

Rotary Opens Opportunities  
2020-2021



**ROTARY CLUB OF  
OCEANSIDE**

**SHORELINES**

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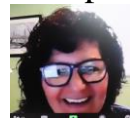
Tom Brault  
Reporter

**CO-PRESIDENTS**  
Melissa Rodriguez & Dale Maas

*June 4, 2021*

Just to prove that you never know what we Rotarians will talk about during the pre-meeting gathering time, this past Friday a lot of the chatter was centered on Shirley Temple, with people sharing their favorite movies and memories and some folks even doing imitations of the legendary child star of the 1930's. As new people logged into our Zoom session one by one, some of them were probably surprised to hear the request, "Do your best Shirley Temple impression for us." The consensus was that TINA ORTIZ had the best curly hair, TERRI HALL and JAY CRAWFORD tied for cutest smile and dimples, and TOM BRAULT took the prize for knowing most of the lyrics to "Animal Crackers in My Soup." This stroll down memory lane might have taken up the entire meeting time, but at 12:30, our outgoing (and by that, I mean she is leaving the job, not that she is extroverted) Co-President MELISSA RODRIGUEZ announced, with a spring in her step and a song in her heart, "It's time! The last meeting of this regime!"



She immediately turned the meeting over to VICKIE PROSSER for a **ROTARY MOMENT** in which she told us,

*"Rotary has opened my eyes to friends all over the world. People that come together for a common cause - to help their fellow man. In the worldwide effort, I have been able to share in bringing water wells to those without water, wheelchairs to those that have been maimed by land mines, schools to countries that have so few, and help in the eradication of polio.*

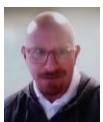
*I have been able to travel and meet people from all over the world - from Denmark to Japan - Rotarians with giving hearts come together with the goal to help others and in doing so, grow as individuals.*

*I have made wonderful, lifelong friends" and then she started naming more than a few of her Rotary brethren, past and present, noting, "The list could go on for days, but the glue that held us all together was Rotary. I find that every*

*opportunity I am able to come together with fellow Rotarians is a wonderful “Rotary Moment” and I am thankful you all are in my life.”*

Shorelines does not normally quote an entire Rotary Moment verbatim like this, but when the material is as super as VICKIE’s offering was this week, it deserves to be highlighted! Co-President MELISSA agreed, commenting, “That was fabulous! Very touching!”

Next up was a report by Event Chair TERRI HALL on our upcoming Golf Tournament, held each year in partnership with El Camino Rotary. This year’s event is on Monday, June 21, and there have been a whole lot of positive developments to date. We have a bunch of tee sign ads (which translates to bucks in the bank for us) as well as a good number of servicemembers sponsored to play in the tournament. The more golfers we can sign up who check “Oceanside Rotary” on their application, the more money we will bring in to benefit the club! But “What we need now is raffle prizes,” TERRI reported. Our goal is to offer 25 prizes and members were encouraged to come up with items from \$20 to \$25 in value to donate. She showed a sample prize – a bottle of Jack Daniels – and a whole lot of eyes lit up on Zoom. Gift cards make great prizes, too. And our committee can make donating a prize super simple for you. Just Venmo a cash donation to our Treasurer LES NEWQUIST and send a text to TERRI and she will buy a gift card on your behalf – no fuss, no muss! We will also need volunteers, and by simply making that announcement, both ERNIE MASCITTI and BOB PICKREL raised their hands to pledge to pitch in that day. We could use even more helpers, so email TERRI if you, too, can be on the team. Thanks were extended to TOMMY THOMPSON who has stepped up as an event sponsor and to BRIAN LONG whose company is covering the fees for the \$10,000 Hole in One prize. This promises to be another successful fundraiser for our club!



Co-President Elect A.J. MAZZARELLA then teed up our **CLUB UPDATES** and took a massive swing at them. He did not need any Mulligans:

6/7: Ivey Ranch Painting Project and BBQ starting at 12:30 pm – Our final community service project under the current leadership.

