

# District Newsletter



Serving east central Florida from Boca Raton to Titusville



## JULY 2023

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### District Leaders

District Governor  
Douglas S. Heizer  
District Governor-Elect  
Julia Babbitt  
District Governor Nominee  
Marcia Gaedcke  
Chief of Staff  
Phil Lustig  
Governor's Aid  
Nick Basiaga  
Eric Garcia  
Eric Gordon  
Dini Heizer  
Bernardo Wolfson  
Assistant Governors  
Area 1 - Allen Konis  
Area 2 - Yvette Rochefort-Batavia  
Area 3 - Toni Wiersma  
Area 4 - Arthur Mills  
Area 5 - Marty Lewis  
Area 6 - Chris Webb  
Area 7 - Neal Hagglund  
Area 8 - Peggy Russell  
District Treasurer  
Yvette Rochefort-Batavia

## District News

### Welcome to the New Rotary Year 2023-24!



#### Introducing our District Governor - Doug Heizer.

Born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Doug moved to the U.S. in 2000. He studied Business Administration and Economics and is the President of Heizer Corporation, which owns The Boca Raton Tribune, and Heizer Marketing, an agency focused on digital marketing and content creation. Throughout his time in the US, Douglas has amassed numerous awards, including the Rotary Lifetime Achievement Award, Entrepreneur of the Year by Life Magazine in 2017, an Honorary Award in 2017 by the Evangelical Pastors Association, Business Press Award in 2018 by Focus Brasil, and the Milton & Bernice Beckerman Award by Community Publishers. In 2009, Douglas was also honored by the City of Boca Raton, which declared January 13 as Douglas Heizer Day in Boca Raton.

Doug has been a member of the Rotary since 1988, with perfect attendance since 2004. Doug was the president of the Rotary Club Boca Raton Sunset and in 2008 was the charter president of his current club — the Rotary Club of Boca Raton West.

In Brazil, District 4751, Doug served as RYLA chair, Assistant Governor, and District secretary. For District 6930 he has been Public Image Chair, Assistant Governor, and Secretary. He co-founded the first Portuguese-speaking Toastmasters club in the United States. Also, he created an event that brings all the Rotary Clubs in Boca Raton together to collect toys for unprivileged kids in the area for the past 15 years. He is a Major Donor and member of the Bequest society.

He had been married to Dini (also a Rotarian) since 1985 and has three children: Gabriela, Andre (married to Karen) and Pedro (married to Kim).

### Meet our new Rotary International President, Gordon McNally

Gordon McNally is a member of the Rotary Club of South Queensferry, Lothian, Scotland.



A graduate of dental surgery at the University of Dundee, McNally owned and operated his own dental practice in Edinburgh. He was the chair of the East of Scotland branch of the British Paedodontic Society and has held various academic positions.

He has also served as a Presbytery elder, chair of Queensferry Parish Congregational Board, and commissioner to the church's general assembly.

A Rotary member since 1984, McNally has been president and vice president of Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland. He has also served Rotary International as a director and as member or chair of several committees. He is currently an adviser to the 2022 Houston Convention Committee and chair of the Operations Review Committee.

McNally and his wife, Heather, are Major Donors and Benefactors of The Rotary Foundation. They are also members of the Bequest Society.

## Thank you Buck:



### A message from DG Doug Heizer

"Don't adventures ever have an end? I suppose not. Someone else always has to carry on the story." - J.R.R. Tolkien.

We should always acknowledge those who came before us in this "adventure" of Service Above Self.

That's why my first message as District Governor <https://www.facebook.com/rotary6930> is to honor the one who made it possible for me to reach this point.

I am immensely grateful to the now Past District Governor (PDG), Buck Vocelle, for

everything he allowed me to do and for all the support he provided in preparing for the year in which I will "carry on the story."

Without your support, my friend, I wouldn't have been able to accomplish what I did for the future of our district and to "grow Rotary," which, despite what many people think, is more than just increasing the number of members.

I remember you said that we would bring our district into the spotlight in our country. I say more than that; let's put it in the spotlight worldwide!

I will work hard for that and make our path even more paved for our next governors DGE, Julia Babbitt, and DGN Marcia Gaedcke

Thank you, my friend!



## District Installation Dinner:



District 6930 welcomed Rotary International President-Elect, Stephanie Urchick to the District's Installation Dinner on July 1, 2023.

After sharing some thoughts, she presided over the installation of District Governor Doug Heizer.

