

December 1, 2017

Woo hoo!!... To kick off the month of December - a Road Trip for the Oceanside Rotary Club. We are at the Star Theatre in Downtown Oceanside today to see a performance by the Star Theatre Kids ...

In the absence of our regular bell, PPPPE (Past President, Past President, President Elect) RENEE RICHARDSON-WENDEE "clanged" on a table in the lobby of the Star Theatre with "a gavel". Not just any gavel, mind you, but PRESIDENT CHUCK WARD'S actual personally inscribed gavel, which he had lost again for the umpteenth



time. Reportedly, as RENEE was walking to the Theatre, one of our Rotarians handed "a gavel" to her to use today. Gee, if CHUCK had been there, perhaps he could have claimed it and taken it back. (What are we going to do with the PRESIDENT??????? Where is our PRESIDENT? Still recuperating from his daughter's wedding last Saturday? – See "ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT" at the end of this newsletter for a few photos from the event.)

Anyway, PPPPE RENEE RICHARDSON-WENDEE welcomed us to our "Away Meeting". She had a hard time just getting everyone's attention to even start the meeting. I mean no one was paying any attention to her beating the gavel on the table over and over. "We were enjoying ourselves being out and about."

MOMENT OF INSPIRATION: PPPPPE RENEE RICHARDSON-WENDEE valiantly / stubbornly "tried" several times to read the Moment of Inspiration, only to be shut down by all the noise from the back of the room. Talking, noise, commotion – She just could not be heard over the din ... Who were the Culprits?

.... PAUL WENDEE (husband of RENEE) and PP JAY CRAWFORD. She literally had to start this quote three times before she finally was able to get the "Show on the Road."

"The Joy of Brightening other lives, leaving each other's burdens, easing other loads and supplanting empty hearts and lives with generous gifts, becomes for us the magic of the holidays." - W. C. Jones.

CLUB UPDATES:

December 8th – A regular meeting at El Camino Country Club

December 15th meeting – Another Away Meeting, this time at the Mottino YMCA in Oceanside

December 15th (evening) - Christmas Party at DAVE AND TERRI HALL'S home. Bring a main dish or hors d'oeuvres to share, and wine or beer if you want to drink it. Soft drinks and desserts will be provided. Children are welcome.

December 22nd and 29th - Oceanside Rotary Club will be dark for the holidays. No meetings until the New Year.

VISITING GUESTS:



VIRGIL FLORES – "Special" Guest of JIM SCHRODER



MARTA HALL - Guest of DAVID NYDEGGER



CRICKET NEWQUIST - Wife of LES NEWQUIST



PAUL WENDEE – Husband of PPPPPE RENEE RICHARDSON-WENDEE PP DAVE HALL led the group in our "Welcome to Oceanside" song.

SPECIAL GUEST STATUS UPDATE



We have taken our "Special" Guest VIRGIL FLORES to the next level, for he has officially been proposed for membership into Oceanside Rotary. That means that now is the time to let any board member know if you have any questions or concerns about his prospects for joining the club.

SPECIAL MENTION:



We would like to thank PP TERRI HALL for arranging today's outing and for bringing the pizza, salad, beverages and cookies from Frattelli's Italian Restaurant for all of us to enjoy prior to the performance. (And a side note of thanks to her husband PP DAVE HALL for carrying the water.)



SAD NEWS:

As you may have heard from earlier emails, our longtime ROTARY Member DICK YOUNG passed away last week.

DAVE HALL's Mother BETTY JEAN passed away last week as well. She had lived 97 ½ years and had been honored with a Paul Harris Fellow in 2012 for her lifelong support to the poor, her church and for her dedication to her family - children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



<u>DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:</u> NANCY RUSSIAN SUSAN ASATO



<u>ANNIVERSARIES:</u> GORDIE WITZ 58 YEARS JOHN TODD 52 YEARS



HAPPY DOLLARS:



PP JIM SCHRODER - Happy to be in Downtown Oceanside at the Star Theatre for the first visit by our Rotary Club.



\$50 to the RI Foundation in honor or DICK YOUNG - PP TOM BRAULT told a fun story of how daughter GERILYN started her holiday season as Mrs. Claus at Sea World. As she walked into the Christmas Village area, she called out, "Good morning, Jingles" to one of the reindeer. Jingles, right on cue, grunted loudly in response. A young girl who saw it all turned to her mother and with wide eyes proclaimed, "She is real, Mom! She can talk with the reindeer!"



\$5 - PP JAY CRAWFORD told everyone that he, his wife ANITA, and PP JIM SCHRODER would be taking 8 kids from Crown Heights this Sunday to MiraCosta College for a Jazz music concert (where they got the chance to meet the musical director) and dinner at Jolly Roger at the harbor afterwards.



\$50 - NANCY RUSSIAN is celebrating her "39th Birthday" with a Caribbean Cruise and will not be at next week's meeting.

HISTORY LESSON:

First, a little history of the famed Star Theater where we are meeting today.

The Star Theatre opened the 18th of August 1956 with the movie "Moby Dick" starring Gregory Peck. It was originally designed for a seating capacity of 986; 546 seats in the orchestra and 440 in the stepped loge section at the rear. Behind the loge seating area was a cry room equipped with electric fixtures for bottle warmers. The auditorium was fitted with surround speakers built into the ceiling of the theater, for the 'then new' stereophonic movies.

