

the HELICOPTER



The Rotary Club of Pensacola District 6940 Club 4248

WEEK IN REVIEW

The September 7, 2010 meeting of the Rotary Club of Pensacola took place on another beautiful late summer day. Rotarians were greeted by Tim Cane and Dave Galloway, and Dale Jordan sold enough raffle tickets to generate a \$66 prize for the week, which was won by Tony Basel.

President Ray Jones opened the meeting, and Henry Roberts led the group in thoughtful prayer and Pledge. Nigel Allen had Sunshine duties, and he welcomed two Navy guests, Ensign Currin in Pensacola by way of New York City, now at VT 86, and Ensign Brackney of Rochester, NY. Nigel introduced a handful of guests of Rotarians, and Rotarians from other clubs having a Downtown New World lunch.

Ray thanked Downtown Rotarians for their response to pledge requests, and he reminded us of the "Object of Rotary" which is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and in particular to encourage and foster:

- * The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- * High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- * The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

* The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Dr. Judy Bense introduced the day's guest speaker, Dr. Rick Harper, director of the Haas Center for Business Research and Economic Development at the University of West Florida. Dr. Bense described Rick as not only important to the University, but important to the community, and an economist who speaks in terms we can actually understand.

Dr. Harper first outlined the National outlook in these economic times, and said we are now living in "The New Normal" economy with numbers such as unemployment over 9%, economic growth rates of a miserable 1.5%, and spending \$1.05 for every \$1.00 of Gross Domestic Product. Rick reminded us that wage-earner salaries have only increased roughly 1% per year over the past 40 years, and personal prosperity occurred mainly because of our ability to borrow, and most of that via home mortgages. American public debt is nearing 10 trillion dollars, and as interest rates begin to rise, the debt will become a substantial burden. Rick feels that we will not feel like the recession will subside for the next 5 to 10 years, and we cannot begin the recovery process until consumer spending increases which will not happen until the job market stabilizes.

The Florida outlook may not be so bad, according to Dr. Harper. While they may be stagnant, Florida's retail sales

figures stopped falling in December 2009. Unfortunately, the housing market in Florida is still in crisis. Housing inventories are not shrinking, and home prices may continue to decline. To stop the housing crisis, which would also help the banks out of the financial crisis, Florida must have a growing population, and we've been in a stagnant growth situation the past several years. Rick does believe in creating a sound immigration policy to generate growth in the US and Florida, and also to bring quality, skilled workers into the workforce to help stimulate salaries overall.

The oil spill hurt Florida and the Pensacola area economy, and Dr. Harper believes locally, we lost around 40% in tourism dollars this summer, which is a large figure when considering that 10% of our total income is generated by tourism. Local tourism relies on the stability of larger feeder markets in the Southeast such as Birmingham, New Orleans, and Atlanta. When asked how he would change things to help the economy if he were President, Dr. Harper said he would create business stimulus plans and change the current income tax system to a consumption or value-added tax. He would like to see low or no capital gain and dividend taxes to encourage personal and corporate investing. Dr. Harper's weekly economic report can be heard at <http://uwf.org/news/harper.shtml>.

President Ray thanked all who helped with this week's meeting, and adjourned at 1:00.

Submitted by Jake Renfroe

MEMBERSHIP PROPOSAL

Courtney Dell has been recommended by the Board of Directors for membership in the Rotary Club of Pensacola. She has Bachelor's Degree from Auburn University and a Master's Degree from the University of Florida (with highest honors); Courtney is serving as the Director of Development and Marketing for Ballet Pensacola. She formerly headed marketing and public relations for the Harn Museum of Art in Gainesville, Florida. She is married to Hal Dell, a native Pensacolian (engineer with Dell Consulting).

2010-2011 Club Officers

◆ President	Ray Jones
◆ Past President	Margaret Stopp
◆ President Elect	Alan Bookman
◆ Secretary	Innes Richards
◆ Treasurer	Ron Jackson
◆ Sergeant At Arms	Tim Kane
◆ Historian	John Appleyard

Bulletin Information

Betty Roberts, Editor 572-4136

Web Site: www.pensacolarotary.org

E-Mail: rcopens@bellsouth.net

Krista Murzin, Executive Secretary

Office, Room 323 Brent Building

P.O. Box 528 Pensacola, FL 32591-0528

Phone: 434-0684 Fax: 434-6471

Clubs Available for Makeup

Five Flags	New World Landing	Mon.	12:15 pm
Gulf Breeze	Legends Restaurant	Tues.	7:00 am
	Andrews Institute		
Milton	Red Barn on Hwy. 90	Tues.	12:00 pm
Seville	Seville Quarter	Tues.	5:30 pm
Perdido	Triggers Restaurant	Wed.	7:30 am
Cantonment	Scenic Hills Country Club	Wed.	12:15 pm
Cordova	Gulf Coast Kid's House	Thur.	7:00 am
Pace	Stonebrook Village	Thur.	7:00 am
Suburban West	Pensacola Yacht Club	Thur.	12:00 pm
Navarre	The Tuscan Grill	Thur.	12:00 pm
	Hidden Creek Golf Course		
Pensacola North	Asbury Place	Friday	12:00 pm
	Cokesbury Methodist		

District Governor

Sylvia White

www.rotary6940.org

Assistant District Governor

Ted Kirchharr

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Birthdays for the week of
September 15th through September 21st**

Chris Pate – September 14
born in Macon, GA, in Rotary 30 years

Betty Gail Peters – September 17
born in Knoxville, TN, in Rotary 13 years

Jack Nobles – September 19
born in Pensacola, FL, in Rotary 23 years

William Dickerson – September 19
born in Pensacola, FL, in Rotary 16 years

GREETERS AND TICKET SALES

September 14th

Greeters: Harry Kahn and Martin Harwood

Ticket Sales: John Hinman and Wylie Hogeman

September 21st

Greeters: Arthur Hufford and Earl Hutto

Ticket Sales: David F. Galloway and John Gray

September 28th

Greeters: Charles Gund and Donald Haferkamp

Ticket Sales: William Hamilton and Michael Ferguson

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

September 14th: Dr. Ed Meadows - The State of PJC

September 21st: Jim Hizer - New Chamber Director

September 28th: Wiggins/Hayward - Mayor Candidates

Pensacola, FL 32591-0528

P. O. Box 528

The Rotary Club of Pensacola

