

 <p>Rotary Opens Opportunities</p> <p>2020-2021</p>	<p align="center">ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE</p> <p align="center">SHORELINES</p> <p>Tom Brault Janet Bledsoe Lacy Tom Brault Editor-in-Chief Photographer Reporter</p>		 <p align="center">CO-PRESIDENTS Melissa Rodriguez & Dale Maas</p>
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July 24, 2020



There was the normal gathering and group chat online with more and more faces popping up on our screens as the time for the meeting approached on Friday. But then, precisely at the appointed hour, we heard our Co-President DALE MAAS acknowledge, “For all the people who are on time, it is 12:30” as we gonged the meeting to order. “We officially survived the Club Assembly last time, and we are excited for our first normally structured meeting and our first guest speaker!”

The first task at this first meeting was tossed over to NANCY RUSSIAN who provided for us the “Rotary Moment”, which was an inspiring description of the philosophy of Charles Schulz, the creator of the Peanuts comic strip.



“Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. It's already tomorrow in Australia!”

Then we were challenged to mentally come up with answers to the following quiz:

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America pageant.
- 4 Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize..
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners for best actor and actress
6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.

How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are not second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.



Easier?

The lesson: The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They simply are the ones who care the most.

Dovetailing on this message about “people who make a difference”, DALE brought up our (recently renamed) RARK. Our former “Random Rotary Acts of Kindness” have now morphed into “Random Acts of Rotary Kindness” – mostly because it is nice to see the words “Rotary” and “Kindness” linked so closely, but also because it is more fun to try to verbalize the acronym “RARK” than “RRAK.”



Here we see our C.K.O. (Chief Kindness Officer) RENEE RICHARDSON WENDEE making the final preparations on a pair of baskets of fruits and veggies and Prager Artisanal bread which went out recently, delivered by our D.D.D.D.

(Designated Duty Delivery Dude) BILL DERN.



Lucky recipients of these bountiful baskets were CHUCK ANDREAN and DAVE NYDEGGER. Neither of these gentlemen were able to join us on Zoom for this meeting ... CHUCK was on a tour of the border

with his son, and DAVE is scheduled for back surgery so sitting through an extended session on Zoom is literally a pain, but they relayed their appreciation for this RARK which definitely brightened their days. And on July 22, a gift certificate to Felix’s BBQ with Soul was delivered to VERNON ALLEN along with a card saying it came from “A Random Rotarian.”





Prior to the name change, several other RRAK's had gone on out:

On July 14 – an assortment of fruits and veggies and two IPA beers to ROGER VANDERWERKEN. (Pictured accepting the awards are his wife JACQUIE and daughter BETH.

On July 15 – Beers and an assortment of beer glasses to L.J. FIMBRES.

What a special way to spread a little sunshine to our members to show how much their fellow Rotarians care! Kudos to all involved in this heartwarming gesture!

CLUB UPDATES

Co-President Elect A.J. MAZZARELLA was then invited to let us know what's coming up at Oceanside Rotary;

Friday, August 7: Next regular Zoom meeting @ 12:30 pm

Wednesday, August 19: Club Social Gathering on Zoom @ 5:30 pm

Friday, August 21: Zoom Board meeting @ Noon

Friday, August 28: Regular Zoom meeting



COMMUNITY SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PLANS



JAY CRAWFORD was proud to report that a total of 652 paracord bracelets had been assembled by our team of volunteers (PAM MYERS, TOM BRAULT, MELISSA RODRIGUEZ and family, DALE MAAS, AMANDA SNIDER, ALEXA KINGAARD, JAY and his wife

ANITA and some of their Oceana neighbors, and DAVE & TERRI HALL and family). These compact, handy, and stylish cord bracelets will be packaged by Operation Appreciation along with other items and sent to service members. JAY expects to hear soon what the grand total of bracelets was overall in this year's effort.



What's next?? - The Community Service Committee is considering some other potential projects to take on going forward, including the possibility of “adopting” a local senior assisted living facility to show that the community cares and is thinking of them through letters and gifts, etc. Also in the planning stages is a “Virtual Beach Cleanup” project. Full scale cleanup days are on hold, of course, since we are not supposed to be assembling in larger groups. But the thinking is that we can pull together smaller teams of 2 or 3 folks who could videotape themselves picking up trash to beautify our local beaches. Stay tuned!



