



July 12, 2024

As our brand new Madame Co-President **JANET BLEDSOE LACY** rang our club bell with her “Indiana Gavel” which was tied around her neck, fellow Rotarians promptly stood and walked out of the meeting as a sign of proper “respect” for our new President. After a few minutes, Rotarians returned to their seats and mumbled “You still here?” (Some traditions never die! We are glad you are here **JANET**.) Co-President **JANET** shared a couple of stories about aging (Boy, aging is certainly in the news a lot lately!) before inviting **TINA ORTIZ** to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance and then **TERRI HALL** to lead us in the 4 Way Test.



CLUB UPDATES

Secretary **RENEE RICHARDSON** provided club updates:

LESLY ADAMS' Mom is having some issues post-surgery. **NANCY RUSSIAN** is recovering from hip surgery and should be back by October. **JIM SCHRODER** is recovering from eye surgery. Please send them a quick note or call to brighten their day.

Friday, July 19th Board Meeting via Zoom. Let **Renee** know if you would like to attend.

Friday, July 26th Regular meeting with Rotarian **DAVID CASH** from District 4100, sharing about the English Reading Lab

Friday, Aug 9th Regular meeting with **JASON VENTETUOLO** from Solutions for Change

Friday, Aug 16th Board Meeting via Zoom

Friday, Aug 16th Club social...night at the Moonlight Amphitheater to see “Beautiful: The Carole King Musical.” A couple of tickets in our group order have become available if you would like to attend. Contact **RENEE** or **LES** if you would like to join fellow members in a delightful evening of music and fellowship. And, if you are not up for the theater that night, you could still consider joining the gang at their planned pre-show dinner at Chin’s Szechwan in Vista. Contact **TOM BRAULT** if interested in the dining opportunity.



Friday, Aug 23rd Regular meeting with District Governor **DIANE CRAWFORD**

VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUEST

TERRI HALL introduced **SHERRI SINGLETON**, a return visitor and hopefully, a new member.



Keeping it in the family, **DAVE HALL** led us in our “Welcome” song.

PRESIDENTIAL STUFF

Co-Pres **JANET** asked for volunteers to serve as our photographer at meetings since she cannot be at the podium and behind the camera at the same time. (Come on **JANET**, a women’s power person like you can’t do both?) Please contact her if you can help, be it regularly or part time, or even just occasionally. We need your help.

RENEE RICHARDSON presented the Club’s El Toro Award to **ANCHISA FARRANT**, whose personality and love for Rotary has lit up our club. Congratulations **ANCHISA**.



Co-Pres **JANET** shared that our club is participating with **CODY TRIMMER** of the Salvation Army, who spoke to us earlier this year about the Salvation Army Backpack Drive. This year their organization is trying to distribute one hundred backpacks filled with appropriate school supplies to needy students. He has provided thirty-eight backpack requests which **RENEE** has specific information on, including what is requested for each backpack. Backpacks are to be distributed on July 27th from 11 am to 2 pm, so please bring your filled backpacks to the July

26th meeting at the latest. If anyone would like to participate or has questions, contact **RENEE** to receive the specifics for this worthwhile project.

BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES / CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Celebrating a birthday with fellow Rotarians were **JAY CRAWFORD** who was \$88 happy and **TINA ORTIZ**, who was \$62 happy. **JIM SCHRODER** led us in singing Happy Birthday.



Celebrating 41 years of marriage was **DARREL LARSON**, who was \$45 happy.

DARREL LARSON is also celebrating his second year as a Rotarian. (Thank you, **DARREL**, for jumping in with both feet and becoming an active member of our Rotary club and congratulations on your selection to join the Oceanside High School Hall of Fame this fall.)

HAPPY DOLLARS

ANCHISA FARRANT was \$30 happy for receiving the El Toro Award and for taking care of a friend's pet while they were on vacation and receiving \$600.



DAVE HALL was \$10 happy to be here and offered free tickets to tonight's performance of "Footloose" at the Brooks Theatre. Rotarians were invited to see him if interested.



LOLA SHERMAN was \$5 sad as punishment for her phone going off during the meeting. (Ah...another old custom remembered!)

LES NEWQUIST was \$10 happy to share that his daughter went to a destination wedding in Paris, France recently. Luckily, her husband was a pilot for Delta which helped.



CLUB ASSEMBLY

Resembling a moderator at a Presidential debate, Co-Pres **JANET** laid down some strict guidelines for the presenters to follow during the club assembly, and, just like in past presidential debates, the guidelines were ignored.



First up was **BILL DERN**, President of the Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation.

BILL reminded Rotarians that we have three opportunities to support Rotary in our community. The Club donations which are used by the club board for worthwhile projects, Rotary International donations which can be tax deductible and supports international and district projects through matching grants, and our Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation which can also be tax deductible and supports projects our Foundation Board feels are appropriate. Last Rotary year, the Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation granted the following:

\$3500 Tri-City Pantry for Thanksgiving food baskets

\$2500 MiraCosta College Resilience Fund to help struggling students

\$500 North Coast LBGT+ Center

\$500 Lifeline

\$500 Operation Hope North County

\$5000 First installment of a 10 year commitment of annual donations to the Oceanside Museum of Art to renovate the museum

Total = \$12,500

The Foundation board also developed an investment policy to ensure long-term funding for future projects is maintained through proper investments. **BILL** also noted we now have an “Unspecified” account for Foundation donations. Unless otherwise noted, all donations will go into this account and will be available immediately to fund appropriate projects. In closing and in deference to **LES NEWQUIST**, the Foundation Treasurer, **BILL** asked Rotarians to donate a minimum of \$20 at a time to the club’s foundation. This makes accounting easier for the treasurer. **RENEE RICHARDSON** also reminded members to write on the check where the donation is going as it prevents the potential for confusion later. And with that, **BILL** left the podium to a thunderous ovation. (Maybe members really enjoyed the informative presentation or were just glad it was over!)

