

the HELICOPTER



The Rotary Club of Pensacola District 6940 Club 4248

WEEK IN REVIEW 1/24/2023

On the Tuesday of the fourth week of January, Ol' Man Winter decided to visit Pensacola and provide the members of the Pensacola Rotary Club a freshening wind as they entered the Pensacola Bay Center for the weekly Club Meeting. Once inside, President Bruce Partington welcomed the Rotarians with the Four Way Test. Rotarian Vince Curry, everyone's favorite University of the South alum, then provided a wonderful prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Past President Paul Tobin read a heartwarming resolution that honors a life well lived by Rotary Dante Kahn. Paul Harris Fellow recognition was bestowed upon Rotarian Nicole Gislason

President Bruce reminded Rotarians of the opportunity to serve in the Rotary Against Hunger event at Manna Food Bank on February 25, 2023. Time slots are available for the two shifts. Another reminder that President Bruce offered up was that interested/potential members of Pensacola Rotary Club are able to have three free meals as they visit the club.

The date of January 24th has proven to be packed with a litany of historical events throughout the centuries, many of which President Bruce highlighted. Some Rotarians are saying that their favorite includes FDR and Churchill concluding their Casablanca conference on January 24, 1943, while other Rotarians celebrate the fact the first Apple Mac went on sale on January 24, 1984. It was once again Sewanee's favorite son Rotarian Vince Curry's turn to grace the front of the room as he held the winning ticket in the day's raffle that allowed him to claim a whopping \$4 of the \$75 pot.

Rotarian Judy Bense was next up, and she delivered a delightful dose of Sunshine that was sure to fill each Rotarian's spirit. In between a joke about chickens and a joke that provided insight on how to make money off a dead donkey, Rotarian Judy recognized two visiting Rotarians from Suburban West and Omaha, Nebraska. After leading a serenade of Rotarian Ron Martin with "Happy Birthday," Rotarian Judy shared a Pensacola factoid with about Pensacola Dairy Company being on the site of present-day Pensacola Bay Center.

Immediate Past President Ed Wonders had the pleasure of introducing Pensacola Rotary Club member Grover Robinson, IV as the day's speaker. Rotarian Grover was the commissioner of Escambia County district 4 from November 2006 to November 2018. He was elected mayor of Pensacola on November 27, 2018. A seventh generation Pensacolian, Rotarian Grover

received a bachelor's degree in economics from Birmingham Southern College and worked as a commercial lender for AmSouth Bank, returning to Pensacola in 1995. Since leaving office on November 22, 2022, Rotarian Grover has spent part of his time "breaking in a new puppy and walking Jerry Maygarden" by the airport.

It was with the glow of a Rotarian that is refreshed and recharged that Rotarian Grover shared his reflections on his time as Mayor. His four years were marked by Social Justice, COVID and hurricanes. It was because of these external influences that Rotarian Grover gained insight into the psychology of people. Rent rolls in the City were high; property values at all time highs; and people were still not in good moods. Rotarian Grover and City Officials navigated these influences while also moving Pensacola forward. In the most recent completed fiscal year, the carry forward for the General Fund was \$5 million and the carry forward in LOST was \$2.8 million. Enterprise funds are at record levels. Rotarian Grover highlighted the continued growth of the airport and ST Engineering's impact. He also mentioned Pensacola Energy replacing the cast iron piping that was providing natural gas to the community both locally and in the county.

The Port of Pensacola continues to find its rhythm of being a niche port that is successful by being good at what it does. The Port's relationship with US Sailing's American Magic is an example of a successful niche port. The port was once ranked 15 out of 15 in the state of Florida and now has climbed into the top 10. Both the Port of Pensacola and Downtown Pensacola are successful because efforts were made to insure each is compatible with the other.

The success of Pensacola is due to the fact that people want to be here. To make this happen, amenities for citizens such as the walkability of areas, Scooter Program for Downtown and stop signs in various neighborhoods have helped enhance the attract ability of Pensacola. The Parks & Recreation Department has or is in the process of providing upgrades for Legion Field, Magee Field, Hunter Pool, Vickery Center Pool, Roger Scott Tennis Courts, Hitzman Park Soccer Complex, Skate Park and various dog parks and playgrounds. The Pensacola Police Department continues to strengthen the relationship between communities, neighborhoods and the police department.

Rotarian Grover concluded his remarks by sharing his strong belief that Pensacola will continue to experience great things and has a bright future.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ROTARY

This week's meeting will be at Pensacola Bay Center, 201 East Gregory St. 2nd Floor

We have a new temporary venue for our weekly meetings. Due to remodeling at Pensacola Yacht Club, for the entire month of January, we will be meeting at The Pensacola Bay Center at 201 East Gregory Street (previously known as the Pensacola Civic Center). The Bay Center offers convenient parking and elevators to reach the 2nd floor meeting room.

UWF Women in Leadership Conference is scheduled for Thursday, March 30th. Tickets are on sale for the 2023 Women in Leadership Conference! The conference is at the UWF Conference Center and is also available virtually. Last year, a record-setting crowd of 700+ attended the conference. Extraordinary female leaders will share their expertise through powerful stories that will help you leverage your unique strengths and qualities to thrive and succeed in your current and future leadership roles! Female leaders from Innisfree Hotels, Landrum HR, National Park Service, Navy Federal Credit Union, United States Air Force, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S Marine Corps, and U.S. Navy will be among the speakers. To buy tickets and for the latest information, visit uwf.edu/wilc.

