

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

*February 2, 2018*



PRES CHUCK WARD welcomed us once again to the Oceanside Rotary Club by ringing the, WAIT, what is that? What is that wonderful, melodious sound? Why, it's PP, PE, Club Secretary, and pretty much all things Rotarian RENEE RICHARDSON-WENDEE ringing a brass gong to start the meeting! It turns out it was a gift from the visiting Thai District

Governors who graced our club with their presence last month, thanks to their connections to our very own ANCHISA! RENEE went on to say that it was her understanding that the gong should be presented to the club secretary for safekeeping, and not to be entrusted to the club President. We're not sure if that was just the current incumbent, or in perpetuity, but in any case, it was RENEE who struck the gong.



Not to be robbed of his time in the sun, CHUCK proceeded to ring the bell with his (replacement?) gavel, proudly pointing out that at least he still has that gavel in his possession...For now.



PP VICKIE PROSSER led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our nation's flag.



DAVID NYDEGGER then gave us what was billed as an inspirational moment. He told a story first related to him by a friend of his who was a monk, but who later renounced his vows and became a teacher. An old man and a young boy were walking to town with their donkey, and the boy was riding the donkey. As they passed by, people said, "Look at that: the boy is riding the donkey, and that poor old man has to walk!" So they switched, and the old man rode the donkey and the young boy walked, but the people said, "Look at that poor little boy!" So they both get on the donkey, but then people said, "That poor donkey, he has to carry both of them!" So they got off and together carried the donkey; but as they carried the donkey over a bridge, they slipped, the donkey fell off and drowned. And the moral of this story is that if you try to please everybody you'll lose your ass... (We were not exactly sure how this tale related to Rotary, or even to "inspiration", but in DAVE's defense, CHUCK admitted that he had forgotten to ask anyone to prepare a Rotary Moment for the meeting, and he was canvassing the room for someone to ask, and DAVE volunteered at the last minute. At least the story had a funny ending!)



PP BILL DERN led us in song, pointing out that he at least had SOME notice that he was going to be called on for this task - all of 38 minutes to think about it. SO, we sang BILL's two favorite songs, "Smile", and "God Bless America".

CHUCK then welcomed JANET BLEDSOE LACY, who had just come in, and said “Hello, JANET. Thanks for joining us!” (The “finally” was left unsaid...)



On a related note, club member AJ MAZARRELLA was unable to attend our meeting, but he texted a photo to PRES CHUCK showing that, even though he wasn't there, he was wearing his Rotary Pin!

## **CLUB UPDATES**



Our esteemed President Elect RENEE then gave us some club updates:

This coming Friday, February 9th is our special Sweethearts meeting. Be there for songs and games and special gifts. 

Friday, March 9th will be our annual Military Awards luncheon with the Fallbrook Rotary Club. This year the luncheon will be at El Camino Country Club. Please plan to attend to honor the military awardees from Camp Pendleton and San Diego.

Saturday, March 24th: Planning ahead: all Rotarians, Board Members and Committee Chairs please mark your calendars for the next District Assembly. Grab a new member and bring them along or grab an old-timer and bring them along as well! Remember we are in a club leadership crisis and the District Assembly will inspire you to soar as a Rotarian! The District Assembly starts at

8:30 AM and adjourns at noon. If you would like to have lunch as a group on the way home, please let RENEE know so she can plan.

On a sad note, CHARLES ADAMS contacted RENEE and let her know that his and LILLIAN's daughter recently passed away suddenly, and they also had lost their son within the last three months. CHARLES is also going thru Chemo, but the doctor says that he'll likely live to a ripe old age and "die of something else." CHARLES felt well enough to call and apologize for not having sent his Rotary dues as yet, but he still plans to do so. Please keep CHARLES and LILLIAN in your thoughts and prayers.

### **VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS**



DAVID NYDEGGER introduced our speaker BUCK RAMSEY as another Navy veteran, as well as DAVID's granddaughter PARKER BENNETT, who is in her first year at Mira Costa College. She was leaving the next day on a trip to Italy, Spain and the Netherlands!



PP BILL DERN introduced former member RUDY VAN HUNNICK. BILL then introduced visiting Rotarian HUGH THOMPSON and his wife ALLYN, and their friends DON & KATHLEEN MILLER, all of whom we'll hear more about later.

BILL followed up these introductions by leading us all in a hearty rendition of the Oceanside Rotary Welcome Song.

### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

There was one February birthday celebrated at the meeting: LYN CORDER. As usual, PRES CHUCK gave LYN three envelopes to choose from for a birthday



present (coffee for two, appetizers at CHUCK's favorite Italian restaurant Fratelli's, or the fabled dinner for two at 333 Pacific, which nobody has as yet seen even though we're more than half-way through CHUCK's year). LYN chose envelope #1, which contained a gift certificate for appetizers at Fratelli's. CHUCK then asked LYN, "How happy are you that you have a birthday this month?" When LYN seemed to hesitate, CHUCK followed by saying, "This is Rotary after all", to which JOHN HARTMAN was heard to mutter, "Says the carpet salesman!" LYN was \$69 happy about her birthday, into which we won't read too much information. We all sang "Happy Birthday" to LYN, led by our stalwart songmeister, BILL.

