

Starting a couple of minutes early, Pres RENEE RICHARDSON WENDEE rang our club bell and welcomed the large crowd of Rotarians, their sweethearts, and our guests to Oceanside Rotary's Sweetheart meeting. Pres RENEE also led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Our Song Meister de Jour was Past Pres/Pres Elect (PP/PE) TERRI HALL, fresh from President Elect Training in Los Angeles. TERRI selected songs from the "dark" ages, mentioning the Mitch Miller sing along show for reference. A strange look came across the faces of anyone under the age of 50 as we sang "Daisy, Daisy" written in 1892 and "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" written in 1911. TERRI invited her sweetheart, PP DAVE HALL to help her with the second number and they harmonized quite well together.



TYLER EVANS shared his Rotary Moment. Recently he visited Vermont with his girlfriend and her family to do some skiing. On one of the days that he didn't ski, he and his girlfriend went for a walk in the snow and found a bench buried in snow. He cleared off the bench and found a plaque which revealed that the bench had been placed there by a local Rotary club. It helped remind him that, above and beyond the major R.I. projects like Polio Plus, there are

many local things Rotary does to make the world a better place. He also recalled a median strip in Cabo San Lucas which was maintained by a local Rotary club. If you start looking, you can see that Rotary is involved in a lot of different ways in just about every community.

CLUB UPDATES

We were alerted that the planned event at San Luis Rey Elementary on Feb 16 to prep for their garden project has been put on temporary hold

Feb 22- Susan Taylor-Scripps Health

Mar 1 – Meeting Dark for District Conference

Mar 1-3 – District Conference, Catamaran Hotel, San Diego

Mar 8 – Kitchens for Good "Where Food Changes Lives"

Mar 15- Pure Water Oceanside

Mar 22-Military Awards Joint Meeting with Fallbrook Rotary

VISITORS/SWEETHEARTS



JAY CRAWFORD and his wife ANITA (AKA. Skeeter) ROMAINE



LES NEWQUIST and his wife CRICKET (who renewed her vow to annoy LES the rest of their life)



FRANK COXON and his wife MARY



BOB PICKREL and his wife of 69 years DARLENE



RAY DOBBS- a Rotarian visiting from his home club in Washington State



VICKIE PROSSER and her husband of 51 years, LLOYD



NANCY RUSSIAN and her husband LUIS RODRIGUEZ



LYN CORDER and her husband AL SOMIT



ERNIE MASCITTI and his wife NANCY who chose to come to the meeting instead of taking care of a 6-yr. old



TOM BRAULT and his wife LINDA (Yes, she does exist)



TERRI and DAVE HALL – (Although they are both members, they still are each others' sweethearts, too!)



BILL DERN introduced his 2 sweethearts de jour, RUDY VAN HUNNICK and visitor ED PARISH from San Luis Rey Rotary

PP/PE TERRI led us in our Welcome song.

Pres RENEE shared a Boys and Girls Club Legacy Club tribute to deceased Rotarian RICHARD "DICK" YOUNG for his generous bequest that allowed the club to buy new computers, software and a printer for the Science and Technology room. Oceanside Rotary Club also received recognition by North County Lifeline for our generous support.



Our Rotarian of the Month is a quiet, behind the scenes individual who spent the last couple of months helping us get a garden going at a local elementary school. Thank you, LOLA SHERMAN, for your hard work and selfless contributions.

Pres RENEE noted BRENDA ORR from Oceanside Salvation Army (who was recently reassigned to Las Vegas) and BAIRD BOUCHER both resigned from the club recently. We wish them well. We now have 48 members in our club with 2 more potential members currently in the approval pipeline.

HAPPY DOLLARS



\$5 JANET BLEDSOE LACY, in her annual Valentine's Day professional plug, reminded everyone that she is a family law attorney and if your "sweetheart" is not being sweet to you, she is available to represent your interests.

\$5 Visiting Rotarian ED PARISH was happy to be here.

\$20 / then \$40 RUDY VAN HUNNICK was surprised to see that all the men present have pretty wives. His theory is that the women must have met their men in the dark.



\$5 ALEXA KINGAARD announced her latest book "My Name is Rose" is being released soon.

\$5 RENEE RICHARDSON WENDEE added that she will be hosting ALEXA's book launch party for "My Name is Rose" at the Bistro on Main Street in Vista on March 24th from 1-4 PM.

\$10 TERRI HALL was happy to survive President Elect Training last weekend. PETS is a great place to gain a lot of Rotary knowledge and enthusiasm. She also learned a new phrase: "Co-Presidents", the option of two members sharing a year serving as Club President partners. TERRI described the many advantages this concept offers, including less work, more flexibility for work and vacations, just to name a few. And she seemed to be looking around the room and making eye contact with a few key individuals to make sure that this message got through.\$20 LES NEWQUIST was happy to announce that his son and his wife are expecting a son due in July/August timeframe. Won't that be *grand*??\$5 PAM MYERS reminded us that Girl Scout Cookies cost \$5 and her

granddaughter would be happy to sell anyone as many boxes as they may want.



