



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

2023-2024

**ROTARY CLUB OF
OCEANSIDE**

SHORELINES

Tom Brault
Editor-in-Chief
Janet Bledsoe Lacy
Photographer
Tom Brault
Reporter

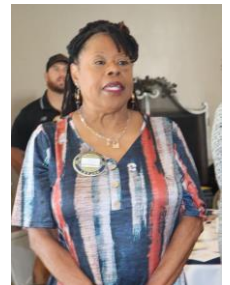


**PRESIDENT
Shor Denny**

November 10, 2023



If you could plug the power grid into President SHOR DENNY's energy, she could have lit up the whole room, if not the whole neighborhood, as she boisterously proclaimed at the start of our meeting, "I'm really EXCITED! ... I don't know about y'all." Then, as has become our new tradition, she scanned the crowd to pick a person to lead us in reciting the Four Way Test. "I know what NOT to do," SHOR remarked. "I'm not about to ask TERRI!" having already tapped her to do this recitation more than her share in past meetings. SHOR's buddy THOMASINA JACKSON was quick to volunteer for the task and handled it quite well....until the very end, that is, when she seemed to laugh at herself for a minor misreading of the last line. Afterwards, TERRI HALL was heard to say, "I'll do it next time."



The Pledge to our flag was led by BILL DERN. While we were all still in a patriotic frame of mind, SHOR asked all the veterans in attendance to stand and be recognized for their service and asked one of those veterans (TOM BRAULT) to lead the singing of "God Bless America." Maybe SHOR's excitement was rubbing off on us, because that was one of the most spirited renditions we have heard in quite some time. Someone suggested we should follow that up by singing the Marine Corps hymn since it happened to be the Corps' 248th birthday, but alas, the meeting marched on without another tune.



CLUB UPDATES

Secretary RENEE RICHARDSON was called on to march up to the podium for our announcements, and the first thing she said was, "It is good to be back!" from her time away

from everything due to Covid isolation. She prefaced the announcements by reading a tribute to vets:

“WHAT IS A VETERAN?”

A ‘veteran’ - whether active duty, discharged, retired, or reserve – is someone who, at one point in his or her life, wrote a blank check made payable to ‘The United States of America’ for an amount of “up to, and including his or her life.’ That is honor!”



Then RENEE showed of a postcard she had received from the Rotary Rose Parade Float Committee with an invitation to for each of us to be a part of this iconic event. All it takes is just \$6,500 to walk the parade route or \$10,000 to ride on the float. “Only a few spots remain, so act fast!” the promo said Yeah, right. If you have that kind of spare cash and are interested, you can email: rosefloat@rotaryfloat.org

Here is your chance to walk or ride in the 2024 Rose Parade!

Are you ready to be part of one of the most exciting parades in the world and showcase your passion for Rotary?

Join the Rotary team and represent our community with pride. Don't miss out on this opportunity to be part of the iconic Rose Parade.

Only a few spots remain, so act fast!

Walking spots are available for \$6,500 and riding spots for \$10,000.

Contact us now to secure your spot and let's bloom together in the 2024 Rose Parade.

e-mail: rosefloat@rotaryfloat.org
The Float is a project of The Rotary Rose Parade Float Committee



Launching into the club updates we were reminded of:

11/17 – Board meeting on Zoom at noon

12/8 – Holiday party at the HALL’s house in the evening from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. (There will be no meeting that afternoon ... In fact, no meetings at all until after the new year.) \$35 per person, with catering by Garcia’s Mexican Restaurant. Non-alcoholic beverages will be provided and there will be a prize for Best Holiday Hat! Dress warmly because, although there is some inside seating available, part of the party will be outside. Besides, it feels more like Christmas that way, right?? And you can always huddle up close to the firepits.

12/9 – Boat Rides with Santa fundraiser event from 11 am to 3 pm. Still looking for a few more volunteers. Contact RENEE to sign up. (We also passed around a clipboard for signups for both the party and the fundraiser.)

Before RENEE could move on to the next item on her list, we were blasted with the loud, comical, musical ringtone coming from DAVE NYDEGGER’s phone. “That’ll cost me \$5!”, DAVE sheepishly grumbled. *

Getting back on track, RENEE informed us of:

1/12 – First meeting of 2024 – a Club Assembly

And an early “Save the Date” for the April 20th party at Heritage Park to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Oceanside Rotary. Because if you miss that event, you will have to wait another 100 years for the next one!

