

**ROTARY CLUB OF
OCEANSIDE**

SHORELINES

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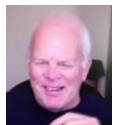
April 30, 2021

It was 12:31 pm when our Co-President MELISSA RODRIGUEZ had to cut RUDY VAN HUNNICK off mid-comment in order to kick off our meeting close to on time. “Hopefully everyone has recovered from our live gathering” the previous Saturday, and she thanked ROGER VANDERWERKEN for hosting the event. “The church was beautiful!” she added. We’re not saying that this was a part of a “quid pro quo” in exchange for his hosting or anything, but MELISSA then immediately turned the meeting over to ROGER so he could preach to us ... No, I’m sorry ... so he could give us a reflection on his **ROTARY MOMENT**.



ROGER told us how Rotary’s Youth Exchange program has turned into quite a family affair for him. As a kid, he himself had the opportunity to be a Rotary Exchange student in Holland, staying with four different families during his time there – one where he literally was given the “royal treatment”, with the father being a baron and a part of the queen’s court. (We had wondered why ROGER always seems to have such a noble, regal bearing about him! Now we know.)

Fast forward a few years and, as ROGER put it, “I didn’t push for it or anything”, but his daughter decided to take part in a Rotary Youth Exchange to Belgium, and the family has kept close ties with their contacts there ever since. Let a few more years pass and then his son also ended up taking part in the Rotary Exchange program. In this boy’s case, his time was spent in Kenya, staying with various families who were Muslim, and Hindu, and Christian. Talk about being exposed to different perspectives! ROGER mentioned that he had heard someone make this claim in support of these exchange programs: “Once you get to know a people, you are less likely to bomb them.” Amen to that, ROGER. And amen to his summation that the Rotary Youth Exchange can be a very “touching and powerful” experience for the participants!



CLUB UPDATES



This week, Co-President Elect A.J. MAZZARELLA had the honor us catching us up on what is to come in the weeks ahead:

May 8: We were reminded that the deadline for signing up for our Virtual Wine, Cheese, and Chocolate Pairing fundraiser was May 1. \$79 per person for tasty treats and sips and expert guidance from The Miller's Table in Oceanside to help you enjoy and understand them. Also, the Silent Auction bidding opened up on May 1, so see what prizes you might be interested in, all the while supporting Oceanside Rotary!

May 14: Regular meeting on Zoom

May 21: Board meeting on Zoom

May 22: The deadline for donating items to Interfaith Community Services "Make It a Home" project. A list of needed items (*hygiene items, kitchen supplies, bedroom supplies, food, and supplemental items*) had been sent out by email, and your donations can be dropped off at DALE MAAS's Edward Jones office (2424 Vista Way, Suite 325, Oceanside) by Friday May 21. It was suggested to call the office at 760-439-9001 before you drive over to make sure that someone will be there to accept your donation.

MONDAY June 7: Ivey Ranch Painting and BBQ. We will be painting fences at the Equestrian Park as a service project, followed by a BBQ social immediately after the work is done.

June 18: Our annual Demotion Dinner where we will get rid of our two Co-Presidents and replace them with two more newbies is on the horizon. Mark your calendar, with details to follow.

June 21: Joint Golf Tournament Fundraiser at El Camino Country Club. As always, we need: golfers, tee sponsors, tournament sponsors, volunteers and auction and raffle items. Get your foursome together and whack a few balls for fun and for charity.



A.J. then scanned the Zoom screen to locate our **VISITORS AND GUESTS** and greeted all who had joined us at the meeting: our guest speaker Councilmember RYAN KEIM, MARY COXON who shared a table with her husband FRANK (who we were very glad to see was able to log in

to be with us again), and RUDY VAN HUNNICK. Upon being introduced, RUDY thought it would be a good time to ask a question about our May 8th fundraiser, but Co-Pres MELISSA cut him off ... AGAIN ... and invited him to stay online after the meeting to get his question answered. With that settled (sort of), BILL DERN was invited to sing our “Welcome Song” to all of our guests.

