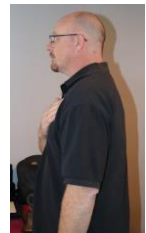


 <p>IMAGINE ROTARY</p>	<p>ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE</p> <p>SHORELINES</p>			
<p>2022-2023</p>	<p>Tom Brault Editor-in-Chief</p>	<p>Janet Bledsoe Lacy Photographer</p>	<p>Janet Bledsoe Lacy Reporter</p>	<p>CO-PRESIDENTS AJ Mazzarella & Renee Richardson</p>

December 9, 2022



The meeting started right on time with **CO-PREZ** Magnificent **RENEE RICHARDSON** (who is the “In Perpetuity” President of our wonderful club! “Perpetuity” is a legal term that means FOREVER) banging the gavel to bring us to order. **CO-PREZ AJ** led us in the pledge of allegiance.



RENEE immediately called up **LOLA SHERMAN** for her “WHY ROTARY?” presentation. Dearest **LOLA** shared with us how first of all - she does not like speaking in front of people. She reminded us that her skill was in the written word as a newspaper reporter, chronicling what other people say, and not giving her own presentation. But she skillfully continued: She answered her “Why Rotary” question with her own story. She attended her first Rotary meeting at the invitation of **RANDY MITCHELL**. She shared that **RANDY** was a well-known “misogynist supreme”. The dictionary definition of this insidious disease is: “Being strongly prejudiced against women”, and having “deeply ingrained misogynistic attitudes.” He kept asking her to come to the meetings, at a time when **LOLA** was raising a teenage member of her family as well working as a reporter for the newspaper. She said that **RANDY** was a good reporter himself. Accordingly, it was **RANDY** who invited **LOLA** to join Rotary. THANK YOU for that, **RANDY**! As **LOLA** was sitting back down, **RENEE RICHARDSON** remarked that she remembered thinking back then that she was glad to live long enough to see the misogynist propose a woman **ROTARY** member!

TERRI HALL reminded us that she and hubby **DAVE** would be hosting the **ROTARY CLUB’S HOLIDAY PARTY** that Saturday evening, and that we should all dress in warm clothing because the majority of the party would be outside, and that as her grandfather would often say “It is colder than a well-digger’s XXX in

the Klondike!” (Note: Apparently the XXX is a three-letter word that starts with “a” and rhymes with “bass.”) See some of the photos from this party at the end of this newsletter.

Our **FEARLESS CO-LEADER A.J. MAZZARELLA** launched into the introduction of Guests, beginning with **ANCHISA FARRANT** who welcomed her neighbor **MARIE HERZ**, who had attended club meetings before, and who would be made an official member later in the meeting. **ANCHISA** also introduced another neighbor who was interested in joining the club, **PAULA SUGARMAN**. **TOM BRAULT** led us in the Welcome Song.

PRESIDENT IN PERPETUITY RENEE then presented the slate of nominees approved by the Board for the club to vote on, all of which passed unanimously, with no further nominations from the floor. They are:

Slate of Officers and Board of Directors taking office on July 1, 2023

President: Shor Denny

President Elect:

President Elect Elect:

Secretary: Renee Richardson

Treasurer: Les Newquist

Sgt. At Arms:

Past Presidents: Renee Richardson / A.J. Mazzarella

Board of Directors	Term Expires
Thomasina Jackson	7-1-26
Roger VanDerwerken	7-1-26
Mike Curtin	7-1-25
Brad Fisher	7-1-24
Lola Sherman	7-1-25
Janet Bledsoe Lacy	7-1-25
Lyn Corder	7-1-26
Dan Wilson	7-1-25
Jay Crawford	7-1-25
Dave Nydegger	7-1-24

PRESIDENT IN PERPETUITY RENEE then called forth **ANCHISA** and her neighbor **MARIE HERZ**, for **MARIE’S** new member induction. **RENEE** shared

with the club that the new member goal for our club for this Rotary year was to have 5 new members join our club, and we already have 6 new members in just the first half of the Rotary year.

