

the HELICOPTER



The Rotary Club of Pensacola District 6940 Club 4248

WEEK IN REVIEW 3/23/2021

The March 23, 2021 meeting of the Rotary Club of Pensacola was called to order at 12:05pm by President Sally Fox. This was the first hybrid meeting, with 38 Zoom participants and 41 in-person attendees at the Pensacola Yacht Club. She gave a reminder of in-person safety measures, led the Four-Way Test, and reiterated her "REEFS" goal: Recognition, Education, Engagement, Fun, and Service. Rotarian Teshia Haynes led the prayer and pledge.

Rotarian Charles Beall introduced the speaker, Amy Miller, director of the Port of Pensacola. She gave an overview of the year 2020, when the port defied odds and had a record year — 13% revenue increase, 100% increase in tonnage and other metrics. She gave a lot of credit to Rotarian Clark Merritt for his business development efforts. Key wins in marine MRO operations: Offshore Inland extended lease to 2044 and will continue to be anchor tenant, Blue Origin's Jacklyn expected to remain until 2022, and other long-term potentials. Key wins in cargo operations: Cemex's lease extended to 2032 with nearly doubled rent, increased cargo fees, \$1.5 million tenant investment, and new import vessel capabilities. Key wins in GE volumes: Pate Stevedores won a new multi-year contract to receive GE feedstock components, GE vessel traffic increased by 1 ship every three weeks, and 100% of GE Pensacola production comes to the port for storage before export by ship, rail or truck. They expect that Pensacola may be selected for production of 12MW generator, which will require ship transportation. Key wins in competitive sailing: the port served as the American Magic's winter training base. They got a 2nd place showing in the Prada Christmas Cup so will not compete in the 36th America's Cup, but their experience bodes well for Pensacola serving as a training base for future challengers. Key wins in light manufacturing: Streamline Boats of NWFL has a 40-year lease term. They will repurpose the vacant warehouse damaged by Hurricane Sally. Key wins in tourism: a new hotel lease behind the existing Holiday Inn Express with a 70-year lease term.

On the horizon: Streamline Boats facility will start construction June 1, hotel construction starting 2022, Pensacola Bay Oysters back in operation in April, \$10-12 million economic impact from Hurricane Sally repairs, and the ferry should start operating again in April. The 2019 port vision plan intends to diversify the activities at the port. Four goals: make connections, promote a mix of uses, tell your authentic story, and find the right mix and rhythm. In the legislature, SB 426 and HB 267 would preempt local port decision-making, prompted by Key West residents limiting cruise ships. The port objects to this initiative, and Amy has been traveling to Tallahassee to make their case. The Senate bill has been

amended to be specific to cruises and is something they "can live with," but our local delegation has said they will oppose both bills.

Ray Jones asked what the rent is that Bezos' ship pays. It's about \$1200/day for dockage, plus storage fees and other fees. Judy Bense congratulated Amy on making a profit. Amy said it's one of the few years she can brag to her friends at the airport. She said we could help by contacting legislators and urging them to vote against the proposed bills, or at worst accepting the Senate's version. Alexis (Bolin?) suggested reaching out to RPAC and local association of realtors.

Charles Beall thanked Amy and presented her with a token of the club's appreciation. He then led the first Sunshine given in-person in a year, and also the first meeting he's attended with pants on in a year. He said a recent rodent problem reminded him of a story about a priest, a rabbi and a Presbyterian minister trying to solve an infestation. The Presbyterian's solution was a sprinkler of holy water. It didn't kill them, but now that they're baptized, they only show up at the church on Christmas and Easter. He wished happy birthday to Stacy Robello, Donnie McMahon, Judy Bense, and Daniel Almanza.

President Fox welcomed a new member, Jeff Von Stein, an insurance public adjuster whose hobbies include "anything on the water." He introduced himself and looks forward to meeting everyone in person. The 50-50 drawing was held, and Ed Wonders was the winner. President Fox presented Bob Benz with his Paul Harris +8 award. Ed Wonders discussed a revision of the club bylaws, which has been approved by the board and will now go to the membership for questions and comments. Sergeant-at-arms Scott Grissett discussed the "John Appleyard Spirit of Pensacola Award" that has been developed by his committee, the criteria of which are contributing to the betterment of the greater Pensacola area, serves in civic organizations, is knowledgeable about the area and shares with the community. "The committee will know it when we see it." It is not intended to be an annual award, and the award will be a golden harmonica. President Fox asked for nominations to the district-wide Ethics in Business awards. The district conference is coming up in Calloway Gardens, May 14-16. Log on to dacdb.com to register. We are collecting boxes of macaroni and cheese for the service project.

