

# ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE

### **SHORELINES**

Tom Brault Editor-in-Chief Vicke Prosser Photographer Bill Dern Reporter



PRESIDENT Renee Richardson

# January 13, 2017



With a loud triple ringing of our Rotary club bell, President RENEE RICHARDSON welcomed everyone to Oceanside Rotary. (Think she was performing a club hearing test?...I think we all passed!). RENEE invited DAVE NYDEGGER to the podium to offer words of inspiration.



DAVE shared some favorite quotes from 60 Minutes television personality, Andy Rooney. "I've learned in life it is more important to be kind than to be right."... "I've learned that sometime all a person needs is a hand to hold and a heart to understand"... and referring to the San Diego Chargers move to Los Angeles, DAVE shared this last quote from Andy Rooney: "I've learned that money does not buy class".

Pres RENEE shared that DAVE and TERRI HALL had a loss in their family. TERRI's sister in-law passed away while living in Hawaii. That leaves her brother raising three grandchildren alone. Please keep them all in your thoughts.



Pres RENEE asked PAM MYERS to lead us in our pledge of allegiance. PP VICKIE PROSSER, our songmeister for the day, led us in "Singing in the Rain" (no dancing) and "Smile." (Yes, some folks smiled – most especially one of our speakers ANGELO.)

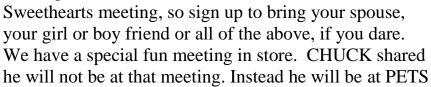


#### **CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Decked out and proudly wearing his Paul Harris Rotary pin (Way to go CHUCK for wearing a Rotary pin to our meeting!...Of course the question arose: "Was CHUCK a Paul Harris Fellow?"...After an exhaustive search of the club's records it was confirmed that CHUCK earned his PHF in March 2001), President Elect



CHUCK WARD reminded us that the February 10<sup>th</sup> club meeting will be our



in Los Angeles. Past Pres JAY CRAWFORD advised him not to take his pet along. Following a few more comments about furry companions, CHUCK cleared things up by letting us know that "PETS" is the President Elect Training Seminar for his upcoming Rotary year as club President.

(Good luck trying to train CHUCK! Although I suppose a couple of treats and a few "Good boy!"s could go a long way toward better behavior.)



# **VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS**

Joining us today were "special" guests, DIEGO DOBSON introduced by JOHN HARTMAN and RON MARBEN introduced by Past Pres JAY CRAWFORD. LARRY HATTER introduced for the last time as another "special" guest, A. J. MAZZARELLA.



Past Pres MIKE CURTIN introduced our speakers, ERIC LOVETT and ANGELO THAL. More about them later. PP VICKIE led us in our "Welcome Song".



#### **BOARD MEETING REPORT**

Pres RENEE reported the board added JANET LACY and BILL DERN as members of the board. The board also approved publishing prospective members DIEGO DOBSON's and RON MARBEN's names in the Shorelines as the last step before induction into our club. (You know the drill. You now have 10 days to submit any concerns you may have about either of these nominees to any board member.)



#### **INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBER**

Noting that A. J. MAZZARELLA'S exhaustive criminal background check cleared, we can finally induct A. J. into our club. (O.K. The real cause of the delay was finding a Friday when A. J. and his sponsor PP VICKIE PROSSER could be at the same Rotary meeting.) Pres RENEE shared the following:



"A.J., we have been looking forward to you joining our Rotary Club. You will find that the Club can be a cheering section when things are going well and a support system when they're not. A.J. works for BergElectric as Human Resources Manager for 2500 employees. He comes from Ohio where his two brothers and parents live. A. J.'s favorite hobby is fishing with an emphasis on deep sea fishing. He also likes golf and is looking forward to being an active member of our club, already joining us on Service projects in the community."

Pres RENEE then presented A. J. with his Rotary pin and informational packet. RENEE welcomed A.J. to the Rotary Club of Oceanside and as of that moment, he was the newest Rotarian in the World. A standing ovation welcomed A. J. to our club.



Deviating from her agenda, Pres RENEE then welcomed GORDY WITZ's arrival to our club at 12:50 p.m. (We like to kid GORDY about coming to our meetings late, but the fact is that GORDY comes and we do appreciate it. Thanks GORDY for making it to our meetings!)

# FINES AND HAPPY DOLLARS

PP VICKIE PROSSER was \$20 happy that A. J. joined our club, glad to reconnect with members after nearly a month, and told us that at 3 A.M. after the election, she woke up and decided not to retire. Luckily JACK FELLER hadn't even started searching for a replacement and he and his wife BUNNY are thrilled to have VICKIE stay on as his aide.

PP TOM BRAULT had \$5 in gratitude for the vocal warm-ups our club provides each week. Whether it be the high tenor offered by PP BILL DERN or the low alto provided by PP VICKIE PROSSER, you never know what key you'll get. It stretches his vocal cords.



LES NEWQUIST was \$10 happy to live in Southern California and not in the east. His children traveling recently had numerous



weather related delays including flight cancellations while trying to get home. Thankfully, we don't have that here.

