

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SHORELINES</b></p>		
<p>2025-2026</p>	<p>Tom Brault Editor-in-Chief</p>	<p>Janet Lacy Photographer</p>	<p>Laura Bassett Reporter</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CO-PRESIDENTS</b> Roger Vanderwerken Paul Wendee</p>			

*May 8, 2026*

At our meeting on Friday, May 8, 2026, we met in our usual spot for lunch in the Garden Room of the El Camino Country Club. With beautiful views of the golf course, we started with a buffet lunch which included salad, wok fried veggies, rice, orange chicken, and beef with broccoli plus rolls and, of course, strawberry cheesecake for dessert. We had light attendance, but good conversation and fun was had by all!



RENEE RICHARDSON stepped in for Co-President PAUL WENDEE and banged the gavel promptly at 12:30 to begin our meeting. She led us in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Pastor ROGER VANDERWERKEN helping us all recite the 4-Way Test.



We were then led in song by DARREL LARSON and his guitar, singing that old Neil Diamond favorite “Sweet Caroline.” We’ve never seen so many arms swaying and saying “Ba Ba Ba” and “So Good, So Good, So Good.” We were few, but mighty in song!

After this, **guests and visiting Rotarians** were introduced. Our guests included TINA ORTIZ’s MiraCosta College colleagues Tori Fishinger and Brian Astredo. We also welcomed and inducted LAKEYSHA SOWUNMI from the Boys and Girls Club into membership. Her Rotary sponsor is Past District Governor MARTY PETERS. The club then joined in (accompanied again by DARREL with his guitar) and sang the Oceanside Welcome song.



Our club then presented a \$3,000 scholarship to the MiraCosta Nursing program. Tori Fishinger gave us an update on the nursing school. The school was named after former Rotarian Theresia Heyden. It has been able to expand its program due to the support of groups like Oceanside Rotary. Our scholarship helps provide items for students like scrubs, tuition fees, supplies, and test fees. Due to the generosity of groups like ours, every nursing student that applied for assistance this year was given a scholarship!



After the wonderful update from MiraCosta, RENEE reminded all of us of the following **upcoming events**:

Operation Appreciation (May 16<sup>th</sup>),

MLK Scholarship Reception (May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Lacy's home – 16 tickets available through our club if you want to attend),

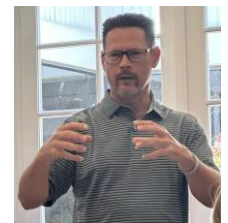
Flags for Veterans at Miramar Cemetery (May 23<sup>rd</sup> at noon),

Goat for Joe Golf Tournament fundraiser (May 30<sup>th</sup> – more on this in a minute)

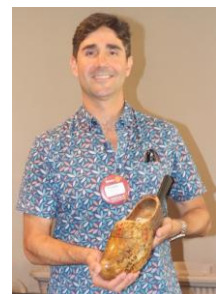
and our annual demotion dinner on June 12<sup>th</sup> (at the Country Club). RENEE also announced that she and PAUL will be headed to the oldest Rotary club in the world (Chicago 1) along with a group from the Tijuana Rotary.



DANA ALBERT invited us to all participate and/or volunteer for his annual Goat for Joe Tournament on May 30<sup>th</sup> at Goat Hill Golf Course in Oceanside. This year's event will feature just the golf tournament in the afternoon. DANA is sending out information on how to get involved!



We then celebrated several **birthdays** from May (LES NEWQUIST, BRAD FISHER, CARRIE CHACON, and DAVID SHORE). For anniversaries, we mainly focused on FILIPPO VIOLA's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. FILIPPO gave \$10 in Happy Dollars to celebrate not only his wedding anniversary, but also his one year in Oceanside Rotary! Other wedding anniversaries included JAY CRAWFORD and MICHAEL JENKINS, and club anniversaries were also noted for DALE MAAS and DAVID NYDEGGER.



After the birthday celebration, we went into **Happy \$\$\$\$**.

DAVE HALL gave \$20 to celebrate travels along with TERRI to Chicago to see their granddaughter Ava perform with her upright bass at her senior recital before graduating from Roosevelt University with a degree in Music. (Ava has visited at our club meetings on multiple occasions over the years and some may remember that she won the Opportunity Drawing once when the jackpot was up to a whopping \$75!)

TERRI HALL was next with \$20 as she told the story of a homeless man she met in a Chicago Emergency Room who said she reminded him of his grandmother who had red hair.



TINA ORTIZ gave \$5 in appreciation of spending time outside work with her fellow MiraCosta colleagues.



