

**ROTARY CLUB OF  
OCEANSIDE**

**SHORELINES**

2022-2023

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There is an old adage, hazily attributed by various historians and scholars to either Frederick the Great, Napoleon Bonaparte, or Renee Richardson, that a Rotary Club, like an Army, marches on its belly. Well, if that is true, after Friday's meeting the members of the Rotary Club of Oceanside are fired up to march forward doing acts of service and good works all over our community! There have been more than a few grumblings that the quality of our meeting lunches has slipped recently, and we are even exploring other venues as possible options for a new home, but El Camino Country Club definitely upped their game this week with a delicious buffet lunch. Not sure if they had gotten wind of our discussions, but I'm pretty sure BILL DERN had something to do with it all. Thanks for all you do to coordinate our meetings, BILL. We sincerely appreciate it! I was so full after that awesome meal, I had to go home after the meeting and take a nap. (Wasn't it Jason Bourne who said, "Rest is a weapon"? I'm sure it wasn't RENEE...)

Speaking of moving slowly after a good meal, our usually disciplined Co-President RENEE RICHARDSON rang the meeting to order almost a minute late. Some members told me later that they believe they felt a disruption in the time space continuum when it happened.

**PLEDGE:** RENEE asked PAUL WENDEE to lead the club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Before starting, PAUL mentioned that the law allows military veterans to salute the flag during the pledge instead of the usual placing of the hand over the heart, and several of the veterans in the club took the opportunity to do just that. RENEE then mentioned that there has been a discussion to replace the Pledge of Allegiance at our meetings with a recital of the Rotary Four-Way Test instead. Club



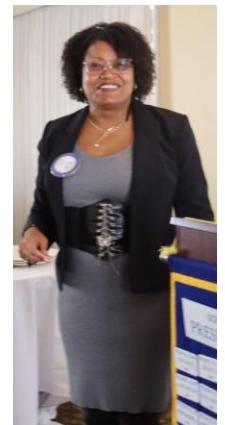
members are invited to attend a special Zoom meeting on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00 pm to discuss and vote on this proposed change to our routine. The Zoom link will be sent out by Club Runner to member emails, so if you don't get it, RENEE asked that you reach out to her. She also mentioned that if you are not receiving notification emails such as this from her, you can go on our club webpage ([www.oceansidecarotary.org](http://www.oceansidecarotary.org)) and create an account to start receiving them. She would be happy to talk you through that process, if you need assistance in this signup.

**WHO AM I?** THOMASINA JACKSON was scheduled to give her “Who Am I” presentation, but unfortunately lost her voice. We hope you're feeling better soon, THOMASINA, and we can't wait to hear all about you!

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:** NANCY RUSSIAN, who couldn't stay for the full meeting, was asked to speak to the club to promote our upcoming Valentine's Social, which will take place starting at 5:30 pm on February 9th at Coomers Craft Wine (611 Mission Ave. in Oceanside). The cost is \$35 per person and will include wine tasting and a charcuterie cup. RSVP to RENEE no later than Monday, February 6th. NANCY promised a great time for all, and RENEE even promised a special “Heartbreak Group” for those unlucky enough to find themselves attending solo, which prompted a formal protest from JIM SCHRODER, who exclaimed that some might be actually celebrating being solo! In the ensuing uproar, and scribbling as fast I could, I might have missed it but I could swear SUSAN BROWN stood up and guaranteed a wonderful experience or your money back. How can you go wrong?



**CLUB UPDATES:** RENEE called up President-Elect SHOR DENNY to give club updates. In addition to our Valentine's Social on February 9<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Zoom Board meeting on February 17<sup>th</sup>. SHOR also let us know that the next regular meeting will be on February 24<sup>th</sup>, which will be followed by an away meeting at the Veterans Association of North County (1617 Mission Ave.) on March 10<sup>th</sup>.



**VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS:** RENEE called for visiting Rotarians and guests to be introduced. She specifically pointed out one person seated at the front table who we haven't seen at a meeting for quite a long time. Turns out that she was joking, and the “guest” in question actually is still a member of our club,

and he actually is her husband PAUL WENDEE. Since this was his first appearance at Oceanside Rotary in quite a while, she quipped that she mistakenly figured he must have been a visitor. (Good one, RENEE!) We were happy to have PAUL, ANNE SPERAW (ED PARISH's significant other), and FREDDIE CHAVARRIA as repeat visitors, as well as AUDREY MASCITTI ALLEN as a first-time guest. AUDREY is ERNIE MASCITTI'S sister and is visiting from Chicago. We thank all our guests for visiting and hope they felt welcome and will return again soon! DAVE HALL led the club in a beautiful rendition of the Welcome Song, and even though I thought it was the most on key performance the club has pulled together for a while, the always striving for unique performances TOM BRAULT offered \$5 Happy Dollars if MIKE CURTIN would sing the song again in the lowest bass tones that he could muster. MIKE managed to get through the first verse before the glasses started shaking and people started ducking under the tables thinking an earthquake was happening. How do you do that, MIKE?



