

March 22, 2024

Well, well, well.... That lust for power never goes away. After 50 years in leadership on the Oceanside school board, political powerhouse JANET BLEDSOE LACY expanded her sphere of influence and emerged at our podium as Oceanside Rotary president, perhaps for life, claiming to have received 97% of the "vote"? Pshaw! That notorious despot Vlad Putin has nothing on JBL who on this day asserted herself to be 100% in charge! (Maybe it was just the wariness of your reporter, but then did anyone else notice that RENEE has not been seen in public for several days? Her followers in the opposition movement wonder where she went and worry if she is OK. Had she been near any open 12th story windows lately?...) Alas! Merely writing about this shakeup in the power structure of Rotary may have proven to be a strategic mistake on my part, as your reporter has been informed that he will now be exiled to a prison camp in Temecula. (**** *See the end of this newsletter to learn of the fate of your faithful scribe.*)

Wielding "Indiana Gavel" – his familiar smiling face and trademark googly eyes making an unexpected reappearance after years in seclusion, and turning blue from our President du jour's tight grip around his, uh her, or them's...(It is unclear to your reporter as to whether Indiana is non-binary, 3rd gender or combination) handle - JBL got our meeting underway with a clang of the Rotary bell.



DAVE HALL led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

TERRI HALL was assigned the task of leading us in the recitation of the Four-Way Test, made more challenging this day in that the banner which normally shows the text of the Test was not on display for us. TERRI, being ever resourceful, had her smartphone open to a page to read it from, but the rest of us actually did passably well coming up with the lines from memory.... And that is the truth.



CLUB UPDATES:

- Friday/Saturday, March 22nd and 23rd PAUL and RENEE to join Club Rotario in Tijuana to explore helping students improve their English-speaking skills (See the end of the newsletter for RENEE's report on this weekend)
- Friday, March 29th Regular Meeting DARK for Good Friday

Friday, April 5th - Community Service Project – Manning the registration desks for the Ironman Triathlon event - 11:30 to 5:00 at the Junior Seau Recreation Center by the Pier. Please see RENEE to sign-up. (That was easy for JBL to say, but, as mentioned before, RENEE was nowhere to be seen!)
Friday, April 12th - Regular Meeting, with presentation organized by DAN WILSON, Veterans as Voters

• Friday, April 19th Zoom board meeting at noon

• Saturday, April 20th - 100-year celebration of Oceanside Rotary at Heritage Park.

• Friday, April 26th - Regular Meeting at El Camino CC

• Also on Friday, April 26th – The start of the District 5340 Conference Cruise

VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS:



LT. CODY TRIMMER Salvation Army

FRANCISCO FLORES Lifeline Community Services (formerly North County Lifeline)

NICOLE MARQUOL Lifeline Community Services

RUDY VAN HUNNICK

RICHARD JENNINGS (a board member at Veterans Association of North County)





TOM BRAULT was asked to lead our Welcome Song, which he did, along with a snippet of a special song written for one of our demotion skits which celebrated that plucky hero: Indiana Gavel.

TIME TO HAND OVER SOME CHECKS:

PRESIDENT JANET invited FRANCISCO FLORES AND NICOLE MARQUOL from Lifeline Community Services to the podium to honor their organization's 50 years of providing service to North County and now the entire San Diego County. FRANCISCO and NICOLE spoke of the opportunities and services which Lifeline



provides for those in need in our community. Lifeline has a long history providing transitional housing. The organization is active in rescuing victims of human trafficking and assisting with juvenile justice and mental health counseling. They have also long been active in providing assistance with domestic or child abuse victims. Lifeline recently changed its name and rebranded, as it is no longer just serving North County, but the entire County of San Diego.

PRESIDENT JANET bestowed a check for \$1500 from Oceanside Rotary to provide financial support to Lifeline. DAVE HALL also presented a separate check for \$750 (a portion of our club's district matching grant) which will be beneficial in assisting students to stay in school and complete their education. These funds will also cover the cost of the traditional leis made from 50 one-dollar bills which will be draped around the necks of seven



Oceanside High graduates from the Crown Heights area this year. FRANCISCO told us a bit about the history of these leis and expressed Lifeline's appreciation for our Club providing the funds for this recognition year after year.