ROTARIANS AT WORK WRAP UP

MELISSA was happy to report that our annual RAW day had “tons of people”, including visitors from the Del Mar club, and that it was “fantastic to see folks live and in person” after so many months of virtual contact. We collected so much food! And we also made money from our lunch and bingo, but we are waiting for a final report from our Treasurer LES NEWQUIST on the net proceeds.



RAW Event Chair DAVE HALL had submitted this report to Shorelines with even more details:



“Oceanside Rotary Club held our first in-person event after a year of COVID-19 ZOOM meetings and virtual projects and fundraisers! On Saturday, April 24th our Rotarians at Work (RAW) day included a socially distanced food donation drive, box lunch catered by Oceanside Kitchen Collaborative, and cash Bingo in the courtyard at ROGER’s church (Breakwater Community Church)! There was a table set up for attendees to sign notes and birthday cards for future deliveries to our local senior assisted living facilities. And then there was the main focus of our volunteer effort for RAW - We collected food donations for Lived Experiences, whose director OSCAR ORTEGA brought their refrigerated truck so we could load all the donations of fruit, vegetables, bread, rice, and beans. Even though you can’t see their smiles behind the masks, it is clear that our Co-Presidents MELISSA RODRIGUEZ and DALE MAAS were proud of the impressive volume of food that was gathered and then stuffed into the truck. (Literally over a ton! –47 families received an average of 50 pounds each for a total of approximately 2,350 pounds!) Special thanks go to BILL DERN who secured a donation of 10 farm boxes from Yasukochi Farms. (Big thanks to them as well)

In addition to the food donations, we also raised funds toward ending food insecurity in Oceanside with the proceeds of our cash Bingo games! We had seven games in total, with prizes ranging from \$25 for the first two games, up to the big prize of \$75 for the final and seventh game! ANCHISA FARRANT and NANCY RUSSIAN shared the prize for the first game and did a little dance together in celebration of their win. But the biggest prize from the last game was carried away by DIANNA SHIMKUS, a visiting Rotarian from the Del Mar-Solana Beach club. Our District Governor STEVE WEITZEN had encouraged his club members to come out for our RAW event, since theirs was held the weekend before, and it paid off big for one of their members!”



OSCAR sent in a few photos of residents picking up our donated food.



And here is how our RAW event was reported on the Del Mar-Solana Beach Rotary website:

“Rotarian Diana Shimkus was the big Bingo winner; Word has it that Diana was the big winner at bingo (and a known "bingo hustler" in Oceanside). She graciously donated her winnings to Oscar's non-profit and he claimed that she was "Legit" - a good thing!! Other Del Mar Rotarians were Charles Foster, Andy Laub, Beverly, Herb, and Coco (the dog). A great time was had by all and much food and funds were collected, including \$300 from the Del Mar Community Service budget.” So, our friends from South North County did “taketh away” from our big Bingo game, but they more than “gaveth” funds to support the cause!





Many thanks to DAVE who not only pulled together a ton of details to make this day happen, but he also pulled the balls from the bingo cage for Co-President DALE MAAS to call out. (“*N as in ‘Nancy Russian’ 32. N-32.*”) And of course, being good Rotarians, so many people pitched in wherever and whenever needed, like JAY CRAWFORD and his wife ANITA ROMAINE who picked up a broom and dustpan to make the grounds more spic and span,



RENEE RICHARDSON WENDEE who oversaw the distribution of the box lunches, the “worker bees” who sold extra bingo cards to pad our profits, and last but not least, ROGER and JACQUE VANDERWERKEN who allowed us to gather at their church courtyard for this fine day of fun and community service.



HAPPY DOLLARS

It has been a few weeks since we have had this opportunity to crow about ourselves to our Rotary friends. So, who was happy on this day?