And then, she performed the installation ceremony for several 2023-24 club presidents who were in attendance:

Club Presidents (Pictured left to the right)  
 Lonnie Ehmman Hoffman-Jupiter/Tequesta,  
 Matt Margut-Indialantic, Angela Neal-Rockledge,  
 Kim Champion -Downtown Boca Raton,  
 Nick Basiaga-Delray Beach, Angelica Abrao Blakely-Boca Raton West,  
 Jacqueline Kinsey Claxton-Okeechobee, Owen Robinson-West Palm Beach,  
 Michael S. Kridel-Boca Raton Sunrise, Richard Hartman-The North Palm Beaches.



## Zone 34 District Leadership Training Seminar



Rotary District 6930 had the highest turn out of district leaders than any other district at the Zone 34 District Leadership Training Seminar held in Jacksonville at the end of June.

Do you want to know who the district leaders and committee chairs are for this new year? Go to DACdb > District and look at the left sidebar. Click on District Leadership or District Committee and a new window will pop up with everyone listed along with their photos and contact information. This can be printed to keep for reference during this Rotary year.

## How can you learn about what is going on with clubs and with the district? There are so many ways....

DACdb has a wealth of information including news items posted by clubs (see how-to video [HERE](#))

DACdb also has the District calendar where clubs can also post upcoming activities and meetings. This is also where you can register for district events.

The District has a website - <https://www.Rotary6930.org>. If you go to the clubs tab, you can find each club, where they meet and the links to their websites or Facebook pages. Many clubs post to Facebook as a way to share information.

The District also has a Facebook group page - [www.facebook.com/groups/47857191451](http://www.facebook.com/groups/47857191451).

And this newsletter.... As a reminder, all articles and accompanying JPEG images should be sent to the District Newsletter Editor, JoAnn Meaker ([jomeaker51@gmail.com](mailto:jomeaker51@gmail.com)) by the 25th of each month so the issue can be compiled and be ready for distribution by P-mail by the first of the month.

Please send items as a Word document if possible and keep the JPEG images separate. If the article is too lengthy, a link to it will be included in the main body of the newsletter.

### Also, the District Governor Doug, announces new initiatives

The first involves another way for clubs to share news – adding club news pictures and articles to the District Website.

By going to <https://www.rotary6930.org/district-news-submission/> you can add a news item. Once approved, it will show up on the district website's home page (on the right side under District Club News).

The website will be reviewed in the coming weeks and months, and updated information will be added.

### The Add Value of your District Dues:

The district has a new server which will enable clubs to host a website for free! Philip Levine, our current webmaster, will assist clubs (for a small fee) to transition from what they are currently using on whatever server they have – to the new server. Contact [it-support@rotary6930.org](mailto:it-support@rotary6930.org). Remember, the **web server is completely free for your club**.

Another free benefit will be the use of **Google Workspace** for your club's needs:

Here you can make use of the following:

**Google Mail** - group mail to outside addresses. (EX: [rotarybocaratonwest@rotary6930.org](mailto:rotarybocaratonwest@rotary6930.org) could go to your Board of Directors or [presidentrotarybocaratonwest@rotary6930.org](mailto:presidentrotarybocaratonwest@rotary6930.org) could go to [douglas@bocaratontribune.com](mailto:douglas@bocaratontribune.com)).

This is great because you can hand the email address off to the next president/secretary/treasurer without losing any information or sharing important information quickly within the club or from potential guests.

Mail - if you don't have club emails, they can be set up easily and look more "official."

**Google Meet** - Conference Calling (Video Meetings) - You don't need to pay for Zoom anymore or set up numerous accounts! Google Meets is free and easy to use. Attendees can call in from phones, use a browser, or apps on phones and tablets!

**Storage** - It can be very difficult to share important information year after year for small clubs. Things like By-Laws, budgets, and projects often get lost due to turnover, misunderstandings, or preferences... EX: "Our previous Treasurer liked Dropbox, but we don't have accounts." Storing files on Google drive will allow the transition from one person to another to go more smoothly.

**Videos** - Every Gmail account (free for [rotary6930.org](https://www.rotary6930.org)) comes with YouTube. This is unlimited storage of videos!! You can also live stream, post old videos, or create playlists.

We will have a webinar soon to talk about all of this.

## Club News

## Stuart Sunrise Club:

By Beth Brownell



Stuart Sunrise Rotary Club members enjoyed an early morning cleaning up Tiger Beach in Stuart. It's always fun to get together in service.