She asked everyone to introduce themselves to new member Jeff without a handshake and shared her belief that "the most successful people are those who can adapt to change. The best step you can take in life is to be flexible." Meeting adjourned at 1:03pm. Minutes submitted by Joe Vinson.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ROTARY

We will continue to have On-Line Zoom Meetings along with the In-person meetings at Pensacola Yacht Club. The Yacht Club meetings are open to the first 42 people that RSVP Wednesday through Friday. You will continue to get a Zoom invitation every Monday. If you have any questions please feel free to give me a call. 850-619-0679. Chris

A food pantry service project coordinated by FOCUS (Fellowship of Christians United in Service) will take place during the District Conference at Calloway Gardens on May 14-16. Rotarians will participate by donating and sorting nonperishable items. To help ensure an even distribution of food types, our club's item of focus is mac and cheese. We will start collecting mac and cheese at our weekly meetings. If you want to contribute and not planning to attend meetings, you can make a donation by going to our website and making a credit card donations or send a check payable to Rotary Club of Pensacola and Chris will make the purchase for you.

The Combined Rotary of Pensacola and the University of West Florida College of Business are promoting The 2021 Ethics in Business Awards. These awards are presented to outstanding leaders in the Community. To request information and/or the nomination forms contact Chris at rcopens@bellsouth.net or if you have any questions contact Rick Fountain at 850-474-2866 or Ted Kirchharr at 850-341-4674.

You are now able to pay your quarterly Rotary Club dues with a credit card/debit card. Please note a service charge will be applied to your payment. The link can be found on our website at <http://www.pensacolarotaryclub.org/payment>

Promote your business by placing an ad in the Helicopter. The Rotary Club of Pensacola will advertise your business in our weekly newsletter with ads running for a full month. Business cards \$250. 1/4 page \$500. 1/2 page \$750. To place your ad send the prepared document to rcopens@bellsouth.net stating the size ad you wish to place. Proceeds to benefit the Rotary Club of Pensacola Foundation. **Since we will be meeting in person these ads will go to print.**

It is not too late to make your annual pledge to our local Foundation and Rotary International. If you need a pledge form, send an email request to rcopens@bellsouth.net.

Ever find yourself wanting to impress your fellow Rotarians with an interesting tidbit or three about yourself? Well, **Choppering with a Rotarian** is for you! This is a President Sally & Rotarian Scott collaboration, **Choppering with a Rotarian** is a creative way for Rotarians to get to know each other through the unveiling of unknown tidbits about Club members. How does it work? Each week, a Rotarian will be identified through a highly advanced randomization selection process. Rotarian Scott will then notify the selected Rotarian and together, they will place three unknown facts on a PowerPoint to be presented during the next meeting of the Pensacola Rotary Club. On the off chance that we do not have a **Choppering with a Rotarian**, President Sally & Rotarian Scott will serenade the audience with a medley of Donnie & Marie Osmond's greatest hits. So let the guessing begin!

2020-2021 Club Officers

•President	Sally Fox
•Past President	John Trawick
•President Elect	Ed Wonders
•Secretary	Lisa York
•Treasurer	C. Ray Jones
•Sergeant At Arms	Scott Grissett
•Historian	John Appleyard

Bulletin Information

Joe Vinson email: joe@akabaka.com
Web Site: Pensacolarotaryclub.org
E-Mail: rcopens@bellsouth.net
Chris Bridwell, Executive Secretary
Office, Room 323 Brent Building
P.O. Box 528 • Pensacola, FL 32591-0528
Phone: 434-0684

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

Jan Pooley
<http://www.rotary6940.org>

Assistant District Governor

Daniel J. Sulger

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthdays for the week of
March 30th through April 5th

Larry Adams – March 30 – born in Birmingham, AL in Rotary 5 years

Nathan Kahn – April 1- born in Mobile, AL, in Rotary 44 years, Paul Harris +1

Laura Gilliam – April 2 – born in Chapel Hill, NC in Rotary 15 years, Paul Harris Fellow

Charles Sherrill, III – April 4 – born in Pensacola, FL in Rotary 7 years

Greeters and Ticket Sales

March 30

Greeters: John Shaffer & Deb Hawkins

Ticket Sales: Dale Jordan & Charles Gund

Prayer/Pledge And Sunshine

March 30

Prayer/Pledge: Laura Gilliam

Sunshine: Al Coby

April 6

Prayer/Pledge: Verdell Hawkins

Sunshine: Rick Fountain

Program Schedule

March

30 - Chris Warner & Joe Gilchrist - Flora-Bama Lounge

April

6 - Dr. Ed Meadows, Pensacola State College, Update

13 - Melissa Bode, UWF, German MBA Program

20 - Dr. KC MA, UWF Investment Group

27 - Jerry Maygarden, Term Limits

What's Happening in Rotary

March

30 - Noon Pensacola Yacht Club Regular Weekly Meeting and On-Line Virtual Meeting

April

6 - Noon Pensacola Yacht Club Regular Weekly Meeting and On-Line Virtual Meeting

13 - Noon Pensacola Yacht Club Regular Weekly Meeting and On-Line Virtual Meeting

20 - Noon Pensacola Yacht Club Regular Weekly Meeting and On-Line Virtual Meeting

27 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting and On-Line Virtual Meeting Only