



The Villages - Evening
Rotary
Club



Evening Edition
January 6, 2021

President Knaack's January Message



January is finally here. As we look forward to 2021, our thinking doesn't have to stop at the end of these 365 days. Are you thinking ahead about what you will be doing in 2022, 2023, and beyond?

We cannot foresee the future, but we can steer ourselves where we want to go. I think it is important that every Rotary club hold a strategic meeting at least once a year. Past RI Director Greg Yank, who has a lot of experience working with clubs on their plans, shares his viewpoint.

A famous aphorism states, "By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail." Planning is essential to achieving success in all areas of life, including Rotary, and we're getting better at it every year.

Strategic planning for Rotary clubs works. I have helped many clubs find that pathway by working with them to build what I call a blueprint, a multiyear plan that answers the fundamental question: "What is our vision for our club?"

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Meeting

Our first meeting of the new year started out under difficult circumstances. As you all know, while we were getting on Zoom, our Capitol was under siege from protesters who had gathered in DC. Let's hope this is not a harbinger of what is to come!

We started the meeting with a discussion of how visitor Kay Baker was able to get her COVID-19 vaccination

shot at Sumter County Health Department. Evidently, you have to be persistent in order to get an appointment.

Next, District Governor Mike Vernor, inducted our newest member, Kate Tapia, into the club. Welcome Kate.

Our speaker Wednesday was George Haggerty, President of Beacon College.

George has spent 35 years

in higher education and came to Beacon seven years ago. At that point the college was unknown, un-rated, and unranked, with an enrollment of 178 students. Now Beacon has an enrollment of 433 students, soon to be a maximum of 500 and has grown from 9 physical facilities to 23 in downtown Leesburg. It is ranked number 1 in the country.

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Message (Continued from page 1)

The best plans I have seen are those that are focused, when a club concentrates its resources on the best opportunities it has. Your Rotary club cannot be all things to its members and to the community it serves; it has limited human, financial, and time resources. A successful plan factors in assets and limitations to chart the desired pathway for your members.

Begin building a multiyear strategic plan by brainstorming with your club, asking, "What are our initiatives and priorities for the next two to three years?" Document your answers using action-oriented language that is specific, concrete, and measurable about the goals you want to achieve.

Next, narrow down your initiatives to a core set of three to five priorities. Your club will then develop specific objectives for each initiative, outlining who will be involved, key milestones of achievement, how progress will be tracked, and a timeline for completion. Keep your plan short and simple.

Then go out and do it. Review the progress you make toward accomplishing the initiatives, and revise as needed at least once a year. Rotary has a solid template to assist clubs in their planning, which you can find at my.rotary.org/en/document/strategic-planning-guide.

Meeting (Continued from page 1)



Beacon College was founded in 1989 by visionary parents who wanted to provide a four year college for students with learning disabilities. Dedicated exclusively to the undergraduate preparation of students who learn differently (those diagnosed with LD, ADHD, AD, ASD) It is the first accredited baccalaureate institution in the U.S. exclusively devoted to collegians with learning differences

The college offers Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Associate of Arts (A.A.), and Associate of Science (A.S.) degrees with several majors and minors in each degree program. The college employs 36 full-time professors/6 part-time faculty/13 experienced learning specialists and 3 career development professionals. 61% of all full-time faculty hold a terminal degree in their discipline (customarily a doctorate), with 100% of all faculty holding a minimum of a master's degree. All new faculty and staff must complete a semester-long specialized training program specifically focused on Beacon's students.

Beacon enjoys a 70% graduation rate (source: NSER), 83.5% post-degree employment or advanced/graduate study, and a 100% internship placement rate. Unique to the college is an Experienced individual Learning Specialists who is assigned to each student upon enrollment to guide, nurture, and monitor academic progress/growth throughout the student's undergraduate experience.

