

March 27, 2020

SPECIAL INAUGURAL CORONAVIRUS COPING EDITION

Our plucky President TERRI HALL gallantly gaveled us to a semblance of order as 29 members were successful at figuring out the logistics of holding the first ever Oceanside Rotary online virtual meeting via a Zoom link. (OK, full disclosure, some of us were more successful than others. A few members who had signed on

were not able to activate their video or audio feeds and were therefore relegated to serve as silent observers of the proceedings. A.J. MAZZARELLA appeared to be upside down on the screen for the first part of the meeting. And TOM BRAULT may not have been aware that there was a video feed at all, as he showed up to this "meeting" in his comfy green bathrobe, flashing some chest hair, and with his hair all tousled.

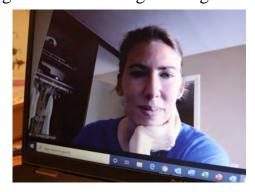


As he explained, "Hey! We're in Corona Land. Who gets dressed anymore?")



Right off the bat, President TERRI reminded us that with our freebie connection to the Zoom service, we would be limited to no more than 40 minutes together online. And it took quite a few minutes off of our clock to get some of the logistics figured

out. AMANDA SNIDER was able to guide most of us to the "Gallery View" on our screens so we could see everybody's face at once, like the biggest version of the opening of "The Brady Bunch" ever. (It's nice to have young whippersnappers like AMANDA in the club to help the rest of us with these newfangled contraptions!) TERRI recommended that we should put our devices on "Mute" and wait to be



recognized before speaking so we wouldn't all just talk over each other. But, as you might imagine, she had about the same success with that suggestion as she typically has at any of her regular meetings in keeping order in our collective chaos! Although, truth be told, as time went on, we gradually discovered the value in her guidelines and eventually we would raise our hands when we wanted to have the floor. (Ask DALE MAAS how well that hand raising worked out for him, though, as you will see later in Happy Dollars!)



We jumped right in to a valiant attempt at singing to start the meeting, as is our custom. DAVE HALL as Songmeister called up a familiar tune in "God Bless America", but with his face taking up only about 1/20 of the screen, it was a bit challenging to see his lips move in order to follow along well. The best I can say is that we all did get to the end of the song ... It's just that some of us got there earlier and some later than others. Ah, well. We tried!

More successful was when we were told to focus on NANCY RUSSIAN as she gave us our **ROTARY MOMENT.** She had found a timely passage from an inspirational Facebook page called Kelly's Treehouse:

"Going outdoors is not canceled, listening to music is not canceled, quality time with our families is not canceled, reading a book is not canceled, sharing with friends is not canceled,



singing out loud is not canceled, laughing has not been canceled, sharing hope with others has not been canceled. Let's embrace what we have."

<u>CLUB UPDATES</u> were read to us by co-P.E. DALE MAAS.

• Sadly, we are not going to the El Camino Country Club for the next two months. The Club is totally closed until the end of April, possibly to be extended. We are not scheduled to meet physically



- thru the end of May. We hope to meet again starting in June, but will all be watching to see how things evolve in our communities and our world, and we will alert you when regular meetings can be resumed.
- The Rotary Golf Tournament has been postponed, possibly to be cancelled for 2020. We are waiting to hear from the ECCC as to if we can postpone to a date in September with no penalty fee. If there is a fee, we will cancel outright.
- Also cancelled is Rotarians at Work Day, originally scheduled in April.

Some discussion ensued about holding more of these virtual online meetings, either regularly (or at least occasionally) in this pandemic challenged interim. Both DAN WILSON and SUSAN BROWN mentioned that they have access through their businesses to the professional level Zoom accounts which would allow unlimited time for these meetings and could accommodate up to 100 participants. Thanks for offering that access, DAN and SUSAN!





