
	ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE		
	SHORELINES		
2024-2025	Terri Hall Editor-in-Chief	Tina Ortiz Photographer	Terri Hall Reporter
CO-PRESIDENTS Janet Bledsoe Lacy Paul Wendee			

BILL DERN, Reporter
October 25, 2024

With the ringing of our club bell, Co-Pres **PAUL WENDEE** welcomed everyone to our meeting. **PAUL** then turned to **BOB PICKREL** to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by returning traveler, **JIM SCHRODER** to lead us as we recited the Rotary 4-Way Test.



CLUB UPDATES

Co-Pres **PAUL** invited Past Pres and current Club Secretary **RENEE RICHARDSON** to enlighten us with the club updates.

This last Sunday **PAUL** and **RENEE** attended the Escondido Rotary Club’s 100th Anniversary Celebration featuring Rotary International President **STEPHANIE URCHUCK**, a very down to earth person and a great speaker. *(See “Rotarians Out and About” later in this newsletter for photos.)* **RENEE** also circulated their anniversary magazine showing how Rotary developed in this area, including who sponsored Oceanside Rotary and who we sponsored.



Friday, November 8th - Regular Meeting with Amy Forsythe, author of a book on Camp Pendleton.

Friday, November 15th - Club Board Meeting via Zoom at noon

Friday, November 22nd - Regular Meeting and election of Officers and Board of Directors 2025-26. Program-Boys and Girls Club of Northwest San Diego County

Friday, December 13th - Holiday social at the MAAS home at 5:30 featuring appetizers, Christmas caroling around the neighborhood (Kazoos available for non-singers), and dessert. BYOB. Cost \$10 to offset food costs.

Saturday, December 14th - Boat Rides with Santa fundraiser and service project at Oceanside Harbor 11-3 pm. We need volunteers to help, so save the date. More information to come.



INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS

Other than our speaker, no guests or visitors were present. PP VICKIE PROSSER led us in our Welcome Song to our single guest, PAUL CHO who you can read about in the “Program” section.

PRESIDENT STUFF

Pres PAUL, in an astute leadership move, deferred the Presidential Stuff to PP/SEC RENEE RICHARDSON.

RENEE thanked all who made the “A Brighter Future Fundraiser” a success. Currently it appears we made \$8700 to support our club’s projects making a brighter future for many in need. Special thanks to DARREL LARSON, who did the fundraising aspect and underwrote the auctioneer, SHERRI LAWSON who did the set up and table decorations, DAN WILSON who underwrote the wine and beer, RENEE RICHARDSON who underwrote most of the food, BILL DERN who underwrote the brisket, ANCHISSA FARRANT, ROGER VANDERWERKEN and wife JACQUE who made and donated the baked beans and cornbread. JACQUE also took home and laundered all the tablecloths and packaged the leftover meat. Thanks also to JANET and STEVE LACY for opening their home for this event and the fabulous dessert bar. Thank you to everyone who contributed through the running of the event and who donated towards the event, making it a success.



Women's Resource Center Holiday Gift Drive is underway to help local children and families in need this holiday season. New and unopened toys such as board games, puzzles, arts/crafts, action figures, dolls, books, etc. for children; headphones, helmets for bikes and skateboards, sporting equipment and Target gift cards for teens; and gift cards for grocery stores like Target or Walmart in \$50 denominations for parents are needed. Bring them to our November meetings or drop them off at the office of DALE MAAS Edward Jones, 3616 Ocean Ranch Blvd, Oceanside or call Julie at 760-439-9001 before December 6th.



PP BILL DERN and later in the meeting, Co-Pres JANET LACY, informed us that we recently became aware that the servers at our luncheon have not been receiving a gratuity. They work hard and deserve it. For those who would like to give a gratuity for their hard work taking care of us during our meetings, a gratuity jar was placed on the table for those who would like to use

it. JANET reminded us she was a waitress once at A & W Root beer in her early days and appreciated the tips. (JANET, I think many in the room had no idea what working at an A & W stand was all about.)