\$5 TOM BRAULT and his wife LINDA spent a wonderful evening at RENEE and PAUL's Bistro on Main Street in Vista for Valentine's Day dinner

\$5 NANCY RUSSIAN happy her sweetheart was at the meeting with her

\$5 LYN CORDER celebrated a wonderful birthday with family and sweetheart AL

\$4 DALE MAAS is heading to Kauai on Sunday with wife NIKKI and family for a week. TERRI HALL interjected that next year's Rotary International Convention will be in Honolulu and tempted potential leaders that the club helps send you there. An immediate question arose from the crowd, "How about 48 copresidents next year?"



\$5 Guest Sweetie LUIS RODRIGUEZ expressed his pleasure to be here with such a fine group and gave thanks to his wife NANCY for the wonderful table decorations and treats she laid out for today's meeting.

\$5 ANCHISA FARRANT loves our Rotary members

\$5 ERNIE MASCITTI swore using Rotary's Four Way Test that he has never stolen a President's gavel. This assurance occurred right after RENEE noticed he had been looking around the podium when she stepped away for a presentation. ERNIE quickly added that doesn't mean he won't someday steal the gavel, just that he has not done so yet.

\$10 BOB PICKREL happy to have his sweetheart here for all these years.

\$10 FRANK COXON noted he won the \$10 consolation prize from the Opportunity Drawing a couple of weeks ago, but the club didn't have the cash on hand to give him then. He finally received that money this week and he promptly donated it back to the club.

PROGRAM

Our Sweetheart Program Chair NANCY RUSSIAN noted that her running this particular meeting is becoming a tradition and confessed that she is running out of ideas for the program. It was quickly noted we are getting old and probably don't remember what we did last year much less a couple of years ago.

As with most programs, you really need to be present to enjoy it to the fullest, and that was especially true for this special program.

Some highlights follow:

NANCY RUSSIAN shared a humorous short story called "Exact Change". Over a period of a few weeks, a man came into this restaurant with an ostrich and ordered a meal. When asked, the ostrich ordered the exact same meal. When it came time to pay, the man reached into his pocket and came out with exactly the correct amount of money, down to the penny. This went on for a few weeks, with the same orders and the same exact change produced. Then one day, the man decided to splurge



and order a more expensive meal and the ostrich, as always, ordered the same thing. To the waitress's amazement, when he was presented with the bill he again reached into his pocket and came out with the exactly correct payment. This was getting too much for the server, so she asked the man how he was always able to pull out the exact amount money every time. The man shared that a few years ago while cleaning the attic he came across an old lamp. When he rubbed it, a genie appeared and granted him 2 wishes. His first wish was that if he ever had to pay for anything, all he would have to do his put his hand in his pocket and the right amount of money would always be there. The server extolled the genius of his wish, always having money whenever needed for the rest of his life. The man shared that worked for everything: fancy cars, houses etc. The server then asked about his second wish. With a sigh, the man looked over at his ostrich companion and said, "I wished for a tall chick with long legs who would always agree with everything I said."



DALE MAAS shared a cute story on how he met NIKKI, thanks to his employer, Edward Jones. Arriving to meet a client at Barrel Republic, DALE strolled in a bit early and back in the corner he saw NIKKI sitting with some other women. Their eyes locked and DALE literally stopped in his tracks and soon figured that he had probably been staring at her way longer than appropriate. Quickly sitting down, he tried to figure out how to meet her. He worked his way around the room to her table area, acting like he was looking at the selection of beers on tap, and noted that she appeared to be with her family. Back at his own table, while

trying to figure out what to do next, NIKKI walked past DALE and he noted that she was tall - a bonus! After a few awkward moments, NIKKI finally broke the ice and they started talking at which time his client showed up. DALE figured out a way to exchange information with NIKKI and suggested they should get together sometime. Shortly later, DALE saw what appeared to be NIKKI's mother get up and walk straight over to his table and she introduced herself, "Hi I'm Donna and NIKKI is really great". NIKKI was back at the table, embarrassed and trying to wave off her Mom. A few days later, DALE invited NIKKI to a short beach walk as their first get together. Well that "short walk" ended up lasting 4 ½ hours. Walking her back to her car, he gave her a hug and said goodbye. At which time NIKKI asked, "Don't you kiss on the first date?" Which DALE quickly obliged. The rest is history.



TERRI HALL shared a story of how she used to hide love notes in DAVE's suitcase when he traveled, which for many years was quite often. TERRI tried to vary the notes' locations to keep it as much of a surprise as possible. One time DAVE was heading to Fort Irwin and needed to take his lunch. So TERRI hid her love note in his lunch bag. Taking a bite of his tuna sandwich, DAVE noticed a piece of paper in

his sandwich. His colleagues asked who it was from and DAVE replied, "I don't know. The ink has run."

