	<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>Dale Maas Reporter</p>	<p>CO-PRESIDENTS Roger Vanderwerken Paul Wendee</p>

September 26, 2025



Our fearless Co-President PAUL WENDEE called the meeting to order precisely at 12:30. The meeting opened with greetings and a quick question: “Does anyone know what the Rotary International theme for September is?” (It’s **Basic Education & Literacy**.) After some light-hearted and ineffective guessing, the agenda moved forward.



VICKIE PROSSER led the pledge. RENEE RICHARDSON led the introduction of guests. TOM BRAULT and his powerful voice led us in the recitation of the Four-Way Test from memory (since our cheat-sheet banner was nowhere to be seen), followed by our club’s welcome song, and then a rendition of “The Wheels on the Bus” honoring our guest, LUIS CARRANZA, District Governor.



Honoring TERRI HALL – Major Donor Recognition

TERRI HALL was called up to the podium. We were told that this was a **historic day for Oceanside Rotary**: honoring TERRI as a **Major Donor** to the Rotary Foundation.

- TERRI joined Rotary in 1991 in Ridgcrest at a time when women were still new to the organization. (Women were first allowed to join Rotary in 1987.) She was one of very few women in her first club.
- She became a Paul Harris Fellow after a local Rotarian honored her for her community leadership. Over time, she was able to award Paul Harris



Fellowships to her mother, mother-in-law, husband, daughter, son, and a community leader who supported women's shelters.

- TERRI spoke about how easy and painless giving steadily over decades is rather than in a large one-time donation:

"I was a social worker — I didn't have big bucks. But I could put a little away every month for almost 34 years. I'm not rich, but over time, I was able to reach \$10,000."

- She described organizing a district conference in Ridgecrest early in her Rotary career, accidentally becoming the district conference co-chair when she thought she was just volunteering to be an announcer at the dinner.
- TERRI shared stories of traveling the world and visiting Rotary clubs in Ireland and England (where, at the time, women still weren't allowed to join).
- She encouraged members:



"You too can become a major donor. It doesn't happen overnight — but a little at a time, it's possible."

Introducing District Governor LUIS CARRANZA

Before LUIS spoke, his introduction mixed humor and admiration. RENEE introduced him as:

"The kind of leader who can inspire a team, keep a sense of humor, and still make it to the dessert table before it's empty — That's leadership!"

LUIS then delivered an inspiring keynote that blended personal storytelling with a call to action.

LUIS's Journey & Lessons

- LUIS grew up between cultures, moving from Guadalajara to California as a child. His parents taught him dignity, empathy, and service:

"Our lives are not just our own; they're meant for others."



- He volunteered for three years in a hospital oncology ward, often sitting with patients who had no visitors.

“I didn’t fix their lives. I just showed up with love. That’s what service really is — sacred and human.”

- As a violinist with the San Diego Symphony, he learned that service, like music, transcends language and politics.

“Don’t Miss the Bus” — our District’s Theme for This Year

LUIS shared how his Rotary theme came from a small moment: giving up the last seat on a bus during a district cruise trip to Ensenada so another member could ride with his spouse. Later, someone told him:

“That should be your district theme — Don’t Miss the Bus.”

He explained:

“Don’t miss the bus means: don’t miss the chance to love someone, to reach out, to act, to be present. Rotary isn’t about getting on first — it’s about making sure everyone gets on.”

Challenges & Call to Action

- Rotary must be a sanctuary of hope and kindness in a divided, anxious world.
- We need to mentor and empower youth, who are leaders *now* — not just “leaders someday.”
- Transformation begins with one simple act of kindness that can ripple outwards.
- He challenged the Oceanside club to complete 100 Acts of Kindness this year.
- He reminded members that the Rotary Foundation turns compassion into long-lasting impacts: clean water, literacy, mental health, peacebuilding, and polio eradication.
- LUIS gave each member a wristband with “Rotary” on one side and “Don’t Miss the Bus” on the other, as a daily reminder to serve.

RENEE presented Luis with a mini ceramic bus filled with tequila and shot glasses, just in case he needs to take the edge off during his year of governor.



Club Announcements

Upcoming Fundraiser

DARREL LARSON promoted the club's big upcoming fundraiser night "Grow a Brighter Future" on Friday, October 17 at Rancho Carlsbad — a chance to celebrate Rotary, raise funds for scholarships and service projects, and introduce guests to what the club and the international organization does.



"It'll be a night of music, food, fun, and impact. Don't miss the bus — Bring friends, fill the room, and help us raise money for all the great things we do."

Multi-District Conference

Members were reminded to save the date — April 24–26 — for the first-ever multi-district Rotary conference at the Grand Pacific Resort & Convention Center in Chula Vista. It will bring together districts from Los Angeles to Las Vegas, Orange County, Riverside, San Diego/Imperial, plus an Interact conference.

Happy Dollars – Member Highlights

This week's Happy Dollars were lively and heartfelt, raising about \$1,000 total. Here's who shared and why:

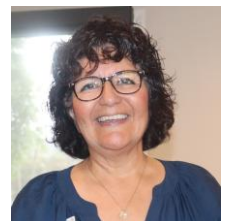
- JANET BLEDSOE LACY was \$10 happy — Celebrated TERRI HALL's recognition and shared a bit of Rotary history:

"Women weren't invited into Rotary until 1986 — and it only happened because Rotary got sued!"



