




**ROTARY CLUB OF  
OCEANSIDE  
SHORELINES**



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**CO-PRESIDENTS**  
**AJ Mazzarella & LJ Fimbres**

*March 11, 2022*

At 12:30 Co-President AJ MAZZARELLA opened the meeting with the sound of a butter knife clanging against the Rotary Bell. (The missing gavel threatens to be a major problem throughout the AJ/LJ administration. Is there anyone out there that might have any information that could restore order to the Rotary universe?)



JAY CRAWFORD led our club in the pledge of allegiance.

This was followed by VICKIE PROSSER's **Rotary Moment** in which she openly confessed to wandering about in public



sans Rotary pin. Despite such a serious transgression, VICKIE was nonetheless recognized while shopping at Smart and Final. "Aren't you a Rotarian?" posed a lady name ERIN. Thus exposed, VICKIE confessed and admitted that she was indeed a member of the Oceanside Rotary Club. Curious as to how her cover was blown, Mrs. Prosser was informed that ERIN used to work for the esteemed JANET BLEDSOE LACY and was previously required by said attorney to type up the proceedings of the aforementioned club for our newsletter. VICKIE was recognized because of the color of her hair which ERIN had spied in the Shorelines photos. Moral of the story: You cannot hide your light under a basket ... Wear your pin! Anyway, ERIN initiated this conversation because she wanted to say that she was impressed with our club and appreciated all of the good things that Oceanside Rotary has done and is still doing for the community. Amen to that!

The inspiring Rotary Moment was followed up by **Club Updates** from the once and future president RENEE RICHARDSON. RENEE informed us that she had recently returned from a District President Elect Training Session (PETS) and was armed with a three-ring binder filled with reams of important papers. Mercifully, the trees were spared, and Renee provided a single piece of paper for the club and told us to scan the QR form with our cell phone. Dinosaurs such as this week's reporter were informed that we should touch base with one of our younger members if we did not know how to download the QR information.



RENEE did verbally highlight several important pieces of information:

- 1) DAN WILSON is soliciting 4-pound bags of sugar and small jars of honey to be included in food baskets for the 2500 Afghan refugees being settled in San Diego County. Deadline for donations has been extended to March 27. (Some of the sweet stuff collected at this meeting can be seen in this photo, waiting to be picked up.) We're hoping for 50 more bags of sugar and 50 more jars of honey to be donated by our generous club members!
- 2) SHOR DENNY is hosting a Spring fitness event at Mission Elementary School from 9:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Friday, March 25. Four to five volunteers are needed to help.
- 3) The Rotarians at Work (RAW) day will take place on Saturday, April 30. There will be two opportunities to serve: BRIAN LONG will lead the effort at the Oceanview Cemetery at the corner of Godfrey Street and Coast Highway in South Oceanside. Originally known as the "Oddfellows Cemetery," burials began here in 1895. Many of Oceanside's pioneers are buried here as well as many veterans. RAW day will include general clean-up and resetting of tumbled tombstones. ROGER VANDERWERKEN will lead the work group at Del Rio Elementary School at 5200 N. River Road in Oceanside. This effort involves sprucing up four 4x8 garden plots used for pedagogical purposes. There will also be some light carpentry and landscaping to make the area more handicapped accessible. More information is forthcoming on both projects. Following RAW day, lunch will be served in the courtyard of the Breakwater Community Church, 506 S. Nevada Street.



### Introduction of Visiting Rotarians and Guests:

BRIAN LONG introduced today's guest speaker: CARRIE CHACON

L.J. FIMBRES introduced RUDY VAN HUNNICK, a perennial guest, well-known to all.



ROGER VANDERWERKEN introduced PABLO ACOSTA, soon to be welcomed in as a member of our club.

After months of choral inactivity (because we all know how badly group singing goes on Zoom), TOM BRAULT led us all in a resounding live and in person rendition of our Welcome Song. No one missed a beat.



**Presidential Stuff:** Once again, TOM BRAULT was called to the podium to give some information about our August 26 event at the Moonlight Amphitheater. TOM was happy to inform us that enough Rotarians had signed up to qualify us for the \$43 group discount ticket rate. If you talked to TOM by this Sunday, you could join in at that rate. The Tony Award winning musical *Ragtime* will be the featured presentation, with TOM's daughter GERILYN playing a featured role in the show.



