



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

2023-2024

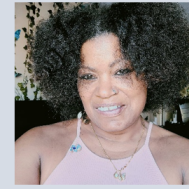
ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE

SHORELINES

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PRESIDENT
Shor Denny

JANUARY 26, 2024

I thought that our Rotary wine event wasn't supposed to be until February 8 at our Valentine's Social No, wait. I got my homophone wrong. Not "wine." This week's Oceanside Rotary meeting started with a "WHINE" event, as President SHOR DENNY clanged the bell with a dinner knife while wailing, "Can I please have my gavel back???", followed by a world-class pout. "Please, please, please! It's worth everything to me!" If the Gavel Grabber was in attendance, he or she was not sufficiently moved by this plea and the lost gavel remains out there, somewhere.



Since this week we were meeting in the board room of the country club which is much smaller than and much further away from our normal gathering space, our normal banners were not put up for display. So, any without visual aids to help us out, SHOR led us in an attempt to recite the Rotary Four Way Test from memory. I guess the repetition at each meeting this year has helped the message to sink in, because most of us were able to stumble through the four points without too much trouble. This was followed by Co-President Elect PAUL WENDEE leading us in the Pledge to the Flag, the words of which we have memorized even better.

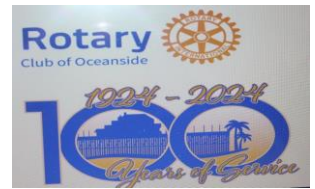
Our second serving of Whine saw our gavel-less leader grumbling, "Your president is not happy today!" before she called up Secretary RENEE RICHARDSON to share our **CLUB UPDATES**.

- Our induction of WENDY VAZQUEZANZUA (transferring to us from Rancho Bernardo Rotary) as a new Oceanside Rotarian will take place at a future meeting due to a death in her family calling her away.
- The President Elect Training Seminar will be attended from February 1-4 by our leader-to-be PAUL WENDEE (for his first time at PETS) along with RENEE (for her umpteenth time).



- Thursday Feb 8th Valentine's Celebration at Coomers Craft Wine starting at 5:30 pm. Candy invitations were placed on each table to make it easy for us to invite our sweethearts out for an evening of camaraderie and charcuterie. Cost is just \$35 per person. LUIS and NANCY will once again be our hosts, and they promise there will be gifts for everybody and lots of prizes up for grabs. **RSVP to RENEE ASAP.**

- Feb 9th - Dark Meeting
- Feb 16th – Board Meeting on Zoom at noon
- Feb 23rd – Regular Meeting at El Camino Country Club
- Saturday March 9th – District Assembly at Liberty Station from 8:30 am to noon
- Saturday April 20th - Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the 100th Anniversary celebration of Oceanside Rotary at Heritage Park from 11 am to 2 pm. Partners and vendors are already RSVP'ing for booth space. Posters and handouts and flyers are available for us to spread the word around town. If you have or know a business which could prominently display a promo poster, you can get one from RENEE.



ONE SINGULARLY SWEET GUEST

Maybe it is because everyone knew that we would be meeting in a small room, but we only had one guest come to this meeting. ED PARISH introduced his “sweetheart” ANNE SPERAW, a



very familiar face to us. When President SHOR asked for a volunteer to lead our welcome song, TOM BRAULT jumped up to offer a tune that is not our standard welcome, but was appropriate, given ED's intro of ANNE – “Let Me Call You Sweetheart.” SHOR must not have been too impressed by that choice, as she opined after hearing our rendition, “That was ‘interesting.’”



AN UPDATED ROTARY BADGE

TINA ORTIZ was called up to receive a new badge with her updated vocation prominently featured – “Foundation Development Specialist.” TINA told us what she has learned so far about her new job at MiraCosta College, helping to track the College Foundation's accounts and fundraising. She has been on the job for only a couple of months and is looking forward to learning and doing more.



PRESIDENT'S STUFF

Want yet another taste of Whine? ... Here is how SHOR introduced this section of the meeting: “Now it is time for President’s Stuff, but I don’t feel like the president. I DON’T HAVE A GAVEL!! Please give it back! Or should I just let the gavel have fun?” ... recalling the memorable time when “Indiana Gavel” went on a series of adventures. Then she tried to feel the crowd out for a suitable ransom amount to offer up for its return. She started at a measly \$1 and was practically laughed out of the room. THOMASINA JACKSON acted like a fast-talking auctioneer: “\$1 ... Do I hear 5?” SHOR soon tendered a new offer: “How about \$10?”, and a heckler countered with “Do you mean \$10 per person that is here today?” Seeing that she was getting nowhere in her negotiations, SHOR moved on to the real business at hand, expressing her pride in the club’s contributions to the hygiene supplies collection drive, with lots of stuff brought in to the meeting and more pledged to come. The deadline for contributing to this is February 8, and one option is to have Amazon deliver your purchased items directly to RENEE’s address, to save having to physically lug stuff around yourself. RENEE mentioned that the District might be holding a “sorting party” to organize the donations for eventual distribution, and she will let us know if details on that become available.