(While we are on the subject of handing out checks ...)

DAN WILSON forwarded this photo of himself meeting up with Fran Prather, the librarian at OHS to deliver our literacy program check for this year.

HAPPY DOLLARS:

DAVE HALL \$20 for finishing the book (a textbook on Modeling and Simulation Credibility) that he's been working on for 8 years.

> TERRI HALL \$5 to crow about the editorial assistance she had provided for DAVE's book. She suggested the addition of a section "About the Author" as well as encouraging DAVE to add an answer sheet for the "math problems" included in the book.

JAY CRAWFORD \$5 happy that 6 of their friends from Oceana will be joining in the "Rotary Night at the Moonlight" in August to see the show *Beautiful: The* Carole King Musical.

TOM BRAULT \$10 for the multiple sellouts of the recent production of Crazy for You at Palomar Community College Theatre, which Tom performed in.

> BILL DERN \$10 for his recent visit to Phoenix to visit his 2 sons, their wives, and his granddaughters there.

DAN WILSON \$5 to acknowledge that

Rotary is being honored by community colleges throughout the state for our efforts and assistance with community college programs throughout the State of California. The local ceremony will be held at MiraCosta and a number of our club members will be there to accept the recognition of our efforts. (One of those ongoing efforts in which we are

connected to MiraCosta is pictured here, the March 9 mentor program outing with the group of Lincoln Middle School students enjoying a tour of the













campus, a performance of the toe-tapping musical *Anything Goes* at the MiraCosta Theatre, followed by dinner at Blade 1936.)





RICHARD JENNINGS \$10 recited an adage about gauging where you have been in your life by the quality of the people around you as a way of expressing how much he enjoys visiting our club.

RUDY VAN HUNNICK \$100 was happy that his periodontal work, which has impacted his ability to consume and enjoy anything but soft food, was finally done and by the next Rotary meeting, he should be able eat normal food again.



PROGRAM:

JANET BLEDSOE LACY introduced our feature speaker, LT. CODY TRIMMER of the Salvation Army

LT. CODY TRIMMER is a second-generation Salvation Army Officer who followed in his parent's footsteps. He earned his Associates of Arts in ministries from the Salvation Army College for Officer Training, and his Bachelor of Arts in music education with an instrumental focus from Grand Canyon University. LT. CODY TRIMMER has been



associated with the Salvation Army for 30 years and first found his love for the organization working at one of its summer camps in 2008. He now serves as the Pastor and administrator of the Salvation Army Oceanside location. The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination. The Salvation Army was formed in 1865 by William and Catherine Booth. It is now in 132 countries around the world.

LT. TRIMMER's family has long been a part of the Salvation Army. Both his grandparents and parents have been involved, and, on his father's side, 4 of the 5 male siblings worked for the Salvation Army. LT. TRIMMER noted that the uniform he wears is part of his identity. Included as part of the uniform is identification for rank based upon years of service. LT. TRIMMER has been in Oceanside about 7 months, having last served in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

"Sharing is Caring" is a long-standing motto that succinctly describes the partnership between The Salvation Army and the community. The iconic Salvation Army red kettle campaign began in 1891 by Captain Joseph McFee, a Salvation Army officer who was looking for a way to cover the cost of the community Christmas meal. The tradition continues still



today. Sharing a donation at Christmastime helps The Salvation Army care for homeless and needy families, but also helps serve 30 million people through a myriad of other services all year long. All of the money collected by local bell ringing volunteers stays right here, doing good in our community.

A wide range of services to those in need are provided by the Salvation Army. The services include disaster relief, rent and utility assistance, food pantries, help for domestic abuse, and spiritual healing. The Salvation Army assists with afterschool programs and youth preventive education. The organization offers nutritional food for seniors and of course church programs and services.

The Oceanside branch has assisted with backpacks stuffed with supplies for students with limited resources, and has provided 300 Thanksgiving dinners, more than 750 senior meals, and 10,000 food boxes in the past year. Thousands of lives have been impacted by the good work of the Salvation Army here in Oceanside. The Oceanside office is staffed by a team of 4 and currently operates at a deficit. Contributions and assistance from the community are essential to the success of the organization. Handouts on our tables listed a lot of ways we could consider volunteering to assist The Salvation Army in Oceanside and its work within the community.

