

AUGUST 23, 2019

HAS BEEN THERE TWICE PREZ. TERRI HALL opened the meeting with a solid bang of the gavel right on time. She announced that we were the BIGGEST Rotary Club in Oceanside, which this author hopes was a reference to our number of members, and not to our girth. She then called upon MIKE WESELOH to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance, which he did so "proudly, and with honor."

Thereafter, **JAY CRAWFORD** came forward as our Song Meister Extra-ordinaire. As **JAY** came forward, **JIM SCHRODER** quipped "you've been having too much of that bourbon that's hidden in your shower" to which **JAY** immediately responded "Hey - what happens in my shower stays in my shower!" (This author must have missed a meeting because I have no idea as to the historical source and nature of this very interesting banter.) **JAY** then chose to sing first his own song written by him which is sung to the tune of "O'Tannenbaum" :





OCEANSIDE, MY OCEANSIDE WITH HILLS OF GREEN AND BEACHES WIDE YOU'VE GOT THE PIER...THE HARBOR, TOO AND MISSION BELLS RING OUT FOR YOU OUT IN THE SURF, THE DOLPHINS GLIDE AND DREAMS COME TRUE IN OCEANSIDE This tune was then followed by "When You're Smiling."

LYN CORDER gave us our Rotary Moment and told us that she was inspired by our last speaker who encouraged us all to wear our Rotary Pins every day wherever we go. So, since she was traveling to the airport, she decided to put on her "I ♥ ROTARY" shirt. While processing through the long lines of security, LYN said that she kept passing a woman who finally asked LYN to "move her arms" so that the woman could read "who" or "what" LYN loved, and LYN gladly moved her arms and showed her the word "Rotary." That struck up an ongoing conversation as they continued to pass



each other, where LYN explained what Rotary is and what it does and what it costs and how much good Rotary does locally and around the world. At the end of the line, the woman thanked LYN for her information, and assured her that she would certainly look into joining the closest Rotary Club to her home. The Inspirational Moment ended with the announcement that "IT WORKS! Wear your Rotary stuff everywhere!"

Madam President **TERRI** then shared with us that on September 6th there will be a Rotary Board meeting at 11:00 before our regular meeting. All are welcome to attend. Also, our Third Thursday Rotary Social will be on September 19th at 5:30 at Bagby's located at 601 Coast Highway in Oceanside. We are all encouraged to come and bring a friend or spouse. We can just drop by and then leave if we want, and we are not committed to stay for dinner if we choose to leave early.

Next, our **PRESIDENT ELECT** (Hooray!) **MELISSA RODRIGUEZ** provided us with our Club Updates, which started with her circulating a contribution jar amongst the tables with a label on it "Pennies for Polio Plus." This same jar (a gift to us from our new D.G.) was at the front sign up table before the meeting and is likely to be present at all future meetings.





Next, P. E. MELISSA introduced Visiting Rotarians and Guests, which started with LYN CORDER introducing her grandson AIDAN MULDOON who will be entering into the sixth grade, who lives in Alexandria, Virginia. BOB PICKREL introduced RUDY VAN HUNNICK, who is a former member of our club. CHUCK ANDREAN introduced his guest, AMANDA SNIDER. JIM SCHRODER introduced our speaker LESLEE GAUL.

After the introduction of guests, LOLA SHERMAN came up and reported on our Rotary's participation in the San Luis Rey Elementary School annual picnic last Saturday. Our Rotary sponsored a booth that was equipped with school supplies for the kids to select tablets and pencils and markers and lots of goodies for the kids who were just thrilled with the supplies. More impressive to the kids though, ANCHISA FARRANT brought cuttings from her beautiful garden succulents as well as 23 pots along with potting soil donated by



RON MARBEN. Our booth featured the kids and their families being able to assemble their own potted plant arrangements and take them home - along with the school supplies. From all accounts, our Rotary booth was a big hit, and the Principal of the school kept encouraging all present to be sure to visit the Rotary Booth. Madam President **TERRI** then honored all who participated in making this such a success with a special Rotary pin – the Rotary Service Star. Those recognized were: **LOLA SHERMAN, ANCHISA FARRANT, PAM MYERS, JAY** and **ANITA CRAWFORD** and **RON MARBEN** - Go Rotarians!



