

Rotary Club of the Villages - Evening **Evening Edition**

Officers & Directors

Officers

President Tim Treat **President Elect** Gay Ratcliff-Seamens President Elect Nominee Carole Iberer Secretary Pat Cronenberg Treasurer Cindy Ivy Past President Jamie Losito

Directors

Dusty Rhodes Public Image Martha Friedman Service Projects Mike Roth **Youth Services Dusty Rhodes** Club Service Nancy Yerkey

Membership Julie Schmied

Foundation

Club Positions

Sergeant-at-Arms Rich Iberer Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms **Dusty Rhodes Assistant Treasurer** Tim Treat **Assistant Secretary** Kay Roth



Programs

Mike Roth

2020-2021 Presidential Theme



Rotary International President-elect Holger Knaack is encouraging Rotarians to seize the many opportunities Rotary offers to enrich their lives and the communities they serve.

Knaack, a member of the Rotary Club of Herzogtum Lauenburg-Mölln, Germany, revealed the 2020 -21 presidential theme, Rotary Opens Opportunities, to incoming district governors at the Rotary International Assembly in San Diego, California,

USA, on 20 January.

Rotary isn't just a club for people to join, but rather "an invitation to endless opportunities," said Knaack, who becomes president on 1 July. He emphasized that Rotary creates pathways for members to improve their lives and the lives of those they help through service projects.

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Goodwill Book Collection

A drive to collect children's books for the Goodwill BookWorks program begins Feb. 1 and ends March 15. People are encouraged to donate children's story books in good condition or they can make a monetary donation to purchase books. Goodwill can buy story books for less than \$1 each.

Many children receive their first books through the Goodwill BookWorks program. Last year, the program, which operates in seven Florida counties, gave books to more than 55,000 children from low-income families. In Sumter County, books were given to 2,339 children.

Book donations may be dropped off at any Goodwill-Suncoast store or donation site in Sumter, Marion, Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Polk or

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Wednesday's Speaker

Our speaker this week was Gordon Ralph, a member of the morning club, who spoke about inclusion. Gordon has been a Rotarian for over forty years, attended several International Conventions and attended many clubs throughout the world. Since retirement his avocation is publishing of primary travel books by local au-



thors. His legal/charity/marketing experience qualifies him to partner with book distributers to provide customized books to the corporate and educational markets.

Gordon's presentation concerned inclusion, something Rotary has promoted over the years. The workplace succeeds, and missions are achieved, when all cultures befriend each other, though each person is different. Numerous studies have shown that diversity (inclusion) leads to experimentation and creativity when all ideas are not from the same culture source.

Gordon points out that Polio+ is a major boost for healthcare. Inclusion is big for peace and mission success. Imagine a world full of respect and friendship among people throughout the world.

To learn more about this program you can go to Www.inclusionplusdiversity.com

Fellowship Dinner



Several members and guests enjoyed an enjoyable "pot luck" meal and Marvin and Cindy's. These events provide club members a chance to spend some social time together.

Theme (Con't from pg 1)

"We believe that our acts of service, big and small, create opportunities for people who need our help," Knaack said. He added that Rotary creates leadership opportunities and gives members the chance to travel the world to put their service ideas into action and make lifelong connections. "Everything we do opens another opportunity for someone, somewhere," said Knaack.

Changing for the future

Knaack also urged members to embrace change so Rotary can expand and thrive. Rather than setting a specific target for increasing the number of members, Knaack said he's asking clubs and districts to think about how to grow in a sustainable and organic way. He wants clubs to focus on keeping current members engaged and adding new members who are the right fit for their club.

We will capture this moment to grow Rotary, making it stronger, more adaptable, and even more aligned with our core values.

"We need to stop thinking of new members as people we can mark down as statistics and then forget about," Knaack said. "Every new member changes us a little bit. That person brings a new perspective, new experiences. We need to embrace this constant renewal. We will grow stronger as we learn from new members."

Knaack pointed to Rotary's Action Plan as a compass that can guide clubs as they evolve. He recommended that every club have a strategic plan meeting at least once a year. At that meeting, clubs should ask where they want to be in five years and how they can bring more value to their members. Knaack also wants to see more women in leadership roles and see Rotaractors play an integral role in how new clubs are formed and run. He encouraged district leaders to create new club models and rethink what it means to be in Rotary, and allow young people to be the architects of these new clubs.

