

	ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE			
	SHORELINES			
2019-2020	Tom Brault Editor-in-Chief	Janet Bledsoe Lacy Photographer	Vickie Prosser Reporter	PRESIDENT Terri Hall

January 31, 2020



President TERRI HALL opened the meeting with the clang on her bell with her trusty knife “sharply” at 12:30 p.m. Very precise...

The pledge of allegiance was handled very precisely by **ROGER VANDERWERKEN**.



Our President then requested **ADOLPHO AYALA** to share his inspirational moment with the club. It is obvious **ADOLPHO** is a poet laureate as he shared with us his following Rotary moment:

It's been said that life is one big beautiful tapestry
 You need to look no further than my very own family
 It was not our first intent to make Oceanside our home
 But in no time at all, we were made to feel that we belong
 You see, our heart was set on another place, but then the deal fell thru
 We could have been mad, we could have been sad
 Instead, our dreams came true!
 My husband, our grandchildren, and our sweet doggie, too
 Love to play near the ocean with its warm waters so blue
 The beaches, the harbor, the open sky and open space
 The Sunset Market, Oh Oceanside, there is no better place
 I simply can't imagine a more wonderful or greater destiny
 And, Oh Yeah! There is also Rotary!

Thank you **ADOLPHO**! I love Oceanside too! Glad you're here with us now!



PP BILL DERN then stepped up to lead us in “Smile” and a harmonized version of “You Are My Sunshine”! It definitely was a wonderful day to Smile and enjoy the Sunshine!!



CO-PE DALE MAAS led the announcements.

There is a special and immediate need for someone from the club to step up and volunteer to facilitate the RYLA weekend April 17-19 this year. There is a February application deadline, and a mandatory half day (a.m.) facilitator orientation, along with the April 17-19 obligation, and all facilitators must be certified with the District as able to work with children. **ERNIE MASCITTI** has volunteered with these young people for years and wanted everyone to know it is a very rewarding experience. Please let **Prez TERRI** or **PP RENEE** know if you have an interest in this volunteer experience.

Friday, February 14th is a Special Valentine’s Day program. Please bring your sweetheart and join in the fun. Let **PP RENEE** know by February 3 if you will be bringing a guest.

Thursday, February 20th – our Third Thursday Social will be held at The Yard House in Carlsbad. The Yard House is located in the Shoppes of Carlsbad, 2525 El Camino Real, Carlsbad (the old Carlsbad Mall where the new theater is now located). It starts at 5:30 p.m.

CO PE DALE then led the welcoming of this meeting’s visitors:



PP BILL DERN introduced longtime friend and visitor **Rudy Van Hunnick**.

CO-PE MELISSA RODRIGUEZ was happy to introduce as a visitor for the final time, **Beverly Fisher**.

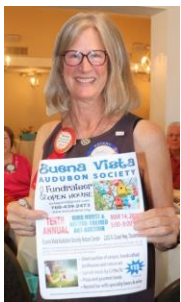
JANET BLEDSOE LACY took the opportunity to introduce **Stephanie Ledesma**, Associate Dean at Thurgood Marshall School of Law in Houston, Texas; our speaker **Honorable Judge Michael Washington**; and **Steve Miller**, candidate for Judge of the Superior Court, #22.

PP BILL DERN was thrilled beyond words to lead the group in welcoming the visitors with the song “Welcome to Oceanside.” Nicely done.

PREZ TERRI then invited **PP RENEE** to the front to induct our latest member into Oceanside Rotary. **PP RENEE** asked that **CO-PE MELISSA** came forward with the person she is sponsoring into Rotary – **BEVERLY FISHER**.



Following a brief recital of what Rotary is to each and every one of us adhering to the motto “Service Above Self”, **PP RENEE** inducted **BEVERLY** into the Rotary Club of Oceanside and charged the rest of the Rotarians present to give her our friendship and help to educate her on the responsibilities of being a Rotarian as well as the many worthwhile programs and projects of Rotary. She was also tasked with actually opening the notebook filled with VALUABLE Rotary information which **PP RENEE** lovingly compiled, as well as being instructed to wear her Rotary pin every single day and night and never ever take it off so she wouldn’t be fined, and to show she’s a proud Rotarian . . . (Just kidding about constantly wearing the pin – but ALMOST!). **BEVERLY** then received a standing ovation and offered \$10 happy dollars at becoming a member of such a “fine” club.



