

BE THE INSPIRATION
2018-2019


**ROTARY CLUB OF
OCEANSIDE**

SHORELINES

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PRESIDENT
Renee Wendee

March 22, 2019



The meeting was opened promptly at 12:30 p.m. by the very loud clanging of three bells by our beloved President, RENEE RICHARDSON WENDEE. (Doesn't she know that "three bells" in military parlance indicates 1:30? ... Just ONE bell would have been more correct at that particular time of day.)

PRESIDENT RENEE then introduced Fallbrook Rotary's President, CONNIE FISH, to lead us in the pledge to our flag. She was followed by our PP DAVE HALL who led us in a very rousing and patriotic (if somewhat LOW) version of "You're a Grand Old Flag" followed by PP BILL DERN's personal fave "God Bless America" which was sung in a much more manageable key.



ERNIE MASCITTI then offered up the following "Rotary Moment":

"I don't want to live in the kind of world where we don't look out for each other. Not just the people that are close to us, but anyone who needs a helping hand. I can't change the way anybody else thinks, or what they choose to do, but I can do my bit."

- Charles de Lint (author)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Both the Oceanside Rotary Club and the Fallbrook Rotary Club were reminded of the District Assembly to be held on Saturday, March 30 at 8:30 a.m. at USD. There is also a Global Grant workshop from 12:10 – 2 p.m. that day. Our Club needs two members to attend that workshop so the club can participate in the Global Grant program.

PRESIDENT RENEE then offered a shameless plug for our member ALEXA KINGAARD's book signing on Sunday March 24 from 1-4 p.m. at the Bistro on Main Street in Vista (right across the street from the Avo Theater in downtown Vista). If you were able to attend this event, you not only were supporting an award-winning author – you would also be supporting PRESIDENT RENEE and her husband PAUL WENDEE who just happen to be the proprietors of the Bistro on Main Street!

GUESTS:



First all the members of the Fallbrook Rotary were asked to stand. (Nice turnout!) Then our PE & PP TERRI HALL began introducing visitors who were non—military award recipients who were not members of our club or Fallbrook Rotary's club. Unfortunately, hardly anyone put their names onto the guest sign in sheet, so this portion of the information may be a little sparse. PP & PE TERRI introduced the two non-military guests at her table – Kelly Meau and Monsuru Suleiman. Also seated at this table was LCpl Nicholas Grecco. At the table in the corner, ERNIE MASCITTI introduced Mike Kirby from Camp Pendleton. ROGER VAN DERWERKEN then introduced his wife, Jackie Myers (a retired Naval Chief Petty Officer) and a good friend of his, Pete Copeland. Pete had risen in the ranks in the Marine Corps, and retired after having held 14 different ranks! PRESIDENT RENEE introduced a very special guest – Dan Wilson! PP JIM SCHRODER welcomed our ever-faithful guest Rudy Van Hunnick, and PP DAVE HALL led us all in singing our ever popular “Welcome to Oceanside” Rotary Welcome song. (Just hearing the tune brought a little chuckle from our visiting marine)



PRESIDENT RENEE also had all of the veterans in the room stand and be recognized, followed by the spouses of veterans and then anyone who was a child of a veteran. The majority of those attending from both clubs fell into at least one of those categories! Thank you all for your service.

PROGRAM:

LYNN SHEFFER of the Fallbrook Rotary Club was called up to begin the awards portion of our annual Rotary Clubs of Fallbrook and Oceanside's Military Awards Program for 2019. She called forward three members of the Fallbrook Rotary Club to assist her in handing out the awards:

Col. ROBERT JAMES, USMC ret (30 years active duty)
LtCol RICHARD GOODLAKE, USMC ret (23 years active duty)
LtCol JIM MENDELSON, USMC ret (26 years active duty)



LYNN reminded those present that this awards ceremony has been in place for many years now and was started by FRANK PATCHETT, who had been a retired police officer out of Los Angeles. He is deceased now, but he always thought it important that our military be recognized for the outstanding things they do for our area and our country.

The first presenter introduced was Sergeant Major Dennis Campbell of Marine Corps Air Station Camp Pendleton. SgtMaj Campbell was born on the island of Jamaica in 1971 and emigrated to the US in 1989. He has had a lengthy and distinguished career in the Marine Corps, serving all over the world. He was assigned his current position as Marine Corps Air Station, Camp Pendleton, Sergeant Major in June of 2018. Highly decorated, SgtMaj Campbell is married with two sons.



He spoke glowingly of the two Marines he was honoring today. Both of these honorees were honored for their professionalism, their volunteerism, and their work ethics. Corporal Jenis Ortega has been honored as NCO of the Quarter. A native of New Jersey, she attended Recruit Training in July, 2016. She arrived at H&HS Marine Corps Air Station Camp Pendleton in May of 2017. She successfully completed Corporals Course with Marine Aircraft Group 39 (MAG-39) in February 2019. She has actively been involved in studies and volunteer work within our community. Lance Corporal Tyler Meunsaveng was born in 1997 in Massachusetts. He began recruit training in Parris Island, SC in 2017. Much of

his training has occurred on the East Coast, and PFC Meunsaveng reported to Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 39, MCAS Camp Pendleton in February 2018. In May, 2018, PFC Meunsaveng was promoted to his current rank of Lance Corporal. He is currently assigned to MCAS Camp Pendleton, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Naval Weapons Station, Fallbrook, CA. He was awarded the Marine of the Quarter for work performed above and beyond the call of duty.