In a preamble to this induction, **RENEE** reminded us all, “Fellow Rotarians, it is the responsibility of every Rotarian to recruit new, quality members and retain our existing members to ensure continued success in meeting the needs of our local and international communities and to extend the spirit of Rotary throughout our community.” And she closed this section by telling **MARIE**, “I encourage you to increase your knowledge of Rotary by visiting the Rotary website and reading the monthly Rotarian magazine.

It is my pleasure and honor to induct you as a member of the Rotary Club of Oceanside.

Fellow Rotarians, I present to you Rotarian **MARIE** and charge you to give her your friendship and help educate her on the responsibilities of being a Rotarian. Welcome to the Oceanside Rotary family!”

PRESIDENT IN PERPETUITY RENEE then handed **MARIE** “an extremely organized and extremely well-prepared Rotary informational packet” created by our highly trained and skilled Rotary Secretary (who is also very modest!)

When asked how happy **MARIE** was to join our fine club, she **WOWED** everybody with a \$50 contribution!

Next, **PRESIDENT IN PERPETUITY RENEE** called forth **DALE MAAS** to receive his first **PAUL HARRIS FELLOW AWARD!** **RENEE** shared that the presentation of the **PAUL HARRIS** recognition is the Rotary Foundation's way of expressing its appreciation for substantial contributions to its humanitarian and educational programs. During Rotary Foundation month, **DALE** generously contributed funds to Rotary International.

To become a Paul Harris Fellow, you simply contribute \$1,000 to Rotary International. This can be done over time or in one lump sum. If you are a member of our club and have been contributing to the Rotary International



Foundation, once you reach the \$500 level the club will submit an additional 500 points to reach the threshold and make you a Paul Harris Fellow. **DALE** is joining a remarkable company of persons throughout the world, all recognized for their devotion to the ideals of goodwill, peace, and understanding.

RENEE then moved onto ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS! This included **NANCY RUSSIAN** who was \$50 happy, and **A.J. MAZZARELLA** who was \$47 happy! **TOM** led us all in the Happy Birthday song!



*{Managing Editor's Note: May I extend my most sincere apologies to **SHOR DENNY** for the vital information left out of the October 28 Shorelines which I had been the reporter for. Somehow in my hastily scrawled notes from that meeting, when I noted that she would be including her birthday contribution in her "Happy Dollars later" (which did not happen because the meeting ran long and there was no time for any Happy announcements from the floor), I neglected to transcribe that she announced that she had already made her donation of \$100 total to the Foundation via Venmo. Her plan was to give a larger amount so that she would not have to reveal her age. What a savvy move! Sorry about missing that important detail to commemorate **SHOR's** important contribution to Rotary. It is much appreciated – And now, duly and officially noted!}*

RENEE then announced that December was also an anniversary month for **MIKE WESELOH** and she asked how happy **MIKE** was to be celebrating his wedding anniversary with **LAURIE**? A rather confused **MIKE** responded that while he is very happy, that his wedding anniversary is in January, not December. Someone inquired as to whether **MIKE** had another wife that he had married in December? **MIKE** insisted that **RENEE** had the wrong month, and not the wrong wife!

We now moved on to **Happy Dollars**! Our most traveled Rotarian in the history of the world, the amazing **JIM SCHRODER** stood up and reminded us as to how all of his previously scheduled trips for 2020 and 2021 were re-scheduled due to the COVID pandemic. He described this latest trip as follows:



"This was the third in a series of trips that was booked and paid for in 2019. All happening since August of this year. The trip started in Lisbon, Portugal for 4 days. The second day my credit card was cloned, in a restaurant where I had

lunch, and I was notified by Chase Visa that it was being used in Japan. Had to stop that. Then I boarded a Regent Cruise ship, 24 days, and set sail to Tenerife, Canary Islands, Cape Verde, supposed to stop in Dakar Senegal but was blown out by the FIFA cup playing the day we were to go in. A slowdown at the docks. Found this online. 27 ships were to have gone in the same day. Over the next 30 days they were only expecting 38 ships in total.

