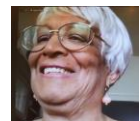


*October 9, 2020*

At the stroke of 12:31 pm, our Co-President (designated as our active leader for this day) MELISSA RODRIGUEZ pronounced, “It’s that time!” and launched right into our meeting.

### **“ROTARY WHY??”**

The first order of business was to hear from one of our members about what brought them to Oceanside Rotary. This time, it was one of our newer members JACQUELINE BROWNLEE who told us, “My reasons for becoming a Rotarian are pretty similar to many other Rotarians. My purpose in life is to help empower others to discover and use their unique skills and interests. Also, to help others overcome obstacles, so that they can cultivate their own unique interests and passions.” She chose to do this through a career in education, earning a Masters in Education and a Doctorate in Instructional Management, serving over the course of 40 years or so as a university instructor, an administrator in schools and district offices, a classroom teacher and as a California State Department of Education consultant.

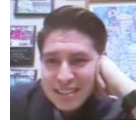


Her interest in Rotary was fueled also by a longstanding interest in community service, having been actively involved in the NAACP, Toast Masters International, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Phi Delta Kappa, SARTA (Sacramento Area Theater Alliance), and the Association of California School Administrators. She found it “was magnificent helping to identify and mentor students majoring in the arts as well as other academic areas.” She feels “honored and grateful to have discovered Rotary and become a Rotarian to continue her service to the community through providing food for the hungry, raising and allocating funds to deserving community organizations.” And she is particularly pleased to be a part of the Oceanside Rotary Club because “you are such a passionate and skillful group and also very inclusive, friendly and social.” ... Aww, shucks, JACQUELINE. We’re blushing! And we are very glad and proud to have you on board as an active and engaged member!

## CLUB UPDATES



MELISSA called upon L.J. FIMBRES (one half of our Co-Presidents-Elect) to review for us the upcoming service projects coming up for our club. (We will re-remind you here



that our leadership is planning this smorgasbord of projects to give us plenty of *opportunities* for active service and community support, but that no one is *expected* to take part in absolutely everything the club does. Only you can decide the level of participation that works for you and which projects you feel most inspired to work on.

- 1) BEEF JERKY DRIVE. Our club's aim is to partner with Operation Gratitude by providing 500 individually wrapped pieces of jerky and/or Slim Jim type meat sticks to be distributed to deployed military.

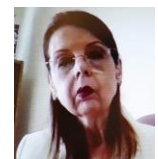
You can drop off purchased jerky at these conveniently located collection sites by the October 23 deadline:

- JAY CRAWFORD's house – 3902 Vista Campana N. #13, Oceanside, CA 92057
- DALE MAAS' office - 2424 Vista Way, Suite 325, Oceanside, CA 92054
  - OR - You can Venmo AMANDA SNIDER at @grimaldi-amanda and she will purchase the jerky for you! Just make sure you note it is for the Beef Jerky Drive.

- 2) BROTHER BENNO'S THANKSGIVING TURKEYS. We will continue our annual tradition of making the holidays brighter for area families by providing turkeys for a Thanksgiving meal. Drop off your frozen birds at DALE's office (2424 Vista Way, Suite 325, Oceanside) on Friday November 13 between 9 am and noon. Alternatively, you can provide gift cards and the birds will be bought on your behalf.



- 3) OPD THANK YOU NOTES. Heartfelt notes can be written by you, your friends, family, neighbors, kids/grandkids. We hope to collect 207 handwritten thank you cards so that one can be given to each Oceanside Police Department officer. (If everyone could turn in 4 or 5 cards, we would hit our goal!) The Deadline for this is Friday, November 20th so they can be distributed in time for Thanksgiving. Note cards can be dropped off or mailed to RENEE RICHARDSON WENDEE at 720 Silver Drive, Vista, CA 92083



## **VISITORS AND GUESTS**



L.J. continued by scanning the Zoom screen to locate and introduce all of our guests, which included: KENDALL KLINGLER, SIERRA LAYTON, MARCY DARNOVSKY, VALLIE GILLEY, and the always smiling RUDY VAN HUNNICK. All our visitors were serenaded with our “Welcome to Oceanside” ditty, done by TOM BRAULT.

