

January 26, 2018

The Secret Society of the "Deep State" of Rotary has once again exerted inordinate influence over our hapless President CHUCK WARD and his woebegone gavel. When this Secret Society gathers, these all-powerful members of Rotary from all around the region come together in private to....uh, wait a minute.... BREAKING NEWS A clarification of this report in progress: It appears that this particular Secret Society which is messing with CHUCK has a membership of just one individual. This mystery person is said to be "the real power behind the throne, with close past and future ties to the Oceanside Rotary presidency." Your reporter wonders who that might be????

President CHUCK WARD opened the meeting by very, very loudly ringing the bell like a freaking gong, and, looking right at your reporter, CHUCK ordained that the Shorelines must report this as a MANLY bell ringing. Although this was indeed an impressive display of strength and courage by the president, your reporter did notice that the Secret Society had briefly left the room at that moment, and most likely the president noticed the same thing, which may have emboldened him.

President CHUCK modestly announced that we are the most prestigious and longest lasting Rotary club in Oceanside. It had been predicted that the club would not last for six months after CHUCK took office, and yet here we are.



SUSAN BROWN led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROTARY MOMENT:



MELISSA RODRIGUEZ was called to the podium for her Rotary moment and confided that she had completely forgotten that she had been scheduled to do this. Therefore, her talk was a bit off the cuff, however, still very moving and well presented.

MELISSA shared what she has been struggling with on a personal level recently. She spoke of how much she loves the Christmas holiday season and everything that goes with it. She loves opening presents, eating and drinking with the family, hanging out in pajamas and sweatpants, and playing games throughout the day. Christmas is her favorite day and time of the year. This past year, however, MELISSA had been very busy with work and realized that she had pretty much missed the whole Christmas season experience. She shopped only online for presents and attended holiday parties as a checklist. MELISSA acknowledged that she has found herself on the "hamster wheel of life" - moving faster and faster, but going nowhere.

MELISSA lives in Orange County and travels to work and back 40 minutes each way. As a routine, MELISSA will often listen to audio books while traveling. In January she ordered a book called *The 4-Hour Workweek* by TIMOTHY FERRISS. She had been listening to this book and became painfully aware that she needed to make changes and stop putting off life.

(Melissa was very loquacious discussing this book, causing President CHUCK to observe that Rotary was about to have a four-hour Rotary meeting.)

MELISSA then took the hint and quickly concluded with two quotes from the author; "A person's success in life can usually be measured by the number of uncomfortable conversations he or she is willing to have" and "The most fulfilled and effective people I know – world-famous creatives, billionaires, thought leaders, and more – look at their life's journey as perhaps 25 percent finding themselves and 75 percent creating themselves."

DOES SOMEONE NEED TO TAKE GINGKO BILOBA?



From the category of "I may be slow, but I will figure it out eventually", or "Fool me once...", well into the meeting President CHUCK noted that his memory might not be the best on this, but the gong sound from his gavel sounded somewhat different to him, convincing him that the gavel he was holding was not his real gavel, which he swore he recalled he had won back. (Perhaps

another hint was that unlike his gavel, this particular gavel did not have his name on it.) Anyway, our President reluctantly agreed that his memory must have been faulty, and his actual gavel must actually be M.I.A. ... AGAIN! At the suggestion of a Rotary member (...perhaps the one who actually has the real gavel?) it was recommended that a reward be offered for the return of the gavel and President CHUCK though that this is a fabulous idea. (Where is the Secret Society when you need her?)

SONG:



President CHUCK, with the wisdom that comes from years toiling in the carpet business, wisely observed that there is "always a first time" for everything. Today was the first time for new Song Meister A.J. MAZZARELLA to lead the chorus, and A.J. was clearly up for the challenge, jumping up on the table and loudly exclaiming, "BRING IT ON BRAULT!". With great fanfare, our new Maestro led us in a rendition of I GOT YOU BABE by Sonny and Cher. I GOT YOU BABE was in honor of National Spouses Day. (Your reporter was not impressed.)

