



2021-2022

ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE SHORELINES

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CO-PRESIDENTS
AJ Mazzarella & LJ Fimbres

August 27, 2021

(Managing Editor's Note: Let's all give a big "welcome" and "thank you" to our newest reporter ROGER VANDERWERKEN for his first edition of Shorelines. Looks like he will make a fine addition to our newsletter team!)



At 12:35 p.m. co-President AJ MAZZARELLA opened the meeting with the sound of a butter knife on our brass bell. The mystery of the missing gavel remains unsolved. Co-President LJ FIMBRES was asked to lead us in the pledge of allegiance.



The ever-effervescent VICKIE PROSSER shared with us a **Rotary Moment**, offering 8 powerful precepts for our edification: believe in yourself, stay strong, never give up, be grateful, work hard, stay humble, be kind, and keep smiling. In closing, VICKIE reminded all of us to pray for the brave young Marines and sailor who were killed in Afghanistan, along with the scores of Afghanis and their families who were killed or injured in the recent terror-driven explosions. VICKIE reminded us to pray that those who remained to be evacuated would be able to do so safely. She encouraged us to thank God for the brave military men and women who are now, and have in the past, put their lives on the line to keep us in a country with the freedoms with which we are so blessed.

CLUB UPDATES: Co-President A.J. offered the following:

8/30 – Painting Party Ivey Ranch – 9 AM (*See a report with photos at the end of this newsletter.*)

9/10 – next Regular Meeting will be held **outside** on the patio at the El Camino Country Club. (NOTE: There was a communication breakdown today, resulting in our meeting being held indoors, but at least we kept all of the doors wide open to encourage more air flow.)

9/15 – Evening Social – 5:30 pm. Location TBD

9/17 – Board Meeting VIA Zoom at Noon

9/24 – Regular Meeting – El Camino Country Club, On the Patio

Registration is open for our District Conference to be held September 10-12 at the Hotel del Coronado. Go to District Website (www.rotary5340.org) for details and registration.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS:



TERRI HALL introduced KIMBERLY DAVIS. KIMBERLY attended our May wine and cheese fundraiser and was instrumental in its success, placing the high bid on the vegan dinner offered by the HALL's. She is the proprietor of a local engineering company.



Seated at the front table were today's very special guests, District Governor DAN GENSLER, and his chief aide, DON FIPPS who were introduced, as well as perennial guest RUDY VAN HUNNICK.



SHOR DENNY introduced her friend THOMASINA who happens to be a proud new great grandmother. THOMASINA recently retired from the superior court. SHOR claims that it was due to her "twisting of THOMASINA's arm" she came for this second visit to the club.



MIKE CURTIN introduced visiting Carlsbad Rotarian NATE COBB, a Navy veteran and USNA class of 1964. SUSAN BROWN introduced her friend GORDON BROWN, also a Navy vet and USNA class of 1976. Go Navy!



TOM BRAULT led us in the Welcome Song and followed it up with a rousing rendition of God Bless America. He reminded us of VICKIE's words earlier, and all in the house stood in honor of those who laid down their lives. TOM then lightened things up with a highly creative song to honor visiting District Governor DAN GENSLER, taking liberties with the old Mickey Mouse Club theme song and the members sang "Hey there! Hi there! Ho there!" like good old Mouseketeers.



Who's the leader of the finest District near or far?
D..a..n.....G..e..n.....s (pause) l...e..r
Hey there, Hi there, Ho there. A Rotarian superstar
D..a..n.....G..e..n.....s (pause) l...e..r

Our D.G. Mister G.
Together we will set our standards high (high, high, high!)