Co-Pres PAUL WENDEE gave us an update on the LaunchOceanside project for our club, with hopes of launching it in January 2025. The purpose is to help people who want to become entrepreneurs start a business. There is room for many more to help so contact PAUL if you are interested,

HAPPY DOLLARS

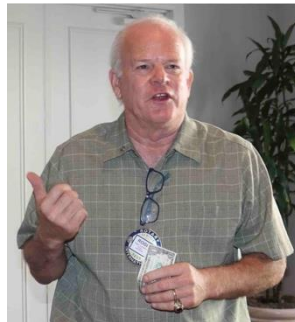


PP JIM SCHRODER was \$25 happy to Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation to be back safely from his trip to India and around the world.

DAVID NYDEGGER was \$100 happy for his 80th birthday, BOB PICKREL buying him lunch so he wouldn't have to break his \$100 bill.

LOLA SHERMAN was \$2 happy to have JIM home and for his finding the \$20 bill she dropped in the parking lot.

PP RENEE RICHARDSON was \$5 happy to share that she and PAUL will be heading down to the Tijuana Rotary Clubs 93rd Anniversary next Thursday. Also in attendance is a delegation of 24 Rotarians from a Washington State sister club. The TJ club knows how to party with an evening that starts at 6 pm with dinner served at 9 pm and goes until 2 am or later. The trip will also include a visit on Friday to visit several of the TJ Rotary projects. On Saturday there will be a fiesta to celebrate Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead. RENEE hopes she survives the weekend. *(See photos to prove that she survived at the end of this Shorelines.)*



LYN CORDER was \$2 happy remembering how our club helped her husband celebrate his 100th birthday 5 years ago, a special day for him and fond memory for her.

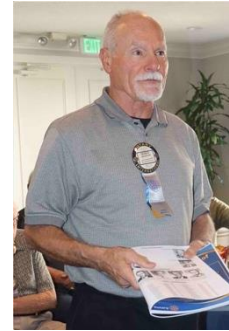
ROGER VANDERWERKEN was \$1 happy to note that both he and DAVE NYDEGGER attended the Naval Academy, remarking that DAVE's attendance was decades before him. ROGER shared a plebe year marching cadence about the easy teams Army plays in football while the Navy plays Notre Dame every year.

ANCHISA FARRANT was \$5 happy to note she initially was the only contestant for the Rancho Carlsbad 24th Art Exhibit and Sale event since her friends said she always won. ANCHISA convinced a couple of them to enter. ANCHISA won anyway.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Starting a new tradition at our Rotary meetings, PAUL asked if there were any other announcements without the need to make a Happy Dollar donation.

While exploring the Escondido Rotary Club 100th anniversary magazine being passed around the room, MIKE WESELOH noticed a picture of his grandfather and his uncle who were both presidents of that club many years ago. Many of us still remember his dad, BEN WESELOH, who was an active and fun member of our club. Although not required at this segment to offer happy dollars, MIKE generously donated \$10.



PROGRAM



PP RENEE RICHARDSON introduced our speaker PAUL CHO. As many of you know, I believe you need to attend our meeting to really enjoy the program. In this particular case, it was very true. Here are a few highlights of his presentation.

PAUL joined LifeArk SPC, a modular housing system company, as the Chief Financial Officer after serving as the COO/CFO of The Illumination Foundation, a non-profit which he co-founded 17 years ago to provide housing and healthcare services to the most vulnerable homeless population in Southern California. Prior to his non-profit work, he was an investment banker with Goldman Sachs and Merrill Lynch for 16 years, executing corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, and private equity transactions in New York, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Seoul. A graduate of Harvard University with a BA in Economics, Paul has a connection with Rotary, as a Rotary International Fellow in Japan in 1985.



At age 40, and after 15 years in investment banking with Goldman Sachs, PAUL left and moved his family to the Irvine area. At that time, he became aware of the poor facilities available for homeless families in Orange County. As a result, he started a non-profit organization to address the need of homeless families and particularly their children. They tried to help families being discharged from hospitals to find housing which, in 2007, was hard to do and extremely expensive. As a result, PAUL then joined LifeArk to try and resolve this issue.

