
	<p align="center"><b>ROTARY CLUB OF OCEANSIDE</b></p> <p align="center"><b>SHORELINES</b></p>			
<p align="center">2025-2026</p>	<p align="center">Tom Brault Editor-in-Chief</p>	<p align="center">Anchisa Farrant Photographer</p>	<p align="center">Tom Brault Reporter and Auction Winner!</p>	<p align="center"><b>CO-PRESIDENTS</b> Roger Vanderwerken Paul Wendee</p>

***SPECIAL EDITION OCTOBER 17, 2025***

The Clubhouse at Rancho Carlsbad was “The Place to Be” on Friday night, October 17. The 74 attendees at our Second Annual Grow a Brighter Future fundraiser enjoyed a delicious meal of enchiladas, rice, beans, and salad catered by Café Rosarita and, if you had room after your main course, an incredible array of desserts were provided by JACQUE VANDERWERKEN. If you were thirsty, a well-appointed bar, tended primarily by FILIPPO VIOLA, had margaritas, beers, soft drinks and waters flowing all night long. Plus the dinner hour was a fine time to roam around the room and mingle with friends, fellow Rotarians, and even have the chance to rub elbows with our District Governor LUIS CARRANZA who came to support our event.



As the dinner wound down, our Co-President ROGER WANDERWERKEN stepped up to the podium to officially welcome one and all and then introduce some special guests before he turned over the microphone to the Event Chair DARREL LARSON and our Youth Service Chair DANA ALBERT – an appropriate choice since the “Brighter Future” we were aiming to raise funds for was to support our various projects for the youth of our community. DANA invited several local young ones up to the



stage to describe the impact that Rotary programs have had on their lives. We heard from Lincoln Middle Schoolers about their experiences at the LEAD (Leadership, Ethics, Aspirations & Determination) seminar as well as Oceanside High RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award) participants and members of the newly reformed OHS Interact Club and their faculty advisor CATRINA STONE. ROGER’s daughter CHRISTINA described her lifechanging experience through her Rotary Youth Exchange time abroad in Belgium. All of these testimonials were quite inspiring and opened our hearts to make us more likely to open our wallets for the fundraising that followed.



Our auctioneer for the evening was STEVE, and with his charm and incredibly fast talking, he rocketed us through the live auctions of several valuable prize packages, including: Wine Tasting for 12 / 4 Night National Park Getaway / San Diego Zoo and San Diego Clippers package / 4 Nights in Breathtaking Banff, Canada / Magic Castle Experience / 2 Night Luxury Stay at Napa Valley / 3 Nights at Big Bear Lake / Golf Extravaganza package. At times, the bidding got quite spirited (“IGotOneCanIGetOneAndAQuarter?”), but eventually STEVE would bring an item to a close by announcing, “Gavel up high.... Sold to the handsome gentleman at the center table!”

If you weren’t lucky enough to have the winning bid on an auction prize, everyone still had a chance to support the cause by contributing to any or all of our eight featured youth programs (OHS Interact Scholarship / OHS Robotics Club support / Oceanside School Libraries / MiraCosta College Resilience Grants / MiraCosta Medal of Academic Merit / RYLA Scholarship / LEAD Scholarship / Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship) simply by raising your hand to pledge a contribution to “Fund a Need” at various contribution levels, starting at \$3,000 and working its way down to a quite affordable \$100 donation. With lots of hands going up in the air, in addition to the generous bidding on our auction items, lots of funds were raised at this very successful event!

To wrap up the evening, two winning tickets were drawn for the 50/50 opportunity drawing, with each lucky winner receiving \$138. And, as a special “Thank You” to the kind folks who had volunteered to cover all of the costs of this event in advance (food, drinks, desserts, etc.) so that all of the proceeds ended up as 100% profit going to fund our youth projects, all of those super sponsors were entered into our final drawings for three final prizes: a room and golf at Temecula Creek Inn and two separate gift certificates for spa treatments. Even this sponsor giveaway ended up being an addition to the fundraising, because LARRY HATTER immediately offered the golf package he had won up for bidding, netting even more money for the youth of Oceanside.

Many thanks to all who planned, sponsored, attended, bought raffle tickets, placed bids on the auction, and just generally enjoyed and supported this successful and fun event!