HAPPY DOLLARS



- President SHOR kicked off the Happy Dollars segment by grousing, “I’m sad because of my gavel” and was instructed in no uncertain terms to “Stop whining!”
- A very generous and forgiving ED PARISH offered \$1 toward SHOR’s gavel recovery efforts.



- Our “illustrious A.G.” MELISSA RODRIGUEZ was \$5 happy to be back with us after two months away from our meetings. For part of her time away, she was traveling to Paris. Ooh la lah! C’est magnifique!

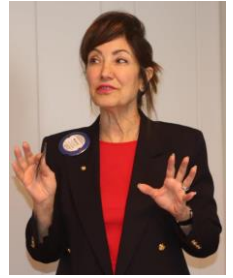


- THOMASINA JACKSON had 5 happy dollars that her “baby” was in Doggy Day Care.

- TOM BRAULT forked over \$8 – One dollar for every performance he will be in at Palomar College Theatre as they stage the Gershwin musical “Crazy For You” from March 7 to 17. Tickets at www.PalomarPerforms.com



- NANCY RUSSIAN was \$5 proud of her granddaughter MADELINE who is vying for top honors in her group by selling 250 boxes of Girl Scout cookies. (And only \$108, or 20 of those boxes worth, of her sales came from Grandma NANCY's supportive wallet... We were assured that most all of those 20 boxes were donated by NANCY, and that she and LUIS do not have a personal stockpile of Thin Mints stacked up in their garage.)



- SHOR DENNY wrapped up Happy Dollars time with “One more plea”, although she tried to reframe the situation by suggesting, “I am happy that the gavel is gone. Now I don't have to worry about it!” Well well well. Whining didn't seem to work. Does she think that this reverse psychology will have an effect? It is tough to know what might be the breakthrough strategy with this Gavel Grabber. Stay tuned

LOCAL MAN PRESENTS INTERNATIONAL ROTARY PROGRAM



Our Program Chair JANET BLEDSOE LACY did the honors of introducing our speaker for the day who, as a dead giveaway clue, “is also married to our Secretary.” Yes, our presentation was from none other than JANET's soon-to-be partner-in-crime Co-President Elect Dr. PAUL WENDEE, who had an impressive list of credentials for JANET to read through before he launched into his

talk showcasing three separate Rotary-related international trips which he and RENEE have taken over the years. But first he had to iron out the kinks in the AV equipment which seemed to want to flash through his entire collection of photos in practically the blink of an eye. (Perhaps it was a form of subliminal advertising??)



Just the previous weekend, our two intrepid members joined up with other Rotarians from 4 or 5 clubs from the U.S. to visit two projects down in Tijuana, B.C., Mexico as part of a “Dia de los Reyes” event. Our club had made a \$500 donation to the good work going on down there. The local hosts went above and beyond to ensure the safety and comfort of their guests, picking them all up on the American side of the border and transporting them to the two sites. On Friday they toured the most advanced cancer treatment facility for children in the region. Treatment at this facility is done at no cost to the patients, and most is performed on an outpatient basis, but there are wards available for more extended clinic stays, if needed. On Saturday, the group was shown around a facility serving handicapped children from desperately poor backgrounds. One of the photos which PAUL displayed showed a 15-year-old receiving his first hearing aid, provided by Rotary, which literally opened up the world of sounds to this grateful patient.

Witnessing firsthand the benefits which Rotary can make possible for those in need really can open your eyes and fill your soul!



Next there were slides from their 2017 trip to visit Rotarians in Thailand where they were greeted by more wonderful Rotarian hosts. As RENEE remarked, when you visit Rotarians abroad “they treat you like royalty!” Arrangements for this trip were coordinated by ANCHISA FARRANT through her contacts in the area. While in Thailand, PAUL and RENEE taught English in classrooms for about two weeks, allowing the students the opportunity to practice being engaged in conversation. But this visit was not confined to just their volunteer efforts. Other memories were made and photographed including an elephant ride as well as attending a wedding with 2000 guests and a massive 10 foot tall wedding cake. Wow!

More “Wow” moments were to be had on their 2021 expedition to Mexico with about 150 Rotarians working in partnership with the organization Project Mercy as the group built 10 houses in just one day. The foundation slabs had been laid previously, but over the course of just a few hours and utilizing modular materials brought to the site, this amazing project upgraded family dwellings there from simple ramshackle shacks to sturdy and attractive homes. PAUL apparently ended up with plenty of paint on his hands and his clothing to prove that he had taken part in this very hands-on service project.

PAUL encouraged each of us to consider joining in on future international work trips through Rotary. Several opportunities will doubtless be planned to work with our sister district 4100, which spans all the way down to Cabo San Lucas (Baja California, Baja California Sur, Sonora, and parts of Sinaloa). One current international service example: every Saturday Rotarians meet up (either in person or on Zoom) with middle or high schoolers in Mexico to help them improve their English skills by practicing conversations.