There were two wedding anniversaries: JOHN HARTMAN (26 years) and RON MARBEN (1 year). When CHUCK asked JOHN how happy he was to be married 26 years this month, he muttered something about his wife's two Doberman puppies, and the fact that he had just paid the \$100 fine CHUCK levied on him several meetings ago, but he did confess to being \$26 happy about his anniversary.



Some confusion then arose about RON's anniversary, since only his anniversary was on the list prepared by our esteemed and nearly infallible Club Secretary. But if it's RON's anniversary, then it has to be ANCHISA's anniversary, too, wouldn't you think? RENEE was quick to point out that, "Any Rotarian in the club can go to their profile on the District website and update the information. That's where the anniversary information comes from, after all!" ANCHISA fessed up that it is indeed her anniversary as well, and the happy couple said that they were \$20 happy between the two of them.

We also had some club anniversaries, but CHUCK said we'll do those at another February meeting since there was a lot on the agenda still to come.

### **NEW PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS**



We had the distinct and unique pleasure of presenting a Paul Harris Fellow to DON and KATHLEEN MILLER. This award was presented to them as a special expression of appreciation from HUGH THOMPSON, our visiting



Rotarian from Arizona. After RENEE presented them with their Paul Harris Pins and Certificates, HUGH spoke about their support for the annual bicycle ride that raises money for Rotary International's polio prevention and eradication program. He said that thanks to dedicated people like DON and KATHLEEN, their Rotary Ride has raised \$47M over the last twelve years, and \$11.7M last year alone. People from all over the world participate in what has become Rotary's largest fundraising event in the United States. Congratulations, DON and KATHLEEN, and thank you, HUGH, for letting our club participate in bestowing this honor!

### **HAPPY DOLLARS**



PP JAY CRAWFORD was \$10 happy. He recently travelled to Austin, Texas and visited his brother JACK. JAY also had a cataract removed, so now he says that on a clear day he can see Chicago!



ERNIE MASCITTI had two \$20 happy dollars. For the first \$20 to Rotary International he was sad that he has missed some recent meetings, but he's just been happy the last couple of years. He recently had oral surgery with complications, but they gave him steroids and pain pills, and for some reason he's been super happy ever since! He said the second \$20 happy dollars were for DIEGO DOBSON, who was at Oceanside High with ERNIE bright and early at 0700 on Monday and Tuesday to listen to interviews with students for RYLA. DIEGO added that the OHS experience was "Awesome!"



DAVID NYDEGGER was \$20 happy that his granddaughter PARKER is going on such a great trip, but sad that his roommate is leaving. PARKER did so well with AP classes in high school that she is already going to be a college sophomore, so because of her educational accomplishments she is able to take some time off and travel.



PP TERRI HALL was \$20 happy that her granddaughter AVA's string quintet won a recent competition, which means that they get to go on to the statewide competition. AVA also went to the Grammys in New York last weekend, and while there she had a tour of Julliard School of Music and got a lesson from the

upright bass instructor! TERRI is just hoping AVA doesn't end up going to Julliard, since it's a long way away!



PRES CHUCK then singled out DALE MAAS and had him come to the front of the room so everyone could admire his golf outfit. CHUCK asked him, "How happy are you that you can come right off the golf course to Rotary?" DALE allowed that he was \$5 happy for that privilege.



RUDY VAN HUNNICK was \$20 happy that he was back from being out of town.



PAM MYERS was \$20 happy that her heart surgery and recovery is all over, even with the scars to remind her. She was also happy to announce that her granddaughter is selling Girl Scout cookies, so if you want any let her know and she'll bring them to a meeting.

ANCHISA FARRANT was \$20 happy that she has visitors coming February 19th, and that she got to spend a week with the district governors from Thailand, who also visited Oceanside Rotary at a special event at the Rancho Carlsbad Clubhouse.

CHUCK then called on himself to say that he was \$20 happy that we had that special Paul Harris presentation.



## **OPPORTUNITY DRAWING**



BOB PICKREL won the opportunity drawing, but he couldn't find the joker - He drew the Jack of Hearts instead. CHUCK said that the \$10 consolation prize could buy him and DARLENE dinner for two at Taco Bell tonight.

## **PROGRAM**



CHUCK then introduced our speaker, BUCK RAMSEY, who told us about the Midway Museum in downtown San Diego where he is a docent.