RENEE may have started a great new tradition when she noted that many Rotarians in our club habitually sit on either the right or the left side of the room. To “shake things up”, she asked everyone to get up and cross over to the other side of the room to greet their friends. It was really nice to do that, and I think it is a sustain for our next meeting, although I will confess to being so full after my good lunch that I initially did not really want to get up and walk all the way over to the other side of the room. But I made it! Great idea RENEE!



**BIRTHDAYS:** We missed JIM SCHRODER'S birthday recently, but RENEE didn't let him off the hook and called him up for what we learned was a traditional birthday photo for the two of them since they share the same birthday month. JIM was \$77 happy to share the



occasion of his birth with the club, while RENEE tried to stay “under the radar” this time and did not offer any clues as to her age. SHOR led the club in a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday, and out of safety concerns and not knowing the building code, no one asked MIKE CURTIN to sing it again.

**BLUE BADGE PRESENTATION:** RENEE called BRAD FISHER to the podium and presented BRAD with the coveted blue Rotary badge, which will bring an end to the hazing and harassment of the former red badger. BRAD blazed through his blue badge qualification in what might be record time. RENEE attributed that to BRAD’s awesome, yet unnamed sponsor. I don’t know who it is, but RENEE seems to think very highly of him/her. Well, whoever you are, great job as BRAD’s sponsor! *{Managing Editor’s Addendum: Actually, in this case RENEE did drop a clue that she herself was BRAD’s capable sponsor, and she practically dislocated her shoulder while patting herself on the back for her superlative new member mentorship.}*



**PAUL HARRIS PRESENTATION:** Your erstwhile Shorelines reporter was presented with the Paul Harris +2 pin for giving an additional \$1000 to Rotary International over the past year. RENEE reminded the club that if you reach your first \$500 mark of giving, the club will match that amount to put you over the top and into the ranks of the Paul Harris Fellows. Such a deal! Make your plans to take advantage of it to reach your first Paul Harris recognition while these credits are still available!



**BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:** RENEE announced that the Board had voted to donate \$500 to BROCK JORDAN in support of his Eagle Scout water conservation project which we had heard about at the last meeting, so he should be well on the way to his fundraising goal.

We also were told that BRAD FISHER will be taking over as the club’s Sergeant at Arms from ANCHISA FARRANT in July. Thanks for stepping up to serve, BRAD, and thanks for your dedicated service, ANCHISA! We appreciate both of you!

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:** DAVE HALL came forward to make a special presentation to FREDDIE CHAVARRIA. As many of you know, FREDDIE is a local O'side boy done good, with a long track record of giving back to the community as both an educator and school administrator in local schools. FREDDIE was the principal at one of our sponsored schools, Laurel Elementary, for many years and is currently serving as the Vice Principal at Oceanside High School. DAVE presented FREDDIE with several donations of support from our club, including a \$1000 check to support the OHS library, as well as two \$100 gift cards to Dave and Busters, twenty \$20 gift cards to McDonald's and a \$150 check to the OHS booster club to purchase Pirate swag, all to recognize and reward performance and potential in at risk students. FREDDIE gave some heartfelt remarks of gratitude for the support our club has given to local schools, and how much it has meant to the students. He shared a



recent story of one student who was in danger of dropping out of school, but thanks to the incentives provided by small rewards which were provided by our club, this student is now on track to turn things around and has a much brighter future. FREDDIE also presented a small plaque to our club from the students at OHS who benefited from our support of their Spanish Advanced Placement (AP) testing. AP tests are designed to give high school students college credits for advanced classes they take in high school, and most, if not all of

these students would not have been able to afford the cost of the test if it wasn't for the support provided by this club. LARRY HATTER then stood up to recognize FREDDIE for the distinction of being awarded his PhD recently, and to summarize FREDDIE's journey from local Eastside student to someone who is making huge contributions to impacting our community's youth in an exceptionally positive way. Way to go, FREDDIE! We are proud to know you, and to be partnered with you in making Oceanside a better place for kids!



**HAPPY DOLLARS:** SUSAN BROWN was \$20 happy that she and GORDON were back after a challenging few months. We're so happy to have you back!



ERNIE MASCITTI was \$20 happy to be able to spend time with his sister, AUDREY, after a long time apart. In addition to hanging out together around Oceanside, ERNIE and AUDREY also recently went on a cruise together. Sounds like fun!

ED PARISH gave \$20 in happiness for FREDDIE CHAVARRIA'S recent PhD completion.



BILL DERN was \$5 happy to hear MIKE CURTIN'S golden voice.



And finally, ANCHISA FARRANT was \$5 happy that she will be taking a trip to see her mother in Thailand soon, and also that BRAD FISHER will be taking over for her as club Sergeant at Arms in July. As part of that transition, ANCHISA will hand over her magnificent Sergeant at Arms sash to BRAD but she remained mum on whether the billy club will be a part of the package.

