

	<b>ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE</b>			
	<b>SHORELINES</b>			
2024-2025	Tom Brault Editor-in-Chief	Janet Bledsoe Lacy Photographer	Tom Brault Reporter	<b>CO-PRESIDENTS</b> Janet Bledsoe Lacy Paul Wendee

**September 27, 2024**

Earning his merit badge for promptness, Co-President PAUL WENDEE gavelled our gong at precisely 12:30 pm to start our meeting. One of our newer members RICHARD JENNINGS was invited to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance, and then visitor DAPHNE FLETCHER was put on the spot to lead the recitation of the Four Way Test. (Luckily for her, the text of that test was prominently displayed on the large blue banner at the right side of the room, and DAPHNE proved to be quite proficient at reading under pressure.)

Secretary RENEE RICHARDSON was called forward by her leader / husband to give us a “Rotary Moment.” RENEE weaved a tale of getting to the front of the line at the Starbucks drive through when she was asked, “So, are you on your way to Rotary?” Knowing that her Rotary wheel bumper sticker was on the BACK of her car and therefore was not visible to the young woman at the coffeeshop window, RENEE was puzzled and inquired, “Well, yes, but how did you know?” The eagle-eyed employee replied, “I saw the big check in your back seat.” ... Mystery solved!

While she had the microphone and our attention, RENEE reminded everyone that 23 District 5340 Rotarians (including 4 from our club) would be headed down south of the border the following day to pitch in at the service project at the Kumiai School, where work would be followed by wine tasting. *{See the report at the end of this newsletter.}*

Continuing with the **CLUB UPDATES**, RENEE pointed out the brochures on our tables for the October 10 event from 6:30 to 8 pm at the Holiday Inn Carlsbad hosted by the Rotary Club of Carlsbad and Mediators Beyond Borders. The evening will focus on “Community-Centered Peacebuilding.”

On October 11<sup>th</sup>, after our regular meeting concludes, you can head over to Ivey Ranch Park to help them set up for their Hoedown fundraiser.

Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> is our club's fundraiser, with more information promised later in the meeting.

October 20<sup>th</sup> marks the 100th anniversary of the Escondido Rotary Club, and they will feature Rotary International's President STEPHANIE URCHICK as their keynote speaker. You can sign up for just the reception / for the reception and dinner / or just for President STEPHANIE's speech.

## **VISITORS AND GUESTS**

The country club staff was kept busy bringing out extra place settings and chairs to squeeze in at the tables as we had a steady stream of extra folks joining us for this meeting. This included MARIA MINGALONE, Director of the Oceanside Museum of Art, introduced by DAVE HALL. Soon to be new member MICHAEL JENKINS was introduced by VICKIE PROSSER. And TERRI HALL took the lead in pointing out (almost) all of the fine folks at our front table: RUDY and ELIZABETH VAN HUNNICK, DAPHNE FLETCHER (President of Encinitas Rotary and newly minted 4 Way Test expert), CLINT BURKETT (filmmaker and our guest speaker) along with his friend JAMES ZEMEL, and roving photographer TOM ZIZZI. With so many new faces to greet, we almost missed the chance to note that ED PARISH's sweetheart ANNE SPERAW was also seated at that table with our gaggle of guests. With everyone properly introduced, VICKIE PROSSER started us all in the ritual singing of "Welcome to Oceanside."

## **NEWS ON OUR FUNDRAISER**

Yes, RENEE was back to give us a reminder and a special update about our October 12<sup>th</sup> "Grow a Brighter Future" fundraiser at JANET BLEDSOE LACY's home – 6 to 8 pm - \$60 per person and the chance to bid on some fabulous prizes with proceeds aimed at supporting our local youth. The surprise and exciting announcement was that everyone who has already bought a ticket to this event will be eligible to invite up to 4 guests to attend FOR FREE! We were encouraged to bring along individuals who are interested in checking out Oceanside Rotary and/or would be interested in boosting the bidding on our auction that night. Let RENEE know no later than October 7, please, how many folks she should add for you to our head count.

## **NEW MEMBER INDUCTION**

RENEE was on a roll at this point, and so she rolled right into the induction of our newest addition to the club. MICHAEL JENKINS is the third new member

brought in to Oceanside Rotary so far this Rotary year. (The goal for the full year is 5, so we are well on our way.) Not sure if RENEE was shaming us or bragging about herself when she pointed out that, of those first three new members this year, all of them have been sponsored by her. She challenged everyone else in the club to invite more prospective members to help build our club's roster.