We were notified that the next 8 nights we would be running dark at night. There was extensive pirate activity in the area of the Atlantic off of this part of Africa. The Captain notified us we would not be going in to Abidjan, the Ivory Coast due to "Health Reasons". I discovered, online, that a tanker ship had been taken captive with the crew hiding in the caverns of the ship. All communication and navigation had been dismantled by the pirates. The ship was being held for ransom. We were in the same area at that time.

Next was Gambia where I received a marriage proposal from a teacher. She asked if I was Married. I said no. She asked why not? I said I can come and go as I like and be happy. She said, "I have 2 children. Marry Me." I said, "No romance?" Answer was "No time for romance". Needless to say, I was out of there in minutes. Next onto Ghana, Togo, and just before entering Sao Tome I discovered, online, that they had an insurrection of the government 2 days before our arrival, killing 4 and jailing 6. No one on the ship had a clue all this was happening. I asked our local guide in Sao Tome and he confirmed all that I had discovered. He pleaded with me not to say anything as they had not had any ships or tourism for 3 years and desperately needed tourism again. Never at any time did any of the crew or others say a thing about the discoveries that I had found. The passengers were like fat cats floating the waters off of Africa.

Next was Namibia and then into Cape Town, South Africa. The first thing I did in Cape Town at the port was go to visit my favorite place of all time - African Trading Port. Look it up, in the harbor area. It is an incredible building, 4 floors with items from all over Africa, all for sale. A museum now on the 4th floor. This was my 4th time to visit it.

So as you can see this was anything but a dull trip. Met lots of interesting people all along the trip."

Wow! **JIM** was \$25 Happy, and reminded us that he had also given \$20 in Happy Dollars before he left. Also, **JIM** had previously provided us with a "Special Stan Edition" ("Stan" as in Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, etc.) of Shorelines with

INCREDIBLE photos in it of some of his adventures which I am certain is available on the Rotary Club Runner website.



TOM BRAULT was \$20 Happy that he and his lovely wife **LINDA** went on a 5 day Disney Cruise from Sunday to Thursday where they were able to meet with Mrs. Claus on the ship, who just happened to look a lot like their daughter **GERILYN!** **DALE MAAS** was \$10 happy to have collected over \$1,000 in gift cards from Rotarians for those in need at Christmas... He also reminded us that such a donation is tax deductible! He then added another \$50 to his \$10 for the fact that he received his **PAUL HARRIS FELLOW** recognition at the meeting. The extra \$50 was to go directly to our club.



ED PARISH was Happy just to be at the meeting with all of his fellow Rotarians. **ROGER VANDERWERKEN** gave \$20 happy dollars on behalf of **PABLO ACOSTA** and the TriCity Pantry for their turkey dinner distribution efforts just prior to



Thanksgiving. The team handed out more than 300 complete turkey dinners in three North County locations. The Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation was a key contributor to make this happen as well. **THOMASINA JACKSON** was \$5 happy to be a participant in our Rotary charitable causes. **DAVE HALL** was \$20 Happy to have his Grandson **JULIAN** selected as the Most Valuable Player of his Truckee High football team which won the Nevada state championship....**TERRI HALL** celebrated with \$10 Happy Dollars to brag that they had 2 other Grandchildren and that their other Grandson **SEBASTIAN** was getting his Associate's Degree at Cal Poly Pomona and Granddaughter **AVA** (second from the left with the upright bass in the front row) is now a sophomore at Roosevelt University in Chicago.