JANET BLEDSOE LACY went through her list of scheduled speakers, and the only ones that would be known "No Go's" in this format would be the Seaside Singers concert (very difficult to rehearse and conduct the singing online, as we

proved at the beginning of this meeting) and the Military Awards, since Camp Pendleton has pretty much closed down everything but absolutely essential operations during this timeframe. We hope to reschedule that in the fall, if possible.

A question was floated and a consensus was reached that we could aim for holding online meetings three times per month, with DAN and SUSAN handling the hosting duties through Zoom.



Watch for emails giving you the required link to join in these meetings as they arise.

GRANT UPDATES

DAVE HALL reported that our District Grant for the Crown Heights Mentor Project for the Rotary year has been closed out. We still had \$300 leftover in that allocation which had been set aside for the expenses of the April Camp Pendleton event which will now not happen. He will research what we might be able to do with those funds.

President TERRI announced that a new batch of grant funds had opened up, seeking projects related to addressing the needs of the community due to the COVID 19 outbreak. There are reportedly \$15,000 in matching grant funds available, so TERRI invited us to "put your thinking caps on" to brainstorm possible ideas for things we as a club might be able to suggest as a project.

WHO THE HECK IS THAT?

Have you played the latest, greatest Oceanside Rotary game yet? TOM BRAULT, the originator of this fun contest as something for us to do to keep us more connected during our forced time apart as a club, gave us an update. He is amazed that with almost two dozen guesses received on our first entry, no one has yet correctly identified the toddler in the wading pool. A big hint was given, though, as TOM let it slip that "The person in that photo is actually



with us here at our meeting today." (That narrows it down quite a bit, doesn't it?) And, to help make the solution even more likely, he invited that "Mystery

Member" to bit older (and here that photo is, tell TOM "Who (and your photo of years, if you TOM at this email

We are already on more photos out on Mystery



submit a photo in which he or she is a hopefully a bit more recognizable). And for your inspection ... NOW can you the Heck is That?" Send your guess yourself in your toddler / youngster would like to be included that way) in to address: tombrault@hotmail.com

to Round Two of the contest, with two there to be guessed upon. The jig is up Member #3 though, which absolutely

everybody correctly deduced was ANCHISA FARRANT. (In fact, before

ANCHISA even submitted her photo for this contest, she had asked TOM, "Should I bother with picture? Everyone will know me from my almond eyes!" To which TOM responded, "After our tough start, it will be nice to give the members an easy one to guess!!" And besides, it was a cute picture, wasn't it??) A few comments were heard in the audio feed about how fun this contest has been so far. Well, folks, the fun has just begun! We have quite a few pictures already submitted, and we are now aiming to have this contest be a weekly thing for as long as it can last.



ROTARY AT THE MOONLIGHT UPDATE

TOM also shared information with us about the status of our planned August Rotary at the Moonlight event to see the musical "Ragtime" on Friday, August 21. Our group discount tickets have been purchased, but the collection and distribution of said tickets will be put on hold for a while for the following reasons - 1) The Moonlight is in the process of replacing their ticketing system, so we have not yet received the physical tickets; and 2) With the uncertainty of the Coronavirus status going forward, there is some question about which (if any) of the Moonlight's shows this season will be able to be rehearsed and performed. While we hope and expect that both of these issues should be cleared up in time for our August date, we have decided to delay collecting money for this event until the tickets are in hand and there is a clear confirmation that the show will go on.

TERRI WENT DIALING FOR DOLLARS

It wasn't on her agenda, but at this point in our meeting, our President proclaimed, "If you are not wearing a Rotary pin, write down that you owe us \$5!" (I guess this will be paid up on the honor system later, because there is no way that our Sgt. at Arms could go all around town with the shoe at this point, soliciting said donations to the club.

In a case of "The timing could not be more perfect", right as our President lamented that we would have to put off Happy Dollars until our next virtual meeting, since we were butting up against the 40 minute limit on our freebie Zoom session, a message came up on the screen, letting us know that our session was being extended and now could continue unlimited. Thanks, Zoom!!