6/18: Demotion Dinner – When we finally get rid of our current leadership. The event will start with cocktails at 6 pm in the beautiful garden of JANET and STEVEN LACY’s abode. The dinner and entertainment will cost \$45 per person. RSVP now to RENEE RICHARDSON. And plan to dress warmly, for we will be outside. It will get dark, and it could get chilly!

6/21: Golf Tournament Fundraiser at El Camino Country Club. Shotgun start at 1 pm. We need prizes and golfers – If you don't golf, you can sponsor someone who does.

7/9: The first meeting under our new Co-Leaders, “The Boys on the Block” L.J. FIMBRES and A.J. MAZZARELLA, will be a Club Assembly to lay out their plans for the year. 12 noon on Zoom.

**VISITING ROTARIANS** included RUDY VAN HUNNICK (... are you surprised to hear that? ... I doubt it!), our guest speaker from Argentina NADIA NAVARETTE, and SHOR DENNY – a Riverside Rotarian who



gave a mini-report on the doings of their club, talking about youth projects and their upcoming first post-Covid fundraiser, a black-tie gala event. Our friends from near and far were serenaded with our “Welcome Song” by JAY CRAWFORD.



In her last chance to manage the agenda item “**PRESIDENT’S STUFF**”, MELISSA deferred to Secretary RENEE to officially bestow upon BILL DERN the title (and a certificate and pin



banner) of Rotary International Foundation Benefactor. This means that BILL has made a separate commitment of \$1,000 or more to the Foundation endowment through a bequest in his will or by the assignment of insurance proceeds upon his ultimate meeting with his maker. Something for us all to consider doing, so that after we are gone, our giving spirit



to the cause of Rotary can keep going. RENEE believes that we currently have four Benefactors in the club. Why not add yourself to this esteemed list? As RENEE pointed out in a quote from ARCH KLUMPF: “No one can tell us what Rotary will be tomorrow, but one thing is certain: What Rotary will be tomorrow depends upon what we Rotarians do today.”

**JUNE CELEBRATIONS** – As the song from “Carousel” tells us, “June is busting out all over”, and several members were bursting with pride for the things they will be celebrating this month.

Our one BIRTHDAY celebrant JANET BLEDSOE LACY gave \$73 in happy dollars for her big day, and laughed, “Those that knew me in my youth would be astounded that I’m alive today!” A rousing “Happy Birthday to You” was sung by DAVE HALL.



June, according to tradition, is a big month for WEDDINGS, and several of our members lived up to that tradition with anniversaries. ERNIE and NANCY

MASCITTI have hit 31 years, for which ERNIE gave \$31. MELISSA congratulated the happy couple, saying, "That is quite an accomplishment!" DAN and DEBBIE WILSON will have to celebrate on their own about their 33 years together. Moving down the list, TOM and LINDA BRAULT were cited for their June wedding, too. Tom asked, "If 31 years is an 'accomplishment', what is 41 years?" to which MELISSA chimed in with, "AMAZING!" That was the right answer and was worth \$41 in happy dollars. DAVE and TERRI HALL then inquired, "What about 53??" DAVE thought that was worth "at least \$53", but then TERRI one-upped him by adding the extra three years that she had known him before they got hitched, so she pledged \$56 which DAVE clearly had to match. Last on the list (although they share the very same anniversary date on the very same 53 years with the HALL's) were LARRY and CATHIE HATTER, who will probably put in some happy dollars for this down the road. (... Or perhaps LARRY planned to miss this meeting to be able to skip the donation? Inquiring minds want to know!)



CLUB ANNIVERSARIES were marked by ANCHISA FARRANT who isn't sure if it is 9 years or 11 or 12? What she DOES know is that she is "absolutely happy" and that "My life is better because of Rotary here!" She gave \$20 to prove her happiness. And our Leader of the Day MELISSA RODRIGUEZ could not believe that she has been in the club for 5 years. "It seems more like 45 years!" She, too, donated \$20 to celebrate.