VISITORS AND GUESTS

Scanning the screen, A.J. was able to pick out RUDY VAN HUNNICK, JACQUELINE BROWNLEE, BRIAN LONG, and our guest speaker MIKE BLESSING from the crowd of faces on the screen, and our Welcome Song was offered by BILL DERN.



COINCIDENTAL NEW MEMBER PROPOSALS

As it turns out, some of our visitors over the last several meetings have been proposed for membership into our club, so now is the time for all of us to consider these candidates and let someone on the Board know if you have any concerns about any of the potential members.

JACQUELINE BROWNLEE (proposed by MELISSA RODRIGUEZ)
BRIAN LONG (proposed by DALE MAAS)
and TINA ORTIZ (proposed by VICKIE PROSSER)

You have 10 days to provide any input on these proposals ... Tick, tock....

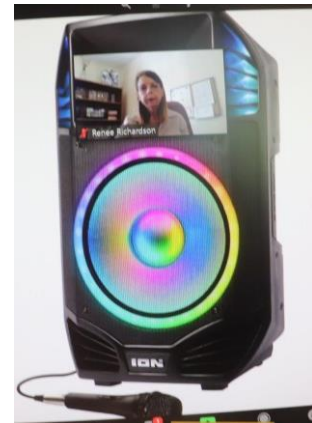
OTHER PRESIDENTIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

DALE mentioned that some thought has been going into the structure of our monthly social Zoom gatherings. He is sad that he missed being a part of the

“impromptu hat competition” that organically came up at the July social, which looked like fun. *{See photos and a description of that evening at the end of this newsletter.}* So the plan is to pull together a Trivia competition for our August 19 social – sort of like you might take part in at a pub or a brewery. Score cards will be emailed out in advance, and you can compete as an individual or set up a team of folks, if you would like. So pull your Encyclopedia Britannica off of your shelf and start boning up to fill your brain with knowledge in preparation for Trivia Time!



Our screens were then filled with a picture of an electronic device with an attached microphone and DALE asked if anyone knew what it was. TOM BRAULT piped in with his hope that it was a new Karaoke machine for the club. (Lord knows, that boy does love to sing show tunes!) “Close!” DALE generously said. “Does anybody else have an idea?” Turns out that RENEE was well aware that the club had actually picked up a new portable PA system from Costco (complete with Bluetooth capability, so TOM might get his Karaoke after all!) The thinking is that, when conditions (hopefully) improve and we feel more comfortable as a group about physically getting together, we could bring this speaker / microphone system to a backyard or a park or wherever it would be possible to gather in a Covid-safe, appropriately distanced manner, bringing our own chairs and beverages, and this device would allow the speaker to be heard by the assembly. Fingers crossed that this might come to pass sometime semi-soonish.



FINES AND HAPPY DOLLARS

Are our new leaders trying to stay on our good side? ... There were no fines levied at this first official regular meeting. Whew! But we did get a good sampling of Happy Dollars kicked in to the kitty.

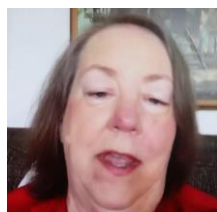
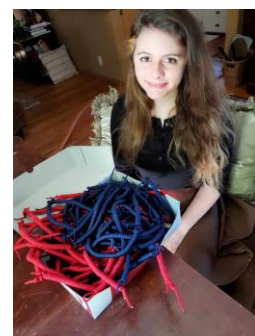


VICKIE PROSSER started us off with \$50 in ecstatic bucks to celebrate that her husband LLOYD is now through with radiation treatment. “Now he just has to stay home and get better.” What great news to hear!! ...

DALE MAAS had \$10 in thanks that his mom has been discharged from rehab after successful shoulder surgery, plus another \$10 because she has been “healing perfectly.” MORE good news on the family health front. HOORAY!! ...

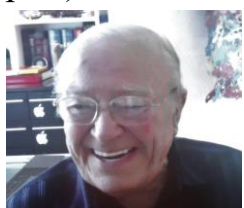


DAVE HALL offered \$16 because, of the 150 paracord bracelets that had been assigned to the HALL family, a full 116 of them were put together by granddaughter AVA. (“Delegation is a beautiful thing!”, proclaimed Co-Pres DALE.)