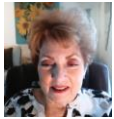
BILL DERN broke his \$10 in Happy Dollars into unusual increments: \$4.77 to brag about the 477 vaccinations which he has administered during this volunteer shifts at the Cal State San Marcos site. And the remainder of the \$10 (You do the math) as an invitation to you to consider signing up to help out in this vaccination program for non-medical positions. They need to add folks to make the process run more smoothly – especially in the afternoons. *{See a more-full report on this volunteer opportunity at the end of this newsletter.}*

... Co-President MELISSA was chagrined to call on “*Roger Dern*” for the next happy dollars. ROGER VANDERWERKEN, with a twinkle in his eye, asked, “Is there a new member in our club by that name?” Once his identity was properly established, he gave \$25 - \$5 for having enjoyed a golf outing with our other Co-President (who allegedly took all of the rest of ROGER’s money on the course!) and then \$20 to advertise a trip to Israel that his group is sponsoring to see lots of biblical sites. You can even extend this trip to include a side jaunt to Jordan for more historical touring. Email ROGER if interested in the details... TINA ORTIZ

donated \$40 because she “loves working on the website for our virtual event” because it has been amazing to see everything that the club has been doing, even during the pandemic times. She was pleased to have had the chance to compare notes with MELISSA’s sister at our RAW event as they talked about their experiences with Relay for Life. And TINA helpfully added that her \$40 contribution today would be earmarked (through our virtual event website) to buy a backpack for a local student. When you visit the website, you can not only buy tickets and bid on the silent auction, but there are special boxes and buttons to



click on which highlight various projects that you can help to fund to add to what Oceanside Rotary is providing for our community. So be sure to check this fine website out at: <https://trellis.org/oceansiderotaryeveningoftasting>



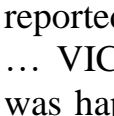
Our Virtual Event's Chair TERRI HALL added \$5 to thank TINA for her help with the fundraiser. "The website is gorgeous!" she gushed ... ANCHISA FARRANT was \$10 glad to have won at bingo during our RAW day activities, but "I already spent that money!" She also scored points by adding, "Everyone looked great on Saturday – Especially MELISSA!" ... ERNIE MASCITTI's \$23 was in gratitude for the 23 hugs he got at our RAW



gathering, but he wished it could have been even more! ... JAY CRAWFORD matched ANCHISA's \$10 happiness for winning at bingo, describing just how excited he was at his big win ... TOM BRAULT *wished* he had been a winner, too, and he was just one number away several times, but never got to yell "Bingo!". Instead, he was \$20 happy to



recall the lovely lunch that he had shared with BILL and KATHY DERN when their daughter-in-law (and TOM's daughter) ROBYN had visited from Arizona a few weeks back ... MELISSA RODRIGUEZ first gave \$5 because she was glad to see that FRANK and MARY COXON had signed on to attend our meeting and then "another \$5 for ... ummm Something else that I don't remember" ... BOB PICKREL was another big winner at bingo at RAW and reportedly was "shamed into sharing some of that money" with the club

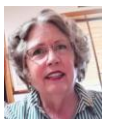


... VICKIE PROSSER also had a great time at Saturday's event and was happy to welcome RYAN KEIM as our speaker, so she gave \$20



... And last up was LOLA SHERMAN who chimed in on the Chat function with "\$10 for this accomplishment and for the great time on Saturday." *{EDITOR'S NOTE: For those of you, like me, who did not know what "accomplishment" LOLA was referencing, she provided this follow-up explanation to Shorelines: "This accomplishment" was finally connecting with the Zoom meeting. It took me an hour of trying. Zoom kept making me reboot and/or telling me I couldn't access the meeting." Ay, caramba, LOLA! We all feel your pain and thank you for your persistence.}*

OUR PROGRAM



JANET BLEDSOE LACY got to introduce her City Councilmember representative – RYAN KEIM, who serves District 3 in Oceanside. She then shared her screen to show a video of a CBS 8 News segment talking about Oceanside's homeless encampment, which RYAN would be referencing during his presentation on Homeless and Housing Issues in Oceanside. (*Tech*

Notes: When the video was done, the freeze frame on the screen which stayed for an inordinately long time was of a girl in a bikini from an ad to “Get in the Best Shape of Your Life.” This prolonged exposure to this message might have inspired a few of us to get more trim in the weeks to come, but eventually our hosts were asked to stop sharing the screen so we could see our presenter’s face instead. This is not the actual photo we saw onscreen but a reasonable facsimile.)