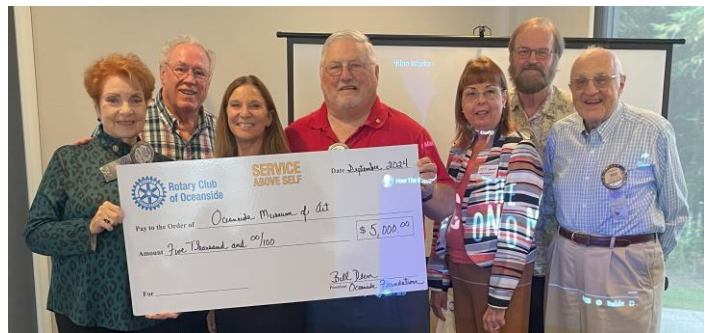


## YOUR OCEANSIDE ROTARY CLUB FOUNDATION AT WORK



ORCF President BILL DERN told us again about the three ways we can choose to be financially supportive of Rotary: Donating to the Club level, which focuses on local projects / Donating to Rotary International, which spreads its support around the world as well as right back to projects within our District / And the third option is donating to our own Oceanside Rotary Club Foundation. At this meeting, we had a big check representing the second of our big \$5,000 installments toward our pledge

to help the Oceanside Museum of Art in its major refurbishment plans. All the club foundation board members present were asked to come up as we handed off the contribution to MARIA MINGALONE, who on behalf of the Museum expressed their deep gratitude for our generosity and commitment.



## HAPPY DOLLARS

JIM SCHRODER started us off with what he at first said would be a \$3,000 contribution, but he quickly realized that he had somehow mentally added an extra decimal place and revised that to a still very generous \$300. This significant sum served as an apology for missing the upcoming October fundraiser since he will be in his inimitable World Traveler mode, once more trekking to India.





TOM BRAULT will also be on the other side of the world in October, heading to Shanghai and Hong Kong and Tokyo with his fellow Disney nerd daughter GERILYN to visit the last four Disney theme parks they have not yet seen. TOM's \$25 to the Rotary International Foundation also served as a thank you to BILL DERN and DAVE HALL for joining with him to bolster the bass section of a recent choral workshop led by two of the Moonlight Amphitheatre's finest musical directors.



ROGER VANDERWERKEN gave \$5 to celebrate his 45<sup>th</sup> reunion gathering at the U.S. Naval Academy – and was particularly proud that Navy soundly trounced Memphis on the gridiron that week ...

TERRI HALL also waved a \$5 bill to regale us with the tale of a bird that was flying all over the place inside her house before it finally was convinced to land right on her finger so TERRI could ensure its safety.

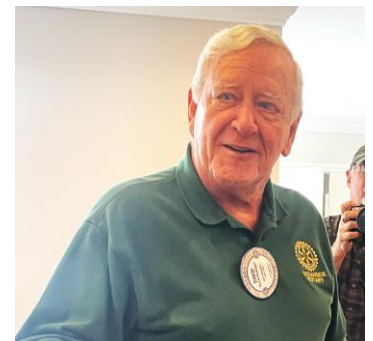


ED PARISH was \$5 “thrilled to see MARIA at the meeting”, because wherever she goes, “the place lights up!” ...



RICHARD JENNINGS was \$20 “Very happy ... That’s all I have to say.” (Speaking with your wallet like this will get you far in this club, my friend!) ...

DAVE NYDEGGER pulled \$10 out of his pocket to brag about the “Great golf shirt” with the Rotary emblem which he had chosen to wear to the meeting.... only to discover that JIM SCHRODER had pulled a carbon copy of it out of HIS closet, too. Twinzies!! (But you have to ask, “Who wore it better?”)



RUDY VAN HUNNICK doubled his normal happy dollars amount, in gratitude for the fact that TERRI HALL had given him a special invitation to this meeting AND had covered the

cost of lunch for both him and for ELIZABETH. “Twenty years in Rotary, and this is the first time I ever had my meal paid for!”, RUDY crowed, as he directed his donation to the club’s foundation ....



ANCHISA FARRANT reported, like JIM and TOM had announced before her, that she, too, would be going out of the country, but then she chuckled as she admitted that HER trip would just be “... to the project in Ensenada tomorrow!” Another part of her \$10 was as a thank you to ROGER.

DANA ALBERT could have gotten off scot-free if he had offered this information as a club announcement, but instead he opted to be \$20 happy to report that he had attended the meeting of the new Interact club which is now up and running at Oceanside High and 24 students were in attendance. Wow! That is great news! He also was glad to have volunteered at the International Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians world championship held in San Diego. He had the chance to chat with folks from all around the world, and was able to bring 20 leftover lunches from that event to share with the high schoolers. Talk about a “win / win” situation! He also gave a wee bit of a teaser announcement that a Rotary music competition will be starting up – most probably to be held in mid-February of 2025. Stay tuned (... And yes, I am quite aware that using “tuned” in that phrase could have a double meaning in this case.)