Yes, indeed we need the kind of leader that you are
D..a..n.....G..e..n.....s (pause) l...e..r

PRESIDENT'S STUFF:



DALE MAAS, Chair of the Community Service Committee encouraged us to get involved with the **Friends of the Oceanside Library** moving day project. 6-8 volunteers are needed to move 41 bookcases, a file cabinet, several tables and boxes and boxes of books from 602 Civic Center Drive to 169 Roymar, Ste D. Volunteers should show up at 8 a.m. on September 11. If you have a battery operated screw driver, bring it with you. Friends of the Library will furnish lunch and water. TINA ORTIZ mentioned that Friends of the

Library continue to sell books every Thursday at the Oceanside market in order to raise money to purchase children's books.

AJ requested that our Sgt at Arms ANCHISA FARRANT make the rounds with the polio plus jar. We have a source that will match today's donations. The Rotary Board also chipped in \$250 for this cause.

AJ displayed a swear jar which includes a list of various levels of bad words with prorated dollar amounts. Apparently, some expletives are more egregious than others!

HAPPY DOLLARS:



TINA ORTIZ donated happy dollars because of the wonderful evening she enjoyed with Rotary friends at the Moonlight Amphitheatre. *(Check out the photos from the event at the end of this newsletter.)*

TOM BRAULT put \$10 into the till as an apology to the minister who was in attendance at that night at the Moonlight. TOM was concerned that so many

expletives were used in the musical *A Chorus Line* that President AJ might need another swear jar for the overflow of cash contributions.

The minister in question (who happens to have the initials R.V.D.W.) assured TOM that, not to worry, he had heard all those words before. (24 years in the Navy kept him from over-blushing.)



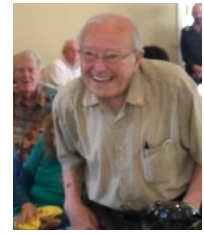
JAY CRAWFORD was \$5 happy for his recent family visit to Montana. Apparently, JAY was overjoyed at having consumed a "tater pig" there. (Long time members may recall that JAY had recommended that Oceanside Rotary should sell these tasty treats of potatoes and bacon as a fundraiser back in the day.)



AG DON FIPPS was \$5 happy for TOM's Mickey Mouse song.



TERRI HALL contributed \$5 (I'm not sure if they were happy dollars or warning dollars). Her 16-year-old grandson was recently awarded a driver's license, but since he lives up by Truckee, we probably won't have to personally deal with him on the roadways.



RUDY VAN HUNNICK was \$50 happy – 25 of which was for the joy that fellow Rotarians brought. The balance was contributed to the swear jar to cover any future transgressions.

Visitor THOMASINA was \$5 happy to be here for a second time.



ANCHISA FARRANT was \$2 happy that, although she was right there on the scene, she was not struck by the light aircraft which made an emergency landing on the I-5 outside of Del Mar. She had to wait four hours on the freeway before the wreckage was cleared. AJ attributed this “near miss” to the legendary “luck” of ANCHISA.

SHOR DENNY was \$10 happy that the car she was driving in Riverside was “hurt” in a recent accident, but she was not. SHOR asked for “positive energy” hoping that the car will not be labeled as totaled.



PROGRAM:

MELISSA RODRIGUEZ, one of the new Assistant Governors for Rotary District 5340, introduced today's guest, District 5340 Governor DAN GENSLER. Attached are Melissa's introductory biographical notes which DAN had provided to her, inviting her to edit them for brevity. However, she admitted, everything on his list was so impressive that she didn't know what she could in good conscience cut:



Dan Gensler served as President of Coronado Rotary in 2006-2007, nominated Rotarian of the Year in 2004 and has been a member of the Rotary Club of Coronado since 1995. Dan has served in several roles within District 5340, including Assistant Governor, Foundation Mentor, District Grants Subcommittee Chair, Foundation Fundraising Subcommittee Chair. In 2015, Dan chaired “Millions for Hope” which raised over \$30,000,000 of new bequests and donations to The Rotary Foundation.