And finally we received a relieved \$5 from RENEE who had been visiting a Rotary in Washington D.C. during the attempted assassination shooting and was grateful that all were safe. She also made note that even in D.C., they pay \$47 for lunch at Rotary! Lots of happy people in the club!

Our **featured speaker** was Dr. Gene Ma from Tri-City Medical Center. He gave us an update on all the latest goings-on at the hospital including the complete remodel of the ER Department. Tri-City is a leader in innovation including Disc and Robotic Spine Surgery and is transforming Lung Cancer Care. They also have a first of its kind Psychiatric Facility. Tri-City is the only hospital in all of San Diego County to receive Gold awards from the American Heart Association for Stroke, Heart Attack, and Resuscitation. They have a planned partnership with Sharp Healthcare which is the



largest health care provider in San Diego County. This partnership will allow them to stay on the cutting edge and service the locals needs, especially for seniors, and also allow them to bring back the labor and delivery unit. Dr. Ma encouraged everyone to vote YES on Measure H on your primary ballot in June and attend the 2026 American Lung Association's Lung Force 5K Walk on May 31, 2026 at the Carlsbad Flower Fields.



We ended the meeting with our guest speaker being gifted a Bonsai by ANCHISA FARRANT (her first one!) and our **Opportunity Drawing** where our newest member LAKEYSHA held the winning ticket, but did not draw the Joker out of a brand new deck of cards.



Meeting was adjourned at 1:34 P.M.

P.S. As usual JANET BLEDSOE LACY dutifully and enthusiastically took lots of photos to make sure we have a record of all we did!

***REMINDER: There is no meeting on Friday, May 22 to free us all up to celebrate Memorial Day. Our next meeting (... and the last regular meeting of this Rotary year) is on Friday, May 29. Then on June 12 we will meet in the evening at El Camino Country Club for our Annual Demotion Dinner.***

### **OPERATION APPRECIATION REPORT**

Such a deal! Our day of service only took us 2 or 3 hours (from 11 to 1 or 1:30) – plus we got to sample the delicious food items being served to the local military and their families for the annual “Operation Appreciation” sponsored by the Oceanside Chamber of Commerce.

After checking out the entertainment and booths set up at the Pier Amphitheatre, we checked in at the volunteer tent, received our name badge and an official event

T-shirt, and then moseyed over to the Seau Community Center where we helped to serve the lunches. With no one really giving us directions, we took the initiative to assign ourselves to a work station. Almost all of the Rotarians present (PAUL WENDEE, RENEE RICHARDSON, ROGER VANDERWERKEN, LAURA BASSETT, DAVE and TERRI HALL, TOM BRAULT, and JIM SCHRODER) along with the 6 Interact students who came to volunteer to represent our / their club in service chose to man the long line of Marco's Pizza tables set up on the right side of the gym. Only Co-President ROGER settled at a different table where he handed out Jersey Mike's sub sandwiches. Also offered for the attendees lunching pleasure were Pick Up Stix Chinese food, Buffalo Wild Wings, and San Luis Rey Bakery cookies and cake. Certainly no one left hungry from this event, as for the full two and a half hour shift, we constantly shuffled new slices of cheese or pepperoni pizza into place for folks to pick up and enjoy. Just look at the stacks of empty pizza boxes that RENEE marveled at near the end of our time there. That was a heck of a lot of donated chow! JIM appointed himself the chief of the Napkin Police, making sure that everyone walked away well supplied in case of spills. For the most part, we were there to greet the guests with a smile and a "Thank you for your service", make sure that the slices kept coming, and we still had plenty of time to chat amongst ourselves and enjoy each others' company. All in all, it was a simple, yet successful service opportunity for Oceanside Rotary!



## ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

TOM BRAULT was M.I.A. from this May 8 meeting because he and his wife Linda had relocated for a week at their timeshare at the North Shore of Lake Tahoe. The weather was phenomenal, a reunion visit with friends from



dental school days was touching, and TOM even won a few bucks at blackjack during his stay. He was quite impressed to see that the gorgeous viewpoint area on Mt. Rose Highway was co-sponsored by the local Rotary clubs!

## COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

Friday, May 22 – Regular Meeting **Dark for Memorial Day**

Friday, May 22 (evening) – MLK, Jr. Scholarship Award dinner at the Lacy home

Saturday, May 23 – Flag Planting at Miramar National Cemetery

Friday, May 29 - Regular Meeting – Speaker – Tonya Danielly, Executive Director, Ivey Ranch Park

Saturday, May 30 – Goat for Joe Golf Tournament – volunteer to help run this annual fundraiser

Friday, June 12 – Noon meeting DARK – Demotion Dinner in the evening

Saturday, June 27 - Annual Oceanside Fourth of July parade. 9 am.