Service Projects Meeting

December 16th

Rotary Rebaters Our club will be starting a group to utilize coupons to obtain items for our food pantries and ForwardPath. Sue B. was able to purchase \$235 worth of products for under \$25. If you would like to take part in this effort, contact Sue B. Training will be provided

HVES 35 gift bags were delivered to students from our Angel Tree. Also, each family was given family household items such as detergent and toothpaste. Thanks to a donation from Fred R. and money from our Foundation, 37 gift cards of \$75 each were purchased to be given to the support staff at the school.

Hands On There was a discussion of a diaper drive to be held during Maternal Health Month (April). No decision was reached.

St Theresa Impact Fund we continue to fund this initiative of \$1000 through the end of 2021. The committee is also looking into hands-on opportunities.

Foundation Impact

Beginning July 1, 2020 through November 30, 2020, our club has donated or volunteered the following

Monetary Donations	\$13,800.00
In Kind Donations	\$ 6,100.00
Volunteer Hours	503
Meals Provided	43,520

To help our club fund these project, our Foundation has received contributions

District & Club	\$ 8,238.00
Community	\$39,200.00

Combined Food Drive

On Saturday, January 9th our club will participate in another food drive with the other clubs in the area. As before, we will be stationed at The Village Car Wash and Winn-Dixie.



- Peanut Butter (plastic)
- Jelly (plastic jar)
- Canned Meats & Fish
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Fruits
- Pasta Sauce (plastic)
- White Rice
- Brown Rice
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Cereal
- Soups

We will also have volunteers collecting food at Evergreen and paradise Recreation Centers

If you haven't already signed up to help out, please contact Sandra Riccardi, we can always use additional help, or just by for some fellowship.

Welcome

On Wednesday night, our District Governor, Mike Vernon, joined us to induct our newest member Katheryn (Kate) Tapia into our club. Kate is from California and south Carolina and spent 20 years as a sales rep and 27 years as a teacher.

Kate is a neighbor of Sue and Jim Bodenner and is sponsored by Jim

Welcome Kate.

Notes and Announcements

Officers & Directors

Officers

- President
Gay Ratcliff-Seamens
- President Elect
Julie Schmied
- President Elect Nominee
Open
- Secretary
Sue Bodenner
- Treasurer
Cindy Ivy
- Past President
Tim Treat

Directors

- Club Service
Dusty Rhodes
- Foundation
Julie Schmied
- Membership
Pat Cronenberg
- Public Image
Sue Bodenner
- Service Projects
Gay Davidson
- Youth Services
Karl Keri
- Club Positions
- Sergeant-at-Arms
Dusty Rhodes
- Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms
Open
- Assistant Treasurer
Tim Treat
- Assistant Secretary
Open
- Programs
Jim Bodenner

Guests

Upcoming District Events

District Grant Management Seminar January 14th

We plan an interactive and enlightening 90 working session where clubs that are interested in submitting one or more district grant for RY 2021-2022 will exchange ideas about how to carry out an effective project. Topics will included dealing with COVID-19 restrictions, working with schools and youth and sharing experiences from the district grant work ongoing in 2020-2021. Materials for use in submitting District Grants for 2021-2022 will be provided in advance so that your club can attend the seminar with drafts to work on or share.

District Assembly Training April 17th

This training is designed for all incoming officers and directors. It is a chance to learn more about the duties and responsibilities of you position. It also will give you a chance to interact with other Rotarians and ask questions.

All classes and seminars will be held on Zoom. You must register on the district website when you can obtain the login information to attend the Zoom meetings.

Until the recreation centers reopen, and we decide to reinstitute in person meetings we will continue Zoom meetings each Wednesday night from 4:00pm to 5:00pm. To make it easier we will use the same **Meeting ID 826 152 7480 and Password 84594**

Meetings

Jan 13th	Club Business
Jan 20th	Kari Williams-Rotary Peace Fellow

Committee Meetings

Jan 13th	Board Meeting
Jan 27th	Service Projects

Event

Jan 9th	Combined Food Collection
Jan 14th	District Grant Seminar