"Special" guest RON MARBEN updated us on ANCHISA FARRANT's activities this week. She is hosting the Rotary Governor Elects from Thailand while they are completing their District Governor training in San Diego. This includes picking them up at the airport and taking them to their hotel, showing them around San Diego and providing any assistance they need. (ANCHISA



does this with such grace and always with a big smile. It is appreciated by the visitors from her former country and displays the true international spirit and goodwill of Rotary. Well done, ANCHISA!)

Pres RENEE then recalled an important piece of club business and reminded our newest member A. J., that we are a "fine" Rotary club, fining him \$20. (It's just our memorable way of saying welcome, A. J.)

# **PROGRAM**

Pres RENEE introduced ERIC LOVETT. Eric has nearly 25 years of leadership experience with non-profit and charitable causes across the United States. Since founding Urban Street Angels in 2012, he has spearheaded the organization's growth with a keen eye toward expanding the scale, scope and impact of its efforts to eradicate youth homelessness in San Diego and beyond. His mission is to help end youth homelessness in



San Diego by 2020. (As with most club programs, members really miss the essence of the program when they are not present. The following are some of the highlights of his presentation.)

ERIC is from Alabama and was raised in a preacher's home. For years, he was a Christian musician, traveling and performing up and down the east coast and in Nashville. Although

successful, he always felt a hole in his heart, so he became involved in non-profit organizations. When he came to San Diego, he was looking for a non-profit to help the youth. San Diego has between 2500 and 3000 homeless youths, making it either 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked city for youth homelessness in the nation. In 2012, he started Urban Street Angels. Initially they provided food, water toiletries, sleeping bags etc. to homeless youths once a quarter. Now they go out every Friday night and help between 75 and 100 youths. It has expanded to include emergency shelter along with informing the youth of the various opportunities for help in the community. They work with other groups like Lifeline in helping our homeless youth. They also provide longer term housing for the 17-25 year olds they serve.

As an offshoot of the parent group Urban Street Angels, they have created a sustainable business named 8 West. It provides a job program, along with supportive housing and mentorship for homeless youth who want to help themselves and feel ready to engage with caring and supportive adults. 8 West produces a unique line of premium, handcrafted, organic fair trade soap made by the homeless youth in our community. This program helps our youth to embrace new skills, cultivate a work ethic and propel them to a brighter future. After a period, some youth are ready to enter the community on their own with job skills and work ethics.

In 2016, the County of San Diego became aware of Urban Street Angels' efforts and provided funding for his program. Many of the homeless youth have a distrust of adults, having been abused and/or abandoned by them. ERIC's organization provides outpatient therapy to help the youth rebuild trust, learn a job skill, get an education - all to provide them hope for a better tomorrow. ERIC shared many stories of local homeless youths. They vary from teenagers with little or no education to older youth with college degrees who have been victimized.

ANGELO THAL is a participant in this program. He is a 19-year-old from South Sudan. ANGELO's parents brought his family to America to better their life and get away from the war in his country. After a few years, his parents went back to Sudan, leaving ANGELO confused and depressed. One day he decided to come to California. He rode his Huffy bicycle from the streets of Phoenix to San Diego. When he arrived in San Diego, he would sleep in garages to stay warm. One time he found an old wet suit and used that for warmth. One day in Pacific Beach he met a man while at an



8 West shop who helped him get off the streets. Now his immigration status is getting cleared up and he can go to school to get his GED and attend college.

Questions: What are the funding sources for this program? ERIC shared that 45% comes from the County. About 18% goes for overhead. The budget has expanded from \$68,000 in 2012 to \$420,00 in 2015. The largest portion is the county contract for \$220,000, which funds 30 beds and the food the youth eat.

Question: How does job placement work? ERIC states he has contacts in the community that let him know of job opportunities and how the youth can fit in.

Thanking them for this wonderful program and all they do in San Diego, Pres RENEE gave ERIC our thank you gift and another round of applause. As they were posing for the picture, Pres RENEE suggested she was the rose between two thorns as she stood between ERIC and ANGELO. From the audience came the suggestion that maybe it was 2 roses around 1 thorn, for which we received a withering presidential frown.

#### **OPPORTUNITY DRAWING**

JOHN HARTMAN held the winning opportunity drawing ticket and, in a classy act, handed it over to our guest ANGELO telling him, "You're a winner, ANGELO!" Hoping to draw the ace for the \$51 pot, he drew a Jack but happily kept the \$10. Thanks, JOHN for demonstrating the kind and generous nature of Rotarians to our guest.



With the ringing again of our bell, Pres RENEE brought our meeting to a close.



# **COMING UP AT OCEANSIDE ROTARY**

January 20 – NICOLE MILLER, Principal of Mission Vista High School

Reporter: DAVE SHORE

January 27 – BILL PROTZMAN, Power of Music

Reporter: TOM BRAULT

February 3 – MARIA MINGALONE, Oceanside Museum of Art

Reporter: SUSAN BROWN

February 10 – SWEETHEART'S DAY! (Coordinator: NANCY RUSSIAN) Bring your 'Valentine, spouse, significant

other, friend' to celebrate Valentine's Day at this special meeting starring our very own Rotary

Couples.

Special treat for all in attendance.

Reporter: JAY CRAWFORD

February 17 – JOHN COX, Rescue California Education Foundation

Reporter: LOLA SHERMAN

February 24 – SUSAN LAWSON, Solutions for Change

Reporter: JANET BLEDSOE LACY