**March Birthdays:** JACQUELINE BROWNLEE 3/18, LJ FIMBRES 3/22, and SUSAN BROWN 3/23 all celebrated March birthdays. JACQUELINE was not in the house. LJ confessed to being 31 years old. He put \$40 in the shoe to round upward and to also give thanks for his recent trip to Hawaii. SUSAN was rather mysterious, mumbling something about the number 39.



**CLUB Anniversaries:** ROGER VANDERWERKEN 3 years and LESLEY ADAMS 3 years. LESLEY was not in the house, but ROGER coughed up 48 bucks for the occasion, admitting that he had been involved with Rotary since 1974 – first as an exchange student and later as a member of the Cortland Rotary Club in upstate New York from 1992-1998. Two of ROGER’s children were also Rotary Exchange Students. Despite ROGER’s amazing youth and vigor ☺, no one else present at the meeting could claim an earlier involvement with Rotary.



**Paul Harris Presentation** – RENEE presented JAY CRAWFORD as a “Paul Harris Plus One” sustaining member. Another pin for our friend JAY with a single sapphire added to mark his significant contributions.



BILL DERN then stepped to the podium to retroactively award (since it has been a while since we have acknowledged members achieving this status) TOM BRAULT, TERRI HALL and LYN CORDER the

**President’s Fellow award** from the Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation in gratitude for their \$1000 donations. Before presenting the awards, BILL also confessed his sins: He, like VICKIE



before him, was sans pin – an especially egregious failing amongst such a gathering of renowned Rotarians. BILL offered \$5 as penance but seeing as he was adorned in both a Rotary shirt and hat, the club was merciful, and his transgressions were forgiven. BILL threatened to “tack on” the President’s Fellow pin in the same way that Navy Seals tack on warfare devices, but, humbled by his own short fallings, promised the awardees that their pins commemorating their contributions would be tacked onto the banner in the traditional way.

**New Member Induction** – RENEE RICHARDSON welcomed PABLO ACOSTA into club membership. ROGER VANDERWERKEN served as his sponsor and we all gave our newest member a



standing ovation to welcome PABLO to the rank of Rotarian.

Next Rotary Board meeting – Friday March 18 on Zoom at noon.

### Happy \$\$\$\$

JIM SCHRODER – \$25 happy to be back to in-person meetings

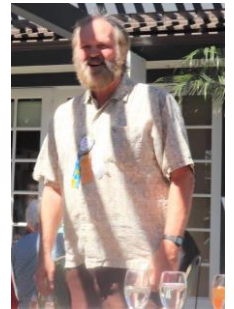


TERRI HALL – \$10 happy to “dime out” fellow Rotarians DALE MAAS, AJ MAZZARELLA, MELISSA RODRIGUEZ and BRIAN LONG.

TERRI introduced this quartet as the “Get er done” team. But then she pointed out that this foursome of esteemed fellows had failed to paint her garage floor, a project for which she had donated \$500 months earlier. She urged the “get er done team” to “get er done.”



TOM BRAULT -- \$25 to the Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation happy to have seen so many Rotarians at the recent funeral service for FRANK COXON at St. Thomas More Church in Oceanside. Here we see a smiling FRANK at a few of our meetings, the flag folding ritual, and the marker at the Mission San Luis Rey Cemetery.



NANCY RUSSIAN – \$20 happy to be back from her recent Caribbean Cruise. She was also happy to have spent a day with former member CHUCK ANDREAN and his wife YONG-HEE,



who recently settled in The Villages in central Florida. CHUCK has already affiliated with a Rotary Club in the Sunshine State. (See more photos from NANCY and LUIS's trip in the "Rotarians Out and About" section below.)

VICKIE PROSSER - \$20 happy for 20 years of club membership.



At this point, happy dollar offerings were interrupted by dramatic gusts of wind that were blowing papers off the podium, the American flag onto the deck (multiple times), and miscellaneous club paraphernalia to the four corners of our meeting place. Once he restored order to this chaos, club co-President AJ then continued with the collection of happy dollars.



