

 <p>ROTARY: MAKING A DIFFERENCE</p>	<p>ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE</p> <p>SHORELINES</p>		 <p>PRESIDENT Chuck Ward</p>
	<p>2017-2018</p>	<p>Tom Brault Editor-in-Chief</p>	

December 8, 2017



We returned to another episode of the recurring Fridays at noon drama – “Where in the world is President CHUCK WARD???” With no sign of our Dear Leader and not a single word of explanation, PPPPE (Past Pres / Past Pres / Pres Elect) RENEE RICHARDSON-WENDEE wielded the gavel again to start our meeting.

And yes, folks, it wasn’t just any gavel. She still had CHUCK’s missing gavel in hand. (Maybe that is why CHUCK has been M.I.A. Could he feel so guilty and embarrassed about his lapses in gavel security that he felt he could not show his face at Oceanside Rotary? ... Stay tuned for further developments at our next meeting.)



RENEE acknowledged that attendance was a bit lighter than normal, since some of our members were dealing with the reality or the threat of evacuations due to the daunting Lilac wildfire that literally blazed through our area. (And, if the truth be told, the actual reason why President CHUCK could not be at this meeting was known and was relayed to us – With the evacuations of so many of his employees, CHUCK needed to hold down the fort at Abbey Carpet.) Referring to the fires, RENEE said, “There are no words to sum up what has happened in the last 24 hours,”, but she then used some words to express our community’s gratitude for the firefighters and hope for success in their efforts. And that hope was the subject of the Moment of Inspiration that she shared with us:

“Hope is important because it can make the present moment less difficult to bear. If we believe that tomorrow will be better, we can bear a hardship today.” – Thich Nhat Hanh



The meeting then got underway with the pledge, led by LYN CORDER. Our normal time for songs was skipped, since our program promised to be overflowing with vocal music later on. So PPPPE RENEE went right to her PE part of her duties and recited our announcements for the week.

CLUB UPDATES



* This coming Friday December 15 will be another Away Meeting – this time at the Mottino Family YMCA. Lunch will still cost our standard \$20 and, since RENEE had been standing at the entrance of the meeting with her trusty clipboard and polling each member as they came in about their availability, she noted, “Everybody is on my list.” (Ah, but will she check it twice? ... And have we been Naughty or Nice?)

* That same evening Friday December 15 at 6 pm we will gather at DAVE and TERRI HALL’s home once again for our annual club Christmas Party. Bring an entrée or hors d’oeuvres dish to share and your own adult beverages, if you want that type of liquid merriment. (Non-alcoholic beverages and desserts will be provided.)

* We will be DARK on both December 22 (being so close to Christmas) and December 29 (so we can get a head start on New Year's parties).

* We were looking for a few Rotarians to be chaperones for the Crown Heights Mentor Program event on March 3, taking some of the kids to see the musical "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" at the MiraCosta College Theatre. A signup list was passed around and a few Rotarians did indeed sign up.

* And, last but not least, once again this year we will have the chance to take part in the USMC's Toys for Tots drive. Since our last meeting before Christmas will be this week, that means this Friday is when you should bring new and unwrapped toys to the YMCA. They will be gathered up by MIKE WESELOH and delivered along with the sack of toys they'll be collecting over at Weseloh Chevrolet.

OUR ANNUAL CLUB ELECTION

One of the requirements of Rotary International is that clubs must elect their officers and board of directors each December, and so that ritual was honored. Here is the list of fine folks who have agreed to serve in our leadership for the Rotary year 2018-19 and who have been approved and recommended as a slate by our current board:

President: RENEE RICHARDSON-WENDEE

President Elect: ??

President Elect Elect: ???

Secretary: RENEE RICHARDSON-WENDEE

Treasurer: LES NEWQUIST

Sgt. At Arms: DAVID NYDEGGER

Past President: CHUCK WARD

Directors: DAVE HALL, JOHN HARTMAN, PAM MYERS, ANCHISA FARRANT, DALE MAAS, LOLA SHERMAN, JANET BLEDSOE LACY, ERNIE MASCITTI, MICHAEL CURTIN, MELISSA RODRIGUEZ, and a welcome newbie addition to this list – DIEGO DOBSON

RENEE got a laugh when she announced that our incoming President RENEE RICHARDSON-WENDEE would be assisted by her Secretary, RENEE WENDEE-RICHARDSON. But then, on a more serious note, she pointed out that

the slots for President Elect and Elect Elect will have to be filled at some point to ensure the continuity of our club, and we were encouraged to consider stepping up to serve the club and the community through Rotary leadership.

