

# the HELICOPTER



The Rotary Club of Pensacola District 6940 Club 4248

## WEEK IN REVIEW 6/8/2021

The June 8, 2021 meeting of the Rotary Club of Pensacola was called to order at 12:05. There were \_\_\_ in-person and 14 Zoom attendees. President Sally Fox led the Four-Way Test and reminded everyone of her meeting goals, REEFS: Recognition, Education, Engagement, Fun, and Service. She asked everyone to pray for Rotarian Roger Vinson's health.

Rotarian John Tice led the prayer and pledge. Program chair Chris Kelly introduced the speaker, Dr Judy Bense. Margo Stringfield sends her regrets; she couldn't attend because she is filming a documentary about the initiatives at WSRE. Dr. Bense started with a brief history lesson of the Pensacola area, starting in the 1500s. Narvaez in 1528. Maldonado in 1539-40. The local Indians disappeared quickly, possibly because of exposure to these Europeans and their novel diseases. De Luna in 1559. A continuous settlement by the Spanish in 1698. Went to the British in 1763 and back to Spain in 1781. Territorial period started in 1821 until we became the 27th state in 1845. Some West Florida land was claimed by US in early 1800s, which is why Perdido River is now western border of state. The second Spanish period was the "twilight of the Spanish empire." They were unable to stop incursions of American settlers through porous border, so they sold Florida to U.S. for about \$5 million in debt repayments.

Dr. Bense talked about the ethnic diversity of the area in 1821: many Spanish people, but also French, free and enslaved African Americans, Anglo-Americans, creoles. Very open to mixed-race relationships; "the only thing people needed to be at the time was Catholic." We last commemorated Andrew Jackson in 1971 under the "big man" theory, and this celebration is focused on the contributions of other people at this time. St. Augustine raised the US flag a week earlier, on July 10, 1821, but it wasn't a big deal. There were two counties separated by the Suwanee, but the people lived mostly in Pensacola and St Augustine. After the transition from monarchy to democracy, it was surprising to the locals that Jackson announced his intention to serve for a limited time, to be replaced by his appointees, with local elections to follow.

Shortly after Grover Robinson became mayor, he approached Dr. Bense about handling historical matters like this. She put together a diverse commission, they had a budget of \$50,000 in local money and \$50,000 in state money. Covid interrupted plans, of course, and there have been a number of virtual programs. The News Journal has run weekly columns about different aspects of this time period. A few projects:

- a digital tour (created by University of West Florida personnel) of St. Michael's Cemetery with GIS mapping, including the unmarked graves that have been discovered with technology, with around 200 who were here in 1821.

- a "mosaic" project conceived by Margo and researched by West Florida Genealogical Society with the 2200+ people who were here in 1821, and people from the modern day are invited to submit their selfie to represent someone. Visit 1821sampler.com to see the mosaic and submit your picture. On the anniversary day itself, July 27, they hope to have an "old-fashioned" gathering at Museum Plaza, with the Museum of Commerce as a rain backup. If Covid surges again, they'll punt. There will be remarks by VIPs and representation by lots of different ethnic groups, diverse musical performances, many other forms of entertainment — all free. There will be booths, a special cocktail called the "23-star salute" (served by many restaurants for \$10). Some long-lasting products: the PNJ articles will be combined into periodicals, the websites will stick around, and the June issue of the Historical Quarterly will be all about us. There will also be historical markers and a local trail established by July 27.

Grover Robinson thanked Dr Bense for her work. Discussion of First Methodist being the first protestant church established in early territorial period. Question about old interviews with historically-minded people; is there a way to access those? Dr. Bense will ask Rob Overton. Margaret Stopp reminded everyone about Voices of Pensacola as a resource. President Fox presented tokens to Dr. Bense, Grover Robinson and John Tice. She introduced a new member, Marjy Anders, who said she looks forward to working with everyone. Chris Kelly received a Paul Harris "Plus One" pin. Sally received a Paul Harris "Plus Three" pin. Rotarian Alexis Bolin handled Sunshine for the day. She remarked that maybe her knee came from the territorial period, because it hasn't been working well. She welcomed guests Chelsea King, Joseph Nguyen, Sarah Martin, Nicholas Billings. She also recognized the week's birthdays, John Trawick and Jerry Kindle. She told a joke about an engineer who started a medical clinic that could treat any problem for \$500 (and if not, pay you \$1000) and a doctor who tried unsuccessfully to take advantage of it.