BEVERLY, while she had our attention already, announced that the **Buena Vista Audubon Society** is holding a **Fundraiser & Open House** on March 14 from 5 – 8 p.m. at the **Buena Vista Audubon Society Nature Center**, 2202 S. Coast Highway, Oceanside. There will be a Bird House & Nature-Themed Art Auction, Special music by CJ the DJ, pizza and gourmet treats and a hosted bar with specialty beers and wine. All for the very reasonable donation of \$15. Sounds like the place to be!

PREZ TERRI then brought out two Rotary tins of chocolate which (as we mentioned in our last newsletter) had been donated to the club by **NANCY RUSSIAN**. After some lively (?) bidding the tin filled with chocolate covered peanuts was “won” by **Rudy Van Hunnicks** for \$50 and the tin filled with almond

Hershey kisses was “won” by **PP VICKIE PROSSER** for \$30. **Rudy** then passed his tin around so everyone could sample – **PP VICKIE** did not. (Bad Rotarian, I know.)



HAPPY DOLLARS:

ERNIE MASCITTI was \$5 happy as four days before the earthquake hit near Cuba, he was right at that spot! That would've definitely been an “E” ticket ride!



Rudy Van Hunnick was \$25 happy that he had attended a Chamber event – “Meet the City” where city officials mingled with Oceanside businesspeople - at El Camino Country Club the night before where about 200 people were in attendance. He was surprised that he didn't see any of our club members there.

RON MARBEN was \$5 happy that **PREZ TERRI** didn't fine him this week. 😊



PP BILL DERN was \$10 Happy he had a wonderful birthday week with his family. The last family members left Wednesday back to England. I believe he said all his kids and grandkids were there and four out of five of the wives were able to be there. Hmmmm, **PP BILL** has been busy...

PAM MYERS was \$5 happy that next week is Heart Week and she hopes all the ladies will wear red dresses for Heart Week. I'm hoping red shirts or accessories will do because I don't think I have a red dress to my name! **PAM** has suffered two heart attacks and as she



quoted our own **BOB PICKREL**, “It’s nice to be ‘seen’ and not ‘viewed’.” She also mentioned that her grand-daughter **Samantha** is selling Girl Scout cookies so let her know what you need! Put me down for Thin Mints, **PAM!**

SPEAKER



JANET BLEDSOE LACY was then called to introduce today’s speaker, one of her favorite people in the world, **Honorable Judge Michael Washington**. **Judge Washington** attended San Diego State and Cal Western School of Law. In 2013, Governor Jerry Brown appointed Judge Washington to the Superior Court. He now works at the Vista Court, and **JANET** has had cases heard by him on many occasions. He thinks highly of her work ethic.

Judge Washington lived in Temecula for 15 years, then moved to San Marcos, and now lives in Oceanside (which he seems to like). He feels he shares many of Rotary’s ideals as he says his life’s mission is to try to serve others.



Less than 10 years ago, when he was serving as a public defense attorney, **Judge Washington** first went to Africa. He went to help train attorneys and judges in Liberia, a West African country that had endured more than a decade of civil war and was working to rebuild its justice system. Prior to this trip, the Judge was not familiar with Liberia. Turns out it was formed by blacks in the U.S. that went back to Africa and started the country. If you google the flag of Liberia, you will find it looks much like the American flag, and their capital is Monrovia, named after President James Monroe, who was our president when their country was formed.

Liberia had a horrible electrical grid – and when electricity went off at the courthouse, it went off all over the country. Very few people had generators, so when the electricity was down, it was **REALLY** down. There was no army for security as they were attempting to rebuild their country. There was no way to keep track of who had been arrested or how long they had been in jail awaiting trial. There were no court reporters. Judges had to handwrite their notes when he was there the first time. And their filing system was handwritten papers in boxes stores in the judge’s chambers - not a very easy way to keep things organized.

Many prisoners had been in jail longer than their sentences would've been for the crimes they committed, and their hearings had not even occurred yet. Because of such an inefficient system, many jailers (and indeed judges) accepted payoffs to let prisoners out of jail. It was a matter of taking care of their families that made the people accept bribes. Their pay was so low, any amount of money was welcome. It was an interesting time to be there – but the people were very eager to improve their justice system.