## Fort Pierce Club:

By Doug Terhune

### A Follow-Up To Fort Pierce Club's Business Leaders Luncheon

On Thursday, April 27, the Fort Pierce Rotary Club held our inaugural Business Leaders Luncheon. Each member was responsible for inviting two business leaders who they thought could be solid members. In order to attend the meeting, each member was required to bring a minimum of one guest. Our club has 50 members and 40 showed up for the event, along with 84 prominent guests! We literally had a few people sitting in the hallway, as the room was packed and electric.

According to past President and



Membership Chair Rick Haisley, "we had all the important people in that room for an hour, including the Mayor, Chief of Police, City Commissioners, Attorneys and more".

We thanked our guests for helping make Fort Pierce what it is today and challenging them to leaving a legacy that their children and grandchildren would be proud of. We encouraged them to be a part of their church, Kiwanis, Lions Club, Rotary or any organization where they can contribute their time and or resources. We further honored them by providing each with a granite paperweight which read "BUSINESS LEADER", that included the Rotary Wheel and Fort Pierce Rotary.

Since the meeting, we have accepted the applications of 11 new members and have verbal commitments from 10 more individuals. We also have our first three Corporate Memberships and for what it is worth, the word "membership" was never mentioned at the event! Since then, two clubs in Vero Beach will be holding Business Leader events in the upcoming months.

*Editor's note: Doug is offering a document he could email with details. If you would like this information on how to hold a successful Business Leaders Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner, please email Rotarian Doug Terhune at [Doug@CarolinaPlantations.com](mailto:Doug@CarolinaPlantations.com)*



AND... Read [HERE](#) about the club's presentation to Ella Reed, a local shark-bite victim.

### Indialantic Club:

Submitted by Gerard Zack

Two members of the Indialantic Rotary Club will hold district level positions in the upcoming year. Susan Frey will be the Chair for the New Generation Committee (Youth Services.) Bob Visconti will Chair the literacy Committee.

The Club recently presented a check for \$16,325.11 to *St. Stephens Way* of Melbourne. These funds are from our recent Casino Night fundraiser at the American Muscle Car Museum held on April 29th.



*St. Stephens Way* is building 40 apartments to house families to help them get back on track and financially stable. These apartments are all 3 bedroom and 2 bath homes and there is a community center with all kinds of local support networks to assist. Visit their website for additional information go to <https://www.ssway.org>.

A check in the amount of \$10,000 was also presented to the *National Veterans Homeless Support* organization. This was also made possible by the fundraiser noted above. NVHS provides numerous services to homeless veterans. Go to [nvhs.org](http://nvhs.org) for more information.

Incoming Club President Matt Margut recently met with the Rotary Club of Dun Laoghaire

Incoming President Bridget Aylmer. They meet at the Dun Laoghaire Yacht Club just outside of Dublin, Ireland. Sticking with the international theme, Club Members Hugh and Dottie Nelson recently visited the Rotary Club of London. It is the first chartered Rotary Club outside of the US.

We held our annual picnic June 17 at the Rotary Park pavilion in Suntree after several years hiatus due to Covid-19. We got washed out by one heck of a storm just after lunch was served, so festivities ended earlier than originally planned, but we had great attendance and lots of fun anyway. There was good music, corn hole, and great food.

Michael Cleffie cooked up a fabulous batch of pulled pork BBQ which was served to 25+ veterans at the *Fee Avenue Transitional Facility* on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. Joining him were Club Members Sue & Carl Miller, and Dallas & Liz Eskildsen.

In late May, Robert Visconti, Indialantic Club's Literacy Chair traveled north to meet with Catholic Charities of Jacksonville. After discussing the *Brain Game* book, they decided to begin putting the book to use in their community. They ordered 50 books in early June - a small order they expect to renew and possibly expand going forward as they gauge usage. Later in June they received **and paid for** their first 50 *Brain Game* books.

This closes out the current Rotary year, during which, as a result of Bob's efforts, 1,279 *Brain Game* books were delivered throughout Florida and in Georgia, NYC, and Guatemala. When Bob joined Rotary 7 years ago, Indialantic was the only Club in Florida working on Brain Game book distribution. That year they distributed 80 books in the local area.

### Vero Beach Club:

The proceeds from our Reverse Raffle held in February were presented to Donald Hart of *The Hart & Soul Foundation*, and Amanda Hackford of *The Love to Serve Foundation*.





