

 <p><b>THE MAGIC OF ROTARY</b></p>	<p><b>ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE</b></p>		
<p><b>SHORELINES</b></p>			<p><b>CO-PRESIDENTS</b> Janet Bledsoe Lacy Paul Wendee</p>
<p><b>2024-2025</b></p>	<p><b>Tom Brault</b> Editor-in-Chief</p>	<p><b>Vickie Prosser</b> Photographer</p>	
<p><b>Bill Dern</b> Reporter</p>			

*April 11, 2025*



Demonstrating her unique ability with a microphone, Past President/Assistant District Governor/Club Secretary **RENEE RICHARDSON** welcomed a full house to our Rotary meeting. **BOB PICKREL** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and a visiting Rotarian, **JOHN DERN** led us as we recited Rotary's 4 Way Test.



Past-Pres (PP) **JAY CRAWFORD** led us in song as we sang "God Bless America" and, with an insistent prod from PP **VICKIE PROSSER** (who filled in as our photographer de jour), we also sang "Smile."



## CLUB UPDATES

Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> is our Club Board meeting at noon by Zoom. Contact **RENEE** if you would like to receive the link to join us.

Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> is our next regular club meeting featuring an Oceanside Library presentation.

April 25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup>, our Co-President **PAUL WENDEE** will be attending RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Academy) as a facilitator. Good luck **PAUL**!

May 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> is the District 4100 Conference in Tijuana, Mexico. **PAUL WENDEE** and **RENEE RICHARDSON** will be attending.

Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup> is the first club meeting in May with **MARK SKOUSEN** giving a Benjamin Franklin presentation which should be fascinating.

Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> **PAUL** and **RENEE** will be visiting the Rotary Club of Rosita and Tijuana for a club visit.

Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> is a Club Board meeting via Zoom at noon. Contact RENEE if you want to attend.

Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> is Dark for Memorial Weekend

Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> is the incoming Board's Retreat and Brunch from 9:00 – 12:00 at RENEE'S place.

Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> Oceanside's Police Chief TAURINO VALDOVINOS will be our speaker.

### INTRODUCTION OF VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS



PP BILL DERN had the pleasure of introducing a first-time visitor FILIPPO VIOLA who is looking for a place to get involved in our community. Also seated at BILL's table was a visiting Rotarian, his baby brother JOHN DERN from the Longmont, Colorado Rotary Club.



Pres-Elect ROGER VANDERWERKEN introduced a visitor KASSIE MACHADO, a senior at Cal State San Marcos, who made a presentation later in the meeting. And lastly there was our speaker CHRIS ROMERO, who RENEE officially introduced later in the meeting. Still learning the ropes of his upcoming job as next



year's Club President, ROGER was reminded to have JAY CRAWFORD lead us in our "Welcome Song."

Pres RENEE also welcomed back fellow Rotarian BRAD FISHER after a long leave of absence. Good to see you at our meetings again BRAD.



### APRIL BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND CLUB ANNIVERSAIRES

Leading the pack since all of his significant anniversaries occur in the month of April is BOB PICKREL. BOB celebrated his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 7<sup>th</sup> and his 47<sup>th</sup> year as a member of our club on April 4<sup>th</sup>. On April 28, he will be celebrating 74 years of marriage with DARLENE. BOB was \$216 (\$100 to the club foundation) happy to be celebrating all these events this month. We are too, BOB ... CONGRATULATIONS!

Also having a birthday this month, ERNIE MASCITTI was \$81 happy to be celebrating his 81<sup>st</sup> birthday. PP JAY CRAWFORD led us in song again as we sang to our birthday Rotarians.



BRAD FISHER was \$5 happy to be celebrating his 28<sup>th</sup> year of marriage. BRAD also shared he was recently “restructured” right out of his job and is currently looking for the next opportunity. Good luck BRAD. You’ll find something soon.

RENEE also noted that Co-Pres PAUL WENDEE has a wedding anniversary later this month. When RENEE was asked if her husband knew it was soon, she just shrugged. RENEE was also \$8 happy that PAUL will be attending RYLA for a weekend.

### “SURVEY SAYS!”



RENEE then asked the visitor KASSIE MACHADO to the podium for her air time. KASSIE is a senior at Cal State San Marcos studying business marketing. Their senior project is conducting a business confidence survey for North County. It is a brief survey with the possibility of winning a \$50 gift card. (I easily completed the survey in about 5 minutes. Let’s see if we can help her out!) A scan code for participants was provided in postcards on the table and is reproduced here, for your convenience.