Information to sign up for Rotary Leadership Institute Training RLI is now available on www.dacdb. Save the date and register now.

Registration for the Melbourne International Convention is open and information can be found at www.Rotary.Org or at www.rotarymelbourne2023.org

We are now streaming our meeting using Microsoft Teams. If you already have a Microsoft account, you can join the meeting just like any other. If you don't have a Microsoft account, there aren't any special downloads or requirements to join as a guest. Click here for a quick overview of accessing Microsoft Teams as a guest. The meeting join information will be sent out in the same manner as before. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these changes, please let me know. 850-434-0684

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2022-2023 Club Officers

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|-------------------------|------------------|
| •President | Bruce Partington |
| •Past President | Ed Wonders |
| •President Elect | Charles Beall |
| •Secretary | Lisa York |
| •Treasurer | Lori Nesmith |
| •Sergeant At Arms | Scott Grissett |
| •Communications Officer | Betty Roberts |

Bulletin Information

Web Site: Pensacolarotaryclub.org
E-Mail: cbridwell@pensacolarotaryclub.org
Chris Bridwell, Executive Secretary
13 Palafox Place, Suite 200
P.O. Box 528 • Pensacola, FL 32591-0528
Phone: 850-434-0684

Clubs Available for Makeup

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|-----------------|------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| Five Flags | Pensacola Bay Center | Mon. | 12:00 pm |
| Gulf Breeze | Legends at Andrews Institute | Tues. | 7:00 am |
| Milton | The Hangar Restaurant | Tues. | 12:00 pm |
| Seville | Seville Quarter | Tues. | 4:15 pm |
| Cantonment | St. Luke's United Methodist Church | Wed. | 12:15 pm |
| Perdido | The Point Church | Wed. | 7:30 am |
| Pace | Stonebrook Village Country Club | Thur. | 7:00 am |
| Cordova | Gulf Coast Kid's House | Thur. | 7:00 am |
| Suburban West | Pensacola Yacht Club | Thur. | 12:00 pm |
| Navarre | Broussard's Cajun Restaurant | Fri. | 12:00 pm |
| Pensacola North | Hyatt Place - Pensacola Airport | Fri. | 12:00 pm |

District Governor

Dan Sulgar
<http://www.rotary6940.org>

Assistant District Governor

Sally Fox

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ROTARY

Our Clubs Annual Pledge Drive continues. Along with our Club Foundation, Rotary International EREY and Polio Plus, a new category has been added to give. The **Hanwash Project** collaborative national initiatives to provide and sustain clean water in order to promote prosperity and better health to the people of Haiti. Pledge forms will be available at the weekly meeting every Tuesday or you can request a pledge form at cbridwell@pensacolarotaryclub.org.

In an effort to increase the membership of our club, at the most recent board meeting it was decided to extend the offer of three free lunches for potential new members.

Promote your business by placing an ad in the Helicopter. Your ad will run for a full month each week. Business card-sized ads are \$25.00, a 1/4 page is \$50.00, and a 1/2 page ad is \$75.00. To place your ad, send the prepared document to cbridwell@pensacolarotaryclub.org stating the size of the ad you wish to place. **Proceeds benefit the Rotary Club of Pensacola Foundation.**

To pay your quarterly Rotary Club dues with a credit card/debit card go to <http://www.pensacolarotaryclub.org/payment>. Please note a service charge will be applied to your payment.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthdays for the week of January 31st through February 6th

Leonard Swartz – February 3 – born in Brooklyn, NY, in Rotary 37 years, Paul Harris Fellow and Major Donor

Brian Masterson – February 3 – born in Buffalo, NY, in Rotary 19 years, Paul Harris Fellow

Leslie Mickles – February 3 – born in Cherrypoint, NC, in Rotary 6 years

Norris McMahon – February 5 – born in Pensacola, FL, in Rotary 17 years

Greeters and Ticket Sales

January 31

Greeters: Tom Owens and Bob Perkins

Ticket Sales: Julie Tippins Parker and Janet Pilcher

February 7

Greeters: Carol Powell and Lawrence Powell

Ticket Sales: Kelsey Powell and Ed Ranelli

Prayer/Pledge And Sunshine

January 31

Prayer/Pledge: Lee Elebash

Sunshine: David DeGallo

February 7

Prayer/Pledge: Laura Gilliam

Sunshine: Bill Fleming

Program Schedule

January

31 - Brian Wyer, Chamber and Multi-Cultural Fiesta

February

7 - L.C. May, Clyde May's Bourbon

14 - Dr Karen McCabe, PSC's Charter Academy

21 - TBA

28 - TBA

What's Happening in Rotary

January

31 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Bay Center and Microsoft Teams

February

7 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Bay Center and Microsoft Teams

14 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Bay Center and Microsoft Teams

21 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Bay Center and Microsoft Teams

1:00 Board of Directors Meeting

28 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting Location to be determined and Microsoft Teams