Back to the subject at hand: Councilmember KEIM agrees that this is the #1 issue in the City. (... The homelessness and housing, NOT the Getting in Shape issue.) Part of the recent increase in the problem we are seeing stems from the county having to release a number of jailed individuals quickly to reduce the incarcerated population due to Covid spacing requirements. This put a lot of folks out onto the streets, 33% of whom (on average) have mental health issues. This led to the tent community being set up south of Oceanside Boulevard. Once the encampment became known, it brought a huge influx of homeless from outside of the City.

As a temporary measure to address this surge in the homeless population, the City has obtained hotel vouchers to relocate many of these individuals and once there, they then can be more effectively directed to services and programs which can address their underlying needs. The next goal is to find more permanent living situations for these individuals. This will definitely be a challenge going forward. Oceanside has the second lowest median income of coastal cities in the San Diego area, but we cannot afford to take an influx of homeless from the whole region. “Other cities must address this problem in their jurisdictions.”

Some questions on the homeless issue were addressed: TINA ORTIZ asked if any local advocacy groups are working with the individuals who are being relocated to the hotel. A: Yes, but some groups choose not to help once the City gets involved. Plus, there are other resources being tapped to help out with this (e.g. County funding). ROGER VANDERWERKEN inquired about the status of permits for Bread of Life Mission as they are aiming to provide resident care on Apple Street. A: RYAN acknowledges that they are a “great program trying to help homeless get through next steps” and that he believes that they are currently submitting an RFP (Request For Proposal) to help run the shelter encampment. TERRI HALL brought up a recent L.A. Times article about an encampment project in Santa Rosa where the city used state and federal grants to set up fences, tents, portable toilets and established ground rules. Apparently, it has been successful enough that the neighbors have stopped complaining about the homeless in the area. A: RYAN is

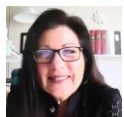
not aware of Santa Rosa's situation, but knows that San Clemente is doing something similar. Oceanside is discussing whether they have the resources to pull something similar off but adds that they "would like our surrounding cities to be better partners and to also have services. Oceanside has absorbed the brunt of this problem for years."

We then shifted the discussion from homeless to the availability of housing in Oceanside. On Wednesday, the City Council had their first look at the South Morro Hills development plan, and they soon will be reviewing the overall housing plan for the city for the next 10 years. He laments the fact that there seems to be a strong trend developing that the responsibility and oversight of housing planning may be shifting to the state level (As an example, Senate Bill 9 would allow for the building of duplexes on single family zoned lots to increase density), and it scares him that the City might not have the same level of control and discretion going forward on these issues as they have had in the past. JANET agreed that our quality of life might be in peril if the state mandates a move to high density so that everyone who wants to live on the coast could have a place.

SANDAG (the San Diego Association of Governments) is in the process of crafting a Regional Housing Needs Assessment. They foresee the need for 5,500 new houses in the region over the next 10-year cycle, yet current zoning plans would only supply about half of that number. How do we fit the rest in? What zoning changes will be required, knowing that it is important for us to try to "stay close to our zoning and maintain our quality of life."

BRIAN LONG saw an article in that day's paper which focused on the statewide drought. "Even if we can find a way to build the houses, how do we provide the water" for these additional residents? A: We have a goal to be 50% water independent by the year 2030, largely due to the aquifer replenishment system that is being implemented. Oceanside is one of the only cities in the area which is working on significant projects like that. RYAN recommended that the book "Cadillac Desert" would be a good read on this issue of water supply.

MELISSA RODRIGUEZ appreciated RYAN's comments on the mental health issues involved with homelessness. She believes that we have been remiss at addressing that and the need for services in this area are snowballing. RYAN personalized this problem by giving an example situation in which a new 25-year-old police officer is sent out to deal with a homeless person who has had 40 years of unaddressed mental health issues who is out on the streets and swinging a crowbar at passersby. How well would that work



out, we were left to wonder? “We simply do not have a good way to handle this. Holding an individual for a few days and then releasing them” is not a workable solution.

