

the HELICOPTER



The Rotary Club of Pensacola District 6940 Club 4248

WEEK IN REVIEW 3/12/2024

Spring Fling and Fascinating Science at Rotary! Sunshine and Fellowship

Spring was in the air as Rotarians gathered at the Pensacola Yacht Club for a delightful mix of fellowship and learning. Mark Harden and Lisa York welcomed everyone with a warm smile, and Sherry Hartnett and Hugh Hamilton offered a chance to grab some lucky raffle tickets.

Opening Remarks and Announcements

President Charles kicked off the meeting with the inspiring Four-Way Test. Lisa York then led the group in a moment of meditation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

A round of announcements followed:

- A big **thank you** to Margaret Stopp for her successful media event promoting the Club's "Beach Buoy" life-saving equipment initiative at Pensacola Beach. The event garnered significant local attention, even featuring on WEAR Channel 3.
- Nominations for the upcoming **Ethics in Business Award** ceremony in early May are now open.
- As a reminder, applications for the **Community Grant program** are also being accepted – any 501(c)(3) organization is encouraged to apply.
- **New member directory updates** are underway. Please reach out to Chris to update your photo and contact information.
- The Club is **sponsoring 30 members** to attend the upcoming District Conference at Pensacola Beach. Contact Chris for more details.

Sunshine Report and Guest Speaker

Stephan Wildish delivered a cheerful Sunshine Report, recognizing birthdays and welcoming guests.

Following the Sunshine Report, Ed Wonders introduced our esteemed guest speaker, Julie Sheppard, Executive Vice President and Legal Counsel for IHMC. Ms. Sheppard, well-known by many Rotarians, has been instrumental in IHMC's journey since its inception at UWF in 2004.

IHMC: 30 Years of Innovation

Ms. Sheppard provided a captivating overview of IHMC's diverse projects over the past 30 years and ongoing initiatives, including:

- **CMAP software:** This open-source software allows researchers to analyze complex movement data.
- **Self-driving car research:** IHMC was actively involved in developing and testing autonomous vehicles.
- **Advanced pilot interfaces:** Research focusing on improving pilot interaction with aircraft instruments.
- **Bipedal robots:** Development of robots that can walk and run efficiently.
- **Exoskeleton advancements:** Creating powered exoskeletons to assist individuals with disabilities.

Ms. Sheppard also discussed IHMC's recent endeavors:

- The **X-1 exercise machine:** Designed for use in space to combat muscle and bone loss experienced by astronauts.
- **Cybersecurity visualization:** Utilizing technology to predict and prevent cyberattacks.
- **Voice analysis for disease prediction:** Exploring the potential of voice analysis to detect early signs of illness.
- **Educational outreach programs:** Fostering scientific interest and engagement in the younger generation.

Ms. Sheppard expressed her enthusiasm about IHMC's upcoming new downtown facility, which will further support their research into human health and lifespan. Notably, they are also working on a program to reduce the risk of traumatic brain injuries among military personnel during parachute training.

A lively Q&A session followed Ms. Sheppard's presentation, sparking curiosity and further discussion. The meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm.

See you next time!

Your Scribe,
Clark Merritt

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ROTARY

TODAY, TUESDAY, March 19, we meet at Pensacola Yacht Club.

Welcome new member Hank Gonzales. Hank is a native of New Orleans, La. and a graduate of the University of New Orleans with a B.S. in Finance. He is a Senior Lending Officer with The First Bank. Hank has been a Rotarian for nine years with Suburban West Rotary Club where he served on the Foundation Board and as Club President. His sponsor is Sally Fox.

The Rotary Club of Pensacola Community Grant applications are now available. If you know of a worthy 501c non-profit that meets the requirements, let them know by sending them to our website: www.pensacolarotaryclub.org. If you have any questions, please reach-out to Randall Richardson at: rc1.myflorida.com or 912.690.2664. The grant application process opens March 15, 2024, and the deadline to submit an application is April 15, 2024. Applications will be available at the weekly meetings.

The Combined Rotary Clubs of Pensacola along with the University of West Florida are looking for individuals who exhibit outstanding ethical practices. They are looking to identifying those persons who should be given community-wide recognition. That is why the Combined Rotary Clubs of Pensacola, along with the University of West Florida College of Business, established an Ethics in Business Award. This year's award is the 22nd annual award and will be awarded during a luncheon meeting on May 6, 2024. Two awards will be given, one for an individual from an organization with 50 or more employees and one for an individual from an organization with 49 or fewer employees. The 2024 instructions and nomination forms can be found on our website at: www.pensacolarotaryclub.org. Copies are available at our weekly meeting or you can request a form by emailing Chris at: cbridwell@pensacolarotaryclub.org. Nominations must be received by Friday, March 29, 2024.

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.

2023-2024 Club Officers

•President	Charles Beall
•Past President	Bruce Partington
•President Elect	Henry Roberts
•Secretary	Randall Richardson
•Treasurer	Lori Nesmith
•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

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	Hancock Bank, Creighton Rd.	Fri.	12:00 pm

District Governor

Kerry Anne Schultz
<http://www.rotary6940.org>

Assistant District Governor

Sally Fox

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthdays for the week of
March 19 through March 25

Teri Levin – March 23 – born in Salem, IN, in Rotary 10 years



Greeters and Ticket Sales

March 19

Greeters: Allison Hill

Ticket Sales: Caleb Heifner and Craig Hindsman

March 26

Greeters: Sarah Horne and Ron Jackson

Ticket Sales: Kathy Horton Brown and Benny Jeansonne

Prayer/Pledge And Sunshine

March 19

Prayer/Pledge: Brian Wyer

Sunshine: Charlie Sherrill

March 26

Prayer/Pledge: Frank Beall

Sunshine: Judy Bense

Program Schedule

March

19 - Terri Jenkins, American Red Cross

26 - Joe Vinson & Tyler Bryant, Gero Japanese Sister City

Meeting Schedule

March

19 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Yacht Club and MicroSoft Teams

1:00 Board of Directors Meeting

26 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Yacht Club and MicroSoft Teams

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ROTARY

This year our club will reimburse the registration cost of 30 members to attend the 2024 Rotary District 6940 Conference on Pensacola Beach. The district Conference will be held April 12-14th at **Hilton Pensacola Beach**, 12 Via DeLuna. For details and registration follow the link: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/8742b369-ca30-4714-a5d4-d5294e320728>. Following your registration contact Chris to let her know you have registered. You will be reimbursed following the event.

We will continue to stream our meeting using Microsoft Teams; however, changes will be made due to poor wi-fi reception at PYC. You will no longer receive visual video of the meetings but will be able to listen to the announcements and the hear the speaker. The link to join 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.

To increase the membership of our club, we will continue to offer 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.**