VICKIE PROSSER shared a story of how she use to send LLOYD love notes just before they were to be married while he was in Platoon Leaders school. She often placed perfume on the letters before they were mailed. She received a note from LLOYD asking her to never do that again as he was mortified. LLOYD interrupted at this point and then told "the rest of the story". Every letter received by the students was first inspected by the drill sergeant before passing it on. Not only did his letters smell of perfume and/or had lipstick kisses on the envelopes, but also LLOYD had to explain what "I. L. Y." and "SWAK" meant to the drill sergeant and the other men. Sometimes, when his explanation did not meet the drill instructor's expectation, he made LLOYD stand in a trashcan and read the letters out loud to everybody and then eat the letter. So yes, he asked her to stop sending those letters. VICKIE also shared a few jokes or quotes about love and sweethearts. A couple were: "Every day I fell in love with you more and more. Well, not yesterday. Yesterday you were pretty annoying." And "Besides chocolate, you're my favorite."





TOM BRAULT shared a true story. TOM noted the importance of being up front with each other. Early in TOM and LINDA's relationship, LINDA opened her soul to TOM and shared, "My goal in life is to make you happy." Without missing a beat, TOM gave her his vow in return: "My goal in life is to keep you on your toes." TOM also noted how romantic he can be. This year he gave LINDA a cannoli. When Linda asked why the cannoli, TOM replied "I cannoli be happy with you". TOM also wrapped up his

time by sharing a few humorous quotes from famous comedians.



JAY CRAWFORD, our featured performer, then pulled out his guitar, perched himself on a stool, and serenaded us and his sweetheart ANITA with a couple of songs.

NANCY led us in a game of "Name that Tune", playing instrumental snippets of songs from the past. Tables were made into teams (TERRI HALL, VICKIE PROSSER, TOM BRAULT, AND BILL DERN were anointed as team captains) and the members were instructed to yell out the title of the song as soon as they could identify it. It was a spirited competition that ended up going to a final tiebreaker tune before the Brault Table consisting of the JAY and ANITA CRAWFORD, TOM and LINDA BRAULT, FRANK and MARY COXON and CRICKET NEWQUIST won.



The prize for each winning player was a massive solid milk chocolate Hershey's kiss, and everyone who took a part in the program with their stories or jokes or songs received a sleeve of Ferrero Rocher candies to add to the various goodies (long stem red roses for the ladies, and petite boxes of Russell Stovers chocolates for everyone) which NANCY had laid on the tables for everyone to enjoy over the remainder of the Valentine's Day weekend. Sweets for the sweet!



OPPORTUNITY DRAWING

LUIS RODRIGUEZ held the winning ticket and with a 1 out of 10 chance to find the Joker for \$800. Sadly, for him (but not us) he picked an ace instead, so we are down to a 1 out of 9 card chance next week.



REVISITING OUR OCEANSIDE ROTARY CLUB FOUNDATION

In early February, a committee met to review the status and by-laws of our Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation, with plans to reinvigorate this organization, its charitable focus, and the fundraising efforts on its behalf. LYN CORDER kindly forwarded notes from their meeting to let us know that they are researching the wording of the by-laws to make them less restrictive, and that they are clarifying the distinctions between the Club's 501 (c) 4 and the Foundation's 501 (c) 3 status, along with considering the logistics of this Foundation's Board structure and budgeting processes. Congratulations and thank you's to the committee members who are diligently working to get the ball rolling on the reboot of this worthy organization!

TIME TO GET YOUR MOONLIGHT RESERVATIONS IN

This year, our annual night at the Moonlight Amphitheatre will be on Friday, June 21 to see the hilarious Mel Brooks musical comedy *The Producers*. Tickets will be right around \$40 per person for reserved seating. (The final price will depend on whether we qualify for the Group Rate or not.) But even though the show is not until June, **NOW** is the time to start getting your reservations in to Event Chair TOM BRAULT, because the block of tickets will be purchased at the end of March on the first day that tickets go on sale. You do not need to make any payment in



advance, but you do need to give a firm commitment to TOM of exactly the number of seats that you will need. Mark your calendars and get your ticket orders in soon!

ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

Thanks to ANCHISA FARRANT, this segment of our club newsletter is now branching out to cover restaurant reviews:

"On Sunday, after gardening, I went out for my brunch at Bistro Restaurant on Main Street in Vista, owned by Reneé and Paul.

It was fantastic brunch!!

I can work longer hours after that."

So there you go ... If you want to have more energy, why not start your day at Bistro on Main Street? Tell them ANCHISA sent you!



COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

Feb 22: SUSAN TAYLOR – Scripps Health Reporter: TOM BRAULT

Mar 1: Regular Meeting DARK for District Conference Weekend

Mar 2-3: DISTRICT 5340 CONFERENCE Catamaran Resort and Hotel on Mission Bay More info and registration at <u>www.Rotary5340.org</u>

Mar 8: CHUCK SAMUELSON – Kitchens for Good Reporter: DAVE HALL

Mar 15: PURE WATER OCEANSIDE Reporter: A.J. MAZZARELLA

Mar 21: The planned Away Meeting in Fallbrook for the Military Awards has been rescheduled to our regular meeting the following day

Mar 22: MILITARY AWARDS MEETING here at El Camino Country Club Reporter: VICKIE PROSSER

Mar 29: TBA Reporter: PAM MYERS