ANCHISA was \$10 Happy that her neighbors were attending this meeting, and she shared a copy of the Humane Society Calendar with her cat Coco as Feline Miss November! **ANCHISA** had entered a photo of Coco with a \$25 contribution that was supplemented by **NANCY RUSSIAN** and **LOLA SHERMAN** in support of Coco. **ERNIE MASCITTI** gave \$20 “Unhappy Dollars” for missing “last week’s meeting.” **RENEE** was quick to note that “there wasn’t a meeting last week!” Undaunted, **ERNIE** shared that he had traveled to New Orleans and was fascinated with the buskers (street performers) there, and particularly one performer who had taught his darling Chihuahua dog to retrieve the tip money offered up by the crowd for the performance by going up to each extended hand holding dollar bills, grabbing the cash (presumably in its teeth), and depositing the greenbacks into the performer’s basket. **ERNIE** said that the crowd was so enamored with the dog that, long after the street performance ended, people were still holding out dollar bills for the dog to retrieve. **ERNIE** said that “this guy made a killing!” **NANCY RUSSIAN** shared that she and her hubby had taken (yet another) **WONDERFUL** cruise to Israel. She shared how their room was right next to the “crew staircase” which is narrow and extremely steep, and that when there was a “life boat drill” they traveled on this staircase and **NANCY** screwed up her knee in the process - which had to be medically treated by the ship’s doctors (compression sleeve, ice, and ibuprofen). **NANCY** gave another \$10 to share how when she and her husband were on a plane to Texas for this trip, that she noticed a couple on the plane, that then also were on their flight from Texas to Athens. Our friendly **NANCY** then struck up a conversation with the couple only to find out that they were going on the same Silver Sea cruise that the Russians were going on...but what was more incredible, **NANCY** discovered that this same couple lived just 5 to 6 houses down the block from the **RUSSIANS** in Oceanside! At the end of the meeting, **JANET BLEDSOE LACY** gave \$20 Happy Dollars for the wonderful little pumpkin which **ANCHISA** had given her with a very special squirrel on, as shown in the photo. **ANCHISA** would not accept money for it, so **JANET** told **ANCHISA** that she would give Happy Dollars for it at the upcoming Rotary meeting.



TOM BRAULT then commenced with our special holiday program, which included 4 Rotarians reciting a favorite Holiday memory or story:



TINA ORTIZ started with her tale:

“When Tom reached out and asked me to share something about Christmas, I thought to myself, oh...this should be easy. But the more I started thinking about, I wasn’t quite sure what to share. So many memories from Christmases past...like when I was 10 and asked Santa (yes, I still believed!) for a bike and he brought me a piano! I was certain that he confused my list with a neighbor’s but when my mom said the piano came with lessons...I knew it was for me. It didn’t quite bring me the Christmas joy she thought it would.



So, I started thinking which memory or gift brought me the most Christmas joy. The more I thought, the more I realized, it wasn’t a gift. I kept going back to memories of traditions. Like, picking out the Christmas Tree, Midnight Mass and being together with family.

We are traditionalists when it comes to our Christmas tree and every year we pick a time to go out and find the perfect tree. Yes, I am the person who looks at it from every angle, checks it for freshness by shaking it and touching the branches. Once we find it, pictures are taken next to it and off we go...to have a hot cup of cocoa or hot cider. And there is always Christmas music playing in the car. 😊

Midnight Mass at Mission San Luis Rey is a tradition I remember as far back as high school. We would go to Midnight Mass and when we got home, my mom would have tamales and Mexican hot chocolate on the stove for us. We came in from the cold night air, there was Christmas music playing and we would sit around the table eating, laughing and sharing stories. While in college, my friends would join us and later I attended with my husband.

Life changes often lead to changes in traditions, especially at the holidays. When Brianna was born, Midnight Mass became the Children's Mass (with Santa) which was followed with a Christmas Eve celebration with my in-laws. The following morning, we opened gifts together, shared a Christmas breakfast before heading out to spend the day with my family. We knew we were blessed to be able to spend time with both families.

When talking now with friends and family about our time together, we often find ourselves talking about the Christmas memories. My nephew tells me how he remembers spending time with us at his house on Christmas Eve when Brianna was little and one of my high school friends recently shared, that she always looked forward to Midnight Mass with us. It's a memory that she cherishes to this day.

So, when I think about what brings me Christmas joy, it really is spending time with family and friends celebrating our traditions. We still go out and get our Christmas tree and a few years ago, Brianna told me that she wanted to start going to Midnight Mass. Family gatherings now include 4 generations making tamales and 5 generations coming together on Christmas Day...all with Christmas music playing in the background.

These traditions bring me much Christmas joy!"