HAPPY DOLLARS

In a happy coincidence, right as we were about to launch into Happy Dollars, NANCY's husband LUIS sat down next to his wife onscreen, and we were all happy to see him join us!

{LOGISTICAL NOTE ON HOW TO DEAL WITH HAPPY DOLLARS: Since we are not actually together with a shoe to easily deposit our donations, it is recommended that you keep track of your own Happy Dollars on a monthly basis and then send in one check per month to cover your cumulative donation So keep a running tally on your own, please, and then after the last online meeting in April and then again at the end of May, mail your Happy Dollars check (made out to "Oceanside Rotary Club") and addressed to: LES NEWQUIST - 7922 La Capela Place, Carlsbad, CA 92009}



JIM SCHRODER kicked of the contributions with \$20 in gratitude that the trip he was supposed to start on this coming Monday was now being postponed to October 2. Turns out that he had heard from the State Department that there were some security concerns in several of the places he was slated to visit, so he might have dodged a bullet ... figuratively, or maybe even literally ... with this travel disruption.



LYN CORDER gave \$10 to let us know that her husband AL SOMIT hasn't had to be in the hospital for 3 weeks, and is "stable and OK" in the care of home health nurses. That is great to hear, LYN!



Going old school, since he still did not have audio capability to be heard, BOB PICKREL held up a scrap of paper on which he had scrawled, "New Great Granddaughter yesterday." WOW! That great news was worth \$20.



ROGER VANDERWERKEN was very grateful for the phone call that he had received from our co-P.E. MELISSA RODRIGUEZ, as she and DALE checked on all of the club members to see how they were doing and if they needed any support or assistance during this Social Distancing time. Her call actually inspired him to call every one of the members of his church to check on them. Then ROGER had two bits of

good news to report: 1) His daughter and son-in-law were "about the last ones to get out of France" before travel got restricted. They are now out of quarantine and OK. And 2) ROGER is happy to let us know that he will be able to share his church services with us, as they will be put up online at: breakwatercommunitychurch.org. (The best thing about this online option, ROGER mentioned with a twinkle in his onscreen eye, is that "You can stay as long as you would like and sneak out without the pastor seeing you!)

DALE MAAS had to hand over \$5 to get his question answered (after President TERRI had failed to call on him earlier in the session when he followed the rules and raised his hand for the longest time, waiting in vain to be recognized). "How do I get the 'Who the Heck is that?" stuff sent to me?", was his query. DAVE

HALL, the keeper of our club's email list, will follow up with him to make sure DALE gets properly plugged in. (If anybody else is in the same boat, check with DAVE at: oceansidecarotaryclub@hotmail.com)



LARRY HATTER had sad news that MARTHA DUNNE (the wife of former member and former Oceanside Police Chief BRUCE DUNNE) had passed away. But, in a silver lining, it turns out that this passing is leading to the chance for three of OPD's former finest (ex-Chiefs DUNNE, MIKE POEHLMAN, and LARRY MARSHALL) would be getting together for a lunch. How about that?



JAY CRAWFORD was \$20 relieved that all of his family is healthy. And he told us of a great presentation that was given online to his son DAVID's Rotary club in Bozeman, Montana. An infectious disease specialist had some great information to share, and President TERRI promised that she would send that link out to all of our members so they could learn more themselves. Thanks, JAY!

NANCY RUSSIAN split her \$25 in Happy Dollars up three ways. \$10 since both of her cruises got cancelled with refunds. \$10 to be home safe and sound. And another \$5 for having her sweetheart there by her side. Awwww!

JANET BLEDSOE LACY offered \$5 in exchange for the chance to have a couple more of this meeting's participants speak up so they would show up full screen on her computer. That way she could get good photos of them being at our "meeting." What a definitely diligent Duty Photographer!

DAN WILSON was \$20 sad that RYLA had to be cancelled, noting that it would be heartbreaking for the kids, who will all "age out" and not be eligible to participate the next time this special weekend of youth leadership training will happen.