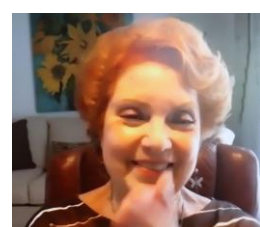
PAM MYERS let us know that she had donated the \$200 that she ordinarily would be forking over for Rotary lunches to a local organization called Studio Ace (www.studioace.org) which has been collaborating with schools and local groups to increase arts offerings in the community ...

ANCHISA FARRANT had \$10 to tell us that her new next door neighbor who just moved in from Santa Barbara had noticed her Rotary pin. The woman’s father had been a past club president, and it turns out that she might be interested in joining us on one of our Zoom meetings soon. (See – It pays to wear your Rotary pin!) ...



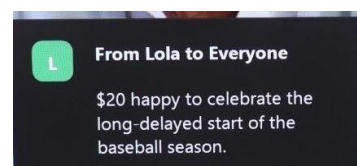
RUDY VAN HUNNICK pledged another \$25 just to say how much he enjoys “hanging out with this wonderful group!”

RON MARBEN’s \$20 was just because “everyone seems healthy” and he is thankful for our friendship and for the nice day outside ...



TERRI HALL had \$10 to admit that she “enjoys eating far too much!” Then she admitted that she was sure that she had probably gained the standard “Covid 15” pounds during this shutdown period. But then she weighed herself and was delighted to see that she actually had only added a mere five pounds. So, in her mind, she feels like she lost that extra 10 pounds in just that one day! ...

LOLA SHERMAN chimed in on the Zoom Chat box to say that she was \$20 happy to see the long-delayed start of the major league baseball season. PLAY BALL!!! ...



A.J. MAZZARELLA was \$20 appreciative of the beers that had been delivered to him by BILL DERN recently ...

JIM SCHRODER wove an interesting tale, to the tune of \$20 in Happy Dollars. He went through minor surgery on his hand and ended up chatting away through the whole procedure, as the nurses were captivated by the tales of his travel experiences. They were so impressed that they glowingly recommended JIM as a “travel expert.” And apparently the doctors were pretty expert, too, because his stitches are now taken out and “Everything is great!” Glad to hear it, JIM!



As this last story brought our Happy Dollars time to a close, we were reminded that it is important for us all to follow up on our donation pledges in a timely fashion. Luckily that is easy to do! You can either mail a check to Treasurer LES NEWQUIST or Secretary RENEE RICHARDSON WENDEE, or you can “join the 21st Century” by signing up for Venmo and have your money sent electronically



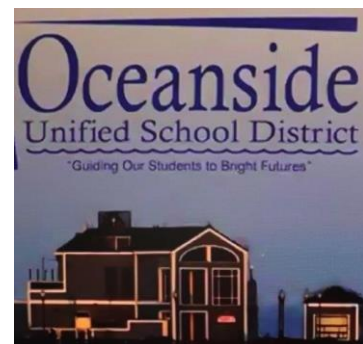
from your bank account with no added fees. Whichever way you send in your money, make sure that you indicate which bucket (Club general funds, Rotary International Foundation, Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation, etc.) that you want your funds to be allocated to so we can keep our various accounts up to date and growing.

AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

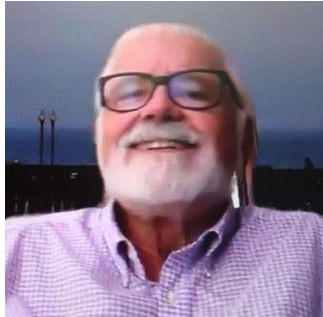


The honor of introducing our guest speaker fell to our Program Chair JANET BLEDSOE LACY. While we silently watched and waited for JANET to figure out how to “Unmute” herself to be able to be heard, our guest broke the silence and the ice by chuckling, “OK, Boomer!” to JANET. (Can you tell that they are good friends?)

Once she finally was off of Mute, JANET informed us that this month our programs will be focusing on what is going on with our local schools – a critically important and timely topic as we focus on how we will plan to move forward with the education of our kids in this time of Covid. At our next meeting, we will be hearing from the Superintendent of OUSD, and this day our guest was MIKE BLESSING, a member of the OUSD Board – first elected to that office in 2008 and reelected in 2016. MIKE spent more than 40 years in a career of public service: as a city planner, Oceanside Planning Director,



and eventually Deputy City Manager before he retired in 2009. Born and raised in L.A., he attended San Francisco State and got his Masters degree from SDSU. Now both of his sons proudly attend the Oceanside Unified School District.