Next up was **BRAD FISHER**, who had a decidedly different story about their Christmas tree one year:

"My family of 4 and my Brother-in-Law and his 2 boys loaded up in his ex-wife's Blue Dodge Durango with a camping trailer in tow and drove up to see Grammy in Oregon. She was living in a small cottage on a large estate in the middle of the mountains at the time. We arrived very late at night on Dec. 23 only to find out that she did not have a Christmas tree.



Early the next morning (Christmas Eve) Dave and I grabbed some rope and headed into town to go buy a Christmas tree with the realization that we would be stuck with some sort of half dead, Charlie Brown Christmas tree. We drove around Springfield, OR and finally found a Christmas Tree lot. The problem was that no one was there. WHO BUYS A CHRISTMAS TREE ON CHRISTMAS EVE???

We looked around and there was a one tree leaning against the corner of the red and white tent.

Remember, this is Oregon..... The tree that no one wanted, and never sold, looked like something out of a Martha Stewart catalog!

There was no one we could pay. No place to leave any money. So we just decided that this was a Christmas miracle. We loaded the tree on top of the Durango and drove out to Grammy's country cottage where my wife was decorating and all the kids were bouncing off the walls. We all got together and decorated this miracle tree.

I could stop here and it would be enough.....

But, on the way home from Oregon, we were in the middle of the San Joaquin valley on I-5 singing show tunes or something. The wind had kicked up and as we were driving over a bridge going over the California Aqueduct a gust of wind caught the trailer. It threw us left, then right, then we did a complete 180 and rolled the trailer and SUV over onto its side. I can still close my eyes and recall seeing the water under the bridge and wonder how many I could get out of the car if we went over.

But, we didn't go over, we were just on our side. With the help of other motorists who climbed up onto the car (car doors are very heavy when they open up), I was able to climb out of my seat and pull everyone else out of the car. Nobody was injured.

That is my Christmas miracle story.”

Two stories down, and two more to go. But first we were regaled with an original poem, written and recited by our Holiday Host **TOM BRAULT**. In it, he speculated on gifts we might consider giving to many of our Oceanside Rotary friends. (If you would like to read the full text, go to the end of this newsletter.)

Back to story time, and next up was Yours Truly **JANET BLEDSOE LACY**:

“My story goes back to the year of 1975, on Christmas eve when our entire family all met at my parents’ house, which is the property to the left of ours as you enter the driveway. We



were getting ready to eat dinner there, and we had all of these presents under the tree, that were to be opened after dinner. My 6-year-old nephew (who is now a lawyer living in Connecticut) kept begging to open a present before dinner. So, my father relented (my nephew's grandfather) and said that he had a very special Christmas present for him that he could open. Unbeknown to us, my father had picked out a fist sized rock on their property, and wrapped it for his grandson. This was in the era when "pet rocks" were the rage and were being sold by some clever entrepreneur, and Grandpa thought that his rock would be a cherished treasure for his grandson, coming from his grandfather and grandmother's special property. So, my 6-year-old nephew opens the present, and pulls out the rock, AND BURSTS INTO TEARS! My little nephew had interpreted the present as being part of the warning for misbehaving children that they will get "sticks and stones" or a lump of coal for Christmas if they are bad! Worse yet, when my father tried to console his grandson and explain his special "pet rock" theory, the whole family broke out into laughter over his stupid idea, further traumatizing my nephew who thought that we were laughing at him! Needless to say, my nephew got to open all of his presents before dinner to soften the blow of his gift of the "pet rock". This is my Christmas story, and also explains why my nephew moved to Connecticut. "

TOM had saved the tale of a "truly special Christmas gift" for last, and it was told to us by **MIKE WESELOH**.