DAVE HALL was so pleased that this online Zoom setup seemed to be working that he gave \$10 ... Plus another \$10 that DAN and SUSAN will be hosting these

meetings in the future, so he will be off the hook!



TERRI HALL, right in line with DAN W'S regrets, contributed \$20 in sad money that her grandkids had to move out of the programs that they were in and wouldn't be experiencing the fun of the last two months there or their graduations.

Ever the classy fellow that he is, LARRY HATTER promised a check for \$250 to celebrate "another home run" with the latest Crown

Heights Mentor Project event. 9 kids were escorted by VICKIE PROSSER and TOM BRAULT to MiraCosta College Theatre to see a fabulous production of "Into the Woods", directed by TOM's daughter GERILYN. LARRY is so pleased that this project has gone from practically having to beg kids to participate in the beginning to where now we have to turn away interested students because "Everybody wants to go!" And, the most important thing is that, through these experiences and connections, we are changing these kids' lives. LARRY summed his feelings up by adding, "I am THRILLED to be a member with you guys!"



VICKIE PROSSER added \$20 to add that the kids who came to this show were amazing, and that GERILYN had directed an outstanding program.



MELISSA RODRIGUEZ saw some light in the darkness, giving \$10 to note how "With this pandemic, people are facing their mortality and have a lot of time on their hands. I am getting lots of business as they want to make plans." (Perennial heckler TOM BRAULT chimed in with, "With all of the couples going into forced sheltering in place together for such a long time, JANET will probably be getting a lot of business later" when divorce is the next stage of the pandemic.)

TERRI HALL added that her kids and grandkids tease them for "writing their own obituaries", but she and DAVE are indeed taking the time to write down some of the important stuff in their lives that could be included in life tributes when needed after they are gone because, "Hey. Our kids don't know some of this stuff. Somebody has to get this information down." And she recommended that we all should do the same for our kids and for our posterity.



ANCHISA FARRANT
was the last one to
willingly offer money to
talk, giving \$5 to say,
"Happy to see everyone
happy and healthy!" And
she crowed that, with all
the extra time she has been
spending at home, her
garden is "more beautiful



than ever!" We're sure hubby Ron appreciates that, too!

With the Happy Dollar well running dry, President Terri looked at the screen to touch base with some of the members we had not heard much from during this online session.



First, she asked PAM MYERS, "How are you doing, PAM?" The answer came, "Doing well, thank you!" And then PAM told a story of putting together a 1000-piece jigsaw puzzle at her house during this forced downtime, only to find that one piece right in the middle was missing.



BEVERLY FISHER chimed in with, "Thanks for coming to my deck!" (She had checked in to this online session while sitting outside in the sun and the breeze.) "I haven't had visitors for a while", she added.

As it turns out, VICKIE PROSSER had also decided to hold her end of the conversation al fresco "from the beautiful 'Dancing Parrot Bar' in my backyard

patio, along with two of my dogs (Jim & JoJo) and my blue and gold macaw Skipper." So, if you add in all the animals, to the head count our attendance was even higher for this special meeting!



Observant participants in this Zoom feed may have noticed that, unlike most of us taking part in this meeting from the comfort of our own home, RENEE RICHARDSON WENDEE was in her office during the call. Yes, some of us are out there on the front line, taking the risks of still taking care of the needs of the community through thick and thin and

COVID and Corona. God bless us all as we deal with this pandemic as our situation demands of us. And let's all support each other and appreciate everyone who is tasked to keep our critical and essential functions operational in these challenging times.