But all of this celebrating of success did not stop Madam President **TERRI**, with her eagle eyes and ears, from catching our other President Elect, **DALE MAAS**, who was engaged in a conversation at his table while the accolades were being given for our San Luis Rey Elementary School triumph. She suddenly looked at **DALE** and said loudly "Are we bothering you **DALE**?? Are you Happy to be here **DALE**?" Which at that time **DALE** said "NOW I'm not so sure that I'm Happy to be here" to which Madam President **TERRI** responded "Yes you are. I think that you are \$5 Happy" and fined him for this crime. More on that later.



Happy Dollars brought **NANCY RUSSIAN** to her feet to be \$5 happy that she and her hubby will be leaving for a 9 day vacation to France where they will stay in the famous wine growing Bordeaux region of the country and also visit St. Malo and a châteaux in Margaux. Oooh la lah! **LYN CORDER** was \$5 happy to have her grandson **AIDAN** here and that her Rotary shirt "recruiting experiment" turned out so well. **AIDAN MULDOON** was also \$5 happy that, even though he had missed his first plane ride here, he was able to catch the next flight and arrived the same day that he had planned to be here, which is quite an accomplishment traveling from Virginia to California.



DAVID NYDEGGER was \$5 happy to have returned from Hawaii where he and his grandchild were on a boat with 120 people touring the Oahu area where Elvis

Presley had sung the "Hawaiian Wedding Song" in his movie "Blue Hawaii." The tour guide instructed them that when the boat docked, that the Hawaiian Wedding Song would be sung, and after the song was sung, all present were encouraged to kiss the person next to them, to which **DAVID'S** grandchild gave out a loud "YUCK!" This was met with laughter and applause by the crowd. **DAVE HALL** was \$20 happy that his granddaughter **AVA** was leaving to attend school in Interlochen, Michigan. Go **AVA! DALE MAAS**, still "licking his wound" for having been fined \$5 by Madam President **TERRI** for talking during Madam President's presentation, did contribute \$5 happy dollars and reassured us all that "Yes, certainly I am happy to be at our meeting with my fellow Rotarians." **ALEXA KINGAARD** was \$5 happy to be participating in a Union Tribune Festival of Books at Liberty Station in Point Loma on Saturday August 24th from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm where she would be selling and signing her books.



JAY CRAWFORD was \$5 happy that he and ANITA will be traveling for a month long vacation traveling to wonderful places that include Colorado, Mount Rushmore, and much, much, more. LOLA SHERMAN was \$20 happy and appreciative that so many Rotarians made the San Luis Rey Elementary School picnic such a success. CHUCK ANDREAN was \$10 happy that his guest AMANDA SNIDER (a prospective member of Rotary) could attend this meeting to check us out and also that his daughter was starting Albany Law School in New York. ANCHISA FARRANT was \$5 happy that she was part of the San Luis Rey Elementary School planting fest for the kids, and when asked by one of the kids if she had a "green thumb" ANCHISA responded that she had "10 green thumbs!" RUDY VAN HUNNICK started with being \$20 happy, but it quickly turned into \$200 happy dollars, as he was celebrating so many wonderful anniversaries this month, which included: his 89th birthday on the 16th; his Wife ELIZABETH's birthday on the 17th; the 18th day was an anniversary of the Judge declaring that he was an American citizen; and the 19th was his 15 years of marriage in their relationship of 30 years. As a result of all of these celebrations (not to mention the generous \$200 donation) the room burst into a rousing Happy Birthday song for **RUDY**.

Following all of this "happiness", the incredibly smart and beautiful JANET BLEDSOE LACY was called up (to thunderous applause) to introduce our speaker, LESLEE GAUL, who is the Chief Executive Officer of Visit Oceanside. JANET explained that she had read a great news article in LOLA'S Union Tribune column of June 6, 2019 about Visit Oceanside and how important the tourist industry is to our great city. The creation of this entity was the "brain child" of our own DAVID NYDEGGER who was the CEO of the Chamber of Commerce some 15 years ago, knowing the



significance of creating an independent agency whose sole purpose is to promote tourism in Oceanside. The cost of Visit Oceanside is paid for by a tourism marketing district of local businesses.



