



October 28, 2022

At 12:30 pm on the dot, our two Co-Presidents strode together up to the front of the patio and one of them (that being RENEE RICHARDSON) took the microphone to pronounce, “Welcome to Oceanside and El Camino Rotary” to kick off our joint meeting, while the other Co-Prez (A.J. MAZZARELLA) just served as eye candy up there for a while.



RENEE quickly added, “Welcome back to VICKIE PROSSER!” who was able to rejoin us at this meeting, and who also was tasked to lead us in the **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**.



ROGER VANDERWERKEN was called up to start our meeting with a special “**Why Rotary?**” - made special by the fact that he quickly turned the spotlight onto his daughter CHRISTINA FULLER. Practically the whole VAND.W. family, it seems, has taken part in the Rotary Youth Exchange. ROGER himself went to the Netherlands in the days of his youth, while his daughter experienced this eye-opening educational program in Belgium in 2002 and his son in turn traveled to Kenya for his exchange.



CHRISTINA later earned a Masters in Biology and Psychology and is currently on staff at Palomar College in their Bio Department. She told us that being in Belgium at the start of the Iraq war gave her a valuable global perspective. While there, she stayed with three different host families. (One was involved with the European Union’s parliament.) And during her time abroad, she had the opportunity to attend the king’s birthday party. (Not something a normal student would get to do here in America!)

During her exchange, she studied at a Jesuit high school in which the classes were much harder than at home, compounded by the fact that they were conducted in French! When she came back to college here, “It was an absolute breeze!” by comparison, and after her time immersed the language over there, she decided to add a minor in French to her curriculum. After college, she went over to France for a year to become even more proficient in the language, and she currently tutors several folks en Francais. *Comme c’est impressionnant!*

CHRISTINA has kept in contact with all of her host families and she went back in the summer to touch base with them. She highly recommends Belgium as a vacation destination – “Plenty of fine chocolate and beer!” Clearly she had a memorable and rewarding experience in her Rotary Youth Exchange, and it was a huge factor in her decisions regarding her life path going forward. As CHRISTINA closed, a witty member of our club was heard to opine, “That is the best presentation that ROGER has ever given!”

**CLUB UPDATES** were given by our Pres Elect SHOR DENNY, after scrolling for a while on her cellphone. “I hope I get better at this,” she said, “.... Like finding it!” Not long after that minor tech bobble, she located the text and read it out, loud and proud for all to hear. Folks were particularly impressed to hear that there would be free drinks at the Day of the Dead party the following day, hosted by the Odd Fellows. This unbelievable opportunity was followed by other dates a little further in the future:



Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> – Regular Meeting El Camino Country Club  
Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> Noon to 4:00 PM Chili-Cook Off – Heritage Park  
Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup> – Board Meeting via Zoom at Noon  
Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> – Regular Meeting El Camino Country Club – Election of Officers and Board  
Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> Boat Rides with Santa 11:00 -3:00- We need Volunteers for Registration  
Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> – Holiday party 5:30 at the Halls – Catered Dinner by Garcia’s \$35.00 and BYOB. ... A sign-up list was passed around at the meeting, and – due to a disappointing number of names on the list – the powers that be considered the possibility of rescheduling this event to a weeknight *after* Christmas, when we might not be so busy prepping for the holiday. But, after an email poll, this December 10 date has been solidified and confirmed, so make your holiday plans accordingly.

A reminder that we are encouraged to help with the Women's Resource Center Toy Drive - Please bring Unwrapped Toys to our meetings on November 4<sup>th</sup> or drop them off at DALE MAAS's office (3636 Ocean Ranch Blvd, Oceanside) by December 8<sup>th</sup>.

**VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS** went a bit differently than normal this week. Given that it was a joint meeting of the two Oceanside clubs, A.J. suggested it would be best for everyone to introduce themselves, stating their name, their club, and a little about themselves. And so, we did just that, hearing just a little bit about everyone in attendance, be they from Oceanside Rotary or El Camino Rotary or a guest (like our perennial visitor RUDY). This was followed by our traditional "Welcome to Oceanside and Rotary" song, led by TOM BRAULT.