## **WE LEARNED WHY VALLIE CAME TO THIS MEETING**



JAY CRAWFORD popped up front and center on our Zoom “Speaker View” as he made a special presentation. We were proud to provide a check for \$1,151 collected from our members to support the good works of the Oceanside Kitchen Collaborative – A worthy organization which partners with local farms and food businesses, OKC diverts and rescues fresh produce to nourish and educate our community - keeping healthy food on peoples’ plates and out of the landfill. VALLIE GILLEY was the Collaborative’s representative and she gratefully verbally accepted this donation via Zoom and then she later physically accepted the check handed over by JAY to her at her place of business – Jitters Coffee Pub (where JAY also supported local enterprise by purchasing a small latte with an extra shot).

## **HAPPY DOLLARS**

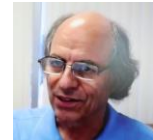


Advanced mathematics was required to track the total of TINA ORTIZ’s Happy Dollars contribution this week. \$20 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life which TINA proudly supports. This year the event, which normally takes place in March, got postponed due to the pandemic, but was (finally, and with little advance notice) held on Saturday October 10 in a drive through luminaria event at MiraCosta College. \$13 of TINA’s happy dollars were to note that this rescheduled event (which included “Give Back” fundraisers at Senor Grubby’s and Board & Brew) got successfully planned with just 13 days’ notice. And then TINA tossed in an extra \$2 in gratitude for her weeklong vacation with her daughter. If I got the math right, this added up to \$35.

RUDY VAN HUNNICK chimed in with his customary \$25 Happy Dollars to say that he is “Happy to be alive in these crazy days” and to be back meeting again with us at Oceanside Rotary ... ED PARISH had the most short and sweet message: “\$50 ... Just because I’m happy!” ... JIM SCHRODER’s dollars were actually sad, lamenting yet another trip of his that was cancelled this year – a planned cruise from Portugal to Africa, ending up at Cape Town. This was the fourth trip this year that has been “blown out.” But JIM expects that next year he will be catching up on his missed travel opportunities.

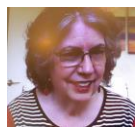


ERNIE MASCITTI gave \$20 to say that he “loved listening to JACQUELINE BROWNLEE” and her Rotary Why. She reminded him of LILLIAN ADAMS (wife of beloved former member CHARLES ADAMS) in that JACQUELINE, much like LILLIAN, is “articulate, educated, and works with young people.” ... DAVE SHORE must have felt especially guilty about having missed a few of our Zoom meetings and that he might have to bug out of this one early, so he gave \$100 – Happy that his hearings by telephone have been working out quite well and that he recently signed a five year lease. Good to hear, DAVE! ... ANCHISA FARRANT



gave \$10 because she was happy to see us all, but particularly happy that VICKIE PROSSER had been the first one to take her up on her offer to buy a decorated succulent / pumpkin centerpiece. ANCHISA held one up to her camera for us all to see and marvel at. She needs more orders so she can donate the proceeds of the sales to Oceanside Rotary. (A true win / win if we ever saw one!)

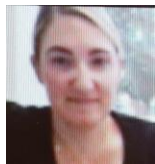
## **OUR PROGRAM**



Our Program Chair JANET BLEDSOE LACY lined up another informative and important presentation for us: A Pro & Con discussion of Proposition 14 on the November 3 ballot – the Stem Cell Research Institute Bond Initiative. JANET gave us a thumbnail description of the proposition which would allow for \$5.5 billion in bonds to be sold with the proceeds supporting stem cell and other cutting edge medical research, plus it would make changes to the governance structure and programs of CIRM (California Institute for Regenerative Medicine). \$1.5 billion of the bond funds would be dedicated to research on therapies and treatments for brain and nervous system diseases such as Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s, and dementia. Debt service on this bond would come out of the state’s General Fund, and it is estimated to cost

\$260 million per year over roughly the next 30 years. Both sides of this Proposition were well represented today.

The “Yes of 14” side was presented by KENDALL KLINGLER who was accompanied by SIERRA LAYTON. Prop 14 continues the work of the Institute created in 1974 following the passage of Prop 71. Since then, more than 90 clinical trials on stem cell projects have been conducted with over 4,000 patients. Positive results seen include bringing cancers (like leukemia and Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma) into remission, restoring upper body function to some paralysis victims, and seeing Type 1 diabetes patients able to produce their own insulin. Several other treatments are in the pipeline and are getting fast tracked for FDA approval.