With the use of plastic, up to 30% of which is recycled, LifeArk created a lightweight building block which can be converted easily into inexpensive housing.

The title LifeArk stems from its creator, a gentleman who developed housing for the indigenous people living along the banks of the Amazon River who routinely experience crises nearly 9 months every year due to a thirty-foot rise and fall of water levels. He created floating houses out of plastic which gave them permanent places to live. PAUL proposed applying this to our homeless problem in the U.S., going through all the vigorous permitting processes required, thus the name LifeArk for Noah's ark.

The building materials are plastic, similar to that which is approved for use on cutting boards. The building blocks consist of plastic shell outer walls with 6 inches of foam inside. This offers R40 insulation and makes them lightweight. Modules are constructed (8 ft by 8 ft by 10 ft) almost in a Lego brick manner. The preformed modules can then be assembled to build the house. The homes are on a concrete pad and about 30 inches above the ground on pillars. This allows for easy electrical and plumbing connection.



San Gabriel Valley Tribune
LifeArk housing complex for homeless in ...

After about 5 years, approval was achieved. With this completed, they constructed their first test facility in Los Angeles County during the pandemic, opening in 2022, and housing 18 individuals. This was their proof-of-concept project, costing about \$190,000 per unit all inclusive. This is in comparison to similar projects in Los Angeles costing nearly \$600,000/unit. LifeArk provides the units, and the cities provide the site and manage the facility upon completion. Our speaker proceeded to answer numerous questions, explaining the multiple applications this concept has for housing for the homeless and possible other uses.



Thanking PAUL C. for his wonderful presentation, Co-Pres PAUL W. gave our speaker a beautiful succulent plant created by ANCHISA FARRANT.



OPPORTUNITY DRAWING

Co-Pres JANET BLEDSOE LACY held the ticket for chance to win the \$1000 prize. After trying to get lucky ANCHISA to select for her, JANET drew the 9 of spades, apparently bummed to get just the \$10 consolation prize.



After checking with Madame Secretary RENEE and with the ringing of the club bell, Co-Pres PAUL WENDEE brought our meeting to a close.

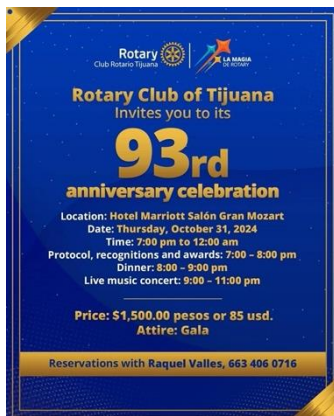
FRIENDSHIP ACROSS THE BORDER

Co-President PAUL WENDEE and Club Secretary RENEE RICHARDSON were honored to be invited to the Tijuana Rotary Club 93rd Anniversary Club on October 31, 2024.

The party highlights were presentations of club achievements and awards, fellowship, music and dancing. Despite a fractured foot, RENEE managed to get in a slow dance with Co-President PAUL.

Friday was a day of tequila tasting, tour of TJ and a trip to the Meseo Ambar. Meseo Ambar is a center that focus is on helping middle school students to learn the concept of saying NO to drugs and to be able to resist the peer pressure. 33% for the children in rehab in TJ are under the age of 9. It is much easier for underaged children in Mexico to get drugs rather than alcohol.

Saturday, they attended the Day of the Dead Celebration. Again a night of exchange and Fellowship!



ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

RI President STEPHANIE URCHICK helped the Escondido Rotary Club celebrate its 100th Anniversary on Saturday, October 20, 2024.

PAUL and RENEE and 200 guests including Rotarians from Tijuana attended a reception and dinner. The pre-dinner highlights included introductions of dignitaries, followed by a brief history of the club's service projects.

STEPHANIE spoke to those in attendance regarding the importance of membership and reminded us that we are an organization for everyone. She challenged us to engage every club member in some aspect of service.



COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

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