SHOR took some time to talk about her dad, who was a veteran – a Seabee who served in the Korean War. “I respect my father and I am glad that he was in the military.”

VISITORS AND GUESTS



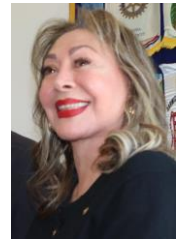
Having been shamed for his forgetfulness a few too many times before, ED PARISH jumped right up (before THOMASINA was even half way to the podium) to introduce his sweetheart ANNE SPERAW. (See... You CAN teach an old dog new tricks!)



THOMASINA joined in the veteran salutes with a shout out to her son, now retired from service, but “Once a Marine, always a Marine!”



Our first announced guest was ANA FERNANDEZ from the Tijuana Rotary Club which we were told has about 96 members, including their satellite club. ANA extended an invitation for us to be involved with their next big project on Saturday, January 13. Their “Los Reyes” event celebrates the Three Wise Men with gifts, and their club provides toys and blankets for 400 to 500 local kids and holds a Family Fair complete with games and a petting zoo. This is a big undertaking, and they would love it if we could help by providing toys, and/or cash, and/or volunteers. They can even make arrangements to pick you up at the border to make your travel there easier. They start with a dinner on Friday night at the iconic Caesar’s Restaurant, hold the main event on Saturday morning, and then provide a carne asada feast afterwards for volunteers. She will touch base with our club to see how we might help out.



In a case of perfect timing, guest (and potential new transfer to our Oceanside Rotary from the San Marcos club) DANA ALBERT walked in the door precisely when RENEE was





scanning for other guests. While she was thinking about him, she mentioned that he has been a part of a planned collaboration on a Mental Health Fair on May 18th.

BILL DERN introduced his “baby brother” JOHN. “He is spoiled, as they all are.” (Spoken like an obnoxious older brother.) JOHN has recently relocated from the Bay Area to Colorado, and is in our town visiting for a month. Welcome, Baby Bro!



Last, but not least, President SHOR pointed out her partner DENEEN who was with us for this meeting.



Before THOMASINA gave up the microphone (which was not working particularly well this day), she gave us one last chance to fill in the club survey and she also displayed the board which tracks Red Badgers on their way to completing their checklist of tasks to qualify for Blue Badge status. SEAN LOWE is dangerously close to being blue. Come on, SEAN! Get across that finish line!

Thinking that our president had forgotten an important tradition, VICKIE PROSSER was volunteered from the floor to lead our Welcome Song, but SHOR swore that “It was the next thing on my agenda.” (Yeah, right, but it should have happened earlier!)



CLUB ELECTIONS

Normally we hold our election of club officers and board members in December, but this year we won't be having a meeting that month. So Secretary RENEE returned to the podium to handle the official nominations and voting for our 2024 leadership. There are still openings for 4 more board members as well as for President Elect, to serve as President 2025-26. (We do have a member willing to take that role on, but she or he is hoping that someone will step up to be a Co-President. If interested in any of these open spots, talk to the current board.)

Here is the slate which has been pre-approved by the board:

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

PAUL WENDEE: Co-President

JANET BLEDSOE LACY: Co-President

?: President-Elect

RENEE RICHARDSON: Secretary

LES NEWQUIST: Treasurer

BRAD FISHER: Sgt. At Arms

SHOR DENNY: Immediate Past President

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THOMASINA JACKSON, ROGER VANDERWERKEN, MIKE CURTIN,
LOLA SHERMAN, LYN CORDER, DAN WILSON, JAY CRAWFORD

There being no further nominations from the floor, approval of this slate was moved by BOB PICKREL seconded by VICKIE PROSSER and unanimously approved by a voice vote of the members in attendance. Congratulations and Thank You to our incoming officers!

PRESIDENT'S STUFF

SHOR said that she LOVES this part of the meeting. (There's that energy again.) She mentioned that one of her foci (plural for "focus," in case you were wondering) for the Rotary year is more awareness of Mental Health and Cultural issues. To follow through on that, she called BRAD FISHER up to give us a "Cultural Moment" which described the Indian celebration of Diwali taking place November 10-15. This Festival of Lights crosses religious barriers and is a time for family and for sweet treats.



The last item under Prez Biz was asking if everyone had received a "Create Hope in the World" Rotary Theme pin by now. She had handed them out earlier in the year and apparently everyone had one, because no one raised their hand.