KENDALL showed us a video of a little girl with an immunodeficiency disorder which ordinarily sees the patient die by age 2. Through a combination of a new gene therapy trial at UCLA which utilized genetically modified stem cells and chemotherapy, her life was changed. After two years of treatments, her parents described the joy of finally introducing their daughter to the world without fear of infection, and she now is 8 years old and healthy. She is one of 50 patients who have had their immune systems restored as a result of CIRM’s research and development. This same technology is also being applied to other auto-immune disorders. And the same situation is seen in stem cell research work with cancer – Two treatments have already been approved and more are currently being studied.

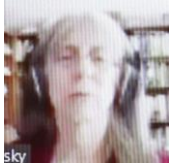
According to KENDALL, the economic benefits of these stem cell research programs outweigh the costs, and this proposition has the backing of prominent scientists and physicians. The funds approved in the 1970’s by Prop 71 are practically depleted and need to be restored in order to continue to build up this world-renowned research institution and continue the progress being made. Without this bond, CIRM would lose half of its funding stream.

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The “No on 14” position was presented by MARCY DARNOVSKY, Executive Director of the Center for Genetics and Society – a small public interest non-profit group focused on biotech which works out of Berkeley, CA. She started out by stating, “I support stem cell research ... I would be thrilled to see more cures and treatments and breakthroughs.” But she questions whether Prop 14 is the right way to support these efforts. She believes that right now, stem cell research is already generously funded by government and private sources (\$2 billion this year alone



from the National Institutes of Health and another \$10 billion from private grants) and that the existing CIRM agency has been ineffective. Plus, the rationale for providing state support to stem cell research no longer exists, since Bush era restrictions on this research had been reversed by the Obama administration.



MARCY noted that the bonds would have to be paid back with interest, and thus the cost of the measure would end up totaling \$7.8 billion over time. She believes that the economic benefits touted by the proponents have been overestimated, much like the shortfall she sees in expected benefits from Prop 71 efforts which had been projected to bring in \$1.1 billion in royalties, yet actually only produced \$350 million. There are no promises of financial return to the State from this measure – Any money taken in would be allocated to make stem cell treatments more affordable, which means that those funds would be diverted to the pharmaceutical and biomedical companies in what she labeled “the worst possible giveaway.”

MARCY is also concerned with governance issues in this system with the board including members from firms involved in the stem cell processes, leading to conflicts of interest. Plus, Prop 14 would add more board members, which she does not support. To sum up, MARCY believes that “California is not supposed to be a primary funder of this research”, and so she opposes this measure, as does Jeff Sheehy (a CIRM board member) and a long list of newspapers who have published editorials against Prop 14.

JANET congratulated both sides for providing a wealth of factual information to us and for not interrupting each other during their presentations. She reminded us that everyone on the Oceanside Rotary email list has already been sent packets of information from both sides for us to review as we weigh our voting decision. And then, the floor was opened up for Questions.



ROGER VANDERWERKEN asked if the stem cell materials being used in these studies come totally from aborted fetuses, or if there is some other source for the cells. MARCY responded that this concern had been a major reason for the restrictions placed upon stem cell research back then, but that now, embryonic cells are “not as big a part of the process”, since many of the studies are utilizing other stem cell lines. KENDALL affirmed that some adult stem cell sources are being used, but admitted that (with our current technologies), for some of the studies (like for the paralysis and diabetes research and treatments), the adult cells are not able to be effectively used and so embryonic materials are still required. She also told us that the Trump administration and

some Congresspersons are currently attempting to bump up restrictions, but that ever since the Bush era, there has been zero federal funding for embryonic stem cell research and furthermore, that embryonic cell research has been “out of favor for a while”.

JACQUELINE BROWNLEE wondered where the revenues projected to be generated through Prop 14 would come from. KENDALL answered that currently most of the researchers are facing expenses, including the need to firm up their patents, but eventually the State will receive a stream of royalties from the companies based on sales. This money would be directed by the state to subsidize treatments. Since lots of studies are very close to FDA approval, she expects these revenues to be increasing. MARCY countered this argument by saying, “If research is so close to the answer, there should be no need for the State to provide this funding – The companies would naturally follow through to the finish. The State could use this money better elsewhere in its budget.”



