

the HELICOPTER



The Rotary Club of Pensacola District 6940 Club 4248

WEEK IN REVIEW 5/30/2023

On the Tuesday after Memorial Day 2023, President Bruce Partington welcomed his fellow Rotarians to the May 30, 2023, meeting of the Pensacola Rotary Club. The Pensacola Bay Center served as the venue as Rotarians gathered on the 155th anniversary of Decoration Day. As President Bruce shared during his remarks to the Club, Decoration Day was established by the Grand Army of the Republic, an association of Union Civil War veterans, as an official day of remembrance for people across the country. The idea was to honor the war's dead by decorating the graves of Union soldiers. As time went on, "Memorial Day" began to supplant "Decoration Day" as the name of the holiday, and it soon became a day to honor all fallen American troops, not just those from the Civil War. After the two World Wars, Memorial Day was the term in more common usage, and the act of remembering all of the fallen took on a renewed importance.

Rotarian Paul Tobin led the meeting in a prayer of thanks and the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. President Bruce then recognized Rotarian Alexa Bolin with her Paul Harris +2 pin.

President Bruce provided the first of two reminders, the first of which concerned the upcoming Change of Command Dinner. This year's banquet will take place at Heritage Hall at Seville Quarter, 130 E. Government Street, Thursday, June 22nd at 5:30pm. Please let Chris know if you plan to attend and if you will bring a guest. cbridwell@pensacolarotaryclub.org.

The second reminder focused on submitting nominations for the 2023 Grover III and Sandra Robinson Awards. These awards were first presented in June 2000, to recognize an outstanding Rotarian from our Club and a community leader who exemplifies "Service Above Self". Both Grover and Sandra Robinson exhibited the highest examples of this service to Rotary and concomitant community concern and action. Please honor their memory and legacy with your nomination.

Before his time behind the lectern drew to a close, President Bruce was able to award the day's raffle winner Rotarian Rick Fountain his \$5

winnings after Rotarian Rick had his ticket number called and drew a five from the deck of cards. Two neat nuggets President Bruce bestowed upon the meeting were that the dedication of the Lincoln Memorial took place on May 30, 1922, and the voice of numerous Looney Tunes characters Mel Blanc was born on May 30, 1908. Some of the many characters included Bugs Bunny, Porky Pig, Daffy Duck, Tweety, Yosemite Sam and Barney Rubble.

The next time you see Rotarian Margaret Stopp, be sure to ask her how old leprechauns are and what do Facebook and a refrigerator have in common. She shared both tidbits during her time as Sunshine for the meeting. Rotarian Margaret also did a marvelous job of leading the Club in the weekly rendition of "Happy Birthday, You All."

Rotarian David Stafford introduced the day's speaker, USMC (Ret) Colonel Eric "Ferris" Buer. Colonel Buer is the author of *Ghosts of Baghdad: Marine Corps Gunships on the Opening Days of the Iraq War*. *Ghosts* is due for release on August 8, 2023. Amazon.com describes the work as a way to "(e)xperience the sights, smells, and sounds of the Cobra, hanging on tight as you're hurled into the chaos of night combat operations. Step through an otherwise closed door and explore the emotions, physical danger, and successes that would shape a generation of aviators."

Colonel Buer, a meticulous note taker throughout his life, was encouraged by his fellow Marines to put various stories and shared experiences into writing. Undertaking the task allowed him to speak with numerous members of his squadron, which included pilots, crewman and support personnel for the squadron's eighteen Cobra Helicopters and nine Huey Helicopters. As result, *Ghosts of Baghdad: Marine Corps Gunships on the Opening Days of the Iraq War* provides a view of the engagement through the eyes of the squadron members.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Grissett
June 1, 2023

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ROTARY

This week's meeting will be at Pensacola Bay Center, 201 E. Gregory St.

We will meet at Pensacola Bay Center this week and return to Pensacola Yacht Club next week June 13. Please note, we will be meeting at Pensacola Yacht Club for the remainder of the summer. Any changes will be given weeks in advance.

Rsvp now for the Change of Command Banquet. This year's banquet will take place at Heritage Hall @ Seville Quarters, 130 E. Government Street, Thursday, June 22nd at 5:30pm. Please let Chris know if you plan to attend and if you will bring a guest. cbridwell@pensacolarotaryclub.org.

Submit your nominations for the 2023 Grover III and Sandra Robinson Awards. These awards were first presented in June 2000 to recognize an outstanding Rotarian from our Club and a community leader who exemplifies "Service Above Self". Both Grover and Sandra Robinson exhibited the highest examples of this service to Rotary and concomitant community concern and action. Please honor their memory and legacy with your nomination.

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

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.

2022-2023 Club Officers

•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

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

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
June 6 through June 12

Bob Hart Jr. – June 7 – born in Pensacola, FL, in Rotary 48 years,
Paul Harris Fellow

John Trawick – June 11 – born in Atlanta, GA, in Rotary 25 years,
Paul Harris Fellow

Joe Robinson – June 12 – born in Lakewood, WA, in Rotary 1 year,
Paul Harris Fellow

Greeters and Ticket Sales

June 6

Greeters: Dede Flounlaker and Preston Forshee
Ticket Sales: Sarah Horne and Ted Brown

June 13

Greeters: Nicole Gislason and TBD
Ticket Sales: Jonathan Griffith and TBD

Prayer/Pledge And Sunshine

June 6

Prayer/Pledge: Jack Williams Sunshine: Charles Thornton

June 13

Prayer/Pledge: Lisa York Sunshine: Charlie Sherrill

Program Schedule

June

6 - Brian Weaver - PSC, Visual Arts Department
13 - Cliff Curtis - Chappie James Flight Academy
20 - Mark Faulkner - Baptist Hospital, President & CEO

What's Happening in Rotary

June

6 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Bay Center and
MicroSoft Teams
13 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Yacht Club and
MicroSoft Teams
20 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Yacht Club and
MicroSoft Teams
1:00 Board of Directors Meeting
22 - 5:30pm Change of Command, Heritage Hall, 130 E. Government St.