

	<p align="center">ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE</p> <p align="center">SHORELINES</p>			
<p align="center">2016-2017</p>	<p align="center">Tom Brault Editor-in-Chief</p>	<p align="center">Anchisa Farrant Photographer</p>	<p align="center">Dave Hall Reporter</p>	<p align="center">PRESIDENT Renee Wendee</p>

June 30, 2017

DEMOTION 2017 – RENEE RICHARDSON WENDEE



Well, PP TOM BRAULT, Master of Ceremonies and Playwright Extraordinaire did it again! Thanks to TOM and his supporting cast of hundreds (... well tens ... well maybe 10 or so Oceanside Rotarians), we successfully demoted now Past President (again) RENEE WENDEE and promoted now current President CHUCK WARD with fun, frivolity, TOM-foolery, and a song-filled evening!

After allowing an hour for members and guests to get suitably sluiced up at the bar so they could fully enjoy the entirety of the program, TOM kicked off the show at exactly 7:00 PM. Or he tried to: It took a number of us clinking our water, wine and booze glasses loudly to get the attention of the crowd (PP BILL DERN complaining all the while about the “dud of a glass” he got, which only gave out a dull “clunk” when he’d hit it with his spoon). And even then, TOM had to shout out, “Settle down, Chuck” before the general roar subsided sufficiently to start the proceedings (I think that’s probably a sign of the year to come, don’t you?).

Since TOM was the only one dressed to the nines (in a tux with Disney vest and bow tie, of course), he had to explain: “I realize I may be a little overdressed for this occasion. But you see, last weekend I was receiving a standing ovation for singing at Carnegie Hall in New York City, so I decided to wear the same tux here for good luck. Tonight, I am here with you folks at the Oceanside Rotary demotion at El Camino Country Club. From Carnegie Hall to Oceanside Rotary? Yessir, I am really moving up in the world.” Sure, sure, TOM – just slumming tonight, I guess...



Of course TOM had to start the party off with an original song for Renee (to the tune of Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band):

*It was 22 years ago
The last time we put on this show
We will once again demote Renee
But she never really went away
Because our Woman of the Hour
As Secretary still held all the power
So let's demote her good and hope she'll finally fade away!*

*It's Rotary Renee's Demotion Show
We're here to do it all again
Rotary Renee's Demotion Show
Let's hope her reign of terror ends
Rotary Renee has seen her final day
And with any luck she'll finally fade a – way
Rotary Renee Hey!*



PP JIM SCHRODER then took the floor and pointed out how RENEE just couldn't wait to get her two cents in on planning her demotion! Way back in March, RENEE sent an email to our "Roastmaster" Tom Brault with two pages worth of notes in small font, listing a whole bunch of her ideas for the demotion dinner... Clearly, she wanted

CONTROL! So naturally, much of the evening was spent totally out of RENEE's control!

We always start every one of our club gatherings with the Pledge of Allegiance, and for that service we enlisted someone who just a few months ago made a special and very different kind of pledge– a life-long pledge to RENEE, in fact. We all stood and our soon-to-be-Ex First Man PAUL WENDEE led us in the Pledge to the flag.



PP JAY CRAWFORD then led us in a song Well, sort of.... Our incoming President CHUCK called in some favors and had a video version made of JAY's unforgettable tribute to "Oceanside, My Oceanside", so we popped it up on the screen and sang along with the words provided as captions below beautiful scenes of Oceanside that were coordinated with the words! Great job, JAY and CHUCK!



With those basic preliminaries out of the way, we got right to dinner. And what a dinner it was! Most of the crowd had the salmon and/or steak that RENEE unilaterally decided we would offer as the entrees (see wanting to have control above!), but PP TERRI and I were treated with a

special vegan meal, complete with grilled tofu, avocado tempura, and all the trimmings! What a treat, and what an awesome Country Club that they were able to pull that off! Thanks to RENEE and BILL DERN for ordering that up for us!



VISITORS AND GUESTS

No Shorelines would be complete without a list of our special visitors and guests, and we had a near-record number of them in attendance for the evening:



ERNIE MASCITTI's wife NANCY



SUSAN BROWN's husband GARY



LES NEWQUIST's wife CRICKET



NANCY RUSSIAN's husband LUIS



DICK YOUNG and his wife MARY JO



Soon-to-be-PP (Again) RENEE's husband PAUL



DAVE NYDEGGER's "Sweetie" MARTA HALL (she said she's his "Sweetie" and he's her "Honey" – or the other way around, I forget, but in either case they seem to really like each other...)