MIKE shared with us that his 3 sons all were born prematurely. His first child **MATTHEW** was born 7 weeks early in 1981 and **MIKE** was in Los Angeles at a conference when he received a call from a relative to come home immediately because his wife was in labor. **MIKE** questioned this, asking the caller if they might be mistaken, because his sister-in-law was also pregnant at the time and due way before their own child, who was not expected to arrive for 7 more weeks. The caller assured him that yes, indeed it was his wife **LAURIE** who was in labor, and that he needed to come to the hospital NOW! Because **MIKE** was in Los Angeles, his father-in-law, **HAROLD CARPENTER**, drove **LAURIE** to the hospital in one of **HAROLD'S** tow trucks. His second son **MARK** was born in 1985 on his parents' anniversary date. **LAURIE** was exhausted after delivery, and **MIKE** was being the dutiful and loving husband at her side, when **LAURIE** told him that she knew that **MIKE** was scheduled to referee his very first varsity football game that night. She told **MIKE** that she was giving him permission to leave and to go to his game, because his presence was no longer needed at the hospital and it was her plan to just get some sleep. **SMART WOMAN THAT LAURIE! MIKE'S 3rd child was born in**

1987, but was actually due in the middle of January 1988. It was December, and the whole family had the flu, but 3rd son **KEVIN** didn't care. **KEVIN** became a Christmas surprise, being born on Christmas eve, presented to **MIKE** in the Christmas stocking shown in the photo! **MIKE** came home from the hospital to find a sheet on his front lawn that his other two flu-ridden kids had thrown up on, and then celebrated Christmas morning by watching his favorite movie, "HOOSIERS." (Leave it to **MIKE** to wrap up his story with a sports reference.)



Great stories, one and all. Thanks to **TINA, BRAD, JANET, and MIKE** for sharing these special holiday highlights!

Just prior to the meeting coming to a close, our most ever so clever **TOM BRAULT** informed us that now WE would get to write the story, as he led a holiday version of "Mad Libs." The nouns and verbs and body parts, etc. which we called out got inserted into the blanks in his preselected text, and then he sang to us, much to the audience's delight, our original and rather unusual rendition of the classic "The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire)."



Broccoli roasting on an open fire
Ebenezer Scrooge nipping at your arm
"Silent Night" being sung by a choir
And folks dressed up like Italians
Everybody knows a pizza and some mistletoe
Help to make the season nice
Tiny seniors with their eyes all aglow
Will find it hard to run tonight

They know that Santa's on his way
He's bringing lots of toys and horses on his sleigh
And every mother's aunt is gonna spy
To see if geese really know how to swim

And so I'm offering this simple phrase
For kids from one to Forty two
Although it's been said many times, many ways
Merry Christmas to you.

To actually close the meeting, we had another go at the Opportunity Drawing. The winning ticket was held by **BRAD FISHER**, but a low card was drawn instead of the Joker, so incredibly our big jackpot is still unclaimed and will carry over into the New Year.

Happy Holidays to you and yours from us and ours at Oceanside Rotary!!!

CAN YOU HELP KEEP THIS NEWSLETTER GOING? SHORELINES NEEDS A FEW NEW WRITERS IN THE PIPELINE

As you may know, this newsletter is produced by a rotating roster of reporters who take turns so that each of us only has to take on the duty about once every 3 months. The job is simple: take notes at a meeting and then write up a comprehensive (and hopefully entertaining) report of what happened. Well, time marches on and a few of our regular reporters have had to drop off of our lineup, so it is now time to search for some new scribes to help tell the story of our Oceanside Rotary meetings.

The more we can boost the number of reporters on the Shorelines staff, the less editions each individual volunteer will need to cover in a given year, keeping the workload for each of our correspondents more manageable. PLUS, the job is made even easier with the editorial assistance of our legendary Double Checker Squad who review every edition's draft to suggest possible corrections and/or additions to the text.

So, if you have any interest in serving the club by wielding a pen every now and then (or clicking on a keyboard, if that is more your style), please contact Shorelines Managing Editor TOM BRAULT to get more details on the logistics of the operation and how easy and rewarding it can be for you to help in providing this valuable service to the club and your fellow members.