OPPORTUNITY DRAWING:

With \$1,000 up for grabs in the jackpot, DAN WILSON held the winning ticket but did not draw the winning card. In the spirit the Four Way Test and of full disclosure, he told how a strip of three extra tickets to the drawing had been left at the check-in table. Not being able to determine who those ducats belonged to, he pocketed them for himself (with the justification

in his mind that he had never won this drawing before, so maybe this was fate intervening on his behalf). As it turns out, the lucky number came up on the tickets which he HAD bought himself, not on the "lost and found" ones. DAN at first said that he would donate his \$10 consolation prize back to the club, but, while walking back to his seat and spying Lt. TRIMMER, handed the cash over to the Salvation Army instead.

RENEE'S REPORT ON THE VENTURE DOWN MEXICO WAY...

PAUL and RENEE headed to Tijuana on Friday to explore possible international projects. We were treated to a VIP tour of a children's hospital that sees about 1,400 patients a day. The center was colorful and had and an inviting environment. That evening we enjoyed a seafood dinner on the coast.







Saturday, they took to us to the English Skills lab the Club Rotaria set up 20 years ago. We attended classes and were amazed with the students. These students must commit to 4 hours every Saturday. The program is free for the students and for attending, the family gets \$53.00 a month.

Saturday evening, we enjoyed a local Pizza party hosted by our host with Rotarians from the area. Stay tuned for information on more opportunities in the future!

... THIS JUST IN FROM THE CLUB WE SPONSORED IN ARGENTINA

Amigos de Rotary Club de Oceanside:

Hemos recibido con alegría Vuestra amable carta de salutación por nuestro vigésimo aniversario. Será leída en nuestra fiesta de celebración. Expresamos nuestro agradecimiento a nuestro club Padrino y a nuestro Amigo Jim Schroder por su constante apoyo a nuestro club.

Sepan que cualquier miembro de Rotary Club de Oceanside que desee venir a visitarnos a Paraná, será bienvenido en nuestros hogares y compartiremos la amistad propia de la familia rotaria más aún en este caso en el que existe un vínculo tan estrecho ya que gracias a Rotary Club de Oceanside nacimos como Club Rotario hace 20 años.

Gracias Rotary Club de Oceanside! Gracias Jim Schroder!

Rotary Club de Paraná Plaza D-4945 Silvia Stella Romero Graciela Zapata, Secretaria, Presidente Luckily, JIM SCHRODER, who forwarded the message, also helpfully included this helpful translation for us:

Friends of the Rotary Club of Oceanside,

We have received with joy your kind letter of greeting on our twentieth anniversary. It will be read at our celebration party. We express our gratitude to our Padrino club and our friend Jim Schroder for their continued support of our club.

Know that any member of the Rotary Club of Oceanside who wishes to come and visit us in Paraná will be welcome in our homes and we will share the friendship of the Rotary family, even more so in this case in which there is such a close bond since thanks to the Rotary Club of Oceanside we were born as a Rotary Club 20 years ago.

Thank you, Rotary Club of Oceanside! Thank you, Jim Schroder! Rotary Club of Paraná Plaza D-4945 Silvia Stella Romero Graciela Zapata, Secretary, President

****** STATUS REPORT ON THE FATE OF YOUR REPORTER**

Showing a bit of mercy on the perceived "opposition leader", our president offered to commute his sentence, but after 30 years in Oceanside, your reporter has moved himself and his law office to Temecula – This was not in an attempt to change his identity to avoid retribution from the new authoritarian club leadership. It just is time for some new adventures.

COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

Friday, March 29th Regular Meeting DARK for Good Friday Friday April 5 - Iron Man Volunteer Service Project at which we will be registering participants for the event on Saturday, April 6th. We need about 20 volunteers from Noon to 5:00 PM - Contact RENEE to sign up. Friday, April 12th - Regular Meeting, with presentation organized by DAN WILSON, Veterans as Voters Friday, April 19th Zoom board meeting at noon Saturday April 20th - 100th Anniversary Celebration. Heritage Park (220 Peyri Drive). 11 am to 2 pm. April 26 – 29 – District 5340 Conference Cruise Friday evening, June 28 – Annual Year End Dinner and Presentation of Club Awards