A motion to approve the slate of candidates was made by JIM SCHRODER and seconded by DAVE NYDEGGER. Secretary RENEE, following the rules of order to the letter, asked, “Is there any discussion on the motion?” to which a frequent heckler at our meetings cheekily inquired, “Yeah. What is the age of our incoming president?” RENEE quickly called the question and the voice vote by the members was a unanimous and grateful “Aye” to elect all of the super slate of club leaders for the coming year.

WE GREET OUR GUESTS



Scanning the room for new faces, MIKE CURTIN introduced and then PPPPE RENEE had the pleasure of providing more background on two ladies who are colleagues in elder care who both work for Brookdale Assisted Living facilities. LORENA ROJAS is at the Riverside location, but GLORIA CUADRA works right here in Oceanside and has expressed an interest in learning more about membership in our club. (Some of you might be interested to note that Brookdale Oceanside is a new name for the place on Lake Boulevard where RENEE herself had toiled for a time. “We held many a board meeting there,” she recalled.) And many of us recalled the face and name of our other guest VIRGIL FLORES who has visited the club several times already and, as JIM SCHRODER predicted, “will be a Rotarian soon.” Our Welcome Song was led by TOM BRAULT who asked if he could songlead from a seated position because, while simultaneously serving as Shorelines reporter, he needed to catch up on scribbling his notes while we all sang.

HAPPY DOLLARS

You would think that more members would have been happy, what with the holiday season starting to kick into gear. But no, we had just two donations to the club’s coffers at this meeting.



TERRI HALL gave \$5 in celebration of there being only one more meeting left until her month of lining up programs would be over. She encouraged us all to attend the Away Meeting at the Y. And she also offered her prayers for Rotarians and their families who had been impacted by the fires in the region.



JIM SCHRODER made a contribution, but not before a long backstory leading up to the reason for his appreciation. On his travels to Antarctica, he had visited an Argentinean research station. While at the station, he engaged in a fascinating conversation with an Argentine submariner. Needless to say, when he heard later that the Argentine Navy submarine (the ARA San Juan) went missing in mid-November with 44 crew members aboard, JIM was quite concerned for his friend. An intensive international search effort for the missing sub was not successful, and the sub and its crew were deemed to be tragically lost at sea, presumably due to an onboard explosion. If I heard the end of JIM's story correctly, he later learned that the submariner that he had met was not onboard the San Juan. And so, JIM summed up this tale of how he had learned to "appreciate just how fast life can go for all of us."

"IT'S BEGINNING TO SOUND A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS"

When it was time for our program of holiday songs to commence, we took a brief time out as TERRI HALL went out to the lobby of the country club to corral the choral group. The Seaside Singers is a group of adults over 50 from all over North County who come together at the Carlsbad Senior Center on Wednesday nights to practice and sing in four part harmonies, under the direction of a former Rotarian JEFF SELL, who had been a music director at MiraCosta College starting in 1966.



TERRI and DAVE HALL have been singing with the group for over 15 years now, as the Seaside Singers perform (often for senior groups or at assisted living homes) as a way to give back to the community. Their performance for us was the second concert for the Christmas season, and the accompanists backing them up were VIOLETTA PETROVA (a world class pianist) and MARK PHELPS (on bass, who was the longtime band director at Oceanside High).

The uniform of the day consisted of white shirts and either green or red sparkly neckwear, which allowed for a surprising variety of fashion choices, depending on



how they were tied. With 20 singers in attendance, it looked like there were 20 different styles employed, all using the same size and shape of material. Some singers went for a standard Windsor knot tie form. Others were arranged more like scarves. Others resembled ascots. One was formed into a bow tie. And TERRI's unique variation made her look just like

Sandy from "Grease." I must admit to being quite fascinated by all of the available sartorial options that were on display!

We certainly all enjoyed the extended set of songs that the group had prepared for us. "What a Wonderful World" started out as a full chorus number, but then featured a solo verse. Then the singers switched to full holiday mode with "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas", followed by "Baby, It's Cold Outside"

which added a violin to the accompaniment. (If you are familiar with this tune, it is a clever back and forth between a man and a woman singing to each other about why the gal should or shouldn't stay the night or go out into the freezing cold night air. And, since the Seaside Singers have a couple of ladies who sing the tenor parts – which is a pretty common thing to see in choirs due to a lack of male voices – it was interesting to see some gender reversals which departed from the normal male / female storyline. But then again, it is 2017, so who am I to judge?)