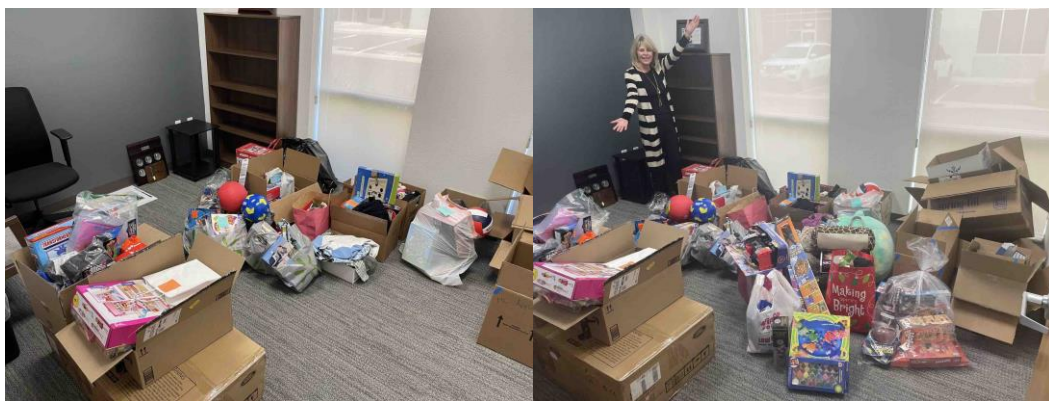
PHOTOS FROM SOME OF OUR HOLIDAY PROJECTS

Just to catch you up to date on ways we helped our community over the various holidays recently: First we see some of the gang who showed up to help assemble and then load up the Thanksgiving meals that were delivered by TriCity Pantry.

Proof positive that our goal to be “Rotarians at Work” is not confined to just one day of the year!



Then, throughout November and into December, we collected toys for the kids served through the Women’s Resource Center – first at our meetings and then, right up until the delivery deadline, by dropping them off at **DALE MAAS’s** office. Here we can see how the stack of stuff being stored there grew and grew. Just look at the difference a couple of days made, comparing the holiday haul on November 25 to the much larger load by December 1. Thanks to all who contributed toys to this drive for your generous giving, and special thanks to **DALE** for dedicating the space in his office to dump our donations off!



And on December 10, a fine crew assembled at the Oceanside Harbor to facilitate the Boat Rides with Santa event with Ocean Adventures. **TINA ORTIZ, PAUL WENDEE, BOB REINSETH, JAY CRAWFORD, ANITA ROMAINE,**

ROGER VANDERWERKEN, LESLY ADAMS, and RENEE RICHARDSON all spent the day on the Boat or on the dock helping the operation run smoothly! The boat rides were sold out and we raised \$1,500 for the club. Plus, everyone involved earned an automatic spot on Santa's nice list.



A FEW PHOTOS FROM THE HALL'S HOLIDAY PARTY

The pictures tell the story of the fine time that was had on Sunnyhill Drive as we gathered to Deck the Halls at the Hall's for the annual seasonal soiree on December 10. We all enjoyed the camaraderie, conversations, and consumption of the delicious meal catered by Garcia's Mexican Restaurant in Carlsbad. It was a particularly nippy evening and many of us warmed our hands and assorted other body parts at the blazing fire pits. A fine way to fete the holidays and kick off this season of love and joy!

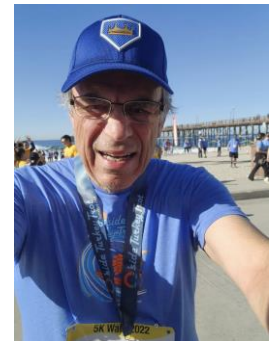




ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

DAVE SHORE participated in the annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning in Oceanside. Here is his brief report, along with a documentary selfie from the event:

“Last year I did the walk. This year I decided to challenge myself and move up to the 5K run/walk. I ran about two thirds of it but did walk a couple of times because of my bad knees.”



Not only was TOM BRAULT “out and about”, he also was up onstage for the first time in a while. Here are a few shots from backstage at his performance in “Little Women” where he portrayed Mr. Laurence and the “tired old Knight.”



Also onstage this week were DAVE and TERRI HALL who took prominent roles in the Seaside Singers holiday concert at the Carlsbad Senior Center. TERRI was the emcee, introducing each of the songs with interesting tidbits of information, and DAVE was a featured soloist on two numbers. Witnessing these fine performances in the audience on Thursday were Rotarians ANCHISA FARRANT, VICKIE PROSSER, and TOM BRAULT.