Our final Happy Dollars contribution came from BILL DERN who had already contributed his \$100 online to the Rotary International Foundation in thanks to DANA for his work with Interact and to celebrate and welcome our new members to the club.

## **A VERY SPECIAL SURPRISE FOR OUR PROGRAM**

TERRI HALL prefaced her introduction of our guest speaker by telling us how touched she had been by watching a documentary on veterans’ honor flights to Normandy. This experience inspired her to invite CLINT BURKETT – multi-award-winning documentary filmmaker with over 30 years working in television and as a video producer and editor – to give us a presentation. His company Timeline Studios (<https://www.timelin3studios.com/>) has produced documentaries covering a wide array of subjects, including one on the life story of singer-

songwriter, Steve White, a short documentary about Hawaiians from Maui healing the town of Parkland Florida, a unique perspective on The Holocaust focusing on the Arts as an escape tool, and the special documentary “Freedom Fighter”, which he would screen for us today.

CLINT has worked with guest DAPHNE FLETCHER (the publisher and CEO of HPN Books, and filmmaker and founder of LedgeMedia) on several projects in the making. DAPHNE also happens to be the current president of the Encinitas "Animal House" Rotary Club and is publishing a District 5340 Rotary Directory for clubs and members to connect.

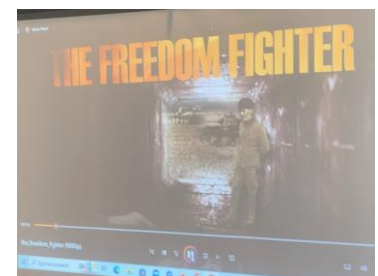


After these intro's, CLINT broke the ice by saying, “DAPHNE may be from the ‘Animal House’ Rotary, but you guys are the ‘Fun House’!” The special surprise of today's presentation was that the “Freedom Fighter” documentary he would be showing us is subtitled: “The Story of Willem Van Hunnick and the Dutch Resistance.” Yes, this 17-minute film is the story of our dear friend RUDY VAN HUNNICK's father, mostly told through an in-depth interview with RUDY himself. Many of us knew that the Nazis invaded Amersfoort (RUDY's home town in Holland) when he was just 14 years old. But what we may not have known (and which was the foundation of this documentary) is that his father WILLEM had served in the artillery and cavalry and was a key leader in the Dutch underground resistance during World War II. Among other efforts against the Nazi invasion, the resistance hid, housed, and fed many local Jewish residents so that they would not be captured and transported to concentration camps. This film is captivating and can be viewed online at:



<https://vimeo.com/285220506?share=copy>

Sadly, WILLEM was eventually arrested and tortured to death. Near the end of the video, we were shown how in 2018 the government had placed a granite memorial stone in front of the home where the Van Hunnick family had once lived. It is inscribed: “WILLEM VAN HUNNICK lived here. Murdered in TREYSA on 05/03/1945. 45 years old.” In CLINT's opinion, “RUDY and this father are both heroes.”





At the conclusion of the film, the club gave both CLINT and RUDY a lengthy and heartfelt standing ovation. With a broad smile, RUDY told us, “I love you all” and marveled that “They even brought me flowers!” And somehow, even through all the planning to pull this special presentation off, this program ended up being a surprise for RUDY. As wife ELIZABETH put it, “TERRI pulled off quite a snow job!” while making sure that he would be in attendance.



CLINT gave us a little insight into the logistics of this film, telling us that RUDY had provided “a handful of photos,” but that most of the images and film clips had to be located and the rights to use the footage had to be secured. The film brought back memories for ROGER VANDERWERKEN, who recalled visiting many of the sites shown during his Rotary exchange experience in Holland.



As a small token of our appreciation, CLINT was given a lovely arrangement of succulents crafted by ANCHISA FARRANT before Co-President PAUL closed the meeting with our **OPPORTUNITY DRAWING**. All of us who were holding losing tickets *almost* got a second chance, as it took ED PARISH quite some time to realize that he had the lucky number in his possession. But alas, that Joker remains elusive, and ED donated his \$10 consolation prize right back to the club. With the meeting thus concluded, and with no further club business to attend to, we adjourned two minutes early.