Judge Washington has been to Africa 19 times now – also the Caribbean and Asia. Most of these trips came as part of his volunteer work with Lawyers Without Borders, a nonprofit organization he credits with helping him “understand what it is to be a world citizen.” This program sends volunteer legal professionals – from attorneys to state and federal judges – around the world to teach other legal professionals tricks of the trade. The organization also works with legislatures to help craft laws.

Africa looks to the U.S. as an example of how they think the legal system should work. Two quotes from attorneys that had given up high paying jobs to work for much lower pay for their government in Liberia struck a chord with Judge Washington. They were:

- 1) “This is a way for me to be of service to my country.” and
- 2) A judge told him he “wanted people to see in him that there was justice in Liberia.”

At that point, **Judge Washington** decided he too wanted to become a judge. He learned from the judges in Liberia that there is an impact that he could have that goes far beyond what happens in the courtroom.

Judge Washington is now on the MLK, Jr. Scholarship Selection Committee that has their get-together at the **LACY** home every year. He is also part of JustUs Partners Foundation, a 501©(3) charitable organization that makes a difference by raising and disbursing funds and presenting awards to local nonprofits whose programs bring hope and healing to underserved youth, families and communities. For more information on this organization, you can go to www.justuspartners.org.

PP JIM SCHRODER shared that he has been in Africa nine times and although he does agree there is crime and corruption, he strongly feels it is because of a need to survive. They do something to survive – and then they get caught. It's bad all around. **Judge Washington** said there are so many stories of resilience. It is

inspiring. In Kenya, girls are not given the same advantages as boys, but a friend of his opened a school for girls and they are excelling. They are excelling – and sharing their knowledge with others.

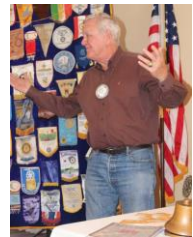
ROGER VANDERWERKEN asked the Judge his thoughts on the American impeachment hearings. Judge Washington said he really isn't at liberty to get into the politics of things but stressed how important it is to stay aware and to follow what's going on. "Our strength is our engagement."



PREZ TERRI thanked **Judge Washington** for a very informative and well received speech and gifted him (and **Stephanie** too) with their choice of Cheetos or Chocolates. They both chose Chocolates! And **Judge Washington** chose the book Gets a Break to sign and be donated to one of our schools.

DRAWING

DAVE NYDEGGER held the winning card, but drew a Jack of Clubs, so left with the \$10 consolation prize.



The meeting was officially knifed closed at 1:35 p.m.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT RYLA:

What to Expect at RYLA:

- **An “outdoorsy” experience:** RYLA is held in a camp-like environment in the mountains, meaning there will be lots of outdoor activities and a fair amount of walking around (reasonable accommodations will be made as needed).
- **Hello, roomie:** Facilitators stay either in the bunkhouses with the students or in shared cabins with other facilitators.
- **Long (but fun) days:** Days are full, with activities starting early in the morning and continuing until around 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Sunday wraps up around 2 p.m.

- **Rain or shine:** Weather can vary from late spring snow flurries to hot and sunny.
- **No time for office check-ins:** You will be focused on your 7 to 9 family members the entire time. Make arrangements to cover any work or personal obligations prior to arriving at RYLA (plus cell coverage is spotty and wifi is not available).

COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

February 7: COUNCILMEMBER ESTHER SANCHEZ
Reporter: Schroder

February 14: ANNUAL SWEETHEARTS DAY MEETING hosted by NANCY RUSSIAN
Reporter: Shore

February 20: Third Thursday Evening Social, 5:30 pm
Yard House in the Shoppes of Carlsbad, 2525 El Camino Real, Carlsbad

February 21: **Regular Meeting DARK**

February 28: TOM BRAULT, Extended “Who Am I?”
Reporter: Sherman

March 6: TBD
Reporter: Brault

March 13: TBD
Reporter: Myers

March 19: Third Thursday Evening Social, 5:30 pm
Fratelli’s Italian Kitchen, 3915 Mission Ave, #12, Oceanside

March 20: **Regular Meeting DARK**

March 26: AWAY MEETING AT FALLBROOK ROTARY

March 27: **Regular Meeting DARK**