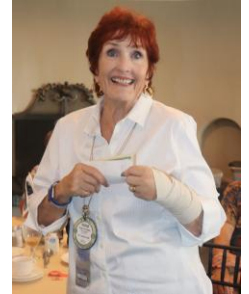
- TINA ORTIZ — Contributed \$100 but shared why she *can't* attend October the fundraiser:

"I double-booked myself with another event that night. But I want \$100 to go toward the Rotary Foundation endowed fund." She told a fantastic story: months ago, she entered a charity raffle



supporting the 'Immigrants: We Get the Job Done Foundation.' She won a VIP experience with Lin-Manuel Miranda in New York. *(See more details about this fulfilled wish from her personal "vision board" in the "Rotarians Out and About" segment at the end of this newsletter.)*

- VICKIE PROSSER — Couldn't attend last month but made up for it with a big Happy Dollars check:
 - \$79 for her birthday,
 - \$24 for club anniversary,
 - \$58 for her wedding anniversary,
 - \$20 to thank everyone for prayers during a recent health challenge.



"That makes \$181 total to our club foundation — and thank you all for your support."

- VICKIE — Was recognized with \$10 Happy Dollars from JIM SCHRODER since he was so happy to see her.

"We're so glad you're here after that terrible rollover accident — life-flighted out. We're thankful you're okay!"



VICKIE responded:

"That was my second helicopter ride to a hospital. And my husband LLOYD says I will not be allowed a third!"



- ED PARISH — Added \$5 Happy Dollars, along with a priceless smile to honor VICKIE.
- TOM BRAULT added an additional \$5 to Tina's hundred, just to say a big "WOW!" about her experience in NYC.
- LES NEWQUIST — Celebrated a 20th wedding anniversary, was \$5 happy.



"We spent four nights on Catalina Island. My grandmother lived there as a child, and my grandfather laid the first telephone cable from Los Angeles to Avalon in the 1920s. We donated historic family photos and cable pieces to the Avalon Museum."



- DALE MAAS was \$100 happy.

“I turned 41 on September 9. The best gift was my wife finally getting answers after 12 years of chronic pain. We flew to Colorado, and she had surgery September 11 — We can finally see light at the end of the tunnel. Doubling my \$41 birthday dollars for that blessing, plus \$18 more to thank VICKIE for checking in on my mom while she, too, was in rehab.”



- MIKE CURTIN — Tossed in \$10 ‘It Sucks to Get Old’ Dollars:

“I was doing nothing and a tendon in my thumb snapped. Getting old is no joke!”



- TERRI HALL was \$20 happy.

“When we came to this club 25 years ago, Rotary welcomed me like family. You’ve been my friends and my heart ever since.”



- ANCHISA FARRANT was \$10 happy.

Happy to see VICKIE and the District Governor at our meeting.

Our meeting ended on time at 1:30 with plenty of smiles and good feelings.



ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

“My HamilTen Story” – by TINA ORTIZ

It started a few months back when I entered a contest by donating to the “Immigrants: We Get the Job Done Foundation” (part of the Hispanic Federation Coalition). On August 26, I received an email stating that I had won a VIP Experience to meet Lin-Manuel Miranda! (Writer of *In the Heights*, *Moana (music)*, *Encanto (music)*, and *Hamilton*!) I had 1 ½ weeks to get myself to NYC to meet him on September 7. The VIP Meet and Greet was part of the final HamilTen celebration (it’s been 10 years since the play premiered) and held at the United Palace Theatre in Washington Heights, Lin’s family neighborhood.

At the theatre, we met his dad, Luis Miranda, who escorted us to the theatre library for our meeting. Lin asked us to give him a few minutes to eat so he wouldn't be hangry when he met us. 😊 I was one of the first to meet him. We chatted, and he was just as pleasant and down-to-earth as I imagined. He signed a copy of his book, *Gmorning, GNight*, that I brought from home. We then attended a reception hosted by the Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance (NOMAA), followed by a special sing-along screening of the Hamilton movie, which featured singing appearances by Lin and Renee Goldsberry, who played the original Angelica Schuyler.

Since I was in NYC, I saw two hit Broadway shows: the Tony Award-winning *Maybe Happy Ending* and *The Great Gatsby*. I also went to Rockefeller Center to watch the filming of the Today Show, where we met Al Roker, Savannah Guthrie, Sheinelle Jones, and Hoda Kotb. I even managed to make it on TV as part of the crowd!



COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

Friday, October 10th - Regular meeting – Supervisor JIM DESMOND

Friday, October 17 - “Grow a Brighter Future” fundraiser – 6:30 to 8:30 pm –
Rancho Carlsbad (5200 El Camino Real, Carlsbad) – Admission just \$25

Friday, October 24th - Regular meeting – JERRY TROYER, Union Street Angels

Friday, October 31st - Regular meeting – JOYE LANDWEHR, Broadway San
Diego

Friday, November 14th - Regular meeting – JOHN AULT, Veterans Day speaker

Saturday, November 15th - Feeding California Outreach Program – Packaging Food
– Boys and Girls Club, San Marcos

Friday, December 12th - Oceanside Rotary Holiday Party – Evening social

Saturday, December 13th - Boat Rides with Santa Fundraiser - Volunteer
opportunity at Oceanside Harbor. Help make some Christmas magic happen!