Proving that he may be old, but he is experienced, our Song Meister for Life TOM BRAULT stepped up and left the less experienced newbie reeling as we sang MY OLDER FAVOURITE THINGS, which included references from Botox to nose drops, and Cadillacs to cataracts. Okay BRAULT, YOU WIN!!

CLUB UPDATES:

a. Bring your Sweetheart to Rotary on Friday, February 9th, Event Chair NANCY RUSSIAN promises us a fun filled meeting with lots of songs and extras and even gifts for our sweeties!

b. No Board meeting on February 9th because RENEE will be away at PETS! c. Planning ahead - All Rotarians, Board Members and Committee Chairs, please mark your Calendar for Saturday March 24th for District Assembly. Grab a new member and bring them along or grab an old-timer and bring them along as well. Remember our club is in a leadership crisis and District Assembly will inspire you to soar. Starting time in San Diego is 8:30 AM, adjourns at noon. RENEE is planning on lunch once we are back in town if you'd like to join in the journey!

VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS:



Dr. TOM CURTIN



KAREN HUBER (a local artist visiting our club again)



KEITH HARWOOD (recently retired from the USPS)



DOUG SCHULTE (our speaker) DAVE VREILAND (President CHUCK'S neighbor)

RUBBING ELBOWS WITH GREATNESS



President CHUCK announced that "Oceanside Rotary is blessed with a celebrity and a certain news reporter in our midst." That news reporter is LOLA SHERMAN. President CHUCK noted that LOLA has contributed so much of her time helping to publicize our Crown Heights efforts that she had to be punished. LOLA was five dollars happy, wryly

noting that CHUCK had told her about this fine amount before the meeting.



The celebrity is LARRY HATTER. LOLA wrote the story for the San Diego Union Tribune. LARRY HATTER is the recipient of the 29th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Award presented by the City of Oceanside. LARRY was humbled and surprised by this award. With gracious humor, he thanked his reporter LOLA SHERMAN, his

publicist JIM SCHRODER (who had nominated him), and his "ballot box stuffer" JANET BLEDSOE LACY. LARRY also thanked the person that has raised \$10,000 so far for our Crown Heights mentor project through District matching grants, DAVE HALL. LARRY noted that Rotary is making a difference, one student at a time and was \$250 happy to have been honored with this award.

President CHUCK suggested and club members readily agreed to put some money on the table from each of us as a further donation for our efforts to help Crown Heights.

You can read LOLA'S story of LARRY's award at the following link: <u>http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/communities/north-county/sd-no-lola-column-20180117-story.html</u>

PRESIDENT'S STUFF:



Well, it appears that we have a couple of birthdays this month. RENEE RICHARDSON and JIM SCHRODER were given the honor of coming to the podium and reveling in their agelessness. Fines of \$26 and \$72 seemed to do the trick, although your reporter is unable to recall who paid which fine.

{** There is some other information that SHOULD HAVE been mentioned here, but that our President failed to relay to us, because somehow his copy of the meeting's agenda never made it to the podium. Perhaps it is for the best that this information got skipped, because it actually may have included some "Fake News!" ... But be assured, dear readers, the Shorelines has the scoop on this InfoGate scandal, and you can read all about it at the end of this newsletter.}



DAVID NYDEGGER took a moment to remind us that our March 9, 2018 regular meeting will be a joint meeting with the Fallbrook Rotary. This is the annual military awards meeting and is well worth attending.

NANCY RUSSIAN reminded us that the February 9, 2018 meeting is Sweethearts Day, in honor of Valentine's Day. NANCY reminded us to bring our significant other to this meeting. (Your reporter is still not impressed).



RAFFLE:



The tag team of RON MARBEN and TOM BRAULT held the lucky tickets and faced off in a "high card draw" to see who would get the chance at the \$500 prize. RON's 9 topped TOM's 8, but the rest of the cards topped RON who failed to find the Joker. And so, \$10 was handed out and \$500 remains on the table for the next time.