Dedicated to Rotary ideals and passionate about humanitarian causes, on a local and global scale, Dan has made an impact on the local and international communities including Limbs of Freedom in Ensenada, Mexico, Rotary's Youth Exchange Program and fundraising, and outreach trips to Missionvale, South Africa. Dan enjoys playing an active role in serving his community and has been a recipient of awards and honors. In 2015, he was named Citizen of the Year by Coronado Private Bank for his community service. In 2017, he received the Matthew 25 award, from Catholic Charities, in recognition of his compassionate services to the poor and marginalized in Missionvale, South Africa.

In addition, Dan is a Certified Financial Planner and an accomplished business owner. He is a recipient of many professional awards and accolades including making a list of America's Top Financial Advisors by Forbes magazine and was voted #1 Financial Planner and Wealth Manager in Coronado by Coronado Lifestyle Magazine. Dan received his BBA from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Master of Science from the College of Financial Planning. Currently, Dan is Chairman of the board of directors for Sharp Coronado Hospital and a member of the board of directors for Sharp Health Care. He chairs the Finance committee at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, and sits on the Investment subcommittee for the Coronado Yacht Club. Dan is a Regent of the Franciscan School of Theology at USD and is a board member of Missionvale USA. Dan and his wife Chris reside in Coronado and are proud parents of two adult daughters, Lauren and Brooke and are now grandparents.

DG GENSLER opened his remarks by mentioning this is his second visit to our club. He extended kudos for all that we do, especially as a smaller club. He pondered who might be our club's next President – After “AJ” and “LJ” he predicted it should be someone with initials such as “BJ” or “CJ” or the like. Governor DAN thanked TOM BRAULT for the special song in his honor and even contributed \$5 happy dollars for the Mickey Mouse melody.



DAN joined Rotary at the age of 32 for (as he admitted) all the wrong reasons: he wanted to build his business; he was looking for clients, etc. But now, 26 years later, he has stayed in Rotary because of the humanitarian impact Rotary makes throughout the world. Rotary has taught him life lessons: compassion, charity, service. Rotary is the most impactful humanitarian organization in the world. The Rotary Foundation allows us to put gifts to work in remarkable projects - Almost eliminated polio. Other disease

prevention. 35,000 clubs in 200 countries. Clean water initiatives, peace initiatives, economic development, and most recently, efforts to improve our environment. Rotary offers many avenues of service. Taking initiative enriches our lives. Our purpose for being on earth is enhanced. "Service is the rent we pay for the space we occupy on earth."

15 years ago, DAN met a Catholic nun from Ireland, SISTER ETHEL NORMOYLE, who changed his life forever. SISTER ETHEL worked for the poor in South Africa. She moved there in 1972. Governor DAN met her when she spoke at the 2006 RI convention in Copenhagen. He was so moved by her presentation that he made sure to work his way up to the front of the hall at the end of her talk to speak with her directly. This led to a connection which has developed over the decades since.

SISTER ETHEL was in South Africa at the height of Apartheid. She went into all black townships to provide comfort. Attacked once by a local gang. Was stabbed. She made a life choice of self-sacrifice. Righteousness and justice for all humanity. Gave up everything to help anyone in need. Worked with individuals infected with HIV. Hid people in the convent. Police arrested her once, dropped her off in the middle of nowhere. She faced relentless verbal, mental, and emotional abuse. Founded the Missionvale care center which has ministered to over 100,000 people. Made a difference for thousands of families. Provided educational opportunities. SISTER ETHEL met the Queen of England, Nelson Mandela, and other dignitaries.



SISTER ETHEL so inspired our District Governor that in 2006 he was able to procure 13 grants to enhance the work of Missionvale. In 2010, Governor DAN partnered with Toms Shoes who created the "Buy one donate one model." In 2010, 20,000 pairs of shoes were donated to the children of Missionvale on Father Christmas Day. 75 local Rotarians attended the distribution event. The Rotarians fitted the children with shoes. For many it was their first pair of shoes ever. They didn't care about the shoe size. Just to have their feet covered was such a blessing! They were small, underdeveloped kids and their feet were covered with cuts, callouses, and infections. By 2019, 350,000 pairs of shoes had been distributed. But local shoe sellers lobbied to shut this project down; they felt they were losing sales and money due to this philanthropic "competition." But these kids would never have been able to afford to buy shoes. "Who gets to have these kinds of experiences?", DAN mused. SISTER ETHEL spent 50 years in South Africa and returned recently to her home in Ireland where she died last Monday.

