



2024-2025

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ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE SHORELINES

Anchisa Farrant
Photographer

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Reporter



CO-PRESIDENTS
Janet Bledsoe Lacy
Paul Wendee

May 9, 2025



At 12:30pm Co-President PAUL WENDEE called the meeting to order. PP VICKIE PROSSER proudly led us in the pledge followed by ANCHISA FARRANT who led us in the reading of the 4-Way Test, the timing of which turned out to be circumspect as PAUL did something, we don't really know what, but the 4-Way Test banner went kaput! No, really! Hopefully someone other than Supervisor WENDEE will know how to repair it for the next "reading."



PP BILL DERN led the group in songs with a rousing rendition of "What a Wonderful World" and with crowd encouragement, "Smile."



Co-President Elect ROGER VANDERWERKEN proceeded to the lectern to give **CLUB UPDATES:**



Monday, May 12th – Special Board Meeting via Zoom – Possibility of Vista Rotary merging with our Club.

Thursday, May 15th – Club Visits to the Rotary Clubs of Rosarito and TJ – RENEE will be the program that day, presenting the history of women in Rotary at the Rosarito Club

Friday, May 16th – Board Meeting via ZOOM at noon

Saturday, May 17th, Goat for Joe Golf Tournament and Mental Health Fair 10:00 – 1:00

Friday, May 23rd – DARK for Memorial Day

Saturday, May 24th, PAUL and RENEE are attending a Fundraising Event benefiting Hearing Aids for Children in TJ, Mexico

Friday, May 30th - Chief Valdovinos, Oceanside Chief of Police

Saturday, May 31st – Board Retreat Brunch and Meeting 9:00 to Noon – RENEE's Place

Dates to Save -

Friday, June 27th, Demotion Dinner, El Camino, 5:30 pm

Saturday, June 28th, Oceanside Independence Day Parade 9:00 AM

Friday, July 11th - Rotary Round Up Social – JIM SCHRODER's House 6:00 PM

Introduction of Visiting Rotarians and Guests:

ROGER introduced soon to be inducted visitor FILIPPO VIOLA who had reached out to RENEE via the internet (!) and visited us and, liking what he saw of our community involvement and friendly spirit and vibe, expressed a desire to join our Club. FILIPPO is a local real estate agent.



ROGER also reintroduced guest RUDY VAN HUNNICK.

BILL DERN led us in the Welcome Song

MICHAEL JENKINS came to the podium to remind our members that he invited us to a free lunch at his facility, Hacienda San Luis Rey – he passed out tickets we can use, but reservations are needed so they can prepare for extra guests.



Co-President PAUL asked PP/SECRETARY/AG RENEE RICHARDSON to come forward and do the New Member Induction for FILIPPO VIOLA. After the familiar but always impressive ceremony, and the collection of \$20 from FILIPPO, he was inducted into our Club with a standing ovation.



CO-PRESIDENT PAUL gave a brief LaunchOceanside Update

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

As there were no May Birthdays, PAUL moved on to Wedding Anniversaries.



MICHAEL JENKINS was \$10 happy to celebrate his tenth anniversary.

DAVID NYDEGGER was celebrating a Club Anniversary but when it came to the Happy Dollar amount, he could go with his anniversary with our Club which was twelve years or go with his anniversary with Rotary which was 38 years. He chose to be \$38 dollars happy! What a guy!



HAPPY DOLLARS:

PP BILL DERN \$3 happy to announce the Seaside Singers concerts coming up next week on Wednesday and Thursday, May 14 and 15 which includes three Oceanside Rotarian performers: BILL, TERRI HALL and DAVE HALL. BILL invited all to come enjoy the concert and support our Rotarians and noted DAVE has a solo on Thursday. Venue is Carlsbad Senior Center, 799 Pine Avenue, Carlsbad, 92008.