LESLEE started her presentation by asking our members for feedback as to "What does Oceanside have to offer that makes it a great destination?" The varied answers included the beach; restaurants; breweries; the Mission; the weather, and on and on. The website for Visit Oceanside actually leads with the title "50+ things to do in Oceanside." Oceanside is described as a true Southern California beach town with a tangible laidback vibe. The city boasts spectacular year-round weather, gorgeous beaches, an historic wooden pier, quaint New

England-style harbor, and charming bungalow neighborhoods. Oceanside is a destination of discovery where you can explore everything from awe-inspiring sea life through exciting ocean adventures, California history at the "King of Missions," and surf culture at the California Surf Museum. As a playful and diverse destination, we value personal expression and originality, inviting you to play in a real SoCal beach town and Respect the O'riginals. Centrally located in the heart of Southern California, Oceanside is perfectly situated between San Diego and Los Angeles, making it easy to visit family-favorite attractions such as LEGOLAND California Resort, Disneyland California Resort, and the world-famous San Diego Zoo.

Their website has great photos of beach activities, including beach pedicabs for rent, surfing and golf pictures, free brochures, event calendars, lists of restaurants and bars and comedy clubs, and a whole host of things to do. It shows skydiving, skateboarding, boating, and so many other opportunities that we offer. It really sells our city, with one portion of the website listing 10 reasons why Oceanside is the place to be in 2019. It promotes various photographic reasons to come and take pictures here and speaks of the local artists who create and sell their products, scenes of the Sunset Market, and is convincing as to why our city is an excellent destination place for family vacations, weddings, and group meetings.

LESLEE showed us the impressive statistics where visitor spending in Oceanside in 2018 topped \$382 million dollars and supported at least 3,500 jobs, which was a 6% increase over 2017. The tourism revenue is estimated to bring \$14.8 million dollars last year to the City of Oceanside's General Fund. At the front table there were numerous handouts as well as a "Visitor's Guide to Oceanside" with "143 reasons to eat, drink, and play in Oceanside."

Questions from the audience by **JIM SCHRODER** and **BILL DERN** (who is on the board of Visit Oceanside) focused on the balancing of the local "Air B & B" for short term rental homes versus hotels, and the need to still preserve the local residential communities with the charm and stability of long term residential home owners.

Clearly, our city has benefitted from the dedicated efforts of the fine and enthusiastic staff of Visit Oceanside, along with the Chamber of Commerce and other businesses that have thrived in the past decades, helping to make Oceanside truly a highly competitive destination site in Southern California.

Thank you **LESLEE**, and Visit Oceanside, and **DAVID NYDEGGER** and the Oceanside Chamber of Commerce for all that you do for so many!



The meeting closed with (yes - once again!!!) ANCHISA FARRANT holding the lucky number in the opportunity drawing of \$779 - but aha! She was not as lucky this time to pick the Joker, instead pulling out a King and therefore walking away with \$10 bucks. Another winner was DAVID NYDEGGER who won Coffee Beans from RENEE and PAUL WENDEE'S BISTRO in Vista.



HAS BEEN THERE TWICE PREZ. TERRI HALL had LESLEE GAUL dedicate one of our books to be given to one of our elementary schools, and then LESLEE was given the choice of Chocolates or Cheetos - to which LESLEE selected the "salted" choice of Cheetos. TERRI then acknowledged AIDAN MULDOON as her "Gavel Guard" whose job it was to make sure that nobody stole TERRI'S gavel. AIDAN was also rewarded for his successful efforts by choosing Cheetos over Chocolate. To the encouragement and cheers from the crowd, AIDAN then put that gavel to use to clang the bell and officially end our meeting.

