



September 8, 2017

Call to order: President CHUCK WARD opened with a Club Update and told us to “mark your calendars” because the next meeting will be an “away” evening event at Fratelli's Italian Kitchen (5:30 p.m., 3915 Mission Ave.) and said the cost will be the same \$20 (payable at the door) as at our regular lunches. CHUCK said the food is delicious.



Then he said, “the ringing of the bell (he had his own gavel at this point) means one thing – it's Rotary time.”



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: was led by A. J. MAZZARELLA.



Because CHUCK is well known for forgetting his agenda, our Secretary RENEE RICHARDSON WENDEE had left copies with some of our members, just in case our president needed a backup. Coming up to the podium one by one to hand our

president an extra copy of the agenda were PAST PRESIDENT TOM BRAULT, PAST PRESIDENT DAVE HALL, PAST PRESIDENT JAY CRAWFORD, A. J. MAZZARELLA, PAST PRESIDENT BILL DERN, PAST PRESIDENT MIKE CURTIN and DAVID NYDEGGER. CHUCK said he now had seven agendas since he actually had remembered his as well.

He welcomed everyone to “Oceanside's oldest and most prestigious Rotary Club” and said we “are not necessarily musically inclined but inclined to music.”

Chuck also gave advance notice that he would be auctioning two terrific tickets 10 rows behind home plate for the Padres Wednesday (Sept. 20) game and that three raffle tickets would be pulled today.

SONGS: TOM BRAULT led us in our “old standard,” “Smile,” and then told us there was a sheet of paper (decorated with the image of a gavel) at our tables, because he “wanted to pay tribute to a president who's setting records (losing his gavel).”



Because very few members seemed to recall the less famous Beatles song that this parody was based upon, TOM taught us how to sing the following chorus:

“I'm a loser. And I lost something that's dear to me.

I'm a loser. And I'm not what I appear to be.”

And he would sing the verses:

“Of all the things in my life I have lost
There is one thing I should never have tossed
To a Rotary Pres, well, his gavel is dear
How many times will I lose it this year?

(Chorus)

I walked away from the podium, it's true
One minute later, it's grabbed. Was it you?

So many saw, but they won't say a word.
This just ain't fair. Yes I think it's absurd.

(Chorus)

What have I done to deserve such a fate?
I realize I have lost it. Oh, great!
And so it's true, pride comes before a fall
I'm telling you so that you won't lose all.

(Chorus)

Finally, TOM said, “With all the hurricanes and earthquakes and tension in the world, we could use some divine guidance” and therefore we would sing “God Bless America.”

CHUCK said, “I want to remind everyone that RENEE (PAST PRESIDENT and SECRETARY-FOR-LIFE RENEE RICHARDSON-WENDEE – traveling in Thailand) is not here today, so we can do anything we want today.”

CHUCK passed around a sign-up clipboard for this coming week’s evening away meeting at Fratelli's for wine, pasta, salad and games, but first had to ask, “Who has a pen?” And then he told people to be sure to give the pen back to JANET BLEDSOE LACY.

Sprinkling the announcements through the meeting a bit, CHUCK then mentioned the District 5340 Rotary Foundation seminar Sept. 23 at the Poway Center for the Performing Arts. He said those who want to go should contact RENEE (...in Thailand???)

CHUCK also announced that Heritage Park will be hosting a re-enactment of a Spanish-American War battle from 9 a.m. to 4 p .m. Sept. 30 and from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 1. Rotarians are being asked to help out at “our” Blade Building.



ROTARY INSPIRATIONAL MOMENT: PAST PRESIDENT JAY CRAWFORD said, “Some years ago, a friend I admired said to me, 'It is easy to criticize a person, but it is more rewarding and beneficial to help them become successful.' He was the reason I joined Rotary in 1982.”

CHUCK asked about everyone's Labor Day Weekend activities. He wanted to know who had traveled the farthest or worked the hardest. Winners got an extra raffle ticket. **JAY** took the travel prize: 1,250 miles for his return trip from Missoula, Mont., where he said he experienced “traffic smoke and hot weather – 107 degrees in St. George, Utah.”

As runners up, **LYN CORDER** had gone to a meeting in San Francisco and **PAM MYERS** went with her granddaughter, **SAMANTHA** (who in the fourth grade has been studying the California missions) on a continuing quest to see all 21 of California's historic Spanish missions, although **PAM** couldn't for the life of her remember which mission she had visited. After a few of them, they all become a blur in your mind, don't they? (It was Ventura.)