### SAVE DATES

Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup> is our **Demotion Dinner** starting at 5:30 with cocktails at El Camino Country Club. Come join us as we celebrate our great Rotary year and say “Thank You” to co-current Co-Presidents JANET BLEDSOE LACY and PAUL WENDEE in our usual, fun manner.

Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> is the **Oceanside Independence Day parade** starting at 9 AM. We are planning to ask some of our neighbor Rotary Clubs to join us on our float or strolling down Coast Highway. Come join in this celebration!

Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup> is our **Rotary Round-Up Social** at PP JIM SCHRODER’S home starting at 6 PM

## HAPPY DOLLARS

PP BILL DERN started the happy dollars by saying he would like to be able to say he was \$5 happy that his brother was here in Oceanside for the month of April. Actually, he admitted, he IS happy to have JOHN here as they are enjoying a good time together.



JAY CRAWFORD was \$5 happy that his wife ANITA is on a 30-day trip to Bangkok and he has the house to himself. Think I detected a note of sadness in JAY's voice though, as he mentioned he was lonely already.

TOM BRAULT was \$10 happy to invite Rotarians to hear him sing ten songs at a benefit concert event at Lifeway Baptist Church in Vista starting at 8 pm that evening. *(See a review and some photos at the end of this newsletter.)*



NANCY RUSSIAN was \$10 happy to have her daughter ROXANNE visiting for a week, her sixth trip since November. She was a volunteer with us for the Ironman registration, and before she left to go back to Chicago, ROXANNE said, "Well, next year when we do the Ironman ..." Another guaranteed daughter visit for NANCY to look forward to!

MIKE CURTIN was \$5 happy and proud that his NCAA bracket selection won a year's worth of pizza. Pretty cool except the Pizza joint is in Santa Cruz. (Guess we know where you are eating when you visit your daughter MIKE, and it ain't Senor Grubby's!)



ERNIE MASCITTI was \$19 happy to Polio Plus to share he just returned from a 17-day cruise to Hawaii and just started his diet to shed those added cruise pounds ... but then he saw our dessert today and could not resist. (It is OK ERNIE. There is always tomorrow to restart the diet!)

BOB PICKREL added he was \$10 happy that NANCY RUSSIAN is back.





DANA ALBERT was \$5 happy to share an update on the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual GOAT FOR JOE Golf Tournament on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Registration starts Friday. This event is geared to support mental health issues. Even if you are not a golfer, it is a fun afternoon and evening. RENEE invited Rotarians to come join her at the event.



DANA also gave a brief update on our Oceanside Interact Club at Oceanside High School. Last Friday they had nineteen students in attendance and they are hoping to continue recruiting new members, aiming for 100 members by the end of the next school year. The club is working with Waste Management on a couple of recycling projects - One starts soon at the Sunset Market in Oceanside. RENEE reminded DANA to share that those club members will be wearing their Interact shirts on these projects, helping to get Rotary branding out in the community.

## PRESENTATION



PP RENEE introduced our guest speaker, Rotarian CHRIS ROMERO, who is active in community outreach, to share with us about “Ending Hunger, Enriching Lives.” This outstanding program was fascinating and may create future service opportunities for our club. As always, members needed to be at the meetings to really enjoy the program. Here are a few highlights:

CHRIS is a fellow Rotarian in the Mission Valley Rotary Club. He is currently active in meal packaging for the needy. He started out in community service by working with AmeriCorps, traveling around the United States doing various service projects. For 12 weeks he and his team worked in Hawaii building trails and restorations. He has also been involved with Kaboom, building playgrounds for kids in a weekend. These types of service projects taught him how to get a lot of people together to perform a short-term service project which greatly impacts others. This led him to meal packaging and the Outreach Program.

The Outreach Program was started in 2004 by a Rotarian in Iowa who saw ways to help out with serious needs in Tanzania. His group focused on clean water, medical care, education, and meals to combat malnutrition. One of the challenges when confronted with hunger is providing quality meals that offer enough protein and vitamins for children. These early meals given to the children included enough food to be sent home for their families. Following success in Tanzania, the question was raised “why not help with food malnutrition and hunger here in the

United States.” As a result, 95% of the meal packaging products which Outreach puts together in America today get distributed locally in the U.S communities of need with 5% still being sent to Tanzania.

