

October 11, 2024

Co-President **JANET BLEDSOE LACY** opened the meeting with a bang at approximately 12:30. As this Reporter was enjoying her lunch she failed to note the time and barely was aware of the place (which shall be clear soon.)

MICHAEL JENKINS was called upon to lead us in the pledge.

After **MICHAEL** doing a great job, **JANET** suddenly looked at **PP TERRI HALL** and asked her to lead us in reciting the 4 Way Test. Unfortunately, **PP TERRI** was heard to say an unladylike and un-Rotarian like *"Holy Crap!"* She quickly recovered when it was pointed out to her that the 4-Way Test banner *was* in the room, just in a different place. Whew! **PP TERRI** did not have to rely on memory to recite this long, complicated and wordy recitation.



CoP JANET did not proffer one of her usual jokes this week but proceeded to share a very long and complicated treatise on the History of Halloween. (*NOTE: This section was edited to accommodate those not accustomed to Attorneys rambling on indefinitely when no opposing counsel is present to object.)*

Halloween's origins date back to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain (pronounced sow-in). The Celts, who lived 2,000 years ago, mostly in the area that is now Ireland, the United Kingdom and northern France, celebrated their new year on November 1. This day marked the end of summer and the harvest and the beginning of the dark, cold winter, a time of year that was often associated with human death. Celts believed that on the night before the new year, the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead became blurred. On the night of October 31 they celebrated Samhain, when it was believed that the ghosts of the dead returned to earth. Included within the celebration of Halloween, is the concept of witches riding on brooms. From the beginning, brooms were associated primarily with women, and this household object became a powerful symbol of female domesticity. Despite this, the first witch to confess to riding a broom was a man: Guillaume Edelin. Edelin was a priest from Saint-Germain-en-Laye, near Paris. He was arrested in 1453 and tried for witchcraft after publicly criticizing the church's warnings about witches. His confession came under torture, and he eventually repented but was still imprisoned for life.

Did you know? One quarter of all the candy sold annually in the U.S. is purchased for Halloween.

Did you know? More people are buying costumes for their pets. Americans spent some \$700 million on costumes for their pets in 2023-more than three times what they spent in 2010



PP/SECRETARY RENEE RICHARDSON gave Club Updates:

Saturday, October 12th A Brighter Future Fundraiser Womens Resource Center and Edward Jones Toy Drive- October 21st through December 6th Friday, October 18th Board meeting via ZOOM at noon Sunday, October 20th – Escondido Rotary 100th Anniversary - RI President Stephanie Urchick will be the guest speaker/ Reception/Dinner/Speech \$140 Dinner/Speech \$100 Speech Only \$25.00 4:30 pm to 8:00 pm. Stephanie will speak at 7:00 PM

Friday, October 25th – Regular Meeting – LifeArk Homeless Housing

Introduction of Visiting Rotarians and Guests: PP RENEE

PP DAVE HALL introduced guest **RUDY VAN HUNNICK PP VICKIE PROSSER** introduced Visiting Rotarians from the El Camino Rotary Club: **ROB TAYLOR, GREG MORONES, JO ANNE O'MEARA**



Guests were welcomed with an energetic rendition of Welcome to Oceanside Rotary lead by **PP VICKIE**

President's Stuff – CoP JANET

October Birthdays: When asked by CoP JANET what happened on a particular day, these were the Birthday Boys' responses:

RICHARD JENNINGS said it was "the day I was hatched" DAVID NYDEGGAR– \$25 Happy dollars in the amount of the age I wish I was (he turned 80) DAN WILSON – went with tradition and was \$61 happy CoP PAUL WENDEE – Liked DAVID's idea, and was \$25 happy

October Club Anniversaries: CoP RENEE was \$35 happy to have been a Rotarian for 35 years which is longer than any of her marriages has lasted. She donated online at My Rotary.

Happy Dollars:

VICKIE PROSSER – \$5 happy to have gotten a text from **PP JIM SCHRODER** who is in India. He said **PP DALE MAAS** called him at 1:00 AM local time (forgot he was in India). (*See more on JIM*'s *trip in Rotarians Out and About*)



DARREL LARSON - \$20 happy to be here, since he was in North Carolina at the same time as Hurricane Helene!