DAVE HALL -- \$100 happy to see the covid virus pandemic recede. DAVE also felt guilty about the public shaming of the "Get er done" team, and confessed that for many years he had shirked the task of painting his own garage floor. That's right! None of this shaming of the "Get er Done" guys would have been necessary had DAVE taken care of business on his own. (Note to TERRI: in defense of her hubby, your reporter recommends a close reading of *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*)



RUDY VAN HUNNICK – Prior to uttering a single word, our songmeister and frequent heckler TOM BRAULT informed RUDY that he would be allowed just 2 minutes to state his case. Nonplussed, the venerable Dutchman somehow persuaded us that he was "happy" about the \$100,000 damage recent flooding brought to his home. He was also "happy" about the scores of contractors traipsing through his property and the furniture scattered willy-nilly on the premises. RUDY said his hearing was bad, he can't walk, but his brain still works. After 91 years, and despite all of the aforementioned negatives, RUDY is still happy. Thank you, sir, for inspiring us all.





ANCHISA FARRANT -- \$20 happy for the privilege of serving DAVE and TERRI HALL an authentic vegetarian Thai dish at her home. (What ... no beef?) ANCHISA was also happy for an upcoming trip to Vail, Colorado, where she would be able to reconnect with some friends from Thailand.

## PROGRAM

BRIAN LONG introduced CARRIE CHACON to the club. CARRIE is coordinating the volunteer effort for the April 2 Ironman 70.3 event in Oceanside. BRIAN and CARRIE have worked together for many years in Real Estate efforts and in the Oceanside Swim Club. CARRIE has been married for 26 years and recently earned her Real Estate License.



The Ironman 70.3 event, which consists of a 1.2-mile swim, a 56-mile bike ride, and a 13.1-mile run, was first introduced to Oceanside in 2003. In the 19 years since, over \$55 million dollars have been generated, \$10 million of which have been given back to the community. CARRIE informed us that this year's race offers \$25,000 in grants for volunteer organizations that help with the race. 1,500 volunteers are needed to do such things as man water stations, run



stations, bike stations, pedestrian patrol, and dry clothes pick up. Volunteers are also needed for packet pickups at the Junior Seau Community Center on Thursday, March 31 (10a-7p) and Friday, April 1 (9a-6p). (RENEE RICHARDSON took the lead on signing folks up as volunteers on a Rotary team to help handle these pickups.)

BRIAN pointed out that 2,800 people from all around the world are registered to participate, including 80-100 professional triathletes. The professionals compete for monetary awards and hope to qualify for the Full Ironman competition held in Hawaii in the Fall of the year.

Four of the charities involved are donating proceeds to assist displaced Ukrainian refugees. Some of the better-known charities on site include the Wounded Warrior Foundation, Gold Star families, and the Challenged Athlete foundation.

President AJ apologized to our speaker for not having the traditional gift available for speakers at Rotary Club meetings. He promised to make amends to our presenter CARRIE in the near future.

The **Opportunity Drawing** was won by BRIAN LONG, but our friendly local realtor failed to come up with the Joker and donated the \$10 consolation prize back to the club. The pot continues to grow.

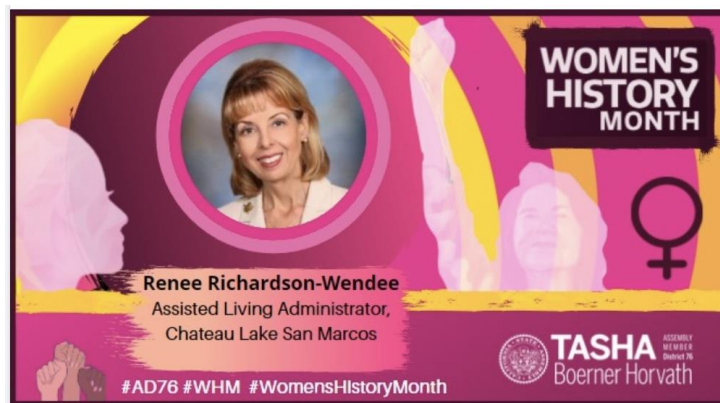
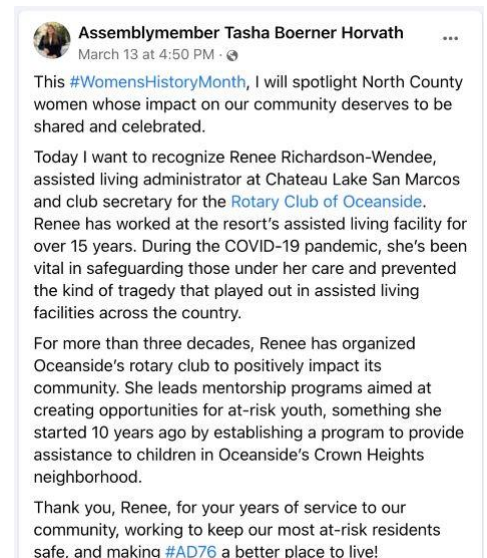
Meeting adjourned on time, at 1:30 p.m. to the somewhat disappointing sound of a measly butter knife striking the bell.