LARRY HATTER's wife CATHIE



A.J. MAZARELLA's date REBECCA



PP VICKIE PROSSER's husband LLOYD



PE (For part of the evening) CHUCK WARD's wife BARB, daughter



MARGARET and her significant other JONAH



PP JAY CRAWFORD's wife ANITA ROMAINÉ



BOB PICKREL's wife DARLENE

THE FESTIVITIES CONTINUE...



After dinner, PP TERRI HALL officially kicked off our celebratory roasting of our very own “RotaryRenee” (which, if you didn’t know, is her email address). She joined Rotary way back in 1989. Wow! That was 28 years ago. And since she tries to tell us year after year when her birthday rolls around that she is only 39 years old, we guess that must mean that she joined the club when she was just 11.

RENEE has been in Rotary so long, we can count literally on just one hand the number of current members who were in Oceanside Rotary when she joined in 1989, which really does make them the official “Old Men” of our club. At which point they all came out wearing long grey beards ... The only folks who have been in our club longer than RENEE: JIM SCHRODER, LARRY HATTER, DICK YOUNG, and BOB PICKREL and filling in for MIKE WESELOH who was at some sports banquet that night: our other MIKE - MIKE CURTIN. We had to clap really loudly, or these old codgers might not have been able to hear us! After some back and forth, not being able to hear each other (which I think in some cases wasn’t put on), they shuffled off into the night, probably to go immediately to bed.



TERRI pointed out that RENEE really does have a special place in Oceanside Rotary history as one of the very first women to join our club. Back in 1989 she was told by her sponsor to “come to the meeting, sit down and shut up”, because women were not embraced in the club then as they are now. We have come a long way, for not too long after that in 1994 she did, in fact, become our club’s first female president.



Cue the Twilight Zone music, at which point TOM shared some memories from RENEE's first demotion in 1995.

Back to the future in 2017, TOM and Company made much of the fact that RENEE has served this year both as President and Secretary of the club. BILL DERN offered up several theories why RENEE might want to do that, even though reportedly ERNIE MASCITTI had offered to take on the job of secretary for a year(or was that FAKE NEWS?).



BILL concluded that maybe RENEE is slightly "schizophrenic", which PP VICKIE proceeded to demonstrate, while juggling a giant gavel, a giant pencil, and a hand-mirror, to much hilarity.

TOM then commenced to review RENEE's Rotary year, starting with her very first meeting, when PP ME sang this song of tribute to our new leader, sung to the tune of "God Save the Queen" (or to us "'Muricans", "My Country Tis of Thee"):

*Rotary 'tis of thee ...Renee has dreamed to be...Rotary Queen.
So say goodbye to Jay...See our new Pres today...
On this very FINE Friday....Rotary Queen.*

*She is Past President...Is this a Precedent?...Rotary Queen...
As we all do recall...She fines and bosses all...
You better watch out, Y'all...Rotary Queen*



Not to be outdone, TOM had to follow up with this Abba version of “Rotary Queen”:

*She'll be the Rotary Queen... In 2017
Like you've ne-ver seen*

*Rotary Queen. Our collective clocks she'll clean
And none can intervene, oh, yeah.*

*She will rule She'll remind
Wear your damn pin or be fined*

*Ooooh. Watch out, y'all She can be real mean
Beware of the Rotary Queen*

And jumping ahead a few months, I responded with a new song to the tune of “Bill Grogan’s Goat”; it was a sing-along, so everybody could join in:

*There is a club So we've heard tell,
Where programs are great And food is swell;
When you walk in With a big grin,
Just be aware Our President's there!*

*When you're in line To get your food,
She'll sneak right up Which is quite rude;
She'll stare right at Your heaving breast
For a small PIN 'Cause it's a test!*

*No DeMolay Lions or Elks,
It must be ours, Rotary or else;
Her steely stare That we all know,*

Is meant to scare And raise some dough!

*She should be done Those fines seem rash,
Because by now We should have cash;
But I'm afraid That in July,
With a full purse to Paree she'll fly!*

So Au Revoir To dear Renee

Next came a bit on RENEE constantly checking to see who was and was not wearing a pin, whether at the meeting or anywhere! If she spotted you around town without a pin, she would bring it up and make you bring out the cash at our next meeting. She really took this to the extreme, though. It didn't matter where you were or what you were doing, and there were some unbelievable photos to prove it. You could be at work or out in public, at the grocery store or at your favorite local watering hole. You weren't even safe in the privacy of your own home. She would catch you when you were brushing your teeth, and she sees you when you're sleeping (like Santa, apparently)! Even in the shower, for crying out loud! (This photo was of yours truly – If you weren't at the demotion dinner, then forget it – you won't ever see that photo again!). Just to make sure there were no fines that night, TOM had everyone look under their seat. Taped there were big printed pins which everyone stuck on their shirts!