RUDY VAN HUNNICK asked our moderator JANET how she personally would be voting on this issue. JANET candidly stated, “I’m not sure. Both sides have good points.” She would have to do further research and contemplation before she could decide if this is the best way to approach his problem. (And the same, I might suspect, holds true for a whole lot of the rest of us.)

Then it was time for CLOSING STATEMENTS.

From the “No on 14” side, MARCY admitted that she had not prepared a closing comment, per se, and so she would simply sum up what she had already presented. Stem cell research is a promising field, but more areas of medical research also deserve to be supported. The State of California was never intended or expected to be the primary funder of this research. If the State DOES want to pursue this, let the Legislature include the necessary funds in their regular budget. But with all of the other needs of the State, MARCY does not believe that putting another \$7.8 billion after interest into the CIRM system would be a good use of our money.

KENDALL for the “Yes on 14” view started with, “You can say ‘Other groups will step in’, but the money is needed now, because important clinical trials are in process and results for their patients are needed to alleviate human suffering. With the cost of health care and the occurrences of chronic diseases skyrocketing, it is a gamble to assume that some other group will pick up the funding for this important and expensive research.

At this point, JANET checked the clock on the wall and, since we were running a little bit over the allotted time, interested members were invited to stay after the official close of the meeting to hear more answers from our speakers.

Co-President MELISSA had a few important reminders for us before she sent us on our merry way:

- **Next Social Meeting – Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 pm**
- **Next Board Meeting – October 23<sup>rd</sup> at Noon**
- **Next Regular Meeting – October 30<sup>th</sup> at 12:30. This spooky meeting will include a COSTUME CONTEST**

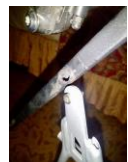
Only one other question came up in the post-meeting extended Q&A, and it was a follow-up from ROGER, who was still not sure what percentage of the stem cell research is based on the use of fetal tissues. KENDALL reiterated that it all depends on the type of research being discussed. Embryonic stem cells have more power to regenerate themselves and therefore they have proven far superior to adult stem cell lines in the treatments of diabetes and paralysis cases in particular. Both she and MARCY agreed that “No one is getting an abortion with the intent of helping this research”, that “No one can be paid for fetal materials” and that mothers must give their consent for use of fetal or embryonic tissues to be used in research.

And finally, as a follow-up to a comment made earlier, MARCY wanted to emphasize that there is a record of generous federal and private funding coming in to these studies, so we are not just “hoping other groups” will step in – We have already seen it happening.

### **AN UPDATE ON DEAN ANDERSEN’S CROSS-COUNTRY ADVENTURE**



Here is one last photo to share from DEAN ANDERSEN’s road trip. We all were sending good thoughts to DEAN as he set off from the East Coast on his quest to bicycle clear across the country. Unfortunately, our good thoughts did not translate to particularly good luck for our intrepid cyclist. An irreparable crack in the frame of his bike meant the end of this journey. Dang! But DEAN kept a positive frame of mind as he sent us this message after the early end to his travels:





*Thank you all for your kind words and support! As my adventure was cut short, I learned a lot about solo self-supported road riding! Much different than my years with the Arthritis Foundation CCC rides in which they take your gear day to day. I have had some very frustrating days as well as some absolutely awesome days! As some of you know I had some mechanical challenges but was proud that I reacted quickly and was able to move on. Yesterday when I rode into Longview Texas I was on a total high as I completed a 97-mile day with a strong headwind on some tough roads in record time. I started an evening ritual of giving my bike a good once over, i.e. oiling my chain and reviewing / tightening many of the bolts that may have loosened during the day. I was prepared for a lot of challenges however I never thought I would ever have a major issue with the frame! It makes even more frustrating as I have become a mini weather analyst and was looking forward to a few days in a row of moderate temps with little to no wind then a couple days of a strong tailwind! Cyclist egos go way up on those tailwind days!! . Even though my adventure was temporarily halted, I will be back! But I did want to share some quick personal observations of the five states (Fl, Al, MS, LA, TX) I visited:*