President Fox reminded everyone of the June 16 Wahoos game where Rotary will have a reserved deck. \$33 for non-members, free for club members. The change of command banquet will take place on June 24 aboard the Pensacola Bay Ferry. Board at 5:45, depart at 6, return at 9. Free for members, \$35 for guests. Rotary International convention coming up, June 12-16. The raffle pot has gotten to \$2263. Rotarian Art Hufford had the right number, but didn't draw the joker.

Closing quote by Willie Nelson: "Once you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you'll start having positive results." Meeting adjourned at 1:02. Minutes submitted by Joe Vinson.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ROTARY

**INSTRUCTIONS to all that RSVP'D TO ATTEND THE Family of Rotary Event at the Pensacola Blue Wahoo Stadium Wednesday, June 16th.** Come to the gate located on the left side of the stadium in order to receive your entry pass. The gate opens at 5:30. Please try to arrive before 6:15. The buffet is open from 5:30 to 7:00. If you have any questions contact Chris at: rcopens@bellsouth.net.

**REMINDER, THE CHANGE OF COMMAND BANQUET TAKES PLACE THURSDAY JUNE 24,** onboard the Pensacola Bay Ferry. If you reserved your place, please arrive before 5:45 pm to begin boarding. The departure time is 6:00 pm. If you have any questions email Chris at rcopens@bellsouth.net.

**Welcome New Member Dawn Rudolph.** Dawn is a native of New Haven, Indiana. She received her Bachelor's Degree from Indiana University and her MBA from Indiana Wesleyan University. Following many years as CEO/President of numerous hospitals throughout the country in October 2019, she became President/CEO of Ascension Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola. Dawn has been recognized as Becker's 130 Women Hospital and Health System Leaders to Know (2014 – 2018) and Nashville Healthcare Hero – 2017. Dawn's sponsor is Trip Maygarden.

**The Pensacola Yacht Club meetings are now open to an unlimited number of people.** However is very important that you RSVP every week, between Wednesday through Friday at 5:00 pm.

**We will continue to have On-Line Zoom Meetings along with the In-person meetings at Pensacola Yacht Club.** 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

**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](mailto:joe@akabaka.com)  
Web Site: [Pensacolarotaryclub.org](http://Pensacolarotaryclub.org)  
E-Mail: [rcopens@bellsouth.net](mailto: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	McQuire's Irish Pub	Mon.	12:15 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	Asbury Place, Cokesbury United Methodist Church	Fri.	12:00 pm

## District Governor

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

## Assistant District Governor

Daniel J. Sulger

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthdays for the week of  
June 15th through June 22nd

**Margaret Stopp** – June 15 – born in Binghamton, NY, in Rotary 19 years, Paul Harris+8

**Terry Terrell** – June 21 – born in Seattle, WA, in Rotary 22 years, Paul Harris Fellow

**Jock Mobley** – June 22 – born in Thomasville, GA, in Rotary 26 years

## Prayer/Pledge And Sunshine

### June 15

Prayer/Pledge: Bruce Partington      Sunshine: Scott Grissett

### June 29

Prayer/Pledge: Hugh Hamilton      Sunshine: Pete Doyle

## Greeters and Ticket Sales

### June 15

Greeters: Charlie Sherrill and Margaret Stopp  
Ticket Sales: Carter Herman and Auby Smith

## Program Schedule

### June

15 - Sherry Hartnett & Bert Thornton, High Impact Mentoring,  
A Practical Guide to Creating Value in Others  
29 - President Sally, Rotary Year in Review

## What's Happening in Rotary

### June

15- Noon Regular Weekly Meeting @ Pensacola Yacht Club and On-Line Zoom Meeting  
22 - Regular Weekly Meeting Cancelled  
24 - Change of Command Banquet 5:45 On Board Pensacola Bay Ferry  
29 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting @ Pensacola Yacht Club and On-Line Zoom Meeting

### Lisa York, Attorney at Law

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