As you may recall, Co-Prez RENEE had missed our last meeting while she was "Out and About" attending various conferences in several cities. (See "*RENEE AND PAUL'S BIG ADVENTURE*" at the end of this newsletter for details.) So, she inquired of A.J.: "How did the meeting go that I missed? ... "How hard was the agenda?" (To this, a heckler followed with, "How many times did he LOOK at it??") Turns out that RENEE was setting her comrade A.J. up for a bit of a comeuppance for something which he said at that meeting which had been dutifully reported in the Shorelines. It





seems that A.J. had made a big deal about finally getting to have his picture taken with a guest speaker. Well, after reading that comment, RENEE dove into the Shorelines archives and firmly pronounced that to be “Not True” – (Maybe this was not “The Big Lie” we have been hearing so much about in the news, but it definitely was more of an “alternative fact.”) RENEE was able to list several of the specific speakers that A.J. had been photographed beaming next to so far this year, and then she shifted her attitude a bit and genuinely thanked A.J. for running the meeting in her absence.

## **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

We had more no-show birthdays than celebrating members who were in attendance. Missing the chance to be serenaded for their big day were: VERNON ALLEN, DAVE NYDEGGER, DAN WILSON, and PAUL WENDEE.

But we were able to sing to: THOMASINA JACKSON (\$10 happy for the birthday, and a little later, \$200 added to go to the Oceanside Rotary Foundation), MELISSA RODRIGUEZ (a tongue in cheek classic number \$29 happy), and SHOR DENNY (who pledged that her birthday contribution would be part of a larger amount later in the Happy Dollars part of our meeting ... which we never got to). These three amigas scrunched together for a group photo in our “Best Birthday” signboard and were treated to a train wreck of a “Happy Birthday to You” song, which TOM BRAULT attempted to lead in a sort of a round, with three different groups starting at three different times but which made for one messy, noisy, ridiculous cacophony of sound. (But it was fun ... and memorable.)



There were no wedding anniversaries this month. (But did you know that in 2022, the Fall has overtaken June as the most popular time to get married?? A fun factoid which I just learned and figured I should pass on to y'all.)

Club Anniversaries were noted for VERNON ALLEN, DAVE SHORE, and (... she had to look at the list twice to make sure this one was correct...) RENEE RICHARDSON - who has been in the club for 33 years now. (Hard to believe, since she is only 39 years old, right?) As it turns out, RENEE chose to round up her contribution to \$35, which she told us she had already paid online on Rotary International's Polio Plus Day on October 24. She reminded us all just how easy it

is to make donations online, and that you can even specify how your money to be allocated electronically with just a few clicks on your keyboard.

Speaking of Rotary International, RENEE was sad to relay that in the latest donation report received from the R.I. Foundation, our club so far is only at 52% of our Goal of \$6,000 in giving for the year. So, she reminded us that it is through our participation in and contributions to the R.I. Foundation that we qualify for district matching grants which help to fund our local projects. And furthermore, she noted that November is “Foundation Month” in the Rotary calendar – A fine time to play catch up on your contributions to this phenomenal fund.

**OUR PROGRAM** for the day, since we were meeting together with our friends from El Camino Rotary, focused on the history of and the planning for our annual joint Golf Tournament fundraiser, which is on the calendar for Monday, June 12, 2023 at El Camino Country Club. RENEE made sure that we knew that “every single person in this room is on the Golf Committee!” as she called up El Camino’s President PAUL FRIEDMAN to take the lead on this presentation. PAUL confessed that, being a relatively newer member himself without a wealth of knowledge of the tournament, he had hoped that DAVE JONES (who has chaired the event more than a few times) could have handled this discussion. Unfortunately, DAVE was off in Syracuse watching his beloved Notre Dame play, but he did send along some notes for PAUL to refer to.



El Camino Rotary held its first golf tournament fundraiser way back in 1981, and it was a moderate success in its inaugural year. Soon thereafter, they invited Oceanside Rotary to be partners on the event, and eventually the San Luis Rey club was also included in this fundraiser (although San Luis Rey did withdraw from the program in 2016). The tournament has been held at several different courses over the years, and has had several different chairmen heading up the planning, including: JIM O’NEILL, BOB SCHRODER, DAVE JONES, DALE MAAS, TERRI HALL, as well as this year’s co-chairs RON SIMON and PAUL FRIEDMAN. But PAUL upped RENEE’s earlier comment by proclaiming that “Every member is considered a co-chair.”