The next presenter introduced was Staff Sergeant Raul Canal who was born on January 30, 1990 in West Covina, CA. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in May, 2009. He has risen in the ranks to his current rank of Staff Sergeant while working in duty stations from Okinawa Japan to Afghanistan, Helmand Province where he was a gunner for his vehicle. He then made a lateral move to the Military Police Corrections occupational field and received orders to the Camp Pendleton Base Brig. (It was explained for us civilians that the 'brig' is 'jail' . . .). He has attended Corrections Specialist (5831) MO school and in August 20023 became a Black Belt Martial Arts Instructor for the Marine Corps Martial Arts program. Following many promotions and career moves, SSgt Canal has been assigned to the Brig as the Security Operations Chief. In July of this year SSgt Canal will be receiving orders to Drill Instructor School, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.



His first honoree was Marine of the Quarter, Lance Corporal Pedro Martinez-Rodriguez of the Security & Emergency Services Battalion. LCpl Martinez-Rodriguez was born in 1993 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He studied at the University of Puerto Rico where he obtained his Bachelor's Degree with Honors in Criminal Justice. Following various high level positions working for the Academy of Correctional Officers and in the Department of Correction and Rehabilitation as a Correctional Officer for the Government of Puerto Rico, he enlisted in the Marine Corps in January, 2018. He graduated as the Honor Graduate of his class and received orders to Camp Pendleton Base Brig, Security Battalion where he served as Dorm Supervisor at Brig Company Section III. He was Marine of the Quarter in January 2019, and received the EOC Reginald B. Niles Leadership Award in July 2018.

The other awardee from the Security and Emergency Services Battalion, Cpl Katie Lane, was unable to attend the luncheon due to recent surgery. Cpl Lane was born in 1995 in Springdale, Arkansas. She enlisted in the CA Army National Guard in 2013, attending Basic Training at Fort Sill, OK. Her schooling is varied and impressive and I, for one, am glad she decided to switch over to the Marine Corps in 2016. In December 2016 she was promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal, and in September 2017, she was meritoriously promoted to the rank of Corporal. She is now serving as a Behavioral Health Technician at the Camp Pendleton Base Brig.

The third presenter introduced was CMC Gregory Celia from Assault Craft Unit FIVE. CMC Celia is a native of Charleston, SC and enlisted in the Navy in August, 2009. Chief Celia's first assignment was to the USS NIMITZ as an Undesignated Seaman. While onboard the NIMITZ, he completed Search and Rescue Swimmer School to become the NIMITZ's Primary Rescue Swimmer. His career has been varied, and he currently is a student with Arizona State University working towards completing his Bachelors in Organizational Leadership. He currently lives in Murrieta with his wife and daughter.



His first honoree was GSE1 Irene Reeves who received the award of Sailor of the Year. GSE1 Reeves was born in the Philippines and raised in San Diego. Following her first year of college she enlisted in the Navy in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. She reported to Camp Pendleton in 2016 with ACU FIVE as Operations Maintenance, where she advanced to Petty Officer First Class in 2017. She is Seabee Combat Warfare qualified. She earned an Associate's degree in Math and Science, Social and Behavioral Science, and Psychology from Coastline Community College. GSE1 Reeves is currently married and living in San Diego.

CS2 Leopoldo Garibay is a native of Laredo, TX. He enlisted in the Navy in 2010. He is designated as a specialist in Surface Warfare. His first assignment was to the USS SAN DIEGO as a Seaman Recruit. While there, he worked as a bulk storeroom custodian in charge of over \$2 million dollars worth of dried, chilled, and frozen provisions. He reported to Assault Craft Unit 5, Camp Pendleton in 2016. Taking advantage of his shore duty, he completed over 100 hours of community volunteer opportunities. He also assumed the duty as Leading Petty

Officer for Assault Craft Unit 5's Honor Guard, where he has successfully coordinated and completed 130 funeral honor services throughout North County San Diego and Orange County for veterans who have served honorably. He is also 3 courses away from completing his associates degree in criminal justice at Saint Leo University. He and his wife and daughter live in San Diego.

Thanks to all in attendance for recognizing these outstanding members of the military living in and around us. They honored us by their presence. And thank you to the Fallbrook Rotary Club for once again combining forces with our club to honor these individuals. We look forward to working together with you all again next year!



With that, the meeting was closed with the ringing of the bell being struck by a gavel being held by PRESIDENT RENEE at precisely 1:15 p.m. This was especially poignant as it was the precious keepsake gavel owned by her recently deceased father (AKA Gunny). A touching moment indeed. RIP Gunny . . .

ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

Based on the smiles on both the author's and the Bistro owner's faces, it is clear to see that the book launch event at Bistro on Main Street last weekend was quite a success! Congratulations, ALEXA KINGAARD, on your second novel! (For more info, visit alexakingaard.com)



COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

Mar 29: SUNNY CHANG, Outdoor Outreach, Youth Programs

Reporter: DAVE HALL

Apr 5: LARRY PERANICH, A Conservation Scientist's View on Solving Climate Change

Reporter: LOLA SHERMAN

Apr 12: RHIANNON RIECKE, Pro Kids, Oceanside

Reporter: JIM SCHRODER

Apr 19: **DARK for Good Friday**

Apr 26: HOSPICE OF THE NORTH COAST, Global Partners in Care

Reporter: DAVE SHORE