me to go away?” No! RENEE simply wanted him to be able to “identify your bag with Rotary whenever you travel.”



A.J. then had HIS turn and he said he would be celebrating “the person that RENEE did NOT want to give the award to!” (Ha ha ha!!) Before he made his announcement of the winner, A.J. admitted that he would probably end up “doing an L.J. and not showing up to any more meetings after this.” (Ha ha ha, again!) A.J. then revealed that his President’s Award winner was “Mr. Dr. BILL DERN” for all of his behind the scenes work with the country club, dealing with scheduling and reminders and menus (and especially for putting up with the needs of the vegan people). BILL’s gift was a backpack with the Rotary theme of the year “Imagine Rotary” prominently featured.



The call then went out to all of the Past Presidents in the room to come to the front for the traditional passing of the gavel down the line of succession. (A.J. wondered if maybe he should not be included in this - perhaps because he had handled the gavel so little in his two years in charge, with L.J. losing it for almost all of the previous year and with his only running one meeting in 2022-23.) PP TOM BRAULT seemed a little depressed to notice that so very few presidents who had served before him were still around (and/or were able to attend this evening’s festivities). At least there was ONE earlier president than he, and RENEE herself ended up being the start of this august lineup. “I’m not the oldest past president,

but I am the most senior past president here.” She passed SHOR’s official engraved gavel to TOM, who put it behind his back and then pulled out the huge gavel (used earlier in the pinata breaking) to pass to VICKIE. Laughter, and then the actual gavel was put back into the line to pass to BILL and MIKE and DAVE and TERRI and A.J. (with RENEE and MIKE and TERRI and A.J. moving around and juggling their positions to reflect their multiple years of service) before the gavel finally ended up in the possession of its wielder for the year to come – our new President SHOR DENNY. She asked, “Do I get to keep this when I’m done?” .... Answer: “Only if you still HAVE IT by then!!” (Beware the Gavel Grabbers, my dear Ms. DENNY!)



As our incoming president, SHOR was given the floor. She simply said, “Thank you” and then went to sit down. “Is that it?? ... Is that all you’re going to say??” Well she went back up to the mic and then got on a roll! “I’m so excited. This is gonna be a frickin’ awesome year! I want you guys to be ready. To get energized. To get some sleep because we are going to be doing all kinds of stuff this year.” And an historic year it shall be! It will mark the Oceanside Rotary Club’s 100th anniversary with lots in store! “There are going to be some changes. We are going to have some fun. But what we are really going to do? ... We’re going to show her (*pointing at RENEE*) up!” RENEE countered with, “It’s not a matter of showing me up. It’s a matter of taking this club to the next level.”



RENEE invited folks to put some money in the envelopes on the tables to claim the beautiful centerpieces to take home for their own, with all of the money going to the club. She then closed the evening with these parting words: “This meeting is officially done. And hopefully I won’t have to be the president again until I’m 84!”





## SONG LYRICS

### Gilligan's Island Theme song:

Just sit right back and you'll hear a tale ... A tale of a plucky lass  
Thought she'd sail clear right through this year, but then ran out of gas

July she had such energy and quite ambitious goals  
But by the spring, well here's the thing She seemed to lose control  
(*And the whole crowd repeated: "She seemed to lose control"*)

The meetings started getting rough with growing background noise  
She'd clang the bell, but what the hell She couldn't calm the boys  
(*"She couldn't calm the boys"*)

But luckily she led a team to help her through year Four  
With Richardson and A.J., too  
And then Shor's next in line  
There's Treasurer Les and Anchisa who holds the shoe  
Her Oceanside Rotary Board

### When I'm Eighty Four (to the tune of "When I'm 64" by the Beatles)

Checking in on our favorite gal Twenty years from now  
Still working on the club logistics ev-e-ry day  
Her email still reads "Rotaryrenee"  
She writes the agendas for President Blake (*Blake Maas???*)  
... Yes, that's who's in store.  
Perhaps she'd be nervous to step down from service When she's Eighty Four.  
*I mean, when you're that good as Secretary, who could ever replace you?*

Who'll be in line to manage the club One year after that?  
When no one raised their hand to be the Prezza E-lect  
Our Renee just said, "What the heck?"  
I've handled that job for four other times. Why not one year more?"  
Will we still need her? To be our leader? When she's Eighty Four?  
Oy! Doodle doo dooooooo doo.....

### "A.J., A.J." (Sung to the tune of "Daisy Daisy (Bicycle Built for Two)")

AJ, AJ, give her your answer do Renee's half-crazy waiting just for you

“You must not forget the intros, And don’t forget to count those...  
Pesky guests And pesky fines Get out the flag And where’s the Shoe?  
And is there a plant for the gift?”

AJ, AJ, there’s no more time to waste  
In fact it’s clear that you must now make haste  
To ditch Renee’s loud bellows And finally rejoin your fellows  
Out here in the room It can’t be too soon  
DEMOTION IS YOUR BOON!

### MARCHING IN INDEPENDENCE PARADE

A smattering of dedicated members showed up at Stanley Street around 9 am on Saturday, June 25 to enjoy some coffee and donuts while decorating the tow truck supplied by NK Towing to transform it into our float for the annual Oceanside Independence Parade. You have never seen so many flags and stars and stripes and bunting and bows all tied on or duct taped into place! The decorations were all finished by about 9:30, and then we started the waiting ... and the waiting ... and the waiting. During this extended downtime, LOLA SHERMAN cracked out a book and read while sitting on the back edge of the flatbed. Luckily, we all enjoyed each other’s company and just chatted happily until the 10 am start of the parade. And we kept chatting on and on longer than that, because, since we were in the “F” division in the parade, we did not actually step out onto Coast Highway until after 11:30!! Then we rode and waved and walked the parade route from Wisconsin Street up to past the Library at Pier View Way, wishing the fine folks of Oceanside who had lined the street a “Happy Fourth!” (or a “Happy June 24th”, if we were being more honest.) We especially waved and smiled and mugged for the cameras as we passed the spot where the KOCT crew were filming the event, with our own JIM SCHRODER manning the microphone for the play by play for the live broadcast.

Taking part and representing Oceanside Rotary in this parade were: DEAN ANDERSEN with wife CAROL and son DAX, JANET BLEDSOE LACY, TOM BRAULT, MIKE CURTIN, SHOR DENNY with her partner DENEEN GIBSON, BILL DERN, ANCHISA FARRANT, TINA ORTIZ, RENEE RICHARDSON with PAUL WENDEE, NANCY RUSSIAN with LUIS, and LOLA SHERMAN. (JIM SCHRODER, as we said, was in the KOCT booth, and LA-RENE MALCOLM was marching in the North County African American Women’s Association literally right behind us.)







## GOLF TOURNAMENT RECAP

Monday June 26 was a beautiful day for a golf tournament! Blue skies, comfortable temperature, a nice breeze, all on the lovely course at El Camino Country Club. A whole host of Rotarians assembled by Volunteer Coordinator TINA ORTIZ showed up to make the event run smoothly. It would have been even nicer if more golfers had signed up to make the event more profitable, but c'est la vie. Thanks to all who played and/or donated or sponsored and/or volunteered at this annual tradition for our club!



## COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

**Monday, July 3** – Potluck dinner and fireworks viewing at JIM SCHRODER's house (4020 Wooster Drive, Oceanside), Starting at 6:30 pm

**Friday, July 14** – First regular meeting of the new Rotary year with SHOR in charge. Noon. El Camino Country Club.

**Friday, July 21** – Zoom Board meeting, Noon

**Friday, July 28** – Regular meeting. Noon. El Camino Country Club