In wrapping up this presentation at 1:30, Co-President MELISSA brought us full circle by noting that Interfaith Community Services also works with homeless individuals and reminded us all that our May community service project is collecting supplies for their “Make it a Home” project to improve their living conditions. Please review the list of items they need and participate in this collection drive. She put in one more plug to purchase the tickets for our virtual wine, cheese, and chocolate event before the May 1 deadline, and also reported that the folks at The Miller’s Table indicated that, if the Saturday pickup is an imposition on your schedule, then picking up the goodies early on Friday could be an option ... Be sure to call them in advance if you would like to look into this option, though.

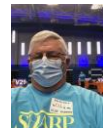
One last reminder, in case you had not heard, the visitation for PAM MYERS will be at Eternal Hills Memorial Park Mortuary (1999 S El Camino Real, Oceanside) on Thursday, May 13 from 4 to 8 pm, if you would like to honor our friend’s memory and pay your respects to the family.

See you on Zoom for our next meeting on Friday, May 14!

VACCINATION VOLUNTEERING

More details about volunteering for the vaccination station at Cal State San Marcos, provided by BILL DERN:

“As we all know, Rotarians believe in Service above Self. The Sharp COVID vaccination super at Cal State San Marcos is in need of non-medical volunteers to help in a variety of areas such as greeting, direct traffic, help monitoring patients among other jobs. Most shifts are 5 hours (9-1:30 and 1:30-6:30). Any training will be provided on the spot. I find most volunteers are upbeat and enjoy their service. You can sign up at [Sharp.com](https://www.sharp.com). Search for vaccination volunteer San Marcos and pick your date and times.



Feel free to contact me if you have any question at 760-207-7803. And if you work, besides feeling good about helping our community, I’ve got a special “thank you” keepsake for your efforts, a “Vaccination Crew 2021” poker chip. And maybe I’ll see you there as I usually volunteer 2 afternoons a week. Again, call me if you have any questions. And P.S. – Don’t forget to wear your Rotary pin!



And we got this report in from NANCY RUSSIAN, who has been volunteering as a “vaccination helper” at TriCity Medical Center:

“I’m not giving vaccinations, of course. I’m just helping organize and get people seated, give them info, greet and signed in. That kind of thing. This day we have 650 vaccinations! TriCity Hospital is now giving vaccinations 4 days a week. We have between 500 and 700 shots a day. I’ve worked at the hospital for 4 years now. We have all been designated essential workers and now First Responders. I’m working Fridays. It’s been really a nice experience and people young and old are so appreciative and actually amazed we are so organized. We barely get them seated and the nurse comes to them and gives them their shot. It’s very organized.



Also in the photo is Connie Jones on the right (Dr Dave Jones’ of El Camino Rotary, wife). Connie was an RN and has volunteered at the hospital too, but she’s been there over 20 years.”

ROTARY AT THE MOONLIGHT 2021

An email went out on Sunday with the list of shows coming to the Moonlight Amphitheatre in Vista as it reopens at last for its Summer Season 2021. Oceanside Rotary makes an annual trip to see a musical there, and we need to pick our most popular production from the list and get our tickets *really soon*. Contact TOM BRAULT right away if you would like to be included in this beautiful evening together to see one of these shows with your Rotary friends.

Once on This Island -Friday, June 25

Disney’s Beauty and the Beast – Friday, July 23

A Chorus Line – Friday, August 20

On Your Feet! – Friday, September 17

COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

Saturday, May 8 – Virtual Online Fundraiser & Silent Auction

(Pick up tastings at The Miller’s Table, 514 S. Coast Hwy, from 11:30 to 3:30)

Friday, May 14 - Regular Zoom Meeting @ 12:00pm

Friday, May 21 - Board meeting on Zoom at noon

Saturday, May 22 – Deadline for Interfaith Community Services “Make it a Home” project donations. (Deadline to drop them at DALE’s office, is Friday, May 21)

Monday, June 7 – Ivey Ranch Fence Painting project and BBQ Social

Friday, June 18 – Demotion Dinner

Monday, June 21 – Rotary Golf Tournament fundraiser