The Rotary Club of Vero Beach will host the 1st Annual Kid's Triathlon this December 2nd at the Victor Hart Sr. Community Enhancement Center. The event will feature both competitive and non-competitive youth aged 6 – 13 years of age.

Full scholarships are available along with accommodation for all needs, so no child will be turned away for any reason. Any wanting to sponsor a participant child, they are \$15 per child with the option to sponsor as many as you would like.

**Rockledge Club:**



Incoming Rockledge

Rotary club president Angela Neal (far right), recognized the successful efforts of our Space Coast Derby Day team with a special gift of appreciation: cool-looking embossed portfolios.

Derby Day is our club's major, annual charitable fundraiser. It was recently held this past May. *Left to right are: Dawn St. Clair, Mike Selig, Ken Zeszutko, Neal Hagglund, Michelle Smith and Eric Williams.*

**Palm Bay:**

Congratulations to our very own Beverley Squire Wiggins for being recognized as a community hero by the Melbourne Regional Chamber

HERO APPRECIATION WEEK JUNE 20-23, 2023

# HERO SPOTLIGHT

## NONPROFIT HERO



Originally from Nottinghamshire, England, **Beverley** brings over 15 years of experience in **education** and another 13 years in the printing & marketing industry to her role at Home Instead. She has recently been utilizing her skills in healthcare marketing and community engagement, promoting the advantages of Home Health Care and Hospice Services. With a **passion for volunteerism** and a **commitment to lifelong learning**, Beverley also enjoys staying active through exercise and spending time with her adult children.

**BEVERLEY SQUIRE WIGGINS**  
HOME INSTEAD SENIOR CARE.

SPACE COAST CAREERS TRAINING

**Titusville club:**



PDG Els Van Englesburg celebrated 25 years in Rotary with her club members at a recent club meeting.

Congratulations, Els.

**Boca Raton Sunrise:**

Education is written into the mission of the Rotary Club of Boca Raton Sunrise and is something near and dear to every single Rotarian's heart! Along with other Rotarians in the Boca area, members were volunteering to configure WiFi extenders for The School District of Palm Beach County's Digital Inclusion Initiative.



**Merritt Island Breakfast:**



Acting President Olga and Mr. Thomas Cole presented to Adam Smith Jr and his parents the club's inaugural scholarship award. (left)

conducted the regular clean up of Crocket Blvd in Merritt Island as part of Keep Brevard Beautiful's Adopt-An-Area program. Picked up about five bags of litter. Good day for clean up.



Members and friends of the Club

**Cocoa Beach Club:**  
Submitted by Kimberly Demoret  
The Rotary Club of Cocoa Beach is expanding their support of literacy programs in local schools.

Rolling Readers Space Coast, Inc. is a non-profit committed to uniting Brevard County children in Pre-K through 2nd grade with books and caring adults to promote a community of life-long readers.

Last year the club funded read-aloud programs at Cape View Elementary School in grades 1-2;





now the club is bringing the program to Roosevelt Elementary and adding one-on-one tutoring support. We are also recruiting volunteers from both our club and the local community.

If other clubs in Brevard County are interested in the program, please check out <https://www.rollingreadersspacecoast.org/> or contact our club project officer, Kimberly Demoret (kimberlydemoret@gmail.com).

AND-

Our club is FIRED UP about the new Rotary Year and our mission to "Create Hope in the World".

Marcin Kubiak attended the Rotary International Convention in Melbourne, Australia, and met with Phil and Gail Lustig, Kim Champion, Bruce Spizler, Owen Robinson, and Buck Vocelle. Our new board was recognized at our installation dinner on 29 June, with Lee Romano as president and Ellen Cruse as President-Elect. The club also honored Marcin's inspiring leadership as club president from 2021-2023.

#### Lake Worth Rotary Club:

Submitted by Patrick Growney



*L-R: Pat Growney (a mentor), Kimberly Briard (mentor manager for Take Stock in Children) Club President Lorraine Hernandez and Alessandro Perez (a mentee and now a Rotary Youth Exchange Student who will be studying in N. Korea next year).*

Our speaker last week was Kimberly Briard, who is Mentor Manager at Take Stock in Children (TSIC), Palm Beach County.

She is trying to recruit mentors for this program, as every student in the program must meet with his/her mentor at least

three times a month for a half hour in school during the lunch hour or on-line.