ROTARY HOLIDAY POEM 2022

'Tis the day right before the Rotary holiday bash
All the members, quite soon, to their cars they will dash.
Off to shops and to malls to search for a gift
To make their fellow members' hearts to uplift.
“What to buy for our Rotary friends?”, we thought, one and all.
At first, it seemed daunting, but then one recalls
That we do know the desires of each of our friends
So, the choosing of gifts was quite clear, in the end.

Perhaps you'd consider the gifts in the song
(I mean, giving Five Golden Rings, you could never go wrong)
But you know that Alexa needs no pear tree nor partridge
Our club's author just needs a new printer cartridge
For Anchisa Farrant, well her day would be made
With a big bag of potting soil or a new garden spade
What, you may ask, should I give to Tom Brault?
Just buy anything Disney – You would not be at fault
Dave & Terri Hall would be easy to please
With a Trader Joe's gift card and some Vegan recipes
If a gift for Pablo Acosta fits into your plans
Just look for a gas card for his food delivery vans
For Janet Bledsoe Lacy – Well, here's a great tip
Give a pledge to her annual MLK Scholarship
Or volunteer for the Friday Art Walk. ...Wouldn't that be great?
A gift Susan Brown would surely appreciate
For Ed Parish and Anne - A good gift, I suppose
Would be tickets to one or two musical shows
Dale Maas is easy to buy for, goodness sake
You can always just buy a cool new toy for Blake
Need a present for Nancy? That's so easy to fix
She could use lots of albums for her RV trip pics
Another lover of travel is our own Marti Faris
She might get a lift from a postcard from Paris
For Jim - Travel insurance for all the trips that he missed
All those Covid cancellations had left him quite pissed
Surprisingly, Jay *wants* a big lump of Coal
For this geology nerd, that would brighten his soul
Bob Pickrel might use, every once in a while,
A new tube of toothpaste for his unbeatable smile
Lyn and Jacqueline are not the only ones
Who would love things to give their granddaughters and grandsons

With Mike Curtin, you can score many a point
With a Senor Grubby gift card - his favorite joint

Here are two culinary suggestions to please Ernie Mascitti:

A plate of cannoli or a bowl of spaghetti
For Bill Dern, what would please him the best is, by far
A box of some big, fat, expensive Cigars
L.J., this year, is a tough question to unravel
But surely LAST year, he would've loved getting a Gavel!
Larry Hatter's Christmas would be filled with delights
If you found ways to help all the kids in Crown Heights
Shor Denny is similarly easy. It's the truth
Just do something to show you're supportive of the youth.
And for A.J. Mazzaella, well, what should you wrap?
I bet he'd be pleased with one more baseball cap
What would Lola like to see at the foot of her bed?
Why, a new Padres cap or a Musgrove bobblehead
For Mike Weseloh, in a box that is tied with a tag
You should wrap up a new yellow referee flag
And a gift that Dan W. would have surely adored
Is a carton of wax for his trusty surfboard
For Vickie and Lloyd, get a gift for their Harley
A new rear view mirror would be totally gnarly
If our Treasurer Les had the freedom to choose
He would love to have our members give less I.O.U.'s
If finding a gift for Renee is your task
Get Rotarians to promise to always wear a mask
Come to think of it, that would be a great gift to us all
To protect us from future outbreaks, winter, summer, and fall
If you've not heard your name for a gift on this list
Write to Santa – He needs ideas - You don't want to be missed!
But there's one notable member I haven't mentioned yet
For Roger Vanderwerken ... what would *he* like to get?
Well, the preacher would be blessed if we all pledged to pray
From the depths of our hearts, every night, every day.
So, to fill Roger's soul, we should say, time and again,
“Glory, Praise, Peace on Earth, and Goodwill to all men.”

COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

January 13th – Regular Meeting El Camino Country Club

January 27th – Regular Meeting El Camino Country Club

February 10th – Regular Meeting

February 24th – Regular Meeting