Then PAUL strayed off into Pun Land by stating, “The money raised goes to fund amazing things in our community. But the golf tournament is the DRIVER. So, let’s have a BALL and sip some TEE.” On a more serious note, RENEE added that we do need some individuals to step up and join the committee and/or take on

some specific tasks in the planning because “the eight folks currently on the committee cannot cover all of this themselves.” Specifically, we are in search of members to volunteer to handle:

- Publicity - Monthly articles in papers and magazines and newsletters, Flyers, Social media posts, Contact KOCT to get local TV promotion. (SHOR and PAUL discussed working together on the social media part.)
- Promoting Tee Signs - TERRI and DAVE HALL will take care of contacting the renewals, but they want some new folks to step up and solicit signs from new businesses and/or individuals. “If everyone gets one new place involved from your clients or from businesses you frequent”, it could be a great success. (New signs are \$125 / Renewals: \$100)
- Run / Manage the Raffle – Find prizes, Setup on the event day, Organize the ticket sales
- Silent Auction – We are looking for high dollar items that are donated outright (not purchased) so that the entire bid amount can be profit to our clubs
- Recruit more golfers
- Identify potential Sponsors – “More sponsors = More money.” Levels of \$5K / \$10K / \$25K were mentioned, and full naming rights for the event are a possibility – for a good price.

TINA ORTIZ will serve as the event’s overall Volunteer Coordinator, so let TINA know if you would like to pitch in to help make this tournament fundraiser an even greater success!

PAUL assured us that the committee had researched other possible venues for the tournament, but the combination of pricing, food options, availability, and familiarity for returning golfers all pointed to El Camino CC being the best option in 2023. The floor was opened up for some general discussion on the event planning and there were so many good questions and suggestions that the discussion extended all the way past 1:30 pm, so (as previously mentioned) there was no time for **HAPPY DOLLARS**.

We DID make just enough time to draw a lucky ticket for our **OPPORTUNITY DRAWING**. With the jackpot standing at \$1,000, we listened intently as the numbers were read off: One... Two... Five ... Three ...Seven ..... Zero. In no time at all, DAVE HALL raised his hand and raced to the front to try to pull that elusive Joker out of the deck. No such luck, and DAVE generously donated his \$10 consolation prize



back to the club and we will go back to drawing *another* lucky ticket at our next meeting. (At some point, and probably pretty soon given the dwindling deck, that Joker WILL be found. So, clear your calendars for the two remaining regular meetings in 2022 – November 4 and December 9 – to make sure you have a chance to be in the running for the big bucks before year end!)

We were encouraged to meet up with ANCHISA FARRANT to purchase one of her festively decorated pumpkins/succulent holiday decorations. With this generous group gathered, by the time ANCHISA headed to her car, her tray was empty, all the pumpkins had new homes, and the club added some cash to its coffers, thanks to ANCHISA's artistry and generosity.

With that, we were adjourned and set off into the spooky weekend ahead. Hope you had a Happy and Safe and Fun Halloween!

### **A SIMPLE SERVICE OPPORTUNITY THAT JUST FELL (... or rather *swung*) INTO OUR LAPS**

A former Rotarian of a small club in Fiji, District 9920 who now lives in New Zealand had sent an email with a tantalizing offer that frankly sounded too good to be true! His Amazon.com business was overstocked on some perfectly good products in brand new condition which were taking up valuable warehouse space in Vista. Knowing that this location was close to our club, he inquired if we would be interested in receiving a number of high-quality kids' disc swings as a pure donation, at no cost to us, which we could either raffle off or donate to local groups that work with underprivileged kids.



Well, RENEE jumped on that offer with a quick and definite, “Yes! Thank you!” And, just as promised, boxes of perfectly fine swings were able to be picked up for us to distribute around the community. BILL DERN and SEAN LOWE dropped off a large donation to the Women’s Resource Center, and we are working with the Boys and Girls Club to ask if they might want the rest. RENEE has some Plan B or C ideas to get them distributed, if need be. So, at no cost to us, we have been able to acquire and distribute some great toys to bring some joy and exercise to local kids, all the while getting the name of Oceanside Rotary Club out as being supportive and generous to our community. Kudos to everyone who helped to bring this to fruition and completion!





## ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

BILL and KATHY DERN were blessed with a visit from their new granddaughter BROOKE (and her parents MARK and ROBYN) recently, and they are proud to share a few photos from that time together with her, at home, and down by the Oceanside Pier. What a charmer that baby is!



DAVE and TERRI HALL made another trek up to Truckee to visit family. Here we see a group shot of them with son JASON, grandson JULIAN (17), daughter in law JERUSHA, and grandson SEBASTIAN (20). JASON challenged DAVE to a game of cribbage. (Reports indicate that DAVE wasn't the winner...) And TERRI took pooches Paris and Mocha out for walkies in their snow day sweaters.