## **RENEE'S RECAP OF THE LATEST KUMIAI SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECT**

*Saturday, September 28th started out early with a quick pick up of Rotarians leaving from Carlsbad at 6:00 AM head to the border!*

*Co-President Paul, Secretary Renee, Anchisa, Wendy and her husband Mike all arrived at the border parking by 7:30 AM. Once we cleared customs, we loaded a bus with Rotarians from San Diego Coastal, Del Mar, Carlsbad, Southeast San Diego and Club Ensenada Riviera for a very long route to the Kumiai*

*Village. Our normal route was interrupted by a bike race so our normal hour-long bus ride turned into a very bumpy but scenic 2-hour drive to the Village.*

*Once at the Village we set out apply Rotary stickers to over 100 donated books for both the Kindergarten and Elementary class rooms.*

*Wendy and Mike worked on hanging swings and helping put together a jungle gym at the Elementary School. Anchisa and Renee worked on books and putting together a sandbox for the kindergarten children. We had some help. What's the saying – “How many Rotarians does it take to screw in a light bulb?” I'm telling you, you just had to be there! Of course, I have included pictures of our Co-President Paul supervising a jungle gym assembly at the kindergarten.*

*San Diego Coastal Rotary had arranged for a Storyteller who entertained the parents and children who came to watch the improvements our clubs were making to their schools. Much to our surprise the storyteller was also a Mexican Opera singer, and treated us to music at the winery later where we had wine tasting and lunch!*

*We had quite the bumpy ride back to the border. At one point, Anchisa remarked that she thought her brain was still intact!*

*Once at the border, a weary group of Oceanside Rotarians feeling good about their day of service said goodnight to all. Unfortunately, Wendy, Mike and Anchisa found themselves in the line to cross back over border for almost 3 hours, not arriving home until 9:30 PM. Word to the wise: Apply for your Global or Sentry pass! Thank you, Rotarians, for coming and for living the Rotary Motto - Service Above Self!*





## **A CHANCE TO SEE A FELLOW ROTARIAN ONSTAGE**

Coming to the New Village Arts Theatre in downtown Carlsbad on Monday, October 7, the Carlsbad Playreaders (whose board includes Rotarians BILL DERN, ED PARISH, and TOM BRAULT) will present a reading of the engaging musical version of “Little Women” which will feature TOM’s daughter GERILYN in the lead role and TOM himself playing a supporting role in the cast. (In his first scent, TOM is quite mean to his daughter onstage, but gets nicer by the end.) Suggested donation is just \$5, and although the showtime is 7:30 pm, it is suggested to arrive at the theater on the early side, since they anticipate a sellout crowd for this one night only performance.

## **ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT**

MIKE WESELOH definitely is taking full advantage of his retirement, and he shared with us photos from his recent trip to Olympic National Park in Washington state.

*“Olympic is three parks in one. The mountains, beautiful ridge lines, evergreens.*

*The park gets more rainfall than anywhere else in United States, and creates a rainforest type of terrain, creeks, rivers, and waterfalls.*

*The coastline, massive amounts of huge driftwood. Very special park, worth seeing if you can.”*



## **COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY**

Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup> – “Local Solutions for Lasting Peace” at the Holiday Inn in Carlsbad, 2725 Palomar Airport Road. 6:30-8:00 p.m. (Presented by Rotary Club of Carlsbad & Mediators Beyond Borders) RSVP by October 7 to [RMEENES@RMVAIL.COM](mailto:RMEENES@RMVAIL.COM)

Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup> – Regular Meeting – Speaker FERNANDA TORRES (District 5340 Group Study Exchange Director)

Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup> – After our meeting - Volunteer to help set up the Western Hoedown event at Ivey Ranch Park

Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> – “Grow a Brighter Future” Fundraiser at JANET BLEDSOE LACY’s house. 2165 Grandview, Oceanside. 6-8 p.m. – **Buy your tickets now and let RENEE know the number of FREE guests you will be inviting ASAP**

Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> - 100-year anniversary celebration for the Escondido Rotary Club. RI President Stephanie Urchick will be the guest speaker.

Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup> - Regular Meeting – Speaker PAUL CHO, LifeArk Homeless Housing

# GROW A Brighter Future Event

Come be a part of a vision filled evening that will directly impact the lives of students in Oceanside

**Tickets \$60**

 Scan for Tickets

Vacation Packages

Food, Wine and Drinks

Live Auction

**Rotary**   
Oceanside CA  
RotaryRenee@cox.net  
<https://www.oceansidecarotary.com>  
For Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grow-a-brighter-future-tickets-945168784277?aff=oddtcreator>

**OCTOBER 12TH**  
**6PM TO 8PM**  
2165 Grandview  
Oceanside, CA 92054

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