Governor DAN encouraged each of us make the time for service and to seek out an opportunity to participate in a project. He remembers well the feeling of "How can I fit one more thing into my schedule?" He then told us the tale of his involvement with the

Limbs of Freedom project in Ensenada. At first, he thought the project might have been overly ambitious and would probably never come to fruition. But tried to move the project forward step by step. He signed up a prosthetist to provide the medical services, located an architect to design the clinic, who enticed a contractor to get on board, who somehow miraculously got all the building materials across the border. All of a sudden, DAN realized, “Sh**! I’m actually going to have to do this!!” (And this comment from our D.G. marks the first official fine owed to our new Swear Jar!) The clinic’s interior was equipped through matching grants. 20 years later, that clinic is still open. The very first patient was a 10-year-old boy named VICTOR – a double amputee who walked out on his own two new legs at the end of his treatment and was soon seen playing basketball with his friends. 7 years later, VICTOR still was using the same prosthetics, built to fit his 10-year-old body. The clinic then fitted him for a larger size and he walked out with more appropriate limbs and a beautiful smile. “Who gets to do these kinds of things?”

Rotary Foundation sends 4 billion dollars of aid around the world. DG DAN shared a simple message about how to get things done through Rotary: Ask other Rotarians to help. And, if you are asked to help on a project, Say yes!

Upcoming District 5340 International events:

- 1) Trip to Guatemala Feb 5-13
- 2) Vocational training team to Kenya in the spring
- 3) December homebuilding in Mexico. Hope to build 17 houses.

The theme of RI President SHEKHAR MEHTA’s year is “Serve to change lives.” Currently there are 1.2 million Rotarians, and in order to provide more service and to change more lives, Rotary International has set a goal to grow to 1.3 million by the June 30 end of this Rotary year.



Here in our local area, we can do our part to work toward this growth. There are currently 3,347,270 residents, but on 2,800 Rotarians in San Diego County. If we all take part in the District’s “Each one bring one” drive and invite a new prospective member to learn about Rotary, we could easily expand the roster of local Rotarians. We generally tend to be “good at keeping Rotary a secret,” but DAN encouraged us to actively spread the word about Rotary in order to find new members.



As he wrapped up his time at the mic, DAN put in a plug for the District Conference which will take place at the Hotel Del Coronado in two weeks. “I want you all there!” Friday night kickoff. Great food, great wine. Saturday conference and a commemoration of the 20th anniversary of 9/11. Sunday will feature a bike ride / run / walk across the Silver Strand as a

Coronado Rotary club fundraiser – a rare opportunity to travel through Navy owned areas which are normally closed to the public.

In appreciation for his inspiring presentation, and for his year of service to the District to come, Co-President AJ gave DG DAN a beautiful succulent arrangement crafted by ANCHISA FARRANT.



OPPORTUNITY DRAWING:



AJ wondered aloud if he should even bother reading off the number on the ticket, since he knew that he was holding the winning ticket in his hand. (Hmm! Not TOO suspicious!) But then he picked the Four of Diamonds and therefore did not win the big jackpot, but just the \$10 consolation prize. (All right, then. I guess it wasn't completely rigged!)

MEETING ADJOURNED: at 1:34 p.m. with the same feeble ting of the dinner knife on our bell. Where, oh where is the missing gavel? (*NOTE: More of the misadventures of “Indiana Gavel” was sent to the members as a special “Gavel Travel” edition of Shorelines, and we fully expect to hear even more tales and see more pictures in the days or weeks to come.*)

ANY COMMENTS ON THESE PROPOSED NEW MEMBERS???