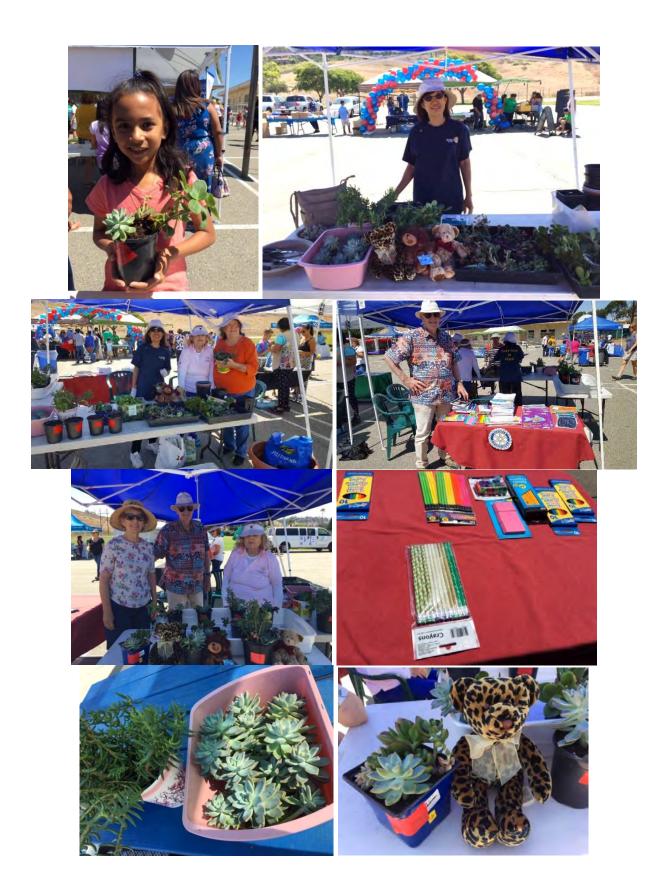
OCEANSIDE ROTARY IN THE COMMUNITY

Keeping up with the latest and greatest ideas in the world of Rotary can be a challenge. But three of our dedicated members took time out of their busy schedules to spend a weekend morning representing Oceanside Rotary at the District Membership meeting on August 10. Thanks for being there for us!



As described by LOLA in our meeting, Oceanside Rotary had a very successful participation in the Community Picnic on Saturday August 17 at San Luis Elementary School. "Rotary Club of Oceanside" with a Rotary wheel emblem was listed as a participant in the flyers that went out to the community in both English and Spanish. School Principal DOMINIC CAMACHO frequently mentioned the Rotary "booth" in his announcements. We gave away almost 100 items of school supplies under the vigilant supervision of ANITA ROMAINE (faithful helper of spouse JAY CRAWFORD). ANCHISA FARRANT's succulent-planting contest for kids was a super success. She brought cuttings of succulents, soil and pots and let the kids put together a decorative pot of their liking - until we ran out of pots. Parents loved this activity, too. Also helping were PAM MYERS and LOLA SHERMAN.





ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

One of our future Rotarians is now a brand newly baptized Christian. On August 18, 2019 at St. John's is Encinitas, Baby JAMES was blessed in the presence of his Grandma RENEE RICHARDSON WENDEE, the proud parents CAMERON and BLANCA, and a heavenly host of other witnesses. After the

service, **CAMERON** and **BLANCA** hosted dinner at their house in Vista for the "small" gathering of about 70 family members and friends.







How is this for "going in style"? ... NANCY RUSSIAN and her husband LUIS are taking in the sights of Europe and are pictured here on their cruise out of Southampton, England. They will also be crossing a big item off her "bucket list" on a trip to the Guggenheim in Bilbao.



<u>COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY</u> August 30: **Meeting DARK for Labor Day Weekend**

September 6: Regular meeting Reporter: PAM MYERS

September 13: Meeting DARK

September 19: Evening Social on Third Thursday at Bagby's (601 Coast Highway in Oceanside starting at 5:30 pm)

September 20: Meeting DARK for Evening Social on Third Thursday

September 27: JACQUELINE GUAN, Reality Changers Reporter: VICKIE PROSSER