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Theme (Continued from page 2)



"We have to be open to new approaches, and creating unique clubs for younger people is just part of the solution," said Knaack. "Let Rotaractors decide what kind of Rotary experience works best for them. These young people are bright, energetic, and they get things done."

In stressing the need for Rotary members to embrace change, Knaack noted that time won't slow down for Rotary: "We will not let rapid change defeat us. We will capture this moment to grow Rotary, making it stronger, more adaptable, and even more aligned with our core values."

Bookworks (Con't from pg 1)

Hernando counties. A note should be attached to the books indicating they are "For BookWorks." People who want to volunteer for the BookWorks program can call 888-279-1988 or email bookworks@goodwill-suncoast.com. Monetary gifts can be made online at goodwill-suncoast.org/give-online/.

BookWorks, which is designed to instill a love of reading in children, is related to Goodwill's mission because literacy allows people to qualify for better jobs.

Goodwill's BookWorks has provided several hundred books to Harbour View over the last year and



a half. If you have any books or would like to make a financial donation please bring the to a Wednesday night meeting.

Wine, Champagne, & Beer Bingo



Our next fundraiser will take place on March 16th. Each member has will be assigned a task and are asked to help advertise the event with their neighborhood and friends. Tickets will be available at next weeks meeting and we will only have 300 tickets. This is a good chance to get a group together for some fun and to help our foundation. If you need further information or would like to know what job you have been assigned contact Cindy Ivy



Sue Bodenner writes fro the Dominican Republic, "They LOVED the cards. Maria already had a plan. She's very happy to have them. Thank you Karen and all who helped make them for the elderly at Hogar Des Ancianos in Puerto Plata Dominican Republic.



One of the fellowship activities our club enjoys is getting together after our regular meeting to enjoy dinner at various local restaurants. All members, guests and significant others are invited. if you will be attending upcoming dinners email Cindy Ivy @ allesivy@hotmail.com

Weekly Assignments

Greeter

Feb 5th Gay Ratcliff-Seamens

Feb 12th Nancy Yerkey Feb 19th Mike Roth

Set Up

Feb 5th Jim Bodenner Feb 12th Nancy Yerkey

Feb 19th Open

<u>Reflection</u>

Feb 5th Sue Bodenner Feb 12th Julie Schmeid Feb 19th Yori Okuda

Clean Up

Feb 5th Nancy Yerkey
Feb 12th Julie Schmeid
Feb 19th Nancy Yerkey

Visiting Rotarian & Guests

Rotarians

Chuck Bares Plymouth, MI
Keith Hubbell Elks Rapid, MI
Juda Saemisch Perry. IA
Bob Haas Fort Gratiot
Ralph Montesanto Dundas Ontario
David Bruno Canton, GA
Wynn Meldrum Sackville, New Brunswick

Ron Taggart

Bob Murphy

Guests

Russ Haines Cindy Bruno Rich Semisch Kathy Furtod

Notes and Announcements

Donations

Lifestream

The next items we will be collecting are towels and washcloths for Lifestream. Since January is usually the time there are white sales you may want to but them now to save money.

We will be collecting these in sometime in March.

Dues

Please remember that third quarter dues were payable January 1st. It is important that dues are paid promptly to ensure sufficient cash flow to run our club. Payment can be brought to a meeting or mailed to our PO Box.

District Training

On April 18th the district will hold a training assembly in Orlando. The assembly will feature classes on different club leadership such as secretary, foundation, service projects, public image and other chairs. If you hold a board position you are encouraged to attend the appropriate class.

Schedule of Meetings & Events

Meeting

Feb 5th Greg Caine-Health Life Styles

Feb 12th Ed Slivken—Villages Theater Company

Feb 19th Assembly

Feb 26th Elijah Essex—Gulf Coast Fire, Inc

Committee Meetings

Feb 5th: Foundation—Lake Miona 4:00pm

Feb 12th Board of Directors

Event

Mar 16th Wine Bingo Fundraiser
April 18th District Training Assembly
May 2nd District Conference

May 2nd District Conference
Jun 6-10 Rotary Convention

Visit us on the Web

www.rotaryvillagesevening.com