BIRTHDAYS AND OTHER CELEBRATIONS

Out of the lots and LOTS of November and December member birthdays in our club, only DAVE HALL was present. But he was joined in our "Best Birthday Ever" photo opp by guest ANA FERNANDEZ who admitted to being "50 for the 20th time." DAVE donated \$100 to the



Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation to mark his big day, and we all sang a big “Happy Birthday to You” to the both of them. On ANA’s way back to her seat, JIM SCHRODER tried to croon the Mexican version of “Las Mananitas”, but he fizzled out mid-verse.

A WEDDING ANNIVERSARY was marked by DALE MAAS who was \$20 happy for “seven years with the most amazing woman in the world” - NIKKI.



And for CLUB ANNIVERSARIES, we called up LOLA SHERMAN (14 years), TERRI HALL (32 years total and 22 years in this club, good for a \$100 contribution to her next Paul Harris plus infinity pin), and LYN CORDER. There was some confusion and discussion about when LYN actually joined us, even though everyone believes “Our Secretary is never wrong!”

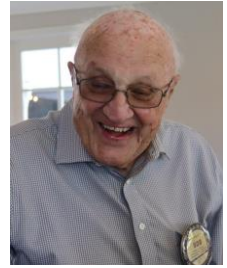
SHOR asked the anniversary folks if they would like to share “What kept you coming to Rotary?” LOLA said, “I didn’t know that I would be put on the spot” and let TERRI take the lead on an answer. She joined way back when women were just recently allowed into Rotary and she could see that the “movers and shakers” in the community all belonged. She started out with the thought that, through Rotary membership, she would be better connected to the donors to the non-profit she was working for, but soon she found that Rotary was so much more than just these types of connections. Now: “I love you people! You are my reason for getting up during the week!”

“QUICK” HAPPY DOLLARS TIME

THOMASINA JACKSON, noting that in our last edition of Shorelines Oceanside Rotary was dubbed a “travel club”, started us off with \$10 to share how great her recent Bahamas cruise was and swears, “I will continually travel!” (*see some of her travel photos in our “out and about” section*).



BOB PICKREL gave a total of \$40: \$20 for the Marine Corps birthday and \$20 for Veterans Day. He confessed, "I have this \$40 to give because, as speaker, I didn't have to pay for my lunch!"



TINA ORTIZ had \$20 to gush that she is LOVING her new job with the MiraCosta College Foundation. "I know I landed at the right spot!" And she also is proud to be the daughter of two Marines.

While TINA was up, we took the opportunity to award her beautiful blue stone adorned new pin signifying Paul Harris plus Five status. She was quite humble when she matter-of-factly mentioned, "Even during my years out of Rotary, I continued to donate." Now that is dedication to a cause!



ANCHISA FARRANT held up \$2 in thanks for the great support the club gave to her decorated pumpkin fundraiser. She only had two of the beautified gourds left for sale, and TINA snapped them both up. All of the money is going straight to our club. Thanks, ANCHISA!

TERRI HALL was \$10 proud of the fine job that her "birthday boy" DAVE had done presenting at the recent Foundation seminar, talking about our grant projects.



JAY CRAWFORD was \$10 happy to be from a family with such an extensive history in the military. Dad was a Lt. Col. In the Army, Mom worked at Lackland Air Force Base, an uncle was at Pearl Harbor, and a brother was a jet pilot. Oh, yeah. And JAY himself served in the Air Force Reserves. Salute to the whole Crawford Clan!

TOM BRAULT told a tale worth \$5 of how he had run into ANCHISA at the supermarket. She noticed that he was buying green beans and said, "I grow some really good ones!" (Of course, she does!) So, she brought a baggie with a handful of long gorgeous beans as a gift for the Brault family.



When President SHOR, running behind, announced “Time for just one more,” ED PARISH was the lucky one to have the last word. He was \$5 happy that, after months of waiting, his sweetheart ANNE’s hip surgery was finally going to happen soon. Best wishes for a successful surgery and recovery!



** (Please Note: After saying that he knew his ringtone was going to cost him, DAVE N. was conspicuously absent from the crop of contributors coughing up cash on this day.)*

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM FROM ONE OF OUR OWN

Before segueing into the Veteran stuff, our Program Chair JANET BLEDSOE LACY gave a brief history of women in Rotary. Then she got ready to call up our speaker – a man who truly needs no introduction to this club. “BOB PICKREL is one of my favorite Rotarians!” JANET said. He is “always smiling” and she believes that he may be the oldest veteran in our club.