## RENEE GETS RECOGNITION

March is Women's History Month, and to commemorate this, California State Assemblyperson for District 76 TASHA BOERNER HORVATH is spotlighting *"North County women whose impact on our community deserves to be shared and celebrated."* Lo and behold, our very own RENEE RICHARDSON WENDEE was one such honoree, and was featured in this Facebook post.

In case you cannot read the text in the copy of this March 13<sup>th</sup> tribute, TASHA commends our friendly, neighborhood Secretary / Past President / and Co-President Elect with the following note of gratitude, which we all share: *"Thank you, Renee, for your years of service to our community, working to keep our most at-risk residents safe, and making [#AD76](#) a better place to live!"*



## ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

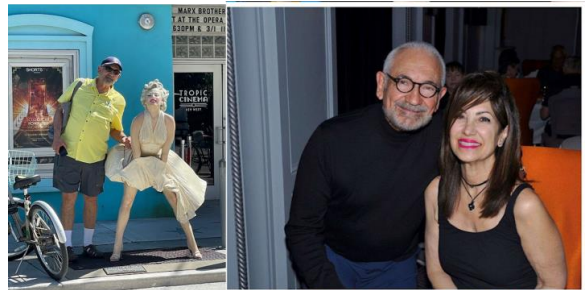
As promised, here are a few more photos from NANCY and LUIS RUSSIAN's recent cruise aboard Celebrity to the Dominican Republic. (Their ship is the one on the right. Must have been confusing to have two Celebrity vessels docked right next to each other. I wonder if anyone ended up in the wrong stateroom after their shore excursion?)

First, we see our friends relaxing on the top deck while watching a movie. Then here is NANCY doing her best Fay Wray imitation as she cavorts with a gorilla on the pool deck.



LUIS gets into the act, posing with a statue of Marilyn Monroe at Key West. (Why are his shorts not billowing up like Marilyn's dress?) And last, but not least, the happy couple enjoys a wine pairing dinner aboard the ship.

What a Bon Voyage!!!



Speaking of a pairing and of wine, here is RUDY VAN HUNNICK enjoying a bit of the fruit of the vine at the Oceanside Museum of Art's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala on February 26. The wine was almost as sparkling as RUDY's smile. Joining in the smiles at this event at sunset was his wife ELIZABETH (on the right).



And what a beautiful Oceanside Sunset it was!!!

### COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

- 3/18 Board Meeting via Zoon at Noon
- 3/19 District Assembly – 8:30 a.m. to noon - Liberty Station – San Diego
- 3/25 Regular Meeting – El Camino Country Club patio
- 3/25 Volunteer Opportunity at Mission Elementary School's Spring Fitness event. 9:15 am to 1:30 pm. Contact SHOR DENNY for details.
- 3/27 Deadline for contributing sugar and honey to Afghan refugees. Contact DAN WILSON
- 4/1 Volunteer Opportunity at Ironman Oceanside check-in. Contact RENEE RICHARDSON
- 4/8 Regular Meeting – El Camino Country Club patio
- 4/22 Away Regular Meeting – Breakwater Community Church courtyard  
506 S. Nevada Street, Oceanside
- 4/30 Rotarians at Work Day featuring two different service projects.