Who else had some other **HAPPY DOLLARS** burning in their pocket?

ERNIE MASCITTI was \$20 satisfied with his new rug from "Phillips Abbey Carpet" (now actually called "Oceanside Abbey Carpet"), and he wondered if A.J. was happy, too? A.J. sighed slightly and reminded ERNIE that the carpet guy is "L.J.", but he figures he had better get used to the confusion that our two young leaders being off by only one letter in their names will cause this year for our members ... L.J. FIMBRES, who was Zooming from the road, was indeed \$10 happy that ERNIE was happy ... LES NEWQUIST confessed to missing his May birthday meeting. To catch up on that Birthday Happy Dollars, since he just "turned 25", he offered "\$3 per year, or \$75." Uh ... sure, LES. Whatever you say!



ANCHISA FARRANT wove a tale of terrific luck. At a friend's birthday celebration, she had won not one, but TWO games of Bingo, raking in the cash pots. She peeled of a whole \$1 to put into our kitty. Lucky us! ... JIM SCHRODER gave \$20 to mention that our guest speaker would be giving her



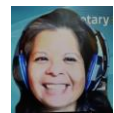
presentation from precisely 5,826 miles away, which MUST be some sort of a record! ...RUDY VAN HUNNICK had sent in \$25 via Venmo but having heard all of these June wedding anniversary dates, he figured that, even though he is not actually a member of our club now, and even though out of the 30 happy years he has been together with his now wife ELIZABETH, only half of that time were they married, he still wanted to add another \$30 donation to Oceanside Rotary. Thanks! (TERRI HALL remembered RUDY's response a while back when she had asked him why he and ELIZABETH were getting married after so many years together and he summed it up with a magical word: "Romantical.") ...TOM BRAULT added \$10 to his Venmo total for the day to crow about where he would be on the following Wednesday: "I'm going to Disneyland!!!" (Many people know that the parks in Anaheim are his happy place. See "*Rotarians Out and About*" at the end of this newsletter for some photos.) ... In a fitting coda to this week's / this year's Happy Dollars, VICKIE PROSSER donated \$20 in thanks for MELISSA and DALE's time as Presidents, who performed so admirably under the most adverse conditions. MELISSA agreed that this year has definitely been out of the ordinary. Not having any in-person meetings meant that she had never actually worn her Presidential name badge for this year. In fact, she still has it in its original bag. (Does that mean it is worth more on eBay??)

### **OUR PROGRAM FROM ALL THE WAY DOWN IN ARGENTINA**

One of the beautiful things about meeting on Zoom is that people can be at our meeting no matter where they are in the world. Today's speaker has been a friend of JIM SCHRODER's for many years. He has traveled to Argentina six times over the years, and he highly recommends visiting there. "You can't beat the food and the hospitality!" Our club, in fact, sponsored a Rotary club in Parana, Argentina, and that is where JIM met both our friend ESTELA GAMBELIN who had visited us in Oceanside frequently before she passed away, as well as today's honored guest NADIA NAVARRETE, who used to be a member of that same club (Rotary Club of Parana Plaza), but more recently transferred to the Rotary club of Parana. NADIA has been a Rotarian since 2014 and a high school teacher since 1990, mostly teaching English as a Foreign and Second language, but she also taught Spanish for five years up here in Iowa.



NADIA originally intended to focus her presentation on the response to the pandemic in Argentina, but she admits that at this point, she is "tired of Covid!" So, she thought it might be a better and more interesting use of our time together to give us a virtual tour through photos and verbal descriptions of her home country of Argentina, which sits at the southernmost tip of South America and has a population of about 45 million. It is a very long



country (2,268 miles from top to tip), and her hometown of Parana, in the province of Entre Rios (“between the rivers”) is about 7 hours by car out of the country’s capital of Buenos Aires. The design of the modern city of Buenos Aires mirrors much of the architecture of Europe. It has one of the widest avenues in the world called “Avenida 9 de Julio” – named after the date of the Argentina’s Independence Day. At its widest, this avenue has twenty lanes of traffic, if you include the side roads which run parallel to it and also need to be crossed to make it safely to the other side. In the center of this picturesque avenue is an obelisk.