As for working hardest, **DAVID SHORE** took the prize with his nose to the grindstone for 10 hours on Labor Day, although **TOM BRAULT** also said he was in rehearsals (for “Billy Elliot” the musical) all weekend long.



WELCOME GUESTS: LARRY HATTER introduced JORDY SPARKS, working on his doctorate at Harvard by spending time at Oceanside Unified School District. HATTER said SPARKS, an Ohio State grad, is enjoying our superior weather and wouldn't be averse to staying if a principalship should open up at the end of the school year. LARRY said SPARKS probably would become a Rotarian for the year he's here. STEPHANIE YOO introduced MIKE WITHERS, membership chairman at the Joe and Mary Mottino YMCA, where she is executive director. STEPHANIE said MIKE was born and raised in Oceanside. DAVE NYDEGGER introduced our speaker, JOHN AMBERSON, and TOM BRAULT, until nudged, forgot the guest at his table; RUDY VON HUNNICK. "He's a fixture," TOM said, before leading our welcome song.

CROWN HEIGHTS: CHUCK announced the first two events this year with Crown Heights kids will be a MiraCosta College soccer game on Oct. 6 and an excursion to Camp Pendleton on Oct 11. DAVE NYDEGGER said 36 kids will be going on the Camp Pendleton tour and will be eating MREs (Meal, Ready to Eat) there. Several members raised their hands, interested in accompanying the kids for these programs. (Important Note: We all were reminded that, in keeping with the requirements of Rotary, members who plan to participate in programs like this which would have us working with minors must have a current Youth Certification background check in place before they can do anything involving children.) CHUCK said "our club has gotten a lot of recognition from Rotary" for our Crown Heights program. "It's life-changing for these kids," he said. "I'm honored to be a part of it."

OPPORTUNITY DRAWING: Our chance at the big jackpot was held mid-meeting, not at the end, as usual. CHUCK asked LYN CORDER how excited her grandson was to have had the winning number (and taken home \$10, not the \$1,000) a couple of weeks ago. She said he was excited to win it "on his own" whereas, in the previous week, his twin had been handed the winning number as a gift from a generous member.



CHUCK first proved to us that there actually is a joker in the official deck and then gave the cards to DAVE HALL, whom he called the “official shuffler.” The lucky tickets this week were held by TOM BRAULT, ERNIE MASCITTI and BILL DERN. BILL was eliminated first in the High Card Draw challenge. In the bean bag toss, the first round ended up as a tie, but ERNIE prevailed over TOM in the single shot second round by plunking his bean bag straight into the #2 target. With a grand on the line, ERNIE pulled a card from the deck, but it wasn't the joker. He wanted to give back the \$10 consolation prize back to the club, but CHUCK insisted that he keep it. “You deserve it,” CHUCK said.



SPEAKER; JOHN AMBERSON has been a transportation planner for the city since 1998. He was raised in Oceanside, graduated from Vista High School and San Diego State University and spent four years in the U. S. Army. Since AMBERSON is a local lad, we tried to sing JAY CRAWFORD'S “Oceanside” song for him. Well, we did sing it – at least, those of us who remembered the lyrics did. But because MIKE CURTIN had already had set up the video equipment to show our speaker's slides, we couldn't display the words or the pictures that go with the song onto the screen.

AMBERSON is the project manager for the Coast Highway Corridor Study.

He said he would explain “why we're doing this, what we're doing and when we're going to do it.”

It all started, he said, with the “Smart Growth” plans of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), seeking to concentrate density along transportation corridors. The City Council initiated its study in 2007, AMBERSON said, and approved the vision plan in 2009.

“We are a major transportation hub,” AMBERSON said, with light rail, transit (buses) and heavy rail. He talked of a “multi-modal infrastructure.”

The plan, he said, divides the corridor into four “nodes” - one north, one south and two central. A lot of planning has occurred in one of those central areas (downtown), but from there going south on Coast Highway, plans have called for narrowing the road from four traffic lanes to two and placing roundabouts at many intersections.

“We can not recommend roundabouts at all intersections,” AMBERSON said because, for instance, at Vista Way and at Oceanside Boulevard, they wouldn't work due to existing businesses on the corners. Sufficient space is not available.

AMBERSON said that it has been found on La Jolla Boulevard in the Bird Rock area of that community, that slower traffic (25 miles an hour instead of 45) on two lanes instead of four gives motorists more time to notice businesses adjoining the roadway.