Another option for service with an international flair would be the upcoming District Conference in April. Attendees will take some time out during this cruise to Ensenada to go ashore and participate in a local Rotarians at Work effort. This year they will start up the initial work on a project which is planned to be an ongoing effort.

In true presenter mode, PAUL wrapped up his program with a story which gave us all a good laugh. It seems that one of his fellow college professors shared an evaluation which he had received from one of his students: “If I only had one hour left to live, I would want to spend it in your class, because it always seems to last forever.”



As an addendum to this program, JIM SCHRODER reminded us of several of the past projects which Oceanside Rotary has worked on in Mexico in the past, including our bicycle restoration and donations as well as our work with orphanages south of the border.

LEFT HANGING ON THE RESULTS OF THE OPPORTUNITY DRAWING

After President SHOR read off the winning number, and hearing no one in the room claiming to hold the lucky ticket, ROGER VANDERWERKEN finally got out his glasses to check the string of tickets left behind on the table when NANCY RUSSIAN went out into the hall to take a phone call. Yup. The number was hers, alright. While we patiently waited for her return, we killed some time with another reminder of our next opportunity to gather together – the February 8th Valentine Social at Coomers Craft Wines. Then we heard the latest on LOLA SHERMAN who, after surgery and a stint in a rehab facility, is back in her home with a caregiver onsite with her. She is not receiving physical therapy visits yet, but that should be starting up soon. If you have some time to call or text or visit her, we are sure that she would appreciate the contact and/or the company, since she misses being with us.

The impromptu reporting then moved on to hearing about the recent passing and the memorial services for our Past District Governor CHUCK PRETTO – a good man and a great Rotarian who will be missed.

Finally, NANCY reentered the room, a bit surprised that she immediately was the focus of all of our attention. “I should go out for a phone call more often,” she joked. As she glanced at the deck spread out on the table for her to pick from, she noted, “Gee. There’s a LOT of cards there!” (That’s what happens when our jackpot was so recently won – A completely new deck had been started and we were only one card into it at this point.) Alas, after all that patient waiting, NANCY did not find the Joker, so she received the \$10 consolation prize and donated it straight back to the club. (Funny I would have guessed that she would want to use that extra cash to buy some more Girl Scout cookies!!!)



With that drawing business finally concluded, President SHOR adjourned our meeting with a little ding from a dinner knife, once again lamenting, “I wish I had my gavel back!” (So much for her attempt at “I’m glad it is gone” reverse psychology which lasted all of about 40 minutes.)

GET YOUR VOTE IN NOW FOR THE “ROTARY NIGHT AT THE MOONLIGHT 2024” SHOW IN THE SUMMER

Since tickets will go on sale in just a few weeks, we need to get serious about planning our annual group trip to the Moonlight Amphitheatre to enjoy a musical under the stars. Here is the lineup of shows coming to Vista ...

May – *INTO THE WOODS* – Sondheim’s classic of intertwined fairy tale stories and characters

June – *ESCAPE TO MARGARITAVILLE* – A wacky tale woven around Jimmy Buffett’s tunes

July – *SCHOOL OF ROCK* – Based on the 2003 film, with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber

August – *BEAUTIFUL, the Carole King Musical* – A jukebox musical telling the story of the early life and career of the songwriter

September – *TOOTSIE* – An updated musical version of the 1982 Dustin Hoffman comedy film

Tickets will go on sale on March 11, so we will need to agree very soon on which of these fine shows to see and how many people will be joining in the fun. If we get 20 or more signed up, we can save some \$\$ with a group discount.

If you would like to join in the fun, let Event Chair TOM BRAULT know which of these shows you would like to see, ranked in your order of interest, as well as the number of tickets you would be signing up for. We will plan on securing seats for the most popular choice from the list. The cost will be somewhere around just \$50 per person to enjoy a Broadway caliber production right in our own backyard. (The final cost will depend on whether we get enough participants to qualify for the Group Discount.)

ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

Mike Weseloh sent in some snapshots from his recent adventures in Death Valley National Park. His two words, but quite appropriate review: "It's incredible!"



As if that wasn't enough spectacular scenery to share with us, he also forwarded these photos, explaining, "Stopped by Joshua Tree National Park on the way back!"



COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

Thursday, Feb 8th - Valentine's Social at Coomers Craft Wines (601 Mission Ave) starting at 5:30. LUIS and NANCY will host it. Cost \$35. RSVP to RENEE by Feb 5th.

Feb 9th - Dark Meeting

Feb 16th – Board Meeting on Zoom at noon

Feb 23rd – Regular Meeting at El Camino Country Club

Saturday, March 9th – District Assembly at Liberty Station – 8:30 to noon

Friday April 5 - Iron Man Volunteer Service Project at which we will be registering participants for the event on Saturday, April 6th. We need about 20 volunteers from Noon to 5:00 PM

Saturday April 20th - 100th Anniversary Celebration. Heritage Park (220 Peyri Drive). 11 am to 2 pm.

April 26 – 29 – District 5340 Conference Cruise