Moving around the country she next showed us photos of beautiful Iguazu Falls, situated on the border between Argentina and Brazil. It has been selected as one of the new Seven Wonders of Nature. The best time to visit the falls is in their winter / our summer (July and August). ... The UNESCO World Heritage Site of Humahuaca is at the northern tip of the country. It is a very dry spot, and one of its prominent features is the “Hill of Seven Colors.” ... Mendoza is the wine capital of the country, on the side of the Andes mountains, the longest mountain range in the world (over 4,300 miles long). ... At Perito Moreno Glacier to the south, at the height of their summer in January, you can see huge portions of the glacier break off and fall into the sea. `

Another UNESCO World Heritage Site is at Cave of the Hands, where paintings show colorful outlines of the hands of the indigenous people of 10,000 year ago ... Ushuaia, the capital city of the province of Tierra del Fuego, is the furthest south city in the world and the gateway to the continent of Antarctica ... The Valdes Peninsula has a famous whale watching season in September and October. The legendary Charles Darwin visited there to watch these annual migrations ... Her home province of Entre Rios is totally surrounded by water and contains two national parks. The province is well known for its excellent fishing, with the Parana River extending all the way from Brazil. January and February mark their Carnival season (starting a month and a half before the actual religious period of Carnival before Lent). NADIA says that this festival is “very fun to watch” with festivities starting at about 10 pm and going all night long! (No wonder our resident party animal JIM SCHRODER likes Argentina so much!!)

NADIA reported that Covid is “still going strong” in Argentina, and therefore the country is not open to foreign travelers yet. She would be happy to give us more information about Argentina and Entre Rios, and she can be contacted by email at [n.navarrete@hotmail.com](mailto:n.navarrete@hotmail.com) She even offered to make arrangements for a Rotary Friendship Exchange, and said that she is planning on attending the 2022 Rotary

International Convention in Houston (and might sneak in a side trip to Oceanside as part of that journey, so she hopes she might be able to meet us live and in person next year.)

She opened up to questions from our Zoom audience. RUDY VAN HUNNICK asked for more information about the population. The 45 million population does cover the very large area of the country, but most of the people are concentrated in the center / north portion, with the southern areas being very sparsely populated ... JANET BLEDSOE LACY asked if the glaciers there are smaller due to climate change. Sadly, yes, they are ... JIM SCHRODER asked NADIA to touch on the culture of Argentina and the timing of daily life there. NADIA told us that her Rotary club meets from 9 to 10:30 pm (way past most of our bedtimes!). The whole country eats late at night (“10 pm, when I finish teaching.” ... “Midnight is early.” ... “We stretch the day. You just take a nap, and you go on.”) In summer, they basically cannot do anything around noon, due to the intense heat and humidity.

TINA ORTIZ asked which is the heavier meal of the day? Lunch is the main meal, and it usually is a family affair. The work schedule in Buenos Aires is the 9 to 5 hours that we are used to, because the capital has to be in synch with other world centers. But for the rest of Argentina, the work day generally goes from 8 to noon, then a long lunch and siesta period, returning to work from 3:30 to 7:30 pm. Schools there do not typically go for a full day. Bars and dances don’t even open up until midnight. JIM recalled a wedding reception he attended that started at 10 pm and he was still dancing at 7 or 8 am. (See? I told you he was a party animal!)

ANCHISA FARRANT inquired about the government, which has a president of the country and governors for their provinces ... JANET BLEDSOE LACY wanted to know about housing prices there. NADIA admitted that she could not give us an answer in dollars, but she knows that living in the provinces is much less expensive than in Buenos Aires.