The students must meet academic, behavioral and economic requirements. Upon graduation the students will be guaranteed a two-year scholarship to any Florida state college or university and also help to secure further scholarships to continue on to a degree.

My wife Ann and I have been mentors for the past 18 years and have had many wonderful experiences with our mentees, who are all doing very well. All are the first generation in their families to get college education, and probably would have not done so without TSIC.

Alessandro pictured here is the first alumni of the program to be a Rotary Youth Exchange Student and will be studying in N. Korea next year. This happened when he asked me, what is Rotary, and what do we do? In that conversation I mentioned Youth Exchange, in which he took a great deal of interest. With a lot of help from John I. Leonard High School, TSIC, our Rotary District and LWB Rotary Club it happened!!!!

"A lot of people have gone farther than they thought they could because someone else thought they could" ----- From the TSIC class of 2023

#### Suntree Club:

In June, club members gathered to pick up trash along a stretch of Wickham Road in Suntree. Teams walked along both sides of the four lane roadway.

There is always a friendly competition between teams. This time one team (Mike Pisacano and JoAnn Meaker) managed to pick up 65 pounds of trash - needing two large bags. The



heaviest items included a shredded tire and a water-logged carpet pad.

This road cleanup project happens quarterly under the direction of the club's service project chair, Woody McDaniel.

## Foundation News

The  
**Rotary**  
Foundation



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### Letter from Pam Russell, District Foundation Chair

Every July in Rotary we re-energize to do good in the world. We have new leaders, new goals and new hopes. This year President Gordon McNally asks us to Create Hope in the World and Trustee Chair Barry Rassin reminds us that through The Rotary Foundation we will successfully do that!

We create hope through our district grants and global grants. I am eager to see what you will do with your Rotary Foundation grants and look forward to sharing the stories across the district and throughout the world.

We create hope through our generosity as well. Each year, goals are set for us to reach, and this year is no different. The Trustees have set "audacious" goals (see the July 2023 Rotary Magazine) and we in District 6930 have also done the same. District Governor Doug Heizer and I are asking that each of you look at your giving for last year and increase it by 10%. In these inflationary times these increases are helpful so that we can increase our impact to the beneficiaries. Please consider this by updating your Rotary Direct contributions or contributions collected on your behalf through your club. And if you have never given, now is the time to start!

DG Doug and I are pleased to announce that next spring we will have a significant fundraising event for The Rotary Foundation. Commonly called a Million Dollar Dinner we have begun the planning and you will be hearing more about this in the coming months. Planned gifts in your estate as well as outright contributions will be a part of this campaign and we look forward to your generous support.

We are blessed to have a terrific team on our District Rotary Foundation Committee this year. Please reach out for help. We are eager to serve you. We offer club programs, provide advice on how to fundraise and assist with developing your district and global grant projects.

Happy New Year! We are going to have a tremendous year where we all Create Hope in the World!

**The District Rotary Foundation Team:**



The District's Foundation team includes seven members: PDG Pam Russell, Foundation Committee Chair; PDG Els Van Engelenburg, District Fundraising Chair; Sandra Yeater, District Grants Chair; Christine Steinkrauss, Global Grants Chair; Nils G. Weibuss, Grants Committee Chair; Phil Lustig, Paul Harris Society Chair; Bernardo Wolfson, Annual Fund Chair; and JoAnn Meaker, PolioPlus Chair.

### Suntree Club Rotary Global Grant – La Paz, Honduras

Now that Rotary International approved the grant application, the Suntree Rotary Club is excited to begin the work to provide a new deep water well to a community in Cane, Honduras and to provide pilas (cement water storage tanks), latrines and water filters to a mountain community of Guachilipin.



Two Suntree Rotary Club members, Woody and Linda McDaniel, were in Honduras when the first of the filters were delivered to two households (see pictures).

Sustainability is a key aspect of any global grant. To this end, training becomes key so once Rotary's involvement ends, those who have received the items can continue to use them going forward.

As each filter is delivered, the household members are trained on its use, and they sign a commitment letter agreeing to properly maintain the filter. This same kind of training will

happen with the latrines, the pilars and (in Cane) the management of the new deep well.

Joining Woody & Linda in the deliveries were members of the La Paz Rotary Club, community members, and Jonathan Zelaya, the CEO of Honduras Compassion Partners – a partner organization.

This grant is supported by individual donors, three other Rotary Clubs in D6930, and clubs in four other Rotary districts!

