



## President Mehta's Message



I am sure you are having an enriching experience as you *Serve to Change Lives*. One of the ways you can make the greatest change in a person's life is to help them learn to read. Literacy opens up the world to us. It makes us better informed about life in our own communities and opens vistas to other cultures. Reading and writing connects people and gives us another way to express our love for one another.

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month in Rotary. Enhancing literacy skills is critical in our pursuit of reducing poverty, improving health, and promoting peace. In fact, if all students in low-income countries left school with basic reading skills, it would result in a significant cut in global poverty rates.

Without education, illiterate children become illiterate adults. Today, 14 percent of the world's adult population — 762 million people — lack basic reading and writing skills. Two-thirds of that

group are women. Literacy and numeracy skills are essential to obtaining better housing, health care, and jobs over a lifetime.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Meeting

This week's meeting, the 10th of this year was started by Kat S. asking us to take a moment to remember 911 and what it meant along with those who have sacrificed some much in Afghanistan and those who are still stranded there.

It seems like Mike G has assumed the role of

Sergeant-at-Arms as he conducted the happy/sad. Mike G. also handled the 50/50 drawing with a little help from Dusty R. It is always good to see a new member "step up to the plate".

After some announcements from President  
*(Continued on page 3)*

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**Follow us on Facebook**

## Message (Con't from pg 1)

Especially for girls and women, literacy can be a life-or-death issue. If all girls completed their primary education, there would be far fewer maternal deaths. And a child is more likely to survive past age 5 if he or she is born to a mother who can read. Improving outcomes for more people worldwide is possible only if countries remove barriers to education for girls. The economic argument for doing so is clear: In some countries where schooling is geared toward boys, the cost of missed economic opportunity is more than \$1 billion per year.

Empowering people through education is among the boldest goals we have as Rotarians. We don't have to travel far from our homes to encounter those whose lives are being curtailed because they struggle with reading, rely on others to read for them, or cannot write anything more than their own name.

Starting this month, consider how your club can *Serve to Change Lives* through literacy: Support local organizations that offer free programs to support adult literacy or local language learning, or that provide teachers with professional development centered around reading and writing. Become literacy mentors, or work with an organization like the Global Partnership for Education to increase learning opportunities for children around the world. Have conversations with local schools and libraries to see how your club can support their existing programs or help create needed ones in your community.

In India, the TEACH program, a successful collaboration between the country's Rotary clubs and its government, has demonstrated how to scale up literacy efforts to reach millions of children. And at a time when schools across India were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the program's e-learning component reached more than 100 million children through national television.

Literacy is the first step out of poverty. As Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai has noted, "One child, one teacher, one book, and one pen can change the world."

## Sunshine Veteran's Dental Fund

During the last month the following significant events have occurred:

- Our club received a \$1,000 donation from the Lake & Sumter Counties Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. This donation, along with others from club members was matched by our Foundation which resulted in a check for \$2,200 being sent to Langley for the Sunshine Veterans Dental Fund.
- On August 31st The Daily Sun ran an article about our program on the front page of the local section of the newspaper detailing our efforts to provide dental care to veterans.
- We currently have six sets of dentures in process and have budgeted for one set per month through June 2022.
- Since the inception of the program in 2018 we have provided some type of dental services to 189 veterans.



## Impact Fund July Report

Rent assistance for disabled woman	\$300.00
Assisted homeless woman pay for her prescriptions	\$ 80.00
Provided one night for homeless woman in motel	\$ 65.00
Assisted family with the balance of their SECO electric bill. Family has been without power and water	\$259.45
Assisted family with the balance of their SECO electric bill. family has been withou water and power	\$172.00
Provided three nights motel for homeless woman and daughter	\$164.97

## Remember!

This coming Saturday, Americans across the nation will pause to mark the 20th anniversary of the attacks that took the lives of nearly 3,000 people at the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and a farm field in Shanksville, Pa.

Of the casualties 9/11, 343 New York firefighters, 37 police officers with the Authority of



2,977 on were firefighters Port New

York and New Jersey, which had jurisdiction for the World Trade Center and 23 New York City Police officers. Among the heroes on Flight 93, which went down in Pennsylvania, a number of those trying to take back the plane were off-duty or retired law enforcement officers or military personnel.

## Meeting *(Continued)*

Julie we used the balance of the meeting how to set-up for a club meeting since several members had never done it before.

Dusty R., Our Club Service Chair explained the procedure. He started out by explaining that everything for the set up was locate in the cabinet in the room behind our meeting room.



He showed the different items that are needed for the sign in desk and for the meeting in general such as the gavel, bell, and 50/50 tickets. In addition he showed how to set up the tripods that hold our banners. He asked President Julie to try out the set-up and she did it perfectly.

He did, however, explain that the set up of the ZOOM equipment was handled by only a few of the members.

So we need more members to sign up for both set-up and take-down. Not to worry, there will always be someone available to help you with the task

**Officers & Directors  
2021-2022**

Officers

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

Directors

- Club Service  
Dusty Rhodes
- Foundation  
Cindy Ivy
- Membership  
Gay Ratcliff-Seamens
- 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  
Open
- Assistant Secretary  
Open
- Programs  
Jim Bodenner

**Guests**

- Fred Robey
- Earl Wilkinson
- Kim Grassi
- Nancy Baker

**News and Announcements  
Fellowship Dinner**

Watch for an email from Marta F. for the location of Wednesday night's fellowship dinner.

**Group Food Packing**

Pat C. is putting together a list of members who are interested in joining a larger group to pack 60,000 meals. The event is on October 2nd from 9:00 to 1:00, in one hour segments. You can sign up for one to 4 hours. This is a great chance for our club to increase our numbers for both the Zones' Feed10Million and District's feed1Million initiatives.

**Tech Expo Fundraiser**

Our club's board has decided to postpone this event scheduled in March of 2022 to March of 2023. because of the uncertainty of where we will be at with COVID next year

**Whispering Oaks Fellowship**

Dusty R. is looking into having out regular meeting at Whispering Oaks Winery on October 27th. More to follow.

Currently we are conducting "hybrid" meetings every Wednesday **starting at 5:00pm**. You can attend in person at Lake Miona (face masks and Villages ID required), or join by ZOOM.

**Meeting ID 291 972 2411 and Password 84594**

**Please note the meeting ID has changed**

**Meetings**

Sept 15th Phil Winkler - SCORE

**Committee Meetings**

Sep 22nd Service Committee Meeting

**Event**

Sep 21st Fellowship Trip to Ocala Equestrian Center

Oct 2nd Food Packing

Oct 27th Whispering Oaks Wine Tasting

Oct 30th - Nov 15 District Food Drive