But, he said, some residents don't want the higher density buildings (in some places, up to 65 feet tall). They are seeking instead to keep the present neighborhood look.

In general, AMBERSON said of the plan, “I think it is going to create a sense of place.”

He fielded questions from DAVE NYDEGGER and DAVE SHORE and then seemed surprised by one from JAY CRAWFORD about whether the new roadway

would be able to handle the annual Independence Day Parade. “That's a good question,” AMBERSON said, “No one has asked. ” He said he would check into it.

JANET BLEDSOE LACY reminded us that Oceanside already has roundabouts - in her Fire Mountain neighborhood.

“I hate to rain on your parade,” MIKE CURTIN said. “but I have not heard of a single business interested in reducing (Coast Highway) to two lanes.” MIKE asked if the City had received any positive feedback on this concept.

AMBERSON replied that an attorney for a recreational vehicle park on the highway has spoken in favor of the plan.



CHUCK presented our speaker with his usual gift of a planter from TERI, Inc.

He then auctioned his Padres tickets in Section 102, Row 10. He said that the amount of money raised would determine the quality of our drinks served this Friday at Fratelli's. The one and only bid (\$100) was from DAVID SHORE, so they were going, going, gone to DAVE, who planned to gift them to a Diamondbacks fan he knows.



And CHUCK seemed quite pleased with that bid amount, indicating that the wine will be just fine at Friday's gathering.



BIRTHDAY: DALE MAAS was given the choice of three different envelopes containing gift cards; one for dinner at 333 Pacific, one for an appetizer at Fratelli's and one for coffee. He won the appetizer.

FUNNY (gavel) BUSINESS: Speaking of making choices, TOM BRAULT gave CHUCK the choice of three boxes, and the one chosen did indeed hold the missing stunt gavel, which CHUCK had borrowed from RENEE. So for a brief, shining moment, all of the gavels that our president had lost were in their proper places. CHUCK was pleased with this wonderful discovery and glad to put this gavel nonsense behind him.



HAPPY DOLLARS: JANET BLEDSOE LACY quickly stood first with Happy Dollars to put in a plug for tickets to the KOCT “Past, Present, & Future” fundraiser on September 14 from 5 to 9 pm at the station’s studio and brought in a quick sale of two tickets to President CHUCK. Other folks in attendance took her up on the offer, and I’m sure she would be glad to line you up with tickets, too, if you’re interested! JAY CRAWFORD gave \$20 for returning from “smoky, dry Montana”, but said he did have a good time viewing the eclipse and floating on the Yellowstone and Bitterroot rivers. TOM BRAULT gave \$25 because he is very proud of the work he has been doing at the “Billy Elliot” rehearsals (which performs at San Diego Musical Theatre from September 22 thru October 8 and should be a fine show) and happy for the help of DAVE and TERRI HALL taking over the leadership of the Rotary group's excursion to see “In the Heights” at the Moonlight Amphitheatre on September 22. PAM MYERS was \$5 happy about her granddaughter's first violin lesson, although she added, “It can only get better,” which elicited a knowing laugh from the crowd. And RUDY VON HUNNICK was \$20 happy because “it's always a pleasure to be here” and \$20 happy because he had met LOLA SHERMAN last week at the Muramid Museum and was so happy that she wrote an article about the arts.





CHUCK gaveled the meeting to a close a bit past his target time of 1:30. (He thought he was going to be precisely on time, but had completely forgotten about Happy Dollars ... Wait a minute ... Didn't he have 7 copies of the agenda to remind him of that???) And wait another minute. As he was closing the meeting, he was seen looking all around the front table in vain and had to confess that his actual gavel had been grabbed once again at some point in the meeting. He was forced to clang the bell with RENEE's stunt gavel again. Lucky for him that he had picked the right box today and gotten that one back, not knowing how much he was going to need it. How could he have lost his gavel AGAIN so soon? Will the poor boy never learn that, when it comes to gavels left lying around, Oceanside Rotarians simply cannot be trusted?

DON'T FORGET: THIS WEEK WE WILL NOT BE AT THE COUNTRY CLUB FOR LUNCH, BUT INSTEAD WILL MEET AT FRATELLI'S RESTAURANT AT 5:30 PM FOR FOOD AND FUN ... and apparently some pretty good wine, too!

ROTARIANS OUT AND ABOUT

Several of our members took advantage of the time around the Labor Day holiday to see some sights around the country and/or around the world.