Co-President MELISSA thanked NADIA for this enchanting chat about her home country. She closed the meeting with reminders of the Ivey Ranch service project, the Demotion dinner, and Golf Tournament. And then she expressed “Thank you, from Dale and me for your tremendous support this year. Happy Dollars were off the hook!” And we were so good about participating in “our crazy service stuff.” A pretty good way to sum up the Oceanside Rotary, 2020-21!

## **WE GAVE GENEROUSLY TO THOSE IN NEED**

We recently held a drive to collect household items and toiletries in support of Interfaith Community Services's "Make it a Home" program for the homeless. (This organization's overall mission is to "empower people in need to stabilize and improve their lives through comprehensive programs, in partnership with diverse faith communities and people of compassion.")



As you may know, they have purchased a motel, and are trying to provide needed items for the new residents. Over the space of a few weeks, members and friends brought donations into DALE MAAS's office and by the May 22 deadline, a whole truckful of supplies had been acquired and were delivered, as seen in these photographs. One last successful service project during the year of Rodriguez and Maas! Thanks to all who contributed. You are making a difference in the lives of our neighbors!



## **WE WANTED TO PAINT SOME FENCES ....**

A tip of the hat to the hardy helpers who showed up at Ivey Ranch Park on Monday, June 7 with the intent of rolling up their Rotarians at Work sleeves to slap some paint onto some of the fences at their equestrian center. Alas, Mother Nature had other plans for the gang. As reported by DAVE HALL:

*"We ended up standing around drinking coffee and eating donuts till it was clear that the rain wasn't going to let us paint. We'll have to reschedule..."*

*P.S. Since we couldn't cancel the BBQ order, we donated the food to Lived Experiences."*



Enjoy these photos of TOMMY THOMPSON, BRIAN LONG, MELISSA RODRIGUEZ, BILL DERN, JAY CRAWFORD, TERRI and DAVE HALL, ANCHISA FARRANT, LES NEWQUIST, and LOLA SHERMAN hoping for a break in the June gloom and unexpected precipitation, but still appearing to enjoy their time together. Thanks for you willing volunteerism!

## **NEW MEMBER PROPOSED**

MARTI FERRIS is a familiar face to many of us around the North County. She has been active in several civic endeavors and is currently a member of the San Luis Rey Rotary Club but is interested in transferring her membership to our club.



RENEE RICHARDSON has proposed her for membership in Oceanside Rotary. If you have any questions or concerns about MARTI as a potential addition to our club, please contact a board member within the next 10 days.

### **ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT**

You readers are probably not as excited as TOM BRAULT was about his trip on Tuesday and Wednesday up to Orange County. Tuesday afternoon TOM, his daughter GERILYN and her friend ZACH ELLIOTT reveled in a visit to the Walt Disney Archives Exhibit at the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana.



WOW! Standing there in the presence of thousands of Disney artifacts (including the first admission ticket #0001 sold at Disneyland, a megaphone used by Walt Disney in 1923 to direct one of his first films, Davy Crockett's coonskin cap, even the Model T driven by "The Absent-Minded Professor." This amazing display triggered so many memories from TOM's childhood! But the following day was even more



heartwarming and magical for him, with his first return to Disneyland since the pandemic shutdown. With the reduced capacity limits, and some expert strategic planning, these three dedicated Disney fans were able to go on all but one of all of



the attractions that were open that day. So many memories! And next Wednesday, the same trio will head back up to Anaheim for a full day enjoying the California Adventure Park (and hopefully getting to experience the brand-new Avengers Campus there).

### **COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY**

Monday, June 7 – Ivey Ranch Fence Painting project and BBQ Social

Friday, June 18 – Demotion Dinner

Monday, June 21 – Rotary Golf Tournament fundraiser

Friday, July 9 – Zoom Meeting at Noon - Club Assembly with "The Boys on the Block"