PP/SECRETARY RENEE was \$5 happy for the RYLA team taking hubby PAUL away for what she described as a fantastic weekend (for RENEE, that is)! She then talked about them both just getting back from the District 4100 conference in Tijuana, where they were serenaded by opera singers (in Spanish) dressed as waiters. She said the dinner experience was uniquely Mexican in that, while the dinner was advertised as starting at 8:00 pm, there was lots of wine and no food until 9:30 PM when salads were served. The main entrees didn't show up until after 10:00 that night! There were no vegetarian options, so RENEE had to wait until she could order a grilled-cheese sandwich later. There were 220 Rotary Exchange students at the conference from all over the world. Aside from the unusual dinner it was quite an experience.

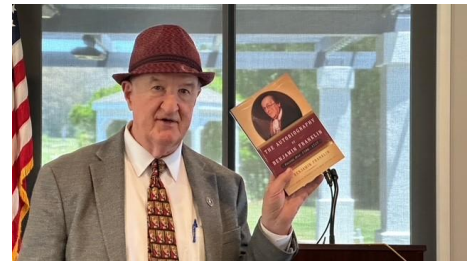
OUR PROGRAM



CO-PRESIDENT PAUL introduced our guest speaker who is also a friend of his, MARK SKOUSEN. MARK is an American economist and writer. He currently teaches at Chapman University where he has been the Doti-Spogli chair in free enterprise at the Argyros School of Business and Economics since 2022. Skousen was born in San Diego and grew up in Portland, Oregon. MARK SKOUSEN earned his B.A. and Master's degree in economics from Brigham Young University and his PhD in economics from George Washington University in 1977.

As an eighth-generation direct descendant of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, he has had a lifelong interest in the "grandfather" of our nation. MARK's career has often followed that of his illustrious ancestor, as a publisher, author, financial advisor, teacher, father, public servant, and world traveler. In 2006, he and his wife, JO ANN, compiled and edited The Completed Autobiography by Benjamin Franklin, covering the remainder of his career, 1757-1790. MARK gave a interesting and lively talk on his relationship with BEN FRANKLIN sharing quips and anecdotes about the genius of BEN FRANKLIN. In 2006, he read the autobiography of BEN FRANKLIN from 1757-1790 which he found fascinating as there was always a hint of a family connection to BEN as a direct

descendant. BEN always wanted one of his children to finish his autobiography and MARK did so by writing *The Greatest American, Benjamin Franklin, The World's Most Versatile Genius* by Mark Skousen



MARK shared many stories about BEN as well as some insight of the personality of BEN that he gleaned from his reading and research. BEN had twenty-two careers in his lifetime and was the master of all. MARK kept us entertained for a full thirty minutes and we were also able to purchase his book complete with our name inscribed if desired.

CO-PRES PAUL presented MARK with a gift of succulents hand-chosen by ANCHISA.



OPPORTUNITY DRAWING – Sgt. At Arms ANCHISA once again got a chance to win \$1,000.00 in the drawing Unfortunately she did not find the JOKER!

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.



COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

Friday, May 16th - Club Board meeting via Zoom at noon. Contact RENEE for the link to join in.

Saturday, May 17th – 8th Annual “Goat for Joe” - Goat Hill Park Golf Course, Oceanside. Mental Health Fair and Family and Children’s activities from 10 am to 1 pm. Shotgun start golf tournament starts at 1 pm. Dinner and entertainment to follow. For more info, visit: <https://birdease.com/goatforjoe>

Friday, May 23rd - Dark for Memorial Weekend

Friday, May 30th - Regular meeting – Speaker - Oceanside’s Police Chief TAURINO VALDOVINOS.

Saturday, May 31st - Board Retreat and Brunch from 9:00 – 12:00 at RENEE’S place.

Friday, June 27th - Demotion Dinner, El Camino Country Club 5:30pm

Saturday, June 28th - Oceanside Independence Day Parade 9am

Friday, July 11th - Rotary Social at JIM SCHRODER’s House, featuring entertainment by DARREL LARSON