In a *different* message from the HALL's, we see some of the decorated pumpkins which they had purchased from ANCHISA FARRANT (with the \$\$ all going to the club). What were they planning to do with all of those pumpkins? you may ask. Well, they did tell:



*"We bought three from ANCHISA: One small one for my aunt in Assisted Living and two big ones for us - Just for decor or Thanksgiving decor. They will live FOREVER outside. Last year's pumpkins lasted until June or July. Very pretty and very artistic! ANCHISA does an awesome job!"*

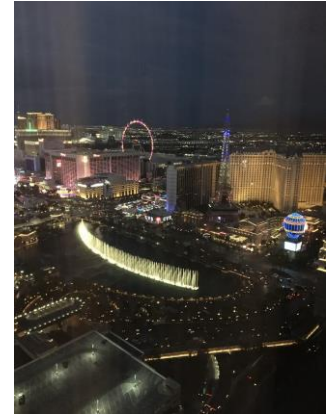
JAY CRAWFORD and ANITA ROMAINE made some memories and found romance on the rails! Here is JAY's report:

*"I finally got around to sending you some photos of our Antique Train Tour in Colorado. We rode on 6 different trains (Georgetown Loop RR, Leadville Colorado & Southern RR, Durango and Silverton RR, Cumbres & Toltec RR, Royal Gorge RR, and Manitou & Pikes Peak RR)"*



## RENEE AND PAUL'S BIG ADVENTURE (aka *The Reason Why She Missed the Last Meeting*)

Co-President Renee decided to follow her husband to two of the three conferences that he was participating in. Saturday morning started with an Uber ride to the San Diego airport at 7:30 am for a 10:30 am flight to Las Vegas. Only Renee had accidentally booked it for 10:30 PM and didn't catch it until arriving at the airport! Long story short, a new flight was booked and we got to Las Vegas in time to see our show! The conference started on Monday and as you can see from the picture, we had a beautiful view of the fountains from the 52nd floor of our hotel.



We headed to the airport on Thursday to catch our ride to the Las Vegas airport to Washington DC. We called our Uber driver and she got lost twice at the airport explaining that she was a new driver! We still weren't worried at this time because we thought we could get through security fairly quickly. As luck would have it, Renee got through security, but Paul's boarding pass didn't match his ID. (Renee had not supplied Paul's middle name when she booked the flight, and instead of giving his correct year of birth, she had entered hers!) Paul was sent back upstairs to get a new boarding pass. We were just going to be in the nick of time to catch our flight to Washington, D.C., when the carry baggage security system quit working! We got to the gate 5 minutes after they locked the doors! As luck would have it the Agent found us a new flight a few gates down but apologized that we weren't able to sit together. At this point, Renee was frankly relieved that they weren't seated together! We arrived in Washington at midnight and had either lunch, dinner, or breakfast at 2 AM. We weren't sure which it was as we hadn't eaten since the morning before! DC was impressive. On Friday we probably walked a minimum of 12 to 15 miles. The weather was perfect and the sights were impressive.



On Sunday we took an Uber from DC to the airport, a 45-minute ride. Renee was flying back to San Diego and Paul was flying on to Florida for a third Conference. As luck would have it, we went to check Paul in, only to find out that Renee had booked Paul's flight from the Ronald Regan Airport in downtown Washington! Renee was in the right airport, but Paul had to jump in an Uber and head back right where we came from! He made his flight, only to have his luggage lost for two hours in Florida!

Renee arrived back in San Diego at 8:30 PM and after 6 tries finally got an Uber at the cost of \$179!

The moral of the story is - Renee shouldn't quit her current job and become a travel agent!!!

### COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

November 4 - Regular meeting at El Camino Country Club

Saturday, November 5 – Noon to 4 pm. Chili Cook-Off at Heritage Park

November 18<sup>th</sup> – Board Meeting via Zoom at Noon

Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> – Regular Meeting El Camino Country Club – Election of Officers and Board

Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> - Boat Rides with Santa 11:00 to 3:00 –  
**We need Volunteers for Registration**



Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> (***This date has now been confirmed***) – Holiday Party  
5:30 at the Halls – Catered dinner by Garcia's \$35.00 and BYOB

***Dates to keep in mind for the Women's Resource Center Toy Drive*** – Please bring Unwrapped Toys to our meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup> or drop them off at Dale Maas's office (3636 Ocean Ranch Blvd, Oceanside) no later than December 8<sup>th</sup>.