PROGRAM:



SUSAN BROWN introduced our speaker DOUG SCHULTE.

DOUG SCHULTE is a volunteer for the Huntington's Disease Society of America, San Diego Chapter and a caregiver to his wife who suffers from advanced Huntington's Disease (HD). For 13 years he has been involved locally with the HD community, giving support to families and participating in fundraising events. For the past 3 and a half years he has been educating first responders and healthcare workers about HD. DOUG has given talks at both the HDSA national convention and the San Diego convention. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in business management from SDSU and is a retired captain for the San Diego Fire Department.

HD is one of the most cruel diseases based upon the experience of our speaker. It mimics several other debilitating diseases as well as mimicking someone appearing to be under the influence. HD is a fatal genetic disorder that causes the progressive breakdown of nerve cells in the brain. HD deteriorates a person's physical and mental abilities during their prime working years and currently has no cure.



HD symptoms are often described as having ALS, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease simultaneously. Over time, HD affects the individual's ability to reason, walk and speak. Symptoms usually appear between the ages of 30 to 50, and worsen over a 10 the 25-year period. Ultimately, the individual succumbs to pneumonia, heart failure or other complications. Symptoms include personality

changes, forgetfulness, unsteady gait, involuntary movements, and slurred speech with difficulty swallowing.

HD appears to be an inherited disease with every child of a parent having a 50/50 chance of carrying the faulty gene that will cause this illness. Today, there are approximately 30,000 symptomatic Americans and more than 200,000 individuals at-risk of inheriting HD. Suicide rates among those with HD is three times higher than in the general population.

There is only one nursing home in San Diego County treating those who have this progressive disorder which affects both the motor skills and cognitive abilities. That facility is located in Santee and the cost of care there is \$17,000 per month. It is also difficult to get admitted to this facility, meaning that there are many people with HD who are not adequately treated.

UCSD Huntington's Disease Center of Excellence; <u>http://hd.ucsd.edu</u> is staffed by a multidisciplinary team of medical professionals who specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of persons affected with HD. This team includes neurologists, psychiatrist, clinical nurse specialist, neuropsychologist, a social worker, center coordinator and dietitian.

Our speaker has made it his mission through the San Diego Chapter to educate first responders about the symptoms of HD and how to properly handle confrontations. Those with HD often have verbal confrontations and inappropriate behavior because of the disease. It is important for first responders to better understand the symptoms so the individuals can be handled more respectfully and compassionately.



President CHUCK thanked DOUG for an excellent and enlightening presentation, and bestowed upon him our speaker gift of a TERI, Inc. potted plant. Then the bell was LOUDLY gonged once more (with the stunt gavel) to close our meeting.

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) 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!

** WHAT IS ALL THIS ABOUT AN "INFO-GATE" SCANDAL?

(Apologies for the length of this expose, but we believe that inquiring minds might



want to know more about this developing club scandal....)

I'll bet you did not know that your Shorelines newsletter not only faithfully and diligently reports what is presented at our meetings, but we also have a crack team of investigative journalists on staff who dig deeper to get to the bottom of what is happening at Oceanside Rotary. And this week, although our

President CHUCK may not have had his copy of the written agenda (which

resulted in his once again breaking from the established norms of governance), Shorelines was able to obtain an agenda for reference. We can therefore report with assurance that not only did our president omit some important facts in the "President's Stuff" segment, our analysis of the documents show that he had been planning to disseminate some questionable (and most likely provably false) information at this time - a.k.a. "Fake News."

The omitted material (which has been crosschecked with previous records and verified for accuracy) is that, beyond the Birthdays which President CHUCK announced, there were also some Wedding Anniversaries for our members that went unreported: MIKE and LAURIE WESELOH have been married 38 years, and SUSAN and GARY BROWN for 28 years. We can accept that this omission may have been a simple oversight. But the Club Anniversary section which followed on the official agenda (a vitally important document which came straight from the President's Weekly Brief) was much more troubling, and Shorelines has been digging deeper to try to get to the bottom of the potential discrepancies that we have uncovered.

