
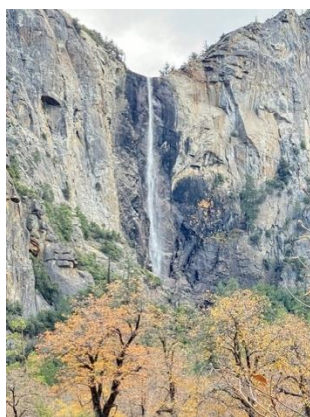
 <p>THE MAGIC OF ROTARY</p>	<p>ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE</p>		
<p>2024-2025</p>	<p>Tom Brault Editor-in-Chief</p>	<p>Santa's Elves Photographer</p>	<p>Tom Brault Reporter</p>
			<p>CO-PRESIDENTS Janet Bledsoe Lacy Paul Wendee</p>

## ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT SPECIAL HOLIDAY EDITION

Our Oceanside Rotary elves have been so very busy this special season, with travel, and club projects, and just plain holiday fun!

On the travel side, Shorelines is catching up on MIKE WESELOH's latest road trip – a visit to Yosemite National Park in late November. In his note accompanying these documentary photographs, MIKE noted, *“Just beautiful, incredible, amazing. One of the very best National Parks !!!”*, and after enjoying these spectacular shots from his adventure there, we have to agree!



In early December, we wrapped up our drive to collect toys and gift cards to make the Christmas season a bit brighter for the families being served at the Women's Resource Center. Here are a few photos of this year's haul, along with Project Chair DALE MAAS's wrapup report:

*"I delivered the gifts and monetary donations to the WRC. They were over the moon and appreciated our continued support.*

*As you can see from the pics, we had a truck load of stuff that will definitely make a difference this year.*

*In addition we were able to provide financial support. Between Breakwater's donation, Nikki and my contribution, as well as a couple other gift cards given by our Rotarians, we donated just under \$2,000.*

*Thank you all "Rotary" for continuing to support this great cause."*



A few days after that generous delivery, on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, a veritable chorus of club members and special folks in their lives arrived at the home of DALE and NIKKI MAAS. There munchies were munched, drinks were drunk, and vocal cords warmed up before the whole gang paraded through the streets, knocking on doors, and regaling the unsuspecting neighbors with a selection of festive Christmas carols, with BILL DERN oft times leading the singing and DARREL LARSON strumming along on his guitar. (Rumor has it that JAY CRAWFORD was quite a talent on the jingle bells.) What a remarkable experience. I mean, when was the last time any one of us had gone door to door caroling?



Then the next morning, Saturday December 14, a few Rotarians still filled with the holiday spirit met up with Santa Claus and an elf from the North Pole Rotary (...OK, he was actually from Carlsbad) to assist with the annual "Boat Rides with Santa" fundraiser at Oceanside Harbor. As you can see from the photos below, it was a glorious, sunny, but brisk(ish) winter's day at the waterside. A perfect day to take a 20 minute trip around the Harbor with the jolly man himself.

And RENEE RICHARDSON forwarded this followup email:

*"Oceanside Adventures just emailed me to let me know that they are sending the Club a \$2,000 donation from the Boat Rides with Santa event that we participated in.*

*Oceanside Adventures exceeded its previous records with 500 riders!*

*A big thank you to all who came out and participated on Saturday!!"*





As if that wasn't enough holiday cheer and volunteerism for our own "Energizer Bunny" Rotarian RENEE, who just keeps going and going, on December 27<sup>th</sup>, she and PAUL WENDEE ventured up north ... Not to the North Pole, but to the North part of Los Angeles County, to take part in a time-honored and classic New Year's tradition for Rotary International. Let's give RENEE the last word in this special holiday edition as she describes the doings of that day....

*"Hello from Pasadena !!*

*I am attaching some pictures from the event we attended today (December 27) - RI Float decorating 2025. I registered and was surprised when we showed up for our 8 am to 4 pm shift to find that we were paired with 17 members of the Big Bear Lake Interact club plus two International Scholars from Japan. One of the scholars is hosted by the Carlsbad Evening club. Paul was delighted to have that many students to talk with. In typical fashion he didn't lack in supervising skills."*



*{EDITOR'S NOTE: Yup. We can see how busy and productive PAUL appears to be in his solo photo.}*

So now you can see why we felt the need to put out this special holiday edition of the Shorelines newsletter ... There were just so many fun and memorable Oceanside Rotary holiday experiences which filled our calendars and filled our hearts with the joy of the season.

Here's hoping that you and yours have a marvelous New Year ahead in 2025!