PP DALE MAAS - \$10 happy to be here, and announce that his son's football game is tonight and they're doing very well! (he's $7 \frac{1}{2}$)

PP RENEE – passing on an announcement of \$100 happy dollars from **LESLY ADAMS**, who is working 3 jobs and can't make it to meetings, for the club fundraiser.



PP TERRI HALL - \$5 happy for the beautiful "thank you" flowers Rudy brought her

RUDY VAN HUNNICK – Upped his usual \$40 happy dollars to \$100 thanking TERRI for arranging











the presentation last meeting honoring his father's contribution to the Nazi resistance in Holland. He donated half to the Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation and half to the club.



ROGER VANDERWERKEN - \$20 happy for today's program: **FERNANDA** went to Turkey as a Rotary exchange student, **ROGER** went to Holland, **ROGER**'S daughter went to Belgium, and **ROGER**'S son went to Kenya!



SHERRI SINGLETON - \$5 happy for **MICHAEL JENKINS'** induction (that she missed last meeting), another long-term care worker in the club!

ANCHISA FARRANT - \$4 happy for getting 75 passion fruit from Roger's garden, and in gratitude she presented him with a decorated pumpkin!



PP RENEE introduced today's **Program** by **FERNANDA TORRES** – **Distict 5340 Group Study Exchange Director** who is active in the San Diego Coastal Clubs and International Projects. She has organized many trips for Club and is so passionate about these programs.

FERNANDA was dressed in full costume and as she began, it became clear that this outfit was from her trip as an exchange student to Turkey at age 17. Her family had hosted a little girl from Belgium and had a total of twenty

exchange students at their home over the years. She explained the complications of the selection process, the need to get a Visa in order to go to her assigned destination, Turkey, which was a thirty-six hour trip!

FERNANDA proceeded to explain the selection process for exchange students as well as the thorough orientation and training. She said it is easier now than it was when she was a student traveler. Throughout her year in Turkey, she visited many groups and schools and gave presentations about the program and well as answered questions about her home. The goal of the program is to build peace and good will. As there was no internet or YouTube 30 years ago, her presentations





were so well received and so personal. As these presentations build bridges, they are actively doing community service projects and helping migrants, often bringing them to tears due to the caring and participation of people from another "world" to them. She worked on a house build and was able to give the new owners the key to their home.

FERNANDA brought a wonderful display of handcrafts from Turkey and shared stories of Christmas in Turkey. As they don't celebrate Christmas of course, the people tried to accommodate her. She shared a pinata which was not quite a pinata but it ended up as a workshop and ultimately a fundraiser. FERNANDA shared the program's details and goals:

After viewing many wonderful slides and photos of her adventure in Turkey plus many photos from District 5340, FERNANDA summed up the adventure: EACH ONE OF **US CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A CHANGE!**

FERNADA was presented a beautiful plant created by **ANCHISA FARRANT.**

Opportunity Drawing: MIKE WESELOH had the lucky card but unfortunately drew the four of spades.

Meeting was dismissed at 1:30 p.m.

ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

PP JIM SCHRODER sent this (to **VICKIE**) from his trip to India:

Everything is great. Our day and night is packed, it seems. **DALE** called me last night at 1:00 AM forgetting I am in India. At 6:00 AM a few of us were at the river for fueral ceremonies. Drove for hours from 9 to 5, stopping for lunch in an incredible 150 year-old house. Arrived tonight at 5:00 to Madurai. Left hotel at 6:00 to downtown for holiday celebrations and picked up Tuk Tuks into











central city. Ate Baroda cooked on the street corner and nan. Whew ... what a day!



DARRELL LARSON was inducted into the Oceanside High School Hall of Fame, where he was Student Body President during his senior year. He was inducted for his work in providing clean water to people all over the world. In 2008 he founded the non-profit Give Clean Water that serves Pacific Island Nations with potable water in rural communities; it was one of the first non-profits in the world to use Sawyer water filters in Fiji. DARRELL was offered the job of International Director with Sawyer, and as of 2024, Sawyer has impacted over 28.5 million people with clean water in over 80 countries. Congratulations **DARELL**!