The first words out of MIKE's mouth were to say (with a twinkle in his eye) that "JANET was the best and most eloquent school board member I have ever served with." (Thus proving that he is a good politician!) But after that preliminary buttering up, he jumped right into the question of the day: Education in the Pandemic. "Covid is a tragedy which no one could have predicted, and we are struggling with how to handle education." Orders and

recommendations keep coming in from the Governor and the county and the District has to follow through. Basically the reopening of the schools is fully dependent on a stabilization / improvement in the infection rate. The current planning has the teachers coming onto the school campuses on August 11 to prep for the year (with all appropriate and necessary PPE and standards in place). Classes will then start online on Monday August 17 with daily interactions and attendance taken. Precise schedules and times of instruction are still being worked out. In middle school and high school, for example, they are aiming for the standard 7 periods of instruction, 47 minutes per session, for 5 days per week.

Testing, tracking, and contact tracing will be a key to keeping the staff safe. Once the campuses reopen, we are assured that they will have all necessary PPE and social distancing. Staff will be tested every 2 months. And set criteria for quarantines are being developed: If one student in a class test positive, the entire class will be sent home for a 14 day quarantine period. If 25% of the students in a particular school are positive, then the whole school will close for 14 days. And if 25% of the district's schools are affected, then all of the schools will close down live instruction for 14 days.

Basically, MIKE said, "We all want what is best for the kids, and everyone wants to get back to school." The question of waivers is a "dynamic situation", and the teachers' union would have to support a waiver request for it to be considered. MIKE is gratified that "Now everyone is appreciating what teachers do!" The District is also considering what they might be able to do to help out with the need for child care going forward.

OUSD is committed to getting the necessary technology in place to be able to serve all students. They are especially focused on how to best serve those with

special needs, and the District might be doing a form of “triage” to decide which groups of students are most critical to get back to onsite classes sooner than others. He told us that he has been fielding LOTS of emails and questions and suggestions from residents as we all plan for the near term future of education in the schools of Oceanside.

He then opened our meeting up to questions from the audience.

BILL DERN asked what is happening with the more underprivileged areas of the city which have less access to online capability. MIKE admitted that “Last semester was less than ideal”, but that “We will devote extra resources and do the best we can.”

JIM SCHRODER wondered how the upcoming flu season might come into play. Would similar rules be put in place for school shutdowns? MIKE feels confident that they will be able to make the distinction between the common flu and the more critical Covid virus infections. He hopes that parents will take the message to heart that kids who have symptoms should not be sent in to school.

NANCY RUSSIAN reported that she read the breaking news that the recommendation for the quarantine period is shifting from 14 days down to just 10 days instead and that as soon as you are free of fever, you can come out of quarantine. MIKE assured us that the District will follow all CDC, California, County and City rules.

RUDY VAN HUNNICK noted that a lot of the Automatic External Defibrillators that he and our club were instrumental in placing throughout the community were put into schools, and he asked for a point of contact in the District for him to be able to inquire about tracking their status and effectiveness. (The City recently sent a letter stating that our AED’s have saved 37 lives to date.)

JANET BLEDSOE LACY wondered about the possibility of whether and how the President and/or Congress might be able to cut off funding for schools if they do not open up to on campus instruction. Also she wanted to hear about the new school bond that is being discussed. As far as cutting off funds goes, MIKE told us that only 10% of school funding comes from federal sources, and 90% of the District’s expenses goes toward salaries for teachers and staff. He acknowledges that these funding issues may end up being litigated in the courts, but is encouraged that the current Congressional bill does include some critical funding for education, so “We’ll see what the final legislation includes.” And funding from

the State of California “should be OK”, given what has already been promised and allocated. He was also glad to be able to report that the approval of \$24 million of federal funding for a school modernization program on base is “moving up the list”, so that is encouraging to see.