**PROGRAM:** JANET LACY introduced our guest speaker, CARRIE CHACON. CARRIE is the Volunteer Director for Ironman Oceanside and is also a business partner and fellow realtor with our own BRIAN LONG. Carrie started out as just another volunteer at the Ironman competition, but her talents were soon recognized by the powers that be and she quickly rose through the ranks from Captain supervising 50 volunteers to Director in charge of making it all happen, overseeing 50 Captains and over 1000 volunteers.



CARRIE gave us a fascinating history of Ironman Oceanside, which was first held in 2000 and for the first two years was run entirely on Camp Pendleton as a full Ironman, which means a swim of 2.4 miles, a 112-mile bike ride, and a full marathon run of 26.2 miles. Whew! In 2002 the race was moved to Oceanside as a Half Ironman (1.2 / 56 / 13.1 miles), where it found its permanent home and format.

This year, there are 3644 athletes registered to compete, which is the largest turnout of any Ironman around the globe. There will be over 20 countries represented and almost all 50 states, so volunteering will be a great way to meet people from all over. CARRIE also spoke about being overcome with emotion watching athletes from both the Challenged Athlete Foundation as well as the Wounded Warrior Program participate and finish the race. This year will also feature a relay option, which is a first for an Ironman. PAUL WENDEE got so excited at hearing this, he volunteered both himself and RENEE RICHARDSON to participate next year. Sounds like a terrific potential fundraising idea, PAUL!

Speaking of fundraising, volunteering at the Ironman is a great way to raise funds for our club, and our intrepid group of volunteers raised \$500 for just a few hours of work last year. Through its Ironman Foundation and its stated goal of giving back to communities, Ironman has been able to raise over \$55 million dollars for more than 10,000 local charities. Sounds like a great cause and a great time!

This year's race will take place on April 1<sup>st</sup> (No, really! I'm not Fooling!) with packet pick up, which is where we usually help out, happening on March 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. CARRIE also told us that they are having some challenges finding volunteers for the bike leg on Camp Pendleton. In addition to recommending that she attend the Military Affairs meeting at the Oceanside Chamber of Commerce, it was noted that we have several veterans in our club who may have access to the base and might be able to help out.

If you want to be a volunteer for the Ironman registration, please let RENEE know, and the club will push out updates as needed on additional opportunities to volunteer and raise funds for the club.

RENEE presented CARRIE with a lovely gift of succulents prepared by ANCHISA.



**OPPORTUNITY DRAWING:** ANNE SPERAW was the lucky winner of the opportunity drawing. Although she is a guest, she clearly knows the drill! As she was walking up, she asked, "So how does this work? I pick the wrong card and get \$10 which I donate back to the club?" Sounds like she has seen this ritual just a few times, and it played out just as she had described it. She drew the Jack of Hearts, not the Joker, so the \$1,000 jackpot remains unclaimed! And ANNE generously donated her \$10 consolation prize back to the club.



**ADJOURNMENT:** RENEE adjourned the meeting at 1:21 pm.

### **WHICH MUSICAL WOULD YOU PREFER TO SEE?**

In case you missed it in our previous Shorelines, here are the shows coming to the Moonlight Amphitheatre in Vista in the summer:

May – *Jesus Christ Superstar* – “Andrew Lloyd Webber’s iconic rock opera that redefined theater for the modern age”

June – *The Wedding Singer* – “Based on the hit Adam Sandler movie, just say ‘I do’ to the most romantic musical in the last 20 years”

July – Disney’s *Tarzan* – “An epic, high flying theatrical experience for all ages, with a heart pumping score by rock legend Phil Collins”

August – *42<sup>nd</sup> Street* – “Come on along and listen to the lullaby of Broadway – Celebrating the magic of show biz with wit, humor, and pizzazz ... and LOTS of tap dancing”

September – *Saturday Night Fever* – “Transports you back to the era of disco balls, platform shoes, and white suits. Features the timeless hits of the BeeGees along with new original songs”

We will be picking one of these shows for our annual “Rotary Night at the Moonlight” event.

Tickets will be somewhere in the \$45 to \$55 range to enjoy a night with Rotary friends at some of the best theater in all of San Diego County, right in our own backyard. You have all of February to vote for which of the shows most appeal to you. We will buy our block of tickets in mid-March, **so let TOM know by Friday March 3 which of the shows you are most interested in seeing.** We will make our reservations for the most popular choice.

UPDATE: So far, the voting is unanimous! (... But then again, so far, TOM has only heard from just one member. So, get your input in to TOM soon and see if you can sway the group’s selection to your favorite from the list.)



## **COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY**

**Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Zoom meeting to discuss and vote on the pledge to the flag and other meeting logistics

**Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>** - Evening Valentine's Meeting and Social – Coomers Craft Wine (611 Mission Avenue, Oceanside) at 5:30 PM. The cost is \$35.00 a head. RSVP to RENEE.

*Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup> – The meeting previously scheduled for this date has been cancelled*

**Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>** - Board Meeting Via Zoom at noon

**Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>** - Regular Meeting – El Camino Country Club

**SAVE THE DATES:**

**Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>** – Volunteer to help registration at Ironman event

**Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Rotarians at Work Day service project