Closest to home was the trip that BILL and KATHY DERN took up to San Francisco to visit BILL's brother JOHN and his wife CARRIE. One bummer on this trip was that the day they had planned to visit the Walt Disney Family Museum at the Presidio was the one day of the week the museum is closed. (You can see just how disappointed BILL was.) But they made up for that by having a marvelous lunch at the Shore Cliff Restaurant overlooking the Pacific Ocean. And although they missed seeing Walt's museum, they did get to visit the Fairyland amusement park near Lake Merritt in Oakland which has a special connection to Mr. Disney, being one of the sites that Walt had visited in the 1950's while he was doing his research and planning for the Disneyland project. BILL, JOHN and a pooch named Gracie took a morning walk around Lake Merritt, too. The visual highlight of this trip was a glorious walk across the Golden Gate Bridge on a picture perfect day, capped with another fine meal at the Forge Restaurant at Jack London Square.







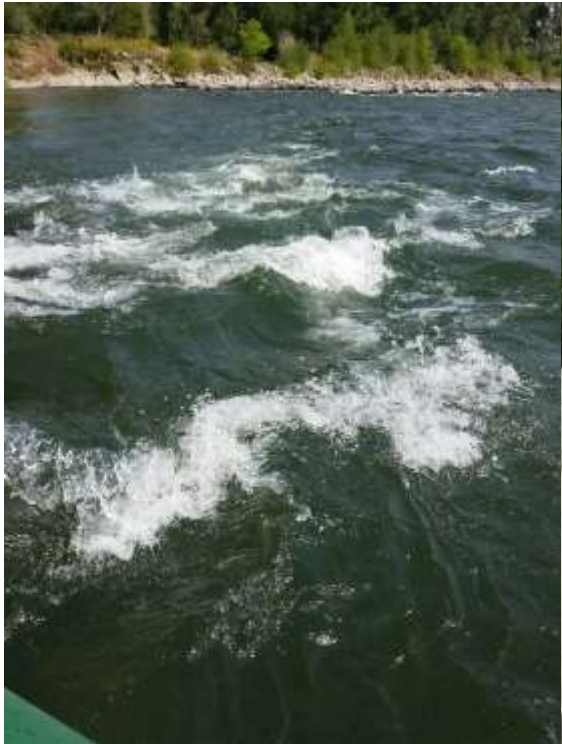
While touring around the Badlands of South Dakota, NANCY RUSSIAN and her husband LUIS dropped by the iconic Wall Drug, where they hung out with one of the local fellas, had a close encounter with a jackalope and checked out the local Badlands Bar for good measure.



JAY CRAWFORD in Happy Dollars mentioned his time in Montana, and he provided Shorelines with some photos of his adventures. Three generations of Crawford's gathered together, at times plucking their guitars. Many types of local "wildlife" were spotted, including a warren of rabbits gathered at a watering hole and, most notably, a rare sighting of the majestic Three Pronged Jaydeer, sporting quite an impressive set of antlers. On August 21, a whole gang got together for a raft trip down the Yellowstone and Bitterroot Rivers. Woo Hoo!! And to make that raft experience even more memorable, the crew took time out from bobbing on the river to sit on the shore and witness the long anticipated total eclipse of the sun. What a time to be in Montana!









And the winners of the “furthest traveled” award are PAUL and RENEE WENDEE, who ventured across the Pacific to participate in a Rotary English Travel Program in Thailand. As RENEE described it in her email, it is like a “Mini Evanston” for that country. The hosts pulled out the stops for a marvelous dinner party with colorful entertainment and they have had interesting and delicious foods to sample. (Can you identify all of the selected foods in this photo?) They also had some time to take in some of the local sights and, at one point, as RENEE said, “The teacher had the chance to learn flower arrangement.” Looks like some intriguing and memorable experiences for our world travelers!





COMING SOON TO OCEANSIDE ROTARY

September 15 – AWAY MEETING 5:30 PM - Fratelli's Italian Restaurant (3915 Mission Ave #12, Oceanside) for Family style dinner and games

Reporter: JAY CRAWFORD

September 22 – CAROLYN ZOLLARS, San Diego Botanic Gardens

Reporter: DAVE SHORE

September 29 – SCOTT CARR, Official District Governor visit

Reporter: TOM BRAULT

October 6 – DARK for Evening Social at Stone Brewery

October 13 – JIM O'MEARA, South Africa Rotary Global Grant

Reporter: TBA

October 20 – SCOTT McDONALD (Del Mar Rotary), McDonald Foundation

Reporter: TBA

October 27 – KIM GIBBENS, San Diego Center for the Blind

Reporter: TBA