



# the HELICOPTER



The Rotary Club of Pensacola District 6940 Club 4248

## WEEK IN REVIEW

Hello Old Man Winter as Downtown Rotarians met for the first cold meeting of 2012 and all were greeted at the door by LaVonne Agerton.

It must have been the chilly temperatures because a lonely President Alan brought the meeting to order missing all of his right hand side of the stage. No worries though 'cause filling in to deliver the prayer and pledge was Frank Beall. Thanks for stepping in Frank!

On Saturday, February 25 there will be a work opportunity for the club building meals for those in need. There will be three or four shifts and President Alan is requesting maximum participation. Shawn Brantley and Jules Kariher can sign you up.

With probably the best Sunshine performance this year, President Alan whipped the crowd into a frenzy and also recognized a serious number of

birthdays, our visitors, and those making up. Oh, and the raffle was won by a visitor and President Alan immediately fined him \$61 for winning. A crazy way to start the New Year...

Pensacola Bay Area Chamber of Commerce President and fellow Rotarian Jim Hizer introduced our program(s). The first was Buzz Richie who discussed the importance of supporting the EDATE referendum that will be voted on in a few weeks during the presidential preference voting. EDATE allows county commissioners to wave portions of ad valorem taxes in order to recruit businesses into the county. It does not affect school system tax collection and has been an instrumental in recruiting companies such as Navy Federal, International Paper, Woodlands, and others. It is a job creator and Buss strongly recommended we all vote to approve. The second half of the program was the Club's own Terry

Scruggs who serves as the interim Tourism Director with the Chamber. Tourism is the third largest economic driver of the local economy behind the military and health care. Bed taxes collected in 2011 were the most ever – \$6.5 million on \$163 million in revenues - a whopping 17% over 2008 our last "normal" year and we average a 5% growth in tax revenues over the last 10 years. By comparison Bay County averaged only 3.1% and Okaloosa 3% but far under Walton at 9%. Other notable comments included the need for a convention center, to increase advertizing budgets especially after the BP money goes away this year, improve out of season tourism, implement a strategic 5 and 10 year plan, and solve the governance issue. For more info please visit the Chamber's website or see Terry at lunch next Tuesday.

Respectfully submitted,  
M. Clark Merritt

## ROTARY WHEELS

- ❖ Glad to see that when the press highlighted five stories for 2011 our own Roger Vinson and his health care ruling rated a place. And if we turned back the calendar to 1912 we would be bemoaning the fact that the Navy Yard had closed.
- ❖ Give David Bear and his associates high marks for their renewal of the holiday-time offer to provide a safe driver if someone's over-indulged. Who knows how many ac-

idents that offer prevented?

- ❖ Malcolm Thomas and Company did well again in the FCAT ratings. And isn't it great that Jim Stolhanske and others continue to assist in that effort by giving many youngsters an early reading start?
- ❖ See where Al Stubblefield and Sherry Hartnett have scraped up another \$1.8 million to help shorten hospital emergency waiting times.

## NORTHWEST FLORIDA BLOOD SERVICES-DONOR RECOGNITION

Northwest Florida Blood Services invites you to attend their Donor Recognition Reception on January 18th at Pensacola State College Student Center from 2-4pm. Featured speakers: Al Whitney Platelets Across America America's Blood Centers, Hon. Judge William Stafford and Welcome Dr. Ed Meadows. RSVP to Betty Roberts at broberts@fbsblood.org or call 850-572-4136.

## 2010-2011 Club Officers

◆ President	Alan B. Bookman
◆ Past President	C. Ray Jones
◆ President Elect	Innes C. Richards
◆ Secretary	Betty B. Roberts
◆ Treasurer	Ronald E. Jackson
◆ Sergeant At Arms	Tim Kane
◆ Historian	John Appleyard

## Bulletin Information

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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.	5:30 pm
Perdido	Triggers Restaurant	Wed.	7:30 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		
Pensacola North	Asbury Place	Friday	12:00 pm
	Cokesbury Methodist		

## District Governor

**Jeanne Quave**  
[www.rotary6940.org](http://www.rotary6940.org)

## Assistant District Governor

Ted Kirchharr

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Birthdays for the week of  
January 10th through January 16th**

*Dick Sherrill* - January 10  
born in Pensacola, FL, in Rotary 50 years

*Ed Meadows* - January 10  
born in New Albany, MS, in Rotary 20 years

*Hugh Hamilton* - January 11  
born in Spartanburg, SC, in Rotary 12 years

*Julie Parker* - January 11  
born in New Orleans, LA, in Rotary 13 years

## PRAYER AND PLEDGE

<b>January 10</b> Prayer/Pledge: Neal Goldsborough Sunshine: Richard Sherrill	<b>January 24</b> Prayer/Pledge: Roger Vinson Sunshine: Hugh Hamilton
<b>January 17</b> Prayer/Pledge: RP Doyle Sunshine: Sally Fox	<b>January 31</b> Prayer/Pledge: Sunshine:

## UPCOMING SPEAKERS

**January**  
10 - Jeff Helms - Whiting Aviation  
17 - TBD  
24 - TBD  
31 - Melinda Crawford - Pensacola International Airport

## GREETERS AND TICKET SALES

**January 10**  
Greeters: Nora Bailey and Bret Barrow  
Ticket Sales: Scott Barrow and Tony Basel

**January 17**  
Greeters: Charles Beall and David Bear  
Ticket Sales: Robert Behr and Brian Bell

**January 24**  
Greeters: Howard Bell and Gary Bembry  
Ticket Sales: Judy Bense and George Biggs

**January 31**  
Greeters: Alexis Bolin and Shawn Brantley  
Ticket Sales: Richard Brosnaham and Roger Brown

The Rotary Club of Pensacola  
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