

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

November 14, 2025

At precisely 12:30, Co-President- **ROGER VANDERWERKEN** called the meeting to order. He asked **LAURA BASSETT** to lead us in the Pledge to our flag. **ROGER** also asked our Veterans to stand and be recognized for their service to our country: **JOHN AULT, JAY CRAWFORD, MICHAEL JENKINS, LES NEWQUIST, DAVID NYDEGGER, BOB PICKREL, TOM BRAULT, PAUL WENDEE and ROGER** all were proud to have served.



Visitor **ANNA MARIA FERNANDEZ** then led is in reciting the 4 Way Test. As there was no assigned song leader, **PP TOM BRAULT** bravely stepped forward to lead us. A very weak rendition of “It’s Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas” (Weak and short, because **TOM** realized very few people, himself included, actually knew all the words) was followed by a hearty “Smile”!



ROGER reminded us of the packaging of 10,000 meals tomorrow at the Boys and Girls Club of San Marcos. Volunteers signed up are: **RENEE, PAUL, TERRI, DAVE H., JOHN, TOM, ERNIE, DANA, MICHAEL, ANCHISA and ROGER.**

He then reviewed the **Club Updates** which included a review of the notes on the tables:

- Thursday, November 20, 4:30 pm, VisTAY Thanksgiving Meal delivery;
- Friday, December 12, 6 pm, Holiday Social, home of Dale and Nikki, 5130 Bella Collina, Oceanside \$25 per person;

- Saturday, Dec. 13, Boat Rides with Santa, Oceanside Harbor, 10:30 am-3 pm;
- Saturday, Dec. 20, 8 am English Lab Christmas Party, Tijuana, Joint service celebration;
- Friday, Jan 9, 2026 12 noon First Meeting of New Year;
- Saturday, Jan 18, Dia de los Reyes celebration, El Trompo Museum, Tijuana

Introduction of Visiting Rotarians and Guests:

ARIEL REYES, Chief Executive Officer, WRC, and **ANNA MARIA FERNANDEZ** from the Tijuana Club. **PP TOM BRAULT** led us in the Welcome Song.



RENEE then gave updates on the Election of Officers and Board of Directors, for the Rotary Year 2026-27.

Slate of Officers and Board of Directors as of July 1, 2026:

President: Renee Richardson
 President Elect: Roger VanDerwerken- 2027-2028
 President Elect-Elect: Dana Albert-2028-2029
 Secretary: Renee Richardson
 Treasurer: Les Newquist
 Sgt.At Arms: Anchisa Farrant
 Past President: Paul Wendee

Board of Directors

3 Open Positions, term expires 7-1-29
 Richard Jennings- term expires 7-1-27
 Lola Sherman-term expires 7-1-27
 Michael Jenkins-term expires 7-1-27
 Open, term expires 7-1-27
 Mike Curtin-term expires 7-1-28
 Open, term expires 7-1-28
 Jay Crawford- term expires 7-1-28

ROGER introduced **FILIPPO VIOLA** and invited him to give his **Who am I?** presentation to the Club:

FILIPPO was born and raised in New York, where his parents owned Italian Restaurants where he hung out most days. He and his wife moved to Hawaii where they lived for 8 years where he learned to love surfing. After that, they moved to Yucaipa where his wife worked in the nursing field and they had children, and where he decided to go into Real Estate, since he was good at selling, but there weren't many options for retail sales there (one of them being bulk sales in marijuana, which **FILIPPO** said didn't interest him). After a while he tired of being in such a small town, after being raised in New York, and they bought a fixer-upper home in Oceanside. After working on it for five years, the renovations were finally completed. He now has a successful career in Real Estate sales, where he feels that he can help people in what can be a life-changing and stressful time.



BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND HAPPY DOLLARS

ROGER invited **PP DAVE HALL** to come up and asked him how happy he was to have a birthday in November. **DAVE** said he was \$100 happy and wanted his donation to go to the Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation Endowment fund.
THANKS, DAVE!



DAVID NYDEGGER was happy to hear that **JOHN AULT** would be our speaker today as Navy Chaplain, since **DAVID** was in the Navy for 10 years, and in those ten years he served on six different ships. He was \$6 happy, one dollar for each ship!