The following folks have been nominated to join Oceanside Rotary and have been approved by the club's board for membership. So now is the time to submit any questions or concerns you might have about these individuals to either of our Presidents, or to any board member.

JASON DESADIER, who is an emergency room physician and who was proposed by RENEE RICHARDSON

GORDON BROWN, retired from Oceanside Towing Company, proposed by SUSAN BROWN (no relation, but rumor has it that the two of them are “an item”, so ???)

PHOTOS FROM THE EVENING SOCIAL EVENT

Looks like those who attended the gathering at Pacific Coast Spirits on Wednesday, August 18 had a fine time. It was especially nice to catch up with the ANDERSEN gang, including a grown-up DAX and their adorable dog MOOSE.



OUR ROTARY NIGHT AT THE MOONLIGHT WAS “ONE SINGULAR SENSATION”

If you don't get the reference quote in the title of this segment, then you should listen to the soundtrack to the musical *A Chorus Line*. Those lyrics close the show and really were quite the earworm on the ride home after seeing the performance!

It was a beautiful evening and a classy, catchy show enjoyed by our group of 31 Rotarians and friends. Some of us gathered at our seats early to enjoy dinner and conversations together before the curtain went up, and everyone shared some delightful desserts during the intermission.

If you are the advance planning type, for NEXT year, we already know what show we will be seeing and when. On Friday August 26, 2022 the group of 22 of us who originally purchased tickets to see the Moonlight's Production of *Ragtime* in 2020 which got postponed due to the Covid pandemic will finally get to see that fabulous

show. (It will happen to have TOM BRAULT's daughter GERILYN in one of the featured roles, appearing as Emma Goldman). Around February or March, we will be touching base to double check that everybody is still up to see that show and if we might want to purchase any additional tickets for our group. So, if you are in this theatre loving group of ticket holders, you can mark your calendar for August 26, and stay tuned for further updates.



ROTARIANS AT WORK

So, our last two sections talked about Oceanside Rotarians having fun. Next up is a look at Oceanside Rotarians rolling up our sleeves to do some hands-on good work for our local community.

On Monday, August 30 a hearty group of 21 members, prospective members, spouses, and friends assembled at the Ivey Ranch Park Equestrian Center to follow up on the work project that got postponed a while back due to the ever-so-rare rain in Southern California. We started out at 9 am with coffee and donuts before buckling down to work slapping a fresh coat of paint onto two of the big horse corrals. It truly was a case of "Many hands make light(ish) work." Our event planners had hoped that we could whip out this project by about noon and, lo and behold, at precisely 12:00 the last brush strokes were completed. How about that for efficiency? Then, after a brief cleanup period, as a reward we moved down to their picnic area and playground for a lunch of

Jersey Mike's sandwiches and chips and cookies and sodas.... and of course, some lively conversations. All in all, a successful day of Service Above Self!

The day after the project was completed, we received this positive review of our handiwork from CYNTHIA at Ivey Ranch: *"It took us over a year and a half of planning and re-planning but we finally got it done. The fencing looks amazing, I can really see the difference."*

Hats off to all of our painting squad! All in all, a successful day of Service Above Self!



ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

To wrap up this edition, we received this note and picture from ERNIE MASCITTI, documenting his Rotary sighting during his recent travels with his wife:

"Went to Nancy's hometown of Iron Mountain, MI and revisited the Rotary bench overlooking the town. They had added a pavilion since our last visit. Go Rotary!"



COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

Friday, September 10 - Regular meeting at Noon / Program: TBA

September 10 to 12 – DISTRICT CONFERENCE, Hotel del Coronado. Register at District website

Saturday, September 11 – Friends of Library volunteer project, 8 am to noonish

Wednesday, September 15 – Evening Social @ 5:30 pm – Location TBD

Friday, September 17 – Board meeting on Zoom at Noon

Friday, September 24 - Regular meeting at Noon / Program: TBA