Next up was **DARREL LARSON** who discussed our Club’s planned October fundraiser entitled “GROW...A Brighter Future”, a fundraiser that will directly

impact the lives of students in Oceanside. The evening event at Co-Pres **JANET BLEDSOE LACY**'s home will include food, wine and drinks, and an opportunity to win vacation packages and includes a live auction. So mark your calendars for October 12th from 6PM to 8PM and be ready to support this major fundraiser. All proceeds to go to Oceanside Rotary. More information will follow.



DARREL also gave an update on a water project with the Tijuana Rotary Club. Two distributions to a couple of hundred families of water filters were completed. According to a doctor in the community, prior to the water filter distribution, over 90% of the community he examined had gastrointestinal issues. After the distribution of the filters, all affected person's symptoms disappeared, and the community no longer must purchase water. (What a meaningful, direct impact on people's lives through Rotary!)



RENEE RICHARDSON provided an update on the Rotary International Foundation. She reminded us that we, as a club, need to achieve a certain level of donations for us to be able to participate in District and International grants. The target amount is \$100 donated per member per year. (The easiest way is to make this happen is to set up an automatic donation through your checking account or credit card. You can donate \$10/month like **RENEE** or \$25/quarter like **BILL DERN** or any amount you wish. This keeps it automatic and painless.)

RENEE also asked members to update their Rotary ClubRunner information including email address. Club distributions of informational emails are made **ONLY** using ClubRunner. Currently 49% of our members are not on ClubRunner, so they do not receive timely updates about club activities. So please update your profile on My Rotary and ClubRunner. Feel free to contact **RENEE** if you need help.

Next up was Co-Pres **PAUL WENDEE**. **PAUL** was in Las Vegas at a convention so appeared via ZOOM. Sadly, members could not hear his presentation on Launch Oceanside. Hopefully, he will make that update presentation in person at some time in the future.





Rounding out our presentations was **DAVE HALL**, providing us with a matching grant summary. This year our club will donate \$3200 and the district will match with \$3200 towards our Literacy Grant. After consulting neighborhood schools concerning their needs, and with that \$6400, we are supporting Mission Elementary Library and Laurel Elementary Library with \$1000 each for books along with \$1000 to Lincoln Middle School Library and \$750 to Oceanside High School Library. We continue our work with children in Crown Heights by exposing disadvantaged students in middle school to other alternatives to life other than gangs. Eleven years ago, **LARRY HATTER** came up with an idea of Mentorship trips with students from Lincoln Middle School. We take these at-risk kids to sporting events and plays at MiraCosta College and Cal State San Marcos. The trip also includes a tour of the campus by college students and a nice dinner afterwards in town. Sometimes the students giving the tour are from Crown Heights themselves, and their perspective is valuable to the middle schoolers. (Hopefully we can also bring back the Camp Pendleton tour, taking a bus load of kids to tour Camp Pendleton.) **DAVE** encouraged members to volunteer to be a mentor on one of these trips. We also give money to North County Lifeline for their stay in school program. When one of their students graduates from Oceanside High School, they receive a lei made up of fifty \$1 bills to wear at graduation.

Secretary **RENEE RICHARDSON** invited **DANA ALBERT** forward and officially welcomed him to the club as he is transferring from the San Marcos Rotary Club. Welcome **DANA**. You are already making an impact on our club.



DANA then presented the Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation with a check for \$1,500 from the San Marcos Rotary Club Foundation for our club's participation in the Goat for Joe Golf and Mental Health Resource Fair. **DANA** also had checks for 2 other groups that were not represented at today's meeting, \$500 for **CARRIE CHACON**'s "Real Hearts Give" foundation and \$500 for **ROGER VANDERWERKEN**'s Breakwater Community Church.



OPPORTUNITY DRAWING

DARREL LARSEN held the winning ticket but only drew the Queen of Spades.

With that Co-Pres **JANET** rang the bell and the first meeting of 2024/25 was over.



ROTARIANS ON PARADE MAKES THE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Check out this article with photos which was posted in District 5340's recent "NewsBits" weekly online newsletter, describing the North County Rotary Clubs' participation in the Oceanside Independence Parade.

ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

MIKE WESELOH has been quite the jetsetter lately! This time, though, he was not visiting historic battlefields. Instead, he ventured out to explore the plains of Africa.

*"Some photos from our recent Africa safari.
Visited camps in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Botswana.
Incredible sights, different terrains, sunsets, beautiful!
And the beautiful and magnificent Victoria Falls !!"*





COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

Friday, July 19: Board meeting on Zoom at noon

Friday, July 26: Noon at El Camino Country Club - Regular meeting. Program = Rotarian David Cash from District 4100 who will present his work in Tijuana, Mexico, entitled “English Reading Lab.”

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