BOB spoke first about the ambitious project which the Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation had spearheaded about 20 years ago – raising a total of \$150,000 from various donors and sources to fund the kitchen at the Veterans Association of North County building on Mission. In particular, BOB noted, PP GRAHAM FRASER and RUDY VAN HUNNICK “both had their hearts in this project.” And that is one of the ways that our Rotary is always active in supporting veterans and the community.

The main topic BOB wanted to cover was his experiences in Korea. But he apologized in advance: “If I forget some things, it has been a couple of years since then.”

His family moved to California in 1948. Eventually he attended Pasadena City College where two important things happened: 1) The school at the time was “loaded with WWII vets, and they knew how to study”, which helped BOB to become a better learner by following their lead; and 2) He met DARLENE, whom he planned to marry in June of 1951.



After graduation, BOB went to work for Bank of America (his career for 41 years!), but just 6 months after he started there, he received his draft notice. His first experience in the military was showing up at a large hall for an orientation, where all 100 new draftees were ordered to strip down to their skivvies right then and there. “It was the first step in the military reducing our ‘I/Me’ mentality” to instead form the men into a team.

Basic training was followed by a transfer to Camp Roberts where they “did nothing but marching in close order drills on the parade field for months.” Their 1st Sgt. was quite a fit fellow. “He could walk the legs off of a duck!” and he really whipped his troops into good physical condition, which came in quite handy when they were eventually on grueling missions out in the warzone.

During a very short window of opportunity during this time, BOB and DARLENE moved up their plans and found the time for a wedding and one night honeymoon in April of 1951.

His unit was finally assigned to a ship to take them overseas. There were 3000 men onboard, berthed in bunks stacked 5 high, and with such crowded conditions, he recalls “We were always in line for food.” They weathered a brutal storm off the Aleutians, truly battening down the hatches, but finally landed in Yokohama where they moved over to a smaller ship to take them to Inchon Harbor on the west side of Korea, about 20 miles outside of Seoul.

Forty of his group were selected for medical training, “So I became a doctor.” Well, not quite a “doctor,” because his training lasted all of 15 days, basically learning the basics of First Aid, getting the wounded stabilized for transfer to more advanced facilities in the rear. They were able to get the men bandaged up and to a M.A.S.H. unit quickly, and this dramatically reduced the normal death rate in the field.

His assignment was to a “spearhead group” of the 5th Regimental Combat Team, and he received a bit more training to become an aide to four squads, but he also carried a rifle. BOB recalls that the medics did not wear any medical insignia so they wouldn’t stand out as targets. Thankfully, BOB spared us any gory, graphic descriptions of what he saw and lived through, but he did sum it up by somberly stating, “War is horrible. We all know it.” And “It always seems to be getting worse, with more civilians involved.”

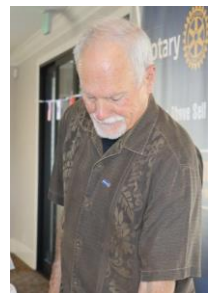
At this point, President SHOR called out that there were just five minutes left. BOB's retort: "Well, you took all of my time!" (*Cue the crowd's laughter.*)

He went on to describe how the hilly terrain of Korea added to the difficulty of advancing the troops forward. There was a lot of "hold and wait." One of the major campaigns that he was attached to went from the 1st of October through the end of November. Then they stayed on the "winter line", deep in North Korean territory, in the bitter cold from the end of November to mid-February. Wearing parkas was a problem, BOB described, because it would make you sweat too much. It was better to dress in layers, and he often would have a waterproof field jacket over 2 or 3 sweaters over the one T-shirt that "wouldn't come off for 6 to 8 weeks." Showers were a rare and bone-chilling thing. BOB told us that he couldn't even think about zipping himself to be covered in his sleeping bag (which was shared in shifts), because it would stink too much. On the brighter side, he said that he didn't mind C-rations and actually found the corned beef hash to be rather good – hot or cold, and he loved the sausage, except for when it was cold and had a white layer of grease covering it. (*There's the gory and gruesome stuff!*)

"I could talk for another hour," BOB said, and we would have been riveted listening for longer. But the clock was ticking, so he wrapped up by telling us that he came off the line in February of 1952, with a National Guard unit relieving them. He spent some time at a camp with Chinese prisoners and eventually headed back to the States in June of 1952, working in a hospital until his discharge in November of that year. In his closing words, some of us got a lump in our throats as he described how moving it was for him to see the Golden Gate Bridge when he returned to the U.S.A. This moved his audience to give BOB a standing ovation in gratitude for his presentation and for his service to the country.