Next up, the crowd became excited to see our own DAVE HALL grab the mic and sidle up next to the piano for his Elvis-worthy solo on “Blue Christmas” (minus the swiveling hips, that is). As the song wrapped up, Rotarians burst into a rousing and extended standing ovation.

That tough act to follow was followed by a medley of tunes from the movie “White Christmas”, which included “Snow”, “Sisters” and (if you can believe it) “White Christmas.” After that, Conductor JEFF told us that the next song was “Just for you at Hi Noon Rotary ... uh, El Camino ... Oh, Oceanside! (You see, I have done a few performances in here over the years)”, so no wonder he was a bit unsure of his audience. What was that special song that was chosen “just for us”? ... It was a little ditty entitled “Landlord, Fill the Flowing Bowl” all about getting tipsy, which included in the chorus “For tonight we’ll merry, merry be. Tomorrow we’ll be sober!” We did not know whether to be honored or insulted by that song selection, but we enjoyed hearing it nonetheless.

To put the final touches on our musical gift and wrap up their set with a beautiful, glorious multi-part harmonious bow, the group’s final song was “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas.” Indeed, thanks to the warm and fuzzy feelings we all had thanks to the Seaside Singers, that prospect was made increasingly likely.

PPPPPE RENEE stepped in it just a bit as she expressed our appreciation to the performers. “You have brightened our hearts.” ... So far, so good on her remarks, but then she blurted out, “I love that you are attending to the seniors in our community.” On hearing this, some of the singers seemed either confused or perhaps insulted by that apparent slam on their age, and some of our fellow Rotarians laughed out loud at RENEE’s apparent faux pas. “No, no!” she quickly added. “I meant that we appreciate your going to the senior homes and facilities to perform!” This explanation (as well as the small donation that the club made to the Seaside Singers to support their goals) went a long way toward smoothing any ruffled feathers. And then, I suppose to underline just how young RENEE thought the singers were, she closed by saying to them, “You can come and see me in about 20 years or so, and I’ll have a room for you” (at Chateau Lake San Marcos Luxury Retirement Living).

OPPORTUNITY DRAWING



The number of the lucky raffle ticket was called and then NOTHING! The suspense was killing us! For the longest time, no one at all responded. Disgruntled folks who were NOT holding the ticket started to grouse, “Must be present to win.” But then, TERRI HALL said, “This happened last year at this meeting, too. Maybe it’s my ticket.” She went back to her luncheon table, rummaged around her chair for a while, and came up empty. She then thought to check her pocket and FINALLY found that lucky blue ducat. However, she drew the 9 of clubs, not the Joker, and opted to give her \$10 consolation prize back to the club.

THE GAVEL REAPPEARED

Pulling out CHUCK's long-lost gavel once more (... proving that at least SOMEONE is capable of holding onto it), our PPPPE RENEE loudly gonged our meeting to a close and sent us on our very, very merry way.

SEE YOU THIS FRIDAY AT THE Y!

ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT



This trio of photos and brief report comes to us from RENEE RICHARDSON-WENDEE who enjoyed the Oceanside Harbor Parade of Lights.

“Oceanside Boat Parade at Oceanside Harbor went well. At least 35 boats participated. The community came together and it was a wonderful experience!”



And here are some more photos from the previous Crown Heights Mentor Program event when JIM SCHRODER, JAY CRAWFORD and his wife ANITA ROMAINE took students to a Frequency Jazz concert at the MiraCosta College Concert Hall, followed by dinner at the Jolly Roger. As you can see, ENRIQUE may not have been too sure of his choice as he was biting into the coconut shrimp, but ELIZABETH gave the onion rings an “A-OK”!



COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

December 15 at Noon – Away Meeting at Mottino Family YMCA (4701 Mesa Drive, Oceanside)

Four Way Test essay contest and tour of facility

REMEMBER TO BRING GIFTS FOR TOYS FOR TOTS

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

January 5 – CLUB ASSEMBLY

Reporter: TBA

Also on the Rotary horizon:

Wednesday, January 17 – Host Hospitality Night dinner for the incoming District Governor in Thailand. Details to come.