Designed by architect William Glenn Balch, the Star was from an era when neon was king and every city was building a drive-in or walk-in theater. The Star

Theatre is the largest of Balch's 17 theaters that were located in the state of California and the last one that is still open. The marquee boasted being the largest in San Diego County and has been noted for its spectacular animation. It is one of the few remaining examples from its era.

Today's Shorelines reporter, as a 10 year old kid, was at the opening of the Star Theater with his family. Coast Highway was the main highway through Oceanside at the time. Coincidentally, Gregory Peck was from San Diego and passing by the Theater on his way down south when he spotted the opening of the Star and the movie he was starring in. He stopped for a few minutes. Talk about a "Wow!" moment for kids like myself.

PROGRAM:

We then moved from the lobby into the theater space for the entertainment. PP TERRI HALL introduced our program today. The Star Theatre Kids led by SANDRA KOPITZKE, the Theater's Music Director.

The Star Theatre Academy's mission is to provide a safe, creative environment for artistic expression. Under the guidance of experienced performing arts professionals, Star students gain knowledge, confidence and skills they will use the rest of their lives.

Their 11-week Academy sessions are under the direction of SANDRA KOPITZKE, the Star Theatre Company's Associate Producer. These high energy, fast paced choirs will knock your socks off with fun! Show Choir is all the rage these days, not to mention the best way to get your glee on. Students learn proper breathing, posture, and vocal technique, as well as choreography designed for show choirs. The repertoire includes contemporary, Broadway and popular pop songs of yesterday and today. At the conclusion of the Academy rehearsal period, the show choirs perform at various local venues and community events to promote the Star Theatre Company and its presence in Oceanside and surrounding communities.



SANDRA brought on stage the first of many singers for us to enjoy. The first tune was sung by 5 very attractive young girls all dressed in red dresses, black shoes, white blouses and a red ribbon in their hair. Their song was "Silver Bells."



Next up was a Merry Christmas from the Star Theatre's younger singing group (ages 8 to 12), the Merry Mini Me's. They met for 8 weeks of practice before their first performance. They presented songs from their medley "Jamming Old St. Nicholas". Boy, could they sing too! This was followed by "Up on the House Top", and then "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" and then their final number of Twisting music a new version of "Let it Snow."



The youngsters left the stage to take a seat in the front rows to watch the next performers - TNT, a group of 5 young teenagers, all young ladies ages 13 to 18. They had a 60's thing going with "Santa is Going to Make You Mine."



These girls were joined by the rest of the Star's Glee Club whose set was entitled "North Pole Rock n Roll." It started out with "Rocking on the Top of the World." They sang a medley of Christmas songs, each one with great rocking and rolling rhythm and rhyme.



Their final song of the afternoon was "Jolly Old Saint Nick" and it brought all of the performers onstage to sing in joyful chorus all together. SANDRA KOPITZKE wrapped up their program for us by saying, "There is nothing like the voices of children at Christmas time. We hope you have a very Merry Christmas!" We surely had a great "Away Meeting" today!

PP TERRI HALL after the performance concluded said, "I have not been in a room with so many talented children in a long time." She then presented a donation to The Star Theatre Kids from the Oceanside Rotary Club and we all departed with a smile on our face and Christmas songs in our hearts.

ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

We will start off our "Out and About" with some photos documenting the WARD wedding which took place the Saturday after Thanksgiving at Kat Sessions Park in San Diego. The beautiful bride TESS is the daughter of our esteemed President CHUCK WARD and wife BARBARA, who both had a front row view of the vows as TESS bonded with her groom ROSS NELSON on a grassy field with a spectacular view. As you can see from the radiant smiles on all of the wedding party, and as CHUCK put it in his email, "Everyone is very happy."





Both of our "Out and About" reports this week have to do with members getting into the spirit of the season. First up are some photos showing how Dr. BILL DERN's dental office got ready for the celebration of Christmas, including their annual effort heading up a toy drive to provide gifts to the kids at the Women's Resource Center. Then, as a reward for their generous volunteer efforts, the doctor treated the full staff to dinner at Nick's in Town restaurant in San Clemente and a visit to Knott's Berry Farm for the holiday, complete with a pose by the park's Christmas tree and enjoying a "snow" flurry in the western town. While in the "Old West" mood, they all posed together in the saloon for some photos – one showing them all as "bad hombres" for not flossing, and a second one showing off their beautiful smiles after a good dental cleaning. Merry Christmas from the Molar Mob!



And last, but not least, we see SUSAN BROWN sitting pretty with a bunch of beautiful bears, donated to Toys for Tots from SUSAN and First Friday Art, this month held at the Marriott hotel by the pier here in Oceanside. The art displays occupied two floors of the hotel, lobby and terrace. There was a tree lighting ceremony as well as a Marine Mess night function happening on the same night as the First Friday Art which brought an increase in foot traffic to the area. There were over a 1,000 people that came to her event this month for Art!



COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

December 8 – SEASIDE SINGERS, Holiday concert at our regular meeting at El Camino Country Club

Reporter: LOLA SHERMAN

December 15 – Away Meeting at Mottino Family YMCA (4701 Mesa Drive) Four Way Test essay contest and tour of facility Reporter: DAVE SHORE

December 15 from 6 to 8:30 pm – Oceanside Rotary Club Christmas Party DAVE and TERRI HALL's home (4285 Sunnyhill Drive, Carlsbad) BYOB and Bring main dish or heavy hors d'oeuvres to share Dessert and non alcoholic beverages will be provided *Children welcome!*

December 22 & 29 – DARK for Christmas and New Year