OPPORTUNITY DRAWING

Since the big jackpot was won last time by JAY, the lucky ticket holder would be seeking the joker in a brand-new deck of 52 other cards. That special ticket was held by MIKE WESELOH, but he kicked off the new deck with a dud of a draw – just a Three. Awww! But he earned \$10.



With undiminished energy and with a big smile on her face, President SHOR banged our bell with her gavel over and over and over, but never said the word “Adjourned”, so we just sat there, unmoved, until she finally verbalized, “Bye bye!”

REMEMBER: THERE ARE NO MEETINGS IN DECEMBER, ALTHOUGH THERE ARE SOME HOLIDAY EVENTS WHEN YOU CAN GATHER WITH YOUR ROTARY FRIENDS.

HAVE A HOLLY, JOLLY CHRISTMAS, FRIENDS. AND WISHING YOU AND YOURS A WONDERFUL KICKOFF TO 2024!!



A HAPPY DOLLAR MESSAGE THAT DIDN'T MAKE THE CUT

Since near the end of our club business our President was already cutting into our speaker's time, she cut off Happy Dollars before VICKIE PROSSER had the chance to pay her tribute. So, she sent it in to Shorelines. Here it is, in her own words:

“First of all, I want to recognize the fact that we are celebrating Veteran's Day today, but it is also the 248th birthday of the United States Marine Corps! I am happy to share the following...

My father retired as a Marine Captain after serving in World War II as a Marine Raider and in the Chosin Reservoir during Korean War. He retired after serving more than 20 years.

My father-in-law was a Pearl Harbor survivor in World War II, a Korean War veteran (also serving in the Chosin Reservoir) and he served in the Vietnam war. He retired as a Master Gunnery Sergeant after 30+ years in the Marine Corps.

My husband served 22+ years and retired as a Marine Lieutenant Colonel. He is also a Vietnam vet.

I also want to honor and recognize the spouses and families of our vets who have supported our servicemen during very difficult times. My dad did not get to see me until I was 13 months old. My mother-in-law was raising eight children when Lloyd's dad went to Vietnam for 13 months. Lloyd and I have been separated three times during our 56 years of marriage - each time for over a year during his unaccompanied overseas tours.

It takes a team, and I am proud to be part of that team. God bless the USA!

ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

We had heard through the grapevine (and written in the Shorelines) that LESLY ADAMS had signed herself up for a very early morning slot as a volunteer for the “Bike the Coast” event in Oceanside in early November. But until we saw these photos, we didn’t truly grasp how truly early it was! This makes you wonder Why in the heck is LESLY smiling at that ungodly hour of the day?



We should note that BILL DERN also volunteered at this event. (Hopefully, it wasn’t at “Zero Dark Thirty” for him, too!) Many thanks to LESLY and BILL for being out there, doing good in our community!

THOMASINA JACKSON sent some photos of her recent cruise: she said there was no “flying, water skiing, or dune bugging – just eating, drinking and relaxing!”



Next up, the next installment of photos and captions from our legendary traveler JIM SCHRODER

SCHRODER'S TUNISIA TIME

01 - Doors of Tunisia are all unique. This door is found in the Medina, old walled part of the city. It actually is a very well-known restaurant. We returned for dinner. The building was built in the 17th century.

02 - City of Constantine. Notice the haze in the air in the distance. It is the sand blowing off the Sahara Desert hundreds of miles away.

03 - Dougga - another preserved ancient Roman city in Northern Africa

04 - Roman Ruins

05 - I was proud of this photo with the framing of the building in the rear.

06 - Ancient toilets. Nothing like no privacy



07 - Souk in Majaz al Bab - a fish Market along with other market food items for sale

08 - Anyone interested in buying Olives all grown locally?

09 - Lamb anyone. Great refrigeration.

10 - Hum...head of the animal anyone?

11 - I could not resist taking this man's photo

12 - Pomegranate tree



13 - City of Djerba paints murals on the walls of many homes. What a great idea. It brings people from all over to see the art on the homes. The owner can say yes or no to the painting subject. It remains on the home for several years and then it is repainted and changed out. Clever.

14 - Another example

15 - I was close to the Libyan border. We saw a number of cars with license plates from Libya. Notice the warnings what you cannot bring in.

16 - Berber Village of Chenini where locales live inside the hill in caves

17 - Grainey where the movies Star Wars Episode 4 was filmed



18 - Yours truly on the stairs

19 - Drove for 5 hours over sand dunes in 4X4 to get to our Sahara Desert Camp and tents.