*Most common road kill: Raccoon*

*Stinkiest road kill: Armadillos*

*Cheapest price for gallon of gas: 1.81*

*Friendliest state: Mississippi*

*Unfriendliest state: Louisiana (besides Russell & family)*

*Best roads for biking: Florida*

*Worst roads for biking: Louisiana*

*Best rollers: Mississippi*

*Worst rollers: Florida, specifically Tallahassee*

*Hottest state: Florida*

*Coldest State: Florida, got into the 60's from 80-90 the day before*

*State with the most rain: Florida, both hot and cold*

*I want to thank my brother Rick for pulling me through much of Florida. Even though it was absolutely extreme weather conditions (hot/cold) we always have a blast together!*

*To Carey and Russell for their accommodations.*

*And finally, I want to say as most of this trip was solo self-supported on the road, that did not mean I was not supported. My wife Carol immediately became "command central" and my fellow co-pilot all the while holding down*

*her full-time job, helping the kids schooling on-line from home, taking care of the house, dogs, torta, etc! Whenever there were issues, she was looking up bike shops, looking at maps online while I was lost, finding great ways to communicate, planning/coordinating routes and accommodations on a tight budget! There is no way I would have had been this far without her help/support and that is just one of the many reasons I mub her so much! I felt like she was right their riding with me!*

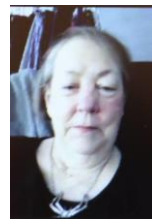
*So thanks again for all your support! Hopefully with some tweaks I will be out on the road again! If anyone wants to join or SAG let me know!*



We did have one more photo submitted for the “Andersen Support Team” of homebound would-be cyclists. Here DAVE HALL demonstrated that he was with DEAN in spirit, outfitted with his Route 66 cap and shades. And his T-shirt is from his work and reads: “Protect, Enhance, Enable – The Mission of Defending Our Nation”.



And finally, showing some retroactive support, we go back in the time machine of Facebook to see PAM MYERS’ granddaughter SAMANTHA being supportive of DEAN’s cycling in this photo of her on a scooter at a Rotary Angels Depot event eight years ago. Just goes to show that we have been supportive of DEAN forever and for always!!



## **ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT**

A note and some photos from NANCY RUSSIAN – On the road again in their RV. She is sorry that she missed our meeting.

*“We are on the road and while we often have internet and wi-fi it’s not consistent and not very reliable for Zoom. No streaming available on these camp wi-fi’s either.*

*Here’s a couple shots of us out-and-about - Paso Robles Wine Tasting with KAREN & GORDON BISHOP (past-presidents of both Oside and El Camino Clubs), and LUIS and Luna enjoying an evening in the coach ‘cuddling’. Yes, she still sits in his lap! BTW, Luna has lost 12 pounds (doctor’s orders) and “mom and Dad” have found them! 🤔🤔*

*Now in Klamath on the river. Boys are out fishing in Oregon. They had a guide and hired a boat. There were about 6 boats, and no one caught a fish except GORDON and LUIS. LUIS caught a Silver salmon that had to be tagged and reported and after that he could not put his line back in the water. GORDON caught a King Salmon, and he was able to continue fishing but did not catch anything else. They were in the boat 7 hours. It was raining all morning. The fishing license was \$32.50, the guide/boat was \$450, and you are only allowed to catch 2 silver salmon a year! (One fish limit in one day).*

*We are back at Kamp - Klamath River RV Park. Paradise on the river.”*

All we can say is ... That salmon better taste really, really good. (I'm pretty sure you could get a salmon dinner at a fine restaurant for somewhat less than their \$482.50 in fishing costs!!)



## **COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY**

Wednesday, October 21 - Zoom Evening Social @ 5:30 pm

Friday, October 23 – Board meeting on Zoom

Friday, October 23 – Operation Appreciation Beef Jerky Drive ends

Friday, October 30 – Regular meeting on Zoom – “Who Am I” presentations and Costume Contest

Friday, October 31 – Food Drive for “Feeding San Diego”

Friday, November 13 – Frozen Turkeys for Brother Benno’s Thanksgiving.

Drop your frozen fowl off at DALE MAAS’ office (2424 Vista Way, Suite 325, Oceanside) between 9 am and noon – or – provide a gift card toward the purchase of a turkey

Friday, November 20 – Deadline for sending Letters to First Responders (Police)

Note cards can be dropped off or mailed to RENEE at  
720 Silver Drive, Vista, CA 92083