



Special Edition

Rotary Year 2024-2025, 49th Meeting and Final Meeting, 1st Year, 2nd Century

President Rick Fauss' Demotion

The Demotion ceremony was held on the evening of June 26th, at the Mercy Oaks Meeting Facility.

The Past Presidents, led by our most recent PP, **PP Jennifer Finnegan** organized a wonderful celebration of **President Rick's** year!

Attendees started to roll in at 6pm. They were welcomed in to see all the tables set, drink service, a photo booth, and heard some music playing in the background.

Dinner was prepared and served by CR Gibbs, with both **PP Ed Rullman** and **Brad Rullman** in attendance to enjoy the celebration and oversee their team.



Our President and his First Lady

President (Rick) Richard L. Fauss and his bride, **Karen!** Soon to be **PP Rick Fauss**

After a relaxing and delicious dinner featuring Tri-Tip and some lovely-skewered delicacies, the "formal" ceremonies began.

The hall was called to attention by the sound of that famous, and probably the most popular graduation song, "Pomp and Circumstance."

The graduation scheme for the "demotion" was founded on the teachings provided by **President Rick**. His lessons included teaching us songs, such as his Four Way Test Song, and helping learn how to spell, through his Four Way Test Fundraising scrabble tile game. Although we were his students and he was the teacher, the graduation ceremony was all to thank him for his dedication, hard work, and creativity during his year as President! **PP Jenn Finnegan**, our master of ceremonies, led the graduation proceedings which included many Past Presidents, all whom offered their appreciation to **President Rick** and presented him with a special gift to memorialize his year as President.



PP Jenn made her opening statement after the processional was in place. She set the stage, explained the motif, and presented some of the more serious recognitions to **President Rick**. These included a plaque commemorating his year of service and of course, the gavel he used through out his year.



PP Jenn did not have her handy folding step with her tonight, so she did look a little diminutive next to **President Rick**!

Actually, it was more of the "perspective" of the photo, but I had to take a shot when these opportunities present themselves...

Please don't judge me!

After the serious presentation of the plaque and the gavel, the shenanigans commenced. Each Past President presented President Rick with an "award" or a "gift" to signify something of importance in President Rick's year.

PP Jenn started these presentations with a award for BEST PUPPET! You may remember when we had a ventriloquist as our program speaker. He brought in a "device" which allowed him to turn **President Rick** into a "Puppet" of was it a "Dummy?"

President Rick was a good sport even when the ventriloquist put words in his mouth that would not normally be brought forth from our respected and respectful President!



The Procession of Past President Continues

PP Jeff Avery said the he was just as happy to see **President Rick** depart his role as **Present Rick** was to leave this responsibility behind him.

PP Jeff award him "Most Likely to See the San Diego Padres Win a World Series!" President Rick is a diehard Padres fan and the team is having an excellent year...so, this could come true!

There were "jeers" from the crowd which had Giant fans scattered about...

PP Greg Balkovek offered that President Rick was "Most Likely to be a Rotary President for a third time!" This was prompted by the fact that Rick had been a president at another California Rotary club many years ago. **PP Greg** acknowledged **President Rick's** creativity, wisdom, enlightenment and other attributes. He presented gifts of plums and prune juice as a means for President Rick to keep things "moving forward!" I didn't know they were stuck!

He also present a plaque while the crowd chanted, "One More Year, One More Year!"

PP Jake Mangas, in collaboration with **Gary Parkinson** of Blach Beverages, recognized **President Rick** as "Most Likely to Not Have a Drink at a Party." He commemorated this recognition with a six pack of non-alcoholic beer from which President Rick could take a sip! The good news for Gary Parkinson was that President Rick said it did NOT taste like alligator pee, which he has heard from other partakers of non-alcoholic beer!

PP and ADG Joe Ayer said that he could have recognized President Rick for "Most Likely to Show-up for a meeting, as he made most of the district meetings. However, to be more pertinent to our specific club, he chose to award **President Rick**, "Most Likely to Present Mugs that are NOT Dishwasher Safe!" Also, he presented a North Face Back-Pack to haul all of his goodies home.

PP Dave Gerard recognized President Rick as "Most Likely to Cut in Line to be President." As you all know, **President Rick** had to switch years with **PE Wendy Dickens**. With short notice, **President Rick** stepped up to help the club keep the continuity of leadership! In order to toast the recognition, **PP Dave** offered a bottle of Martinellis. **President Rick** said that he would enjoy that!

PP Tom Semingson started by saying that **PP Amelia Ward** said he could say anything he wanted. This crowd immediately braced itself as it was quite aware of the possibilities. However, **PP Tom** was on his best behavior. He awarded **President Rick** and his bride, **Karen** as the "Cutest Couple!" That was well received. However, he did not get the memo about bring a gift. So, he offered \$100 to his Paul Harris and said the gift was in the mail...we'll see about that!

PP Ed Rullman said, "it was a great year." He acknowledged **Karen's** support. **PP Ed** gave **Karen** a \$50 gift certificate to CR Gibbs. He went on to recognize **President Rick's** humor and said that he was one of the best presidents we have had since he was a member of the club. He also presented an electronic fly swatter in remembrance of our program by Beneficial Insectary!

PP Jeff Avery came up once again to present President Rick with a 1949 version of a scrabble game to represent the President's Fundraiser and its success! He then prompted **President Rick** to lead the club in his Four Way Test Song one more time! He also added, President Rick was "Most Likely to Count the Letters Wrong in the Game."

PP Kathy Anderson said, she read her emails unlike **PP Tom Semingson**, so she had a gift. She said that she liked tassels and had made him a special one.

PP Amelia Ward made her presentation to President Rick in Spanish. She congratulated **President Rick** on the Best Year Ever. She presented him with a special apron. She went on to award him as "Most Likely to become District Governor."

President Rick formally Joins the Group of PPs

President Rick made some closing comments and offered his appreciation for the event and the support of the club during his year.

Here is the content of an email **PP Rick** sent to the club a day or two after the demotion ceremony:

Thank you to all of you who made my demotion (graduation) party so incredibly special! A special thanks to all the past presidents who participated in a wonderful time of laughter and sincere moments of true unadulterated fun! I especially want to thank Jenn Finnegan and her team who put it all together. Great job! I appreciate all of your kind words and making a special effort to be there.

Rick





Link to the 4 Way Test Song – President Rick:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nYfpEjqog4gxAen9qZj6YasdxgmXyA3z/view?usp=sharing>



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Rotary



The Four-Way Test

of what we think, say or do

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build good will and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



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WE ARE OPPORTUNITY-CREATORS

Rotary members look for opportunities to improve our communities today and invest in the next generation for tomorrow.



WE ARE PROBLEM-SOLVERS

Together, we apply our professional experience and personal commitment to tackle our communities' most persistent problems, finding new, effective ways to enhance health, stability, and prosperity across the globe.