20 - Home sweet home tent #10. After the full moon set around 3 a.m. I went outside and stood staring up into the night sky. There was zero light pollution. You could see the Milky Way, Galaxies galore. It was pure darkness. The longer you looked up the more you could see. Even a falling star. It was awesome.

21 - I was the first to jump up and hop on a camel and take off over the desert dunes.

22 - The dates are all locally grown and so good. I could not get enough.

23 - A camel caravan. It stopped traffic for 20 minutes.



24 – Roman Ruins at Sbertla

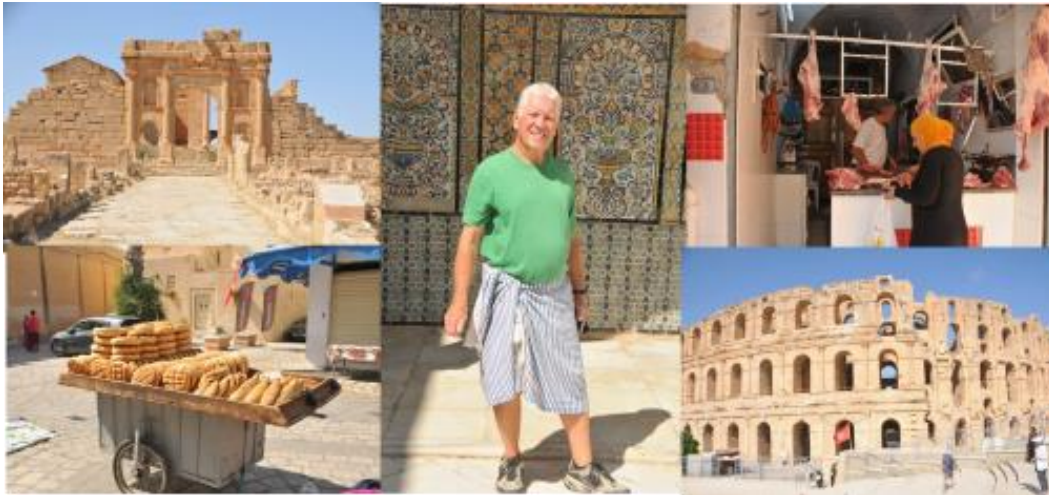
25 – Lamb for sale

26 - Fresh bread just out of the oven for sale. It sold fast, too.

27 - We stopped at mosque and I had to put this wrap on. My knees were showing. I thought I had pulled my shorts I was wearing down low enough, but not enough to satisfy everyone.

28 - El Djem - 3rd largest Roman Amphitheater in the world. It is stacked stone blocks too. No nails or anything holding it together. Amazing. From the 2nd and 3rd Century.

29 - The arches are impressive to walk through



30 - Photo of yours truly and the work of the amphitheater

31 - Stop at Hammamet on the Mediterranean. A seaside resort town.

32 - Hotel at Sidi Bou Said. View from the hotel is awesome overlooking the Mediterranean

33 - View from the lower garden looking out at the sea

34 - Final stop was at the North Africa American Cemetery and Memorial at Carthage outside of Tunis. It is the only American burial in North Africa with campaigns from 1942 and 1943 against Rommel.

35 - Here is a full wall of the battles and time in history when it all took place. We have the local person in charge explaining the history of the battles.



36 - The wall of those Missing in Service on land and sea has 3,724 names listed. I found the name of our family name Schroeder listed in those missing.

37 - There are 2,777 headstones of those interred including a Medal of Honor recipient. Three of our travelers in our group were US veterans and a flower bouquet was presented, by the three of them, in honor of those that gave their lives so that we may enjoy many of our freedoms today. A question was asked why bury them here and not in the US? Many chose to remain with their fellow soldiers if something happened to them. I was very moved by our visit here. This was definitely an interesting trip to visit Algeria and Tunisia. We saw no other Americans, that we know of, during our 3 weeks in both countries.



COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

Friday, December 8th – Annual Holiday Party at the home of TERRI and DAVE HALL (4285 Sunnyhill Drive, Carlsbad) 6:30 to 8:30 pm. \$35 per person. RSVP ASAP to RENEE

Saturday, December 9th – Boat Rides with Santa – Volunteer for this club fundraising opportunity

Friday, January 12, 2024 – Our first meeting of 2024 – a Club Assembly

Not “Soon”, but an Important Date:

Saturday, April 20 – Mark your calendar NOW to make sure that you will be available to attend the planned party at Heritage Park to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Oceanside Rotary.