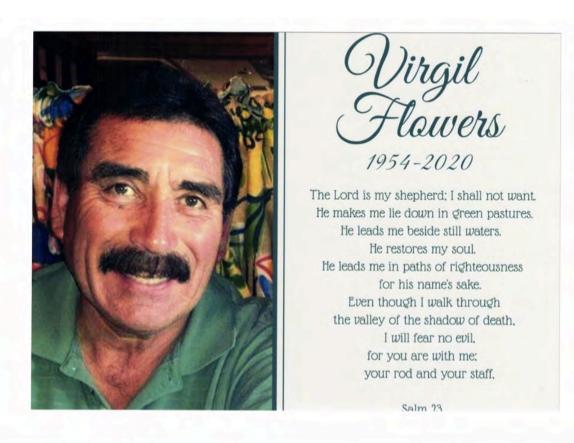
CHUCK ANDREAN had noticed earlier that AMANDA SNIDER seemed to be going off camera occasionally to sneak some bites of desserts, and so he requested that when we get to meet together again that AMANDA should bring desserts. (A variation on the old saying / warning, "I hope you brought enough for everybody!") CHUCK also wanted to let us know that, although the museums may be closed, Balboa Park is still

open for strolling around, which could make for a delightful day. He closed by checking with RENEE about the inventory of "Proud to be a Rotarian" stickers to make sure he shouldn't be ordering any more at this point. We still do have some, and one still could be yours for just \$5!



BILL DERN inferred that there wasn't much going on at his place. "Just sitting here watching my beard grow!"

One final note was mentioned by JIM SCHRODER, who had heard from SYLVIA FLORES after her husband's (VIRGIL FLORES, former club member) funeral on Friday the 13th. SYLVIA is very grateful for the Rotarians who showed up on short notice to VIRGIL's service to pay their respects. It meant a lot to her. But that is what Rotarians are so famous for doing – Showing support to fellow Rotarians whenever and however we can.



President TERRI then raised her gavel in preparation of closing this interesting and innovative online meeting for our club. It is nice to know that we have this opportunity available to us to gather in spirit, even when we cannot physically be together. To see each others' faces, hear each others' voices, share each others' stories, and laugh at each others' jokes. We will definitely plan on doing this again next week (Friday, April 3 at 12:30 pm) – especially because we will then get the chance to celebrate BOB PICKREL on his actual 90th birthday. (This plan got a big, silent "thumbs up" from BOB ... We hope that he can get audio figured out by next week!) And TERRI and DAVE hope that they can find some way to use up all the "Chocolate or Cheetos" that they had stockpiled to give to our guest speakers for the remainder of the year, which now looks like it will pretty much be scrubbed. "If anybody wants to drop by our house and take some of these snacks off of our hands, we will leave them on the porch for you."

With that, we called it a day and one by one, we clicked off of our computers or tablets or phones. I must say, it was quite amusing to watch and hear VICKIE PROSSER as she looked all over the screen and literally verbalized her thought process while she figured out the steps involved in how to "Leave the meeting."

See you (virtually) next time, folks!

ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

Needless to say, since the word has come down from our elected leaders that we should all be staying at home and "sheltering in place", none of us have been allowed to be "Out and About" so much recently. (Should we perhaps be including some photos of our infrequent excursions of necessity as we hoard our groceries and toilet paper? Here is a shot of the ramen section of a neighborhood Albertson's supermarket.... Not so "super" of a selection, once the community felt the need to stock up to be ready to hunker down.)



INFO ON LOGGING IN TO THE NEXT VIRTAL ONLINE MEETING

DAN WILSON, our new host for the next online meeting has forwarded the following link to sign in to the Zoom session on April 3. We will also be sending a separate email closer to Friday with a reminder of this link and process.

Oceanside Rotary Virtual Meeting

When Fri Apr 3, 2020 12:30pm – 2pm Pacific Time - Los Angeles

Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/408762547?pwd=ZkluMlJlSEhwSWdhdWRERFFGVzArUT09

Meeting ID: 408 762 547

Password: 085997

(Note that there is a password for the next meeting)

COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

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All regular meetings and events cancelled or postponed until at least the end of May. Virtual meetings will be held online in the meantime. Make sure that DAVE HALL has your up to date email address so that you can receive the necessary links to join in on these online meetings.

REGULAR PHYSICAL MEETINGS AT THE COUNTRY CLUB TO TENTATIVELY START BACK UP IN JUNE.