ROGER then asked **PP/AG TERRI HALL** to stand and asked how long she has been a Rotarian. Caught off guard as she sat at the back table (BIG mistake for the Shorelines Reporter!) she stumbled out, 34 years! Ten in her first Club in Ridgecrest (one of **ROGER'S** former stations as a Navy Chaplain in China Lake) and 24 in Oceanside. How happy was she? Only \$20 as she forgot about this anniversary and did not come prepared with a check.



LOLA SHERMAN was asked how happy she was for her 16 years of membership in Rotary and she was \$16 happy.



LYN CORDER was asked how long she had been in Rotary and she vacillated between 6 and 7 years. \$7 happy.

JOHN AULT was \$33 happy for his 33rd anniversary with his wife, **DOTTIE**.

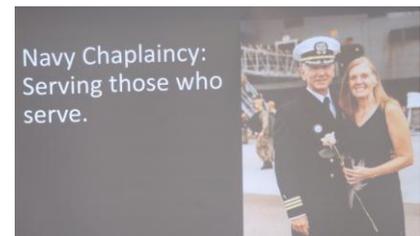


ROGER then showed a short video about **ANNA MARIA's** program for children with special needs in Tijuana and then presented a \$500 donation from our club for the Los Reyes Event in Tijuana on January 17, 2026 – **ROGER'S** Breakwater Community Church also contributed \$1100 toward this project.

PP TERRI reminded us that this next **Thursday, November 20 is the opportunity to serve a Thanksgiving meal to the youth from VisTAY** who graduated from foster care and are in various training programs and support for education and employment. She passed the sign up sheet around to see if there are any more food donors.

Shorelines Managing Editor **TOM BRAULT** made **another impassioned plea** for members to consider giving reporting for our club's newsletter a try. If we do not add a few more names to our roster, we simply might not be able to produce this valuable communication for the club going forward. We aim to have just one reporting assignment every three months, so this is a manageable task, and lots of support is helping you behind the scenes. Contact **TOM** to learn more about what is involved and consider joining the Shorelines Staff in its time of great need.

ROGER welcomed one of our newer members, **JOHN AULT** to present the **program** on his military service as Chaplain at Camp Pendleton.



JOHN has been a Chaplain in the Navy since he was thirty-six years old. He has a Masters of Divinity Degree and works with all of the enlisted personnel seeking his support or intervention. As Chaplain, to be inclusive, he does not promote a particular religion. However, he represents the Christian faith and can recommend Jewish, Islamic, or any other appropriate minister to those in need. His efforts are to help with whatever problem a person comes to him with and offer solutions or a listening ear so as not to make things worse. Services are for the population in general, not just his religion.

JOHN's role is to facilitate his own faith but provide resources and equal access no matter the religion. As we are not a theocracy in America, he is trained in suicide prevention as well as 100% confidential counseling to those he serves. Often his role is to just listen, not problem-solve. He has an open-door policy and as he is willing to listen and care. There is a Chaplain on every ship and as the Chaplain does not get a weapon, he or she has a body guard assigned. In 1775, at the beginning of the formation of the Navy, it was established that a Chaplain be provided but would not represent a particular faith, ensuring the ability for the servicemembers to freely practice their religion. In the early days, the Chaplain taught men to read and write.

The Chaplain has to be aware of who is around him/her so he doesn't spout a particular religious premise and he needs to be apolitical and cooperate without compromising or promising things he cannot do. Best thing for him is the Chaplain gets to help people, like providing help with marriages, and it has helped his own as well.



Questions: Does he perform marriages? Yes, but only for those of his own faith. If a Rabbi or other minister is needed, he can find the right person.

Is the old Ranch House Chapel on the base still used? **JOHN** doesn't think so.

ANCHISA FARRANT made the speaker's gift, a darling decorated pumpkin for **JOHN** which said "Blessed". It was perfect.♥ She also had more pumpkins for sale for \$25 each and **JANET BLEDSOE LACY** bought one and **TERRI HALL** bought three. **THANK YOU FOR FUNDRAISING FOR US, ANCHISA!**



OPPORTUNITY DRAWING –**PP JAY CRAWFORD** had the winning ticket but didn't pick the Joker so he made do with the \$10 consolation prize. Now only ten cards left. Somebody has to win this jackpot soon!