This expansion of the Outreach Program led to a system of local community projects in which a group of people get together to create a food assembly line event, packaging these meals for the needy. Recently in La Jolla, 30,000 meals for the fire victims in Los Angeles were assembled mainly by Rotarians but the project also included church members and Boy Scouts. This brings people together in a team approach, improving community involvement. With the increase in those needing nutritional help and the reduction in available food at our food banks, feeding folks in need has become more of a challenge lately.

Since 2004, the Outreach Program has packaged over 925,000 meals and they hope to reach 1 million by the end of this year.

This program works with the hosting organization deciding which meal it wants to package and then the group raises the funds required. All the materials needed are then delivered to a specific indoor location for packaging by the hosting group. The food packaged is donated locally, with the hosting organization choosing the beneficiaries. The cost is just forty cents per meal. So with delivery, the supplies to make 10,000 meals is roughly \$4500. It takes about 2 hours for a group of 35 to 50 people to assemble 10,000 meals. After learning about this great program, it raises the question why Oceanside Rotary doesn't participate in this program and package nutritional meals for those in need locally. Hopefully, the board will consider this for a future project.

And with that, PP RENEE presented CHRIS with a beautiful succulent plant by fellow Rotarian ANCHISA FARRANT and a cookie treat from The Hacienda San Luis Rey, thanks to MICHAEL JENKINS.

### **OPPORTUNITY DRAWING**

Visiting Rotarian JOHN DERN held the winning ticket but failed to win the \$1000 grand prize. He instead received the \$10 consolation prize. (Better luck next time JOHN.)



## IRONMAN VOLUNTEERING REPORT

What a great Ironman Crew! On Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, led by none other than 5-year Team Captain RENEE RICHARDSON, several enthusiastic Oceanside Rotarians and family members assisted with checking in 3,000 athletes for the triathlon the following day!



Also in the ranks reporting for duty under Captain RICHARDSON and Admiral CARRIE CHACON were: VICKIE PROSSER, TOM BRAULT, DARREL LARSON, ROGER VANDERWERKEN, JIM SCHRODER, BILL DERN, JOHN DERN, JOHN's wife CARRIE, NANCY RUSSIAN, and daughter ROXANNE. After a 5-hour shift, the troops were dismissed until the same time next year!

## BRAULT SINGS BROADWAY!

The review of this night on the town comes from VICKIE PROSSER:

*"Several of our Rotarians were able to attend the Lighthouse Players benefit concert on Friday evening, April 11. It starred none other than our own TOM BRAULT and he did - as usual - an excellent job! The whole production featured very strong voices and a wonderful array of Broadway show stopping tunes. Rotarians enjoying the show were: Co-President PAUL WENDEE, PP RENEE RICHARDSON, PP BILL DERN, PP VICKIE PROSSER, and LOLA SHERMAN, who is always a wonderful supporter of everyone! So sorry for those who missed it."*



## PRIZE WINNER!

This just in from PP VICKIE PROSSER: *"Remember a couple of weeks ago when two ladies from the Carlsbad high noon Rotary club came to our group and were*

*selling opportunity drawing tickets for a fundraiser they were holding for scholarships? Well, I got a call yesterday and the lady told me I won the wine basket! Turns out it was two wine baskets, and there is a ton of wine here! Next time they come, people should be buying tickets... they gave away an E bike and a trip to Sedona and all sorts of wonderful gifts and earned \$46,000 towards their scholarships. So glad I participated!"*



## COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> – Club Board meeting via Zoom at noon. Contact RENEE if you want to attend.

Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> – Regular Meeting – Speaker – Oceanside Library

Friday, April 25 – Sunday, April 27 – RYLA at Idyllwild - PAUL WENDEE will be one of the Facilitators. Think good thoughts for him and the kids!

Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup> – Regular meeting – Speaker - MARK SKOUSEN giving a Benjamin Franklin presentation.

Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> - Club Board meeting via Zoom at noon. Contact RENEE for the link to join in.

Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> - Dark for Memorial Weekend

Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> - Regular meeting – Speaker - Oceanside's Police Chief TAURINO VALDOVINOS.

Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> - Board Retreat and Brunch from 9:00 – 12:00 at RENEE'S place.