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The Rotary Club of Pensacola District 6940 Club 4248

WEEK IN REVIEW 05/05/2020

The Rotary meeting on May 5th occurred again in the virtual world of Zoom.

Following the Four Way Test led by President John, Rotarian Laura Gilliam led us in prayer and pledge. Picking up with announcements, President John noted the Board of Directors will be meeting at 1:00pm today via Zoom. He also reviewed in light of increased costs, e.g., plate service vs buffet, and the need to possibly generate revenue for service projects and/or grants going forward. Also, President-elect Sally Fox continues to seek committee members to serve during her upcoming term. Please sign up and contribute help us carry out Rotary's objectives.

Rotarian Vicki Campbell delivered Sunshine. Birthdays were also recognized. Visitors and visiting Rotarians were introduced.

Introduced by Past President Betty Roberts, Quint Studer was the speaker for the May 5th virtual gathering of the Pensacola Rotary Club. A nationally recognized leader in both healthcare and workplace training and development, as well as a community philanthropist, Quint provided the Rotarians in attendance with his perspective on the impact of COVID 19.

Quint referenced Erik Larson's <u>The Splendid and the Vile</u>. In his book chronicling the saga of Churchill, family and defiance during the Blitz of World War II, Larson describes how Joseph Goebbels, one of Hitler's closest & devoted associates, was amazed that Great Britain did not surrender after the relentless bombings by the Germans. The attacks had been so severe that the Brits had run out of wood for caskets. Great Britain did not surrender due in part to Winston Churchill's belief that Great Britain would preserver to withstand the attacks and ultimately be victorious. This was at a time that the United States was not in the war. Nonetheless, Churchill held firm in his convictions.

Another reference was also made to the Stockdale Paradox. Jim Collins popularized this concept, which is named for James Stockdale, in his book <u>Good to</u> <u>Great</u>. Stockdale was a naval officer, Vietnam prisoner of war and vice-presidential candidate. He believed in balancing realism with optimism. While he was a captive, Stockdale would live each day with the hope of release but understanding that he was still a prisoner of war.

Both illustrations parallel COVID 19: do not know when the end would occur and loss of life. Each also proves the power of optimism in times of great uncertainty. Leaders must remain enthusiastic during these times and realize that it is ok not to know the answer to every question. There is no playbook for the current situation. A focus must be given to the fact that incremental change is good; better is on the way to best. No value is added when critical of decisions being made. Unlike Hurricane Ivan and the Gulf Oil spill where only part of the country was forced to recover, the entire country will be recovering from COVID 19 at the same time. The communities that recover the quickest will be the communities that have companies and organizations that do not lose in the pause. Not losing in the pause means utilizing this time to focus on training and development. Quint mentioned that he is unsure if his umbrella of companies will have to go through a series of layoffs. But he is certain that he wants to make sure that he provides training for his employees so if layoffs do occur, the employees have improved their skillset for the next opportunity.

A second example of winning in the pause is examining every SOP to see if it would be possible to re-invent the company or organization and its offering. An example of a company re-inventing itself is the Blue Wahoos. The Blue Wahoos have gone from a baseball company to an event company whose main goal is to keep its people working.

As the importance of continual improvement was discussed, Quint also noted the importance of shopping locally. A dollar spent in Pensacola helps not only the retailer, but also provides a source of funding for community infrastructure. Purchasing a gift certificate now can be of immense help to a company that has had its offerings halted or severely reduced due to COVID 19.

Numerous Studer Properties projects and community initiatives through the Studer Community Institute continue to be the catalyst of a change that places Pensacola is a unique spot. Pensacola is an affordable place to live with a vibrant downtown. Efforts to continue creating opportunities to attract young talent will only help solidify Pensacola among America's great cities. Companies being more comfortable now with working virtually may help both retain and attract top talent in and to Pensacola.

During the Q&A portion of the discussion, Quint shared that a lot of work must be done at the Major League level to resume playing baseball. This will have an affect on the playing of Minor League baseball. He also touched on the fact that with elective procedures coming to a standstill, hospitals throughout the United States are struggling at a time when they are on the COVID 19 frontline. Fundraising efforts by community organizations have also been impacted. The importance of Telemedicine during this time has been proven and will provide better access to healthcare. Having a good Mayor, a good County Administrator and a good Superintendent are key elements for a vibrant community. With the school board being responsible for the selection of the Superintendent, the school board will be held to a higher standard of accountability.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ROTARY

On-Line Zoom Meetings are now being held every Tuesday at noon. You will receive your invitation to join the meetings on Monday's. The meetings can be accessed with your computer, tablet or your smart phone. If you have any questions please feel free to give me a call. 850-619-0679. Chris

2019-2020 Club Officers

♦President
♦Past President
♦President Elect
♦Secretary
♦Treasurer
♦Sergeant At Arms
♦Historian

John Trawick Betty Roberts Sally Fox Claudia Simmons C. Ray Jones Tim Kane John Appleyard

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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.	4:15 pm
Perdido	13660 Innerarity Point Road	Wed.	7:15 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 - Check navarrerotary.org		
Pensacola North	Asbury Place	Friday	12:00 pm
	Cokesbury Methodist	-	

District Governor

Innes Richards www.rotary6940.org

Assistant District Governor

Daniel J. Sulger

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthdays for the week of May 12th through May 18th

John Monroe – May 15 – born in Pensacola, FL, in Rotary 32 years David Bear – May 17 – born in Pensacola, FL, in Rotary 19 years David DelGallo – May 18 – born in Trenton, NJ, in Rotary 10 years

Prayer/Pledge And Sunshine

May 12 Prayer/Pledge - Trey Manderson

Mav 19

Sunshine - Collier Merrill

Prayer/Pledge - Cal Moore Sunshine - Jean Norman

Program Schedule

12 - Rep. Alex Andrade - Florida Legislature

- 19 Laura Gilliam United Way of West Florida
- 26 Dede Flounlacker Manna Food Pantries

What's Happening in Rotary

May - Youth Service Month

12 - Noon On-Line Virtual Meeting

19 - Noon On-Line Virtual Meeting

26 - Noon On-Line Virtual Meeting

May 5th Board Meeting

Last week's Rotary Club Board of Directors Meeting the board voted to make a one time \$5,000. contribution to Manna Food Pantries in support of their Manna Cares Campaign. This campaign is to combat hunger in our area during the Covid-19 crisis as many families are experiencing unemployment and loss of wages.



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