ROGER reminded us to leave a TIP for our server and adjourned the meeting at 1:30 pm.

10,000 meals in 72 minutes!!

At the early hour of 8 am on Saturday, November 15, 52 volunteers from the Oceanside and San Marcos Rotary Clubs along with some friends and family, assembled at the Boys and Girls Club in San Marcos for our joint volunteer event, assembling packages of macaroni and cheese which would be included in donations to various local food pantries – including One Safe Place, Brother Benno’s, food pantries at Palomar College and Cal State San Marcos, and the San Diego Food Bank. The two clubs also donated \$4,848 to support Feeding America’s hunger relief efforts.

After hearing a brief set of instructions from our Feeding America coordinator, we divided into groups at tables and gradually became proficient at the different tasks required in this process: Inserting cheese packets into the bags, pouring soy chunks and macaroni noodles through a funnel, weighing the final product (which had to be somewhere between 252 to 254 grams, with just one or two dinky noodles making the difference between “too light” and “just right”), heat sealing the bag, slapping a “Lot #” sticker onto the bag, and finally, counting each batch of 36 bags to fill one box.



Our coordinator would get on the microphone to announce the milestones as they were reached: “One thousand meals” “Two thousand meals” ... etc. all the way up to our impressive final target of 10,000 meals packaged which we hit after just

72 minutes of well-oiled volunteer efforts (and with only minimal spillage of noodles here and there onto the floor).

Oceanside Rotarians who served included: **RENEE RICHARDSON, PAUL WENDEE, ROGER VANDERWERKEN, ERNIE MASCITTI, TOM BRAULT, TERRI HALL, DAVE HALL, DANA ALBERT, MICHAEL JENKINS, ANCHISA FARRANT, JOHN AULT**, and, filling in for his brother in Las Vegas, **JOHN DERN** and his wife **CARRIE**.

Oceanside Rotary – Supporting Nicholas Leadership Academy Thanksgiving Food Pantry Project

The Oceanside Rotary Club is proud to support the students and families of Nicholas Leadership Academy by helping fill their Food Pantry for Thanksgiving. Many of these students rely on the school pantry for consistent access to healthy meals, and our club has the opportunity to make a meaningful difference during the holiday season.



This project will ensure that families facing food insecurity can enjoy a warm and nourishing Thanksgiving. By donating pantry staples, meal ingredients, and seasonal items, we are helping Nicholas Leadership Academy provide comfort, dignity, and support to those who need it most.

From Marissa Reese, Nicholas Leadership Academy: I just wanted to update you on the amazing results of our food drive. We gathered and prepared boxes for 27 families literally overflowing with soups and chili, kid-friendly staples, milk, snacks, and a complete thanksgiving meal with a turkey, sides, and pie ingredients! Families are picking them up by appointment through the rest of the week in advance of the week off school.

The help of Oceanside Rotary was not only valuable to this drive; it was really inspiring to our parents and staff. It means so much to have the support of a group outside of our immediate neighborhood! The surprise visit with additional donations today was the cherry on top and allowed us to add 2 extra boxes. Again, I want to extend heartfelt thanks from the Nichols Leadership Academy community. We are so grateful!

ViSTAY Thanksgiving Meal Delivery

A small but hardy band of Oceanside Rotarians prepared, delivered, and served Thanksgiving meals to the youth at ViSTAY in Vista on Thursday, Nov 20th. Rotarians in evidence were **JIM SHRODER, ROGER VANDERWERKEN, RENEE WENDEE, PAUL WENDEE, TERRI HALL, and DAVE HALL**. Other Rotarians who provided elements of the meal but could not be present included **TINA ORTIZ, FILIPPO VIOLA, and JANET LACY**.



COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

Friday, November 28 – DARK for Thanksgiving

No Regular Meetings in December, due to holidays and holiday party

Friday, December 12 - OCEANSIDE ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY at the home of Dale and Nikki, 5130 Bella Collina, Oceanside - \$25 per person

Saturday, December 13 – Boat Rides with Santa – Volunteer at fundraiser

Friday, January 9 – Club Assembly meeting

Saturday, January 17 – Dia de los Reyes – Tijuana – 8 am to noon