RENEE also fixated on recruiting new members, and it paid off! She is quite proud to have us all know that we signed up 7 new members this year! And since we only have 45 members, that is quite a bump up, percentage-wise. Congratulations, RENEE! Of course, she put a pretty unusual strategy in place to make this happen – Find someone who you think would be a good Rotarian, then MARRY him and make him join the club (as both RENEE and ANCHISA did), or have a new addition like DALE MAAS's son BLAKE – who is tentatively slated to be a future Rotary President in 2057?!)



As for foiling the Gavel Grabber, RENEE is so proud that she went her entire year with only one very brief period of less than one day when she was forced to be gavel-less. But, oh! That fleeting Gavel Grabber episode sure did get under her skin! However, there actually was a second gavel grabbing, and it apparently occurred during RENEE's very last meeting last Friday. Sources confirm that our president

had brought five gavels to that meeting, showing an abundance of caution. But she apparently let her guard down. More on that later...

Another unique addition to our routine courtesy of RENEE was the recurring Rotary Superhero Award. What a great idea that was! And in addition to the honor, you would receive some great prizes, too A colorful little ribbon to stick onto your name badge. A cute little superhero rubber duckie. And a little box of chocolate truffles homemade by Renee herself to prove how *sweet* she is. Unfortunately, all those truffles include the risk of being “supersized” heroes, as opposed to just “super heroes” as evidenced by some of the illustrations on the screen.



Wait, who is that? Could that be “Captain-n-n-n Rotary-y-y-y”? Or is it Captain Underpants? PP DEAN ANDERSEN came rushing in as “Rotary Superhero”, saying he’s the “one true superhero in this pathetic club but, Madame President, you have never acknowledged me with your puny little ‘Award’. For that, you shall feel the wrath of Banker Boy! With one stroke of my red ledger pen I can reduce your checking account balance to ruins.” Believe me, you had to be there to get the full effect. Some of DEAN’s “Superhero Poses” stretching to show off his backside are burned into the back of my retinas and may remain there forever...



BILL pointed out that while RENEE brought some new and fun traditions to our club this year, she also pretty much shot down another important tradition – One that is SUPPOSED to be shared with other Rotary clubs all around the world. Our president unilaterally rescheduled our major day of service and decided that we would NOT participate in the International Rotarians At Work Day. Oh, we did do a work project (science day at the Crown Heights community center), but we did it

on a completely different day. RENEE commandeered the date for RAW as well as the acronym for the global event and decreed that, for her Oceanside Rotary Club, this April 29, “RAW” would stand for “Renee’s Awesome Wedding.”

TOM lamented that at their reception RENEE and PAUL had cut short “their” song, “Nights in White Satin” by the Moody Blues, which faded out before the iconic poem at the end. TOM must really like that poem, because he proceeded to quote it in full:

*Breathe deep the gathering gloom, Watch lights fade from every room.
Bedsitter people look back and lament, Another day's useless energy spent.
Impassioned lovers wrestle as one, Lonely man cries for love and has none.
New mother picks up and suckles her son, Senior citizens wish they were young.
Cold hearted orb that rules the night, Removes the colours from our sight.
Red is grey and yellow white,
But we decide which is right. And which is an illusion.*

Some wedding song, huh? So our President got married during her year in office. She has been “RICHARDSON” for so long, that it took us a while to wrap our heads around her new identity. But by now, I think, Everyone Knows its Wendee. (Gee.... Sounds like a song cue!)

*Who leads our club with such dedication?
Who's organized and uber-prepared?
Who always has a backup agenda? Everyone knows its Wendee.*

*Yes, Wendee knows what to do 'Cause she's on year number two.
And people, I'm telling you
She sure can lead. Oh, yes, indeed!*

*Who's figured out the quirks of the members?
Knows who to call and who to ignore.
Who brings this insight and such experience?
Everyone knows its Wendee.*

*And Wendee is so refined She keeps the members in line
Just watch and I'm sure you'll find
She's taking charge And looming large!*

And Wendee, she's done so much Developed the Midas touch

*And Wendee is really such a Rotary pro. She's in the know.
Everyone knows its Wendee.*



JIM recounted some positive things that did happen during RENEE's year. The fact that RENEE had sent the list in, expecting / demanding that it should be read at the demotion, does not in any way detract from those accomplishments, or at least not by much...