With 43 members in the club, on average any given month should have only around 3 club anniversaries. So when the "official agenda" listed fully FIVE members as having joined in January (A.J. MAZZARELLA – 1 year; SUSAN ASATO and JANET BLEDSOE LACY – 25 years; BOB PICKREL – 40 years; and LARRY HATTER – 48 years), that alone was slightly suspicious. And so Shorelines has started to pore over past years' January records.

In January of 2017, there were actually 2 *additional* new members inducted (RON MARBEN and DIEGO DOBSON) who somehow failed to make it onto this year's anniversary list. How can the records be so wrong on this just one year later? And with 2 more members added to the list, that brings us up to 7 January anniversaries, which is *MORE THAN TWICE* the expected monthly average number. The plot thickens!

Paging back to 2016, in that year's newsletter reporting, there were TWO MORE members on the January anniversary list who unaccountably were not included on this year's list: MIKE CURTIN and (wait for it) ... CHUCK WARD himself! Is this evidence of our president personally engaging in obstruction of justice???

At this point, the Shorelines investigators got simultaneously tired and depressed and ceased looking over the newsletter archives. However, as corroborating evidence, the Managing Editor of Shorelines is willing to testify under oath that he, too had been erroneously listed as a January anniversary for years until he personally insisted upon the correction of his entry in the official database to the historically accurate date of August 3. Plus, there is this entry from the 1/8/2016 edition of Shorelines: "And there were a few other members who were certain that they were NOT inducted into Rotary in January, despite what the club's records might say." How many of the other listed "January anniversaries" are also "alternative facts" which should be corrected?

And so, we must ask: Is this just a glitch in the database? Or could the Secret Society be deliberately inserting false information about who joined in January into our Rotary records? And if so, for what purpose? Is it simply a stealthy political attempt to create chaos and to undermine the faith and trust of the members of Oceanside Rotary in our system? Or are there undisclosed financial incentives at play here to try to force members to cough up "anniversary" fines in order for the administration's budgets to look better at the beginning of each calendar year? We may never know the full truth, but that won't stop your Shorelines investigative team from continuing to ask the tough questions!

ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

Earlier we mentioned "Rubbing Elbows with Greatness." Well, NANCY RUSSIAN and her husband LUIS might not have actually gotten to "rub elbows", but they at least shared the same airspace with some truly great actors and directors at the Palm Springs International Film Festival from January 2 thru January 16. They saw 42 films! (If you are interested, their top four picks, which all were given a perfect 10 out of 10 rating by NANCY and LUIS, were: *Phantom Thread, Itzhak, Ayla-The Daughter of War, and Maktub*) And, as you can see in the last picture, amongst the acclaimed stars they got to spend time with were MERYL STREEP, TOM HANKS, and STEVEN SPIELBERG. Wow!



RENEE RICHARDSON sent along some photos from the District 5340 Rotary Social on Saturday January 27 at the Agua Hedionda Discovery Center in Carlsbad. Close to 200 people attended this high energy event, and it was a rockin' time with pizza and beer and wine and the JP Hennessy Band! RENEE reports that *"We danced till after 10:00! We're just working at getting rid of our "Old Man's Club" image!"*





And last up for this week's Out and About report, BILL DERN also seemed to be having a blast as he and his wife KATHY celebrated BILL's birthday at the Disneyland Resort, highlighted by a character breakfast (where his big day was celebrated by Dale, the Chipmunk), and a fabulous dinner and dessert at the gourmet Napa Rose Restaurant (which boasts a number one food ranking in the Zagat Survey for Orange County restaurants for several years), served by their favorite waiter there who just happens to be named "Mickey."





COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

February 2 – DICK WALKER – Midway (part 1) Reporter: DAVE HALL

February 9 – Sweethearts Day 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