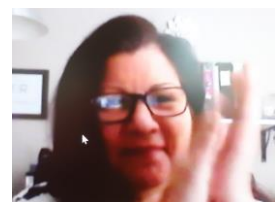
As far as the proposed bond goes, the two most recent bonds that had been approved by the voters are now reaching the end of their life. The funds that remain unspent to date have already been committed to facilities. So, thinking toward the future, the District has identified needs at several schools (including new technology, sports field improvements, as well as upgrades for the Truax Theatre performing space at El Camino High). They are looking at the possibility of placing a new \$160 million bond on the November 2020 ballot. This plan would cost the taxpayers \$30 for every \$100,000 in property valuation. OUSD has asked the San Diego County Taxpayers Association to review this bond proposal and the District is hopeful to receive this endorsement for their plan. The Board will be deciding at their upcoming meeting on August 4 whether or not to go forward with this bond proposal. Citizens are invited to watch and participate in this session on Zoom.

What a jam-packed program of information and insights! Our thanks went out to MIKE BLESSING for his most illuminating presentation. Co-President DALE admitted, “We haven’t come up with what our speaker gift will be yet, but when we figure it out, it will be delivered to you in Covid-friendly fashion.”

As we eased toward the close of the meeting, DALE encouraged us all to become a part of the RARK process, either by putting together some sort of basket ourselves or by contributing by cash or check to either BILL or RENEE, and they would continue with these ongoing expressions of our care to fellow Rotarians and their families.

Also we were invited to contact TERRI HALL to join the Fundraising Committee, which is looking for a few more good Rotarians to be a part of working on this important task for the club.

After those final prods, we were then gonged out at 1:32 pm. As members were saying their “See you later!”s, BILL DERN was heard to compliment our Co-President as follows: “Great job, DALE! Probably a lot better than MELISSA’s meeting will be ... (A momentary pause) ... Oh, MELISSA. I didn’t see you there!” (Awkward!!!)



IT HAPPENS TO THE BEST OF US

Not meaning to be a “snitch”, but an eagle-eyed member couldn’t help but notice (and then capture on camera) that, knee deep into our guest speaker’s presentation, ROGER VANDERWERKEN at first glance seemed to be deeply contemplating what he was hearing. But a few moments later, it looked more like he was drifting off and dozing just a bit.



“Been there... Done that.... And I will undoubtedly do it again sometime ... No worries, ROGER!”



WHAT HAPPENED AT THE JULY 15 SOCIAL??

Special thanks to TERRI HALL for passing along the scoop on what had transpired at the most recent evening social Zoom session, so those of us who were not able to be a part of the gathering could hear what happened.

NADIA NAVARETTE from Argentina shared that the pandemic is getting worse there. (It was 10 pm in her time zone!) She also let us know that JIM SCHRODER had surgery on his hand that day at noon. It was JAY CRAWFORD’s birthday and we sang to him. LLOYD PROSSER at that time only had four more treatments left to tackle, and VICKIE said that he had a bad day the day before. There was some chatter about all of the folks who were working on paracord bracelets as the deadline for turning them in was approaching. There was discussion about sad and stressed seniors in assisted living facilities and it was suggested that we may come up with a service project like drive by parades, cards and notes, visits, etc. L.J. FIMBRES showed off the beer glasses he had received in his RRAK delivery that day and described the kinds of beer for each. He had an IPA in appropriate glass. TINA ORTIZ visited again. That's pretty much it.

“What about the hats?”, you may ask Well, BOB PICKREL happened to be sitting near a selection of his hats and he started putting them on, one after another. JAY CRAWFORD picked up on this and showed off a few of his own. His wife ANITA ROMANE donned a festive crown that she had made herself for some previous party or function – Probably Mardi Gras. Then DAVE HALL joined in the hat display fun. JIM SCHRODER showed off his Argentinian Coast Guard hat, and NANCY RUSSIAN’s hubby LUIS donned a Jimmy Buffet hat. BILL DERN just happened to already have a hat on already, so we are not sure if he counts in this “competition”! _Silly guys!



COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

Friday, August 7 – Regular Zoom meeting

JULIE VITALE, PhD – Superintendent of Oceanside Unified School District

Wednesday, August 19 – Zoom Evening Social @ 5:30 pm

Friday, August 21 – Zoom Board meeting @ Noon
All members are invited to participate

Friday, August 28 - Regular Zoom meeting
MORGAN COOK, SD Union Tribune – “The Impact of Investigative
Journalism and the Conviction of Congressman Duncan Hunter”