



The Villages - Evening
Rotary
Club



Evening Edition
March 10, 2021

RI President Knaack's March Message



As someone who knows firsthand the great leadership potential of Rotaractors, I always look forward to World Rotaract Week, which we are celebrating from 8 to 14 March. Rotaractors are the focus of all three of my presidential conferences this year, and I was proud when, two years ago, the Council on Legislation voted to elevate Rotaract by including Rotaract clubs as members of Rotary International. Before that, the Council had already made dual membership possible, and shortly after, the Board of Directors decided to do away with Rotaract's age limits.

But we are only just embarking on our journey together. Partnering effectively doesn't happen by itself. It requires both sides to be open and to understand the value of cross-generational alliances. Louie De Real, a dual member of Rotaract and Rotary, explains Joint virtual meetings have helped Rotaractors introduce Rotarians to new ideas and tools, pioneering unique ways for clubs to collaborate. In the case of pandemic and disaster response, Rotaract clubs used social media to coordinate efforts, drive information, and fundraise, while Rotary clubs used their networks and resources to amplify support, provide logistics, and bring the goods and services to communities. Rotaractors' *(Continued on page 2)*

Meeting

This week's meeting was our last ZOOM only meeting. Next Wednesday we will start hybrid meetings which will start at **4:00pm** at Lake Miona. This will be our first attempt at this so, since we expect some glitches, we have scheduled no speaker. The room will be set up under social distancing guidelines and face masks will be

strongly encouraged. Since we are now a lifestyle club you must **bring your Villages ID** to attend the meeting. Those of you who wish to attend on ZOOM it will be the normal login information.

Our speaker this week was Jessica Rodriguez from Food 4 Kids and a part of Interfaith Emergency Services of Mari-

on County.

The mission of Food 4 Kids is to identify chronically hungry children throughout the community and provide them with food and vital resources on a regular basis. Studies show that food insecure children have lower test scores and increased behavior problems *(Continued on page 2)*

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innovative virtual engagement and professional development activities inspired Rotarians to support and follow suit. The pandemic made Rotaract clubs realize that we can immediately connect and partner with Rotary clubs through virtual platforms. With constant collaboration, we realize that Rotary and Rotaract indeed complement each other — that we are part of a single organization with shared goals. Both sides add value. Rotarians can be mentors and service partners to Rotaractors, while Rotaractors can demonstrate to Rotarians that difficult jobs can be simplified and limitations can be surpassed through digital approaches. This synergy motivates Rotaractors to become future Rotarians: I joined Rotary because Rotarians gave me memorable membership experiences through inspirational moments of collaboration. I needed to be a Rotarian to inspire Rotaractors the same way, now and in the future. That same synergy leads Rotarians to realize that while Rotaractors may have a different culture, we all share a common vision of uniting people to take ac-

tion. Rotaract’s unique ways of doing things serve as inspiration for innovation, helping Rotary increase its ability to adapt to future challenges. Rotarians and Rotaractors will build the future together, so let’s start today. I see no difference between a Rotary club and a Rotaract club, except perhaps for the average age! Many Rotarians still view Rotaract as our youth organization, but I see it differently. For me, they are part of us, and they are like us. To be successful together, we need to have mutual respect — to see each other as equals. Let’s see Rotaractors for who they really are: students and young leaders, but also successful managers and entrepreneurs who are capable of planning, organizing, and managing a Rotary institute — including breakout sessions in five languages — as they did in Berlin in 2014. As we take this journey together, let’s remember the strengths of Rotary and Rotaract. And, as Louie says, let’s get started right away in building the future together. In doing so, we open endless opportunities for our organization.

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They can also suffer from embarrassment over their situation, making it difficult for them to share childhood experiences that most of us take for granted. For most of these children the last full meal they have is at school on Friday and they don’t have a meal again until returning to school on Monday.

packs home on Friday and return them on Monday so they can be refilled for the following weekend. They also receive larger boxes of food for extended holidays and

tion of growing to meet the needs of our county’s food insecure families.



Food 4 Kids provide about 2000 children with meals for the weekend through their program. Each backpack provides breakfast and lunch for 12 children. It cost the organization about \$2,000 to \$4,600 per week and they provide backpacks for the entire school year. Their funds come entirely from donations. Our foundation is proud to be donating \$700 to help feed those children in need.

The Food4Kids Backpack Program of North Florida fills backpacks with nonperishable food and distributes them to students in need, from kindergarten through high school. The kids bring these back-

summer breaks.

They are a 100% volunteer-run program who partner with schools in their local community with the anticipa-

St Theresa's Impact Fund February Report

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Provided 1 night in motel for homeless woman | \$ 65.00 |
| Provided homeless grandmother caring for her grandchildren car parts from O'Reilly | \$156.62 |
| Young homeless couple walked daily 8 miles each way to work. Finally saved enough money to purchase a trailer. Paid money to turn on electric. | \$465.00 |
| Provided 1 night in motel for homeless woman | \$ 51.99 |
| Assistance with cost of medication For a man who was in an accident. | \$ 25.00 |
| Provided 3 nights in motel for Mother with 9 year old and infant on oxygen. | \$240.00 |
| Provided 2 nights in motel for stranded motorist. St Theresa covered the balance. | \$ 68.98 |

Car Wash



Saturday, March 20th the South Summer High School Interact Club will be holding a car wash from 9am to 1pm at the high school. This is a great opportunity to not only get your car washed but a chance to meet these kids and help them out.

Collections

Our club is collecting several items to benefit local organizations.

ForwardPaths

- Cases of water
- Laundry soap
- Dryer sheets
- Cleaning supplies



Operation Christmas Child

- Flattened newspaper bags
- Prescription bottles label removed
- Stuffed toys



HVES

- Cloth reusable bags
- Coupon inserts from Sunday paper

This is an ongoing project so you can donate them at any point. You can bring them to any of our in person meeting or drop the coupons off at Sue B.s house and the other items at either Martha F's house or Pat R's house.



Brett Mitchell, one of our new members, stopped by Savannah to receive his name badge from President Gay

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

Rich Tapia

Jessica Rodriguez

Notes and Announcement

Happy/Sad

Karen J. was happy to be getting her first COVID vaccine on April 1st.

Tom R. wondered if anyone knew why MAR10, Wednesday's date was special. It honors Mario Brothers computer game.

Kat S. was both happy and sad. Happy because the contractors were done but sad because she had to put her house back in order.

Sue B. was happy because someone saw our article about the rebators and sent her coupons.

Julie S. was happy with the birth of a new grandniece, Claire Rebecca.

Nancy Y. is happy to be on her way to Virginia to visit family. She is sad because her son needs back surgery and she can't seem to get on the schedule for a vaccine shot. Several members offered tips to help her sign up.

Mary Anne Ashworth

It was great to see Mary Anne back on ZOOM after surgery. She looks great.

Food Drive

Our next food drive is coming up on March 27th centered at The Villages car Wash. In anticipation we have placed donation boxes at several rec centers.

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

Mar 17th First Hybrid Meeting

Committee Meetings

Mar 24th Service Projects

Event

Mar 20th SSHS Interact Car Wash

Mar 27th Food Drive 9am to 1pm

Apr 27th District Assembly

May 15th District Conference