Increased Membership

More Social activities

The \$2,500 District matching grant spearheaded by Dave Hall.

The Mentorship Program spearheaded by Larry Hatter with dedicated chaperones, Lola, Chuck, Dave N. Jay and Anita, John Hartman, Jim Schroder.

The Golf Tournament spearheaded by Dale Maas

The lap top computers given to Lincoln, the donations to Laurel, Mission, Lincoln Soccer Team, the Lei's for Lifeline, Medal of Honor, Martin Luther King Scholarships, SLR Mission Essay Contest.

We sent students to the District LEAD Seminar and to RYLA.

The annual Brother Benno's Turkey Drive.

245 pounds of canned food

We wouldn't leave the Gavel-Grabber dangling. It turns out that it was not actually HER gavel, but instead one of the other presidents' gavels that she had brought in that day and she says that she doesn't even care if she gets it back or not. But TOM made her confess that a gavel was indeed grabbed fair and square during her last meeting, even if she didn't care about it. (Someone else's gavel? Oh, come on!).

AWARDS

At that point, the proceedings were turned over to RENEE (back in CONTROL), who handed out the yearly awards:

New Member Award: Presented to MELISSA RODRIGUEZ, who has been active in District events, fast-tracked her Blue Badge, worked with our Crown Heights students, and accepted a Board position for the coming year.



El Toro Award: RENEE said the Nominees for this award for slinging the bull at our meetings were...pretty much everybody in the club! But the Board gave the nod to BOB PICKREL, for doing his best to keep the President on her toes, so much that several guests commented that they wanted to join our club because it was so much fun (even if it was usually at RENEE's expense)!



Marty Schroder Award: Presented to BILL DERN for all he does for the club, from Foundation giving, Golf Tournament, arranging lunch meetings with El Camino CC, in addition to the countless hours outside of Rotary that he and wife KATHY spend volunteering at free dental clinics. BILL shows the true spirit of Rotary!



President's Award: RENEE made special mentions of LARRY HATTER, MIKE CURTIN, TOM BRAULT and LES NEWQUIST for all their contributions, but she singled out JAY CRAWFORD as our award winner for all his help and support despite his stroke last June. He never balked at leading songs or providing inspiration; he has attended several awards ceremonies around Oceanside representing the club, hauled ice and drinks at RAW (the Rotary one, not the awesome wedding), and epitomized "Service Above Self"!

Congratulations to all the awardees!

PASSING OF THE GAVEL – A NEW REGIME



We then proceeded to the ceremony of passing the gavel by all of the past presidents who were present (say that seven times real fast). RENEE was in the third position chronologically and then ran down to take her latest place as second to last in line, ending up with a tug-of-war for the official gavel between RENEE and CHUCK. CHUCK eventually wrested the gavel away and officially became our new Club President!



PRES CHUCK then gave us a few words of thanks, saying this was an amazing crowd, probably the biggest crowd ever in the history of Rotary! He promised that he has not colluded with the Russians (right, NANCY?). He believes in climate control, not climate change – He intends to leave the thermostat in our meeting room at a temperate 72 degrees and not change it all year!



CHUCK presented RENEE with a few parting gifts: First, a unique “Two Timers Club” blazer, which she displayed with all the panache of a professional runway model. That was followed by the presentation of a beautiful vase with a base

inscribed with a note of thanks for her year as President. (It was engraved to RENEE RICHARDSON, but hey, that's what she was for most of her year, so it's all good!)



CHUCK then wrapped up his Trump-Talk by pledging to “Make Rotary Great Again”, and donned a custom red baseball cap with that slogan on it to prove it!



ADJOURN

PP (2) RENEE then said, “We’re done” and everybody went home. No longer President, but still in CONTROL!

COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

July 7 - Regular meeting **DARK**

July 14 – First Meeting of 2017-18
Reporter: TBA

July 20 – Evening BBQ with Carlsbad Rotary
6 pm @ Aviara Community Park (6440 Ambrosia Lane, Carlsbad)

July 21 - Regular meeting **DARK**

July 26 – FEAST Fundraiser at Mission San Luis Rey
Get tickets at: <https://mslrfeast.com/shop/>

July 28 - Regular meeting **DARK**

{Gee.... It looks as if our new President CHUCK has built in a bunch of DARK meetings this month, possibly to allow a smoother transition and a more gradual phase-in period.}