The Midway moved to San Diego in 2004. On Trip Advisor the museum is listed as the 5th most popular museum in the country! The Midway was commissioned September 10, 1945 and decommissioned in June 1992. It was the flagship for Desert Storm in the Persian Gulf. The museum has set attendance records each year for the last 7-8 years - Last year there were over 1.4 million visitors. They get lots of school kids, and they have expanded classrooms for grades 2-8. These classes give students school credits for attendance. The Midway has electronics labs, and science classes in physics, geometry, and weather.

BUCK graduated from Austin University, joined the Navy and became a supply corps officer. His Vietnam service started in Da Nang in 1969, where he was assigned to Seabee staff. In 1975 the Midway stood off the coast of Vietnam and was part of the rescue of refugees from Saigon. His presentation was about that Saigon rescue and the evacuation from the embassy, an operation called "Operation Frequent Wind". He said that one of the refugees they helped to rescue was a 14 year old girl named Stephanie, who is now also a docent on the Midway!

BUCK showed portions of a very interesting video about that operation and the refugees arriving on the Midway (due to time constraints he was unable to show the video in its entirety, but anyone interested should visit the Midway Museum for more!) He related several vignettes from the video, like the story of two Vietnamese boys trying to get out who were separated from their parents, and

without any ID they wouldn't have been allowed into the embassy to have a chance of being rescued. They grabbed suitcases that had been discarded that had ladies clothes in them, and after searching the suitcases the guards figured they must have been there with their mother so they let them through.

In addition to the Air Force CH-53 heavy-lift helicopters ferrying refugees from the embassy to aircraft carriers off the coast (one of them the Midway), there were also many South Vietnamese UH-1 "Hueys" arriving on the deck also carrying refugees. There were so many helicopters that some of them ended up being dumped off the deck to make more room.

One harrowing incident was when a South Vietnamese officer flew his wife and five kids out to the Midway in a small Cessna airplane. The ship turned into the wind to give him 30 knots of wind-over-the-deck, and he made a deck landing without a tail hook - The ship's crew ran out to help him stop in time to avoid going over the edge of the flight deck. And out came little kids. On the video was the voice of the air boss at the time, and he said it was the most dangerous 30 hours he had ever seen.

BUCK donated two passes to the Midway Museum to the Club. CHUCK said they will be auctioned off next week for Valentine's Day. (Because can you think of a more romantic gift for your Sweetie than a visit to an aircraft carrier?)



CHUCK then presented BUCK with a gift created by TERI Inc. and our very own ANCHISA, with our appreciation for an interesting and informative presentation.

CHUCK then closed the... WAIT! Instead of our standard brass bell closer, it was a Gong by RENEE on the Thai brass Gong! It was at that point that CHUCK realized that he had his replacement gavel nabbed sometime during the meeting! Again! Oh, the Humanity!

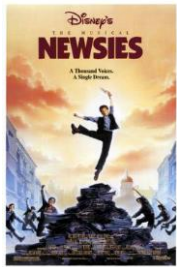
CHUCK, not to be deterred, then rang the bell (with a butter knife) to "officially" close the meeting at 1:35.

## **TIME TO CHOOSE OUR SUMMER MOONLIGHT MUSICAL**

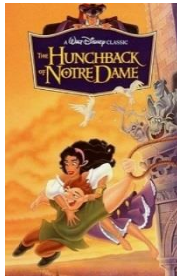
Believe it or not (since tickets for the summer season go on sale so early in the year), it is time for us to choose which of the musical productions we want to see at the Moonlight Amphitheatre. Here is the lineup:



MAMMA MIA! June



DISNEY'S NEWSIES July



DISNEY'S HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME August



CHICAGO THE MUSICAL September

ALL of these shows would be excellent choices for our group, but we do have to choose one. So please let Event Chair TOM BRAULT know by email ([tombrault2@gmail.com](mailto:tombrault2@gmail.com)) which of these shows you may be interested in seeing. We will choose the one with the most expressed interest, and we will be making that choice within the next couple of weeks, so contact TOM right away!

## **COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY**

February 9 – Sweethearts Day

*Featuring Music and Song and a Valentine's Day game for all. PLUS a "special gift" for all Sweethearts in attendance*

Reporter: JAY CRAWFORD

February 16 – KATHLEEN CATON – Savory Spice Shop, Encinitas

Reporter: JANET BLEDSOE LACY

February 23 – Regular meeting, Speaker TBA

Reporter: A.J. MAZZARELLA

March 2 - Regular meeting, Speaker TBA

Reporter: PAM MYERS

March 9: MILITARY AWARDS WITH FALLBROOK ROTARY

Reporter: VICKIE PROSSER

March 16: COL. JOHN POLIDORO

Reporter: JIM SCHRODER

March 23: USS MIDWAY, Part 2

Reporter: TOM BRAULT

March 24: DISTRICT ASSEMBLY, San Diego (8:30 am to Noon)

March 30: DARK for Good Friday