



Issue 5: August 11, 2021

Our club welcomes all visitors. Why not join us either by zoom and in person on Wednesday mornings?



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

MEETING TIME/LOCATION:

7:30-8:30 am on Wednesdays
Dunedin Golf Club, 1050 Palm Blvd.

MAILING ADDRESS:

PO Box 307, Dunedin, FL 34697
The Rotary Club of Dunedin North
(Club #4270) was chartered on
November 21, 1971.

**Doing good.
Having FUN!**

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Find out more about our club:
DunedinNorthRotary.org

Meeting Notes from August 4, 2021—Sherrie Davis Kinkead

Zoomers picked up today with Lynne Faimalie, Priscilla Hoag, Doug Campbell, Manny Koutsourais and Mary Beth Carroll. The only guest was Dr. Heywood Mathews, our speaker, but two we don't see very often, Eileen McNeill and George Ann Bissett showed. Teresa Cordova O'Dea gave a story about a woman who woke up with only three hairs, so she decided to braid her hair and had a grand day. The next morning she awoke with two hairs and decided to part her hair in the middle. She had a grand day. On the next day, she awoke with only one hair, decided on a ponytail, and again had a grand day. Waking the next day with no hairs, she happily exclaimed, "I don't need to fix my hair today!" Attitude is everything! After Teresa's invocation, with encouragement to be kind and patient, see beauty around us and listen to our soul, Steve Schwartz led us in the *Pledge*.

HAPPY BUCKS: Dr. Bill Huntley will soon have his engineering grad daughter off the payroll when she moves to Albuquerque. Her summer plan to hike the Appalachian Trail only lasted three weeks. Joe Mackin gave his first happy buck, announcing he had a good attitude and hair. His spirits were uplifted when he saw three Jeeps in the parking lot this morning: red, white and blue. Not to waste his buck, he pitched the first ever annual Roaring 20's Gala that will benefit Dunedin Cares, which takes place September 25 at the Dunedin Golf Club (details online). Pat Snair returned from a relaxing trip to Sanibel where there was no red tide (more shells to X-ray?). JoAnn Rooney went to opposite direction, to Wisconsin, where the temp was in the 70's and her husband stayed on the golf course for three days. Returning, she thought about missing Rotary this morning but was so glad she came after seeing George Ann and Eileen were here. Angie Eisele fined herself for forgetting her badge and was glad JoAnn, along with George Ann and Eileen, made it to our meeting. Gary Coughlin pointed out he also had no hair (which Heywood, our speaker, pointed out later that when God made a perfect head, it didn't need to be covered with hair). Last, but always happy, Sherrie Davis Kinkead pointed out next week's meeting would be interesting as others need to fill the roles of secretary, treasurer and Zoom host due to possible jury duty and first day of school parental duties—watch out if approached! Not to fear, Gary might just bring the little guy to help him set up his computer before they must leave.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Prez John Tornega's church has a tradition of providing breakfast to Dunedin Highland Middle School teachers on their first day back each fall. Yesterday, he took advantage of this event to present our \$1000 check to Principal Vassallo, reminding them of our gift of water bottles last year. The money can provide food rewards for staff and students, which is not covered in the school budget, and other unfunded items needed.

Our **3-club member social** is **August 26 at Clear Sky Draught Haus**, 6pm. The invite is on the tables.

Jay LeFebvre gave more details on the **Cornhole Tournament** website and will have fliers that can be printed out or emailed.

Highway pick-up is August 14, so mark your calendars to come out and help. Edie Wiseman should bring her clip board next week, or email reminders to club members in advance of the Saturday date.

BIRTHDAY MEMORIES: We have several members with birthdays in August. In fact, Pat Snair's has already passed. Also celebrating are Steve Schwartz, Joan Brown Levine, Dave Worobec, Jorge "Mitch" Nuila and Doug Campbell. They have another three weeks to remember their favorite or most memorable birthday.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: **George Ann Bissett** was born in New Orleans to a southern belle mother and an Italian father. The family moved to Pittsburgh when her father could not take southern life anymore and longed for his big Italian family. There, George Ann attended Catholic school, where all the students seem to be blond hair, blue-eyed because of their Polish and Irish heritage, giving her a complex. But being the smallest one allowed her to lead all the processions. She talked her parents into letting her attend public high school, where she fell in love with the arts after exposures to theater and museums. Nursing school followed, but she decided to change careers after being expected to mop floors and went to the Univ. of Pittsburgh,



where she met and married her first husband, a professor of philosophy. England called, and she experienced the political turmoil of the times, such as the miner's strike and Vietnam protests, while working in theater. Back to the states for her masters before a return to England, where she developed a passion for the ballet. In fact, ballet led to her meeting of husband #2 (and current husband), Colin. Back in Pittsburgh, she realized that those who asked and received money were paid higher salaries, which led her to become a development director. This took her to UNC-Chapel Hill heading up Major Gifts. Loving the arts, George Ann was not excited when her husband suggested a move to Largo, FL, but the move led to an interview with 16 people looking for a director for the DFAC. One was Bill Isaly, who asked her if she had ever gone to Isaly's in Pittsburgh to eat ice cream. Must have been why she got the job, after knowing all about Isaly's and recognizing Bill from seeing his pictures in all the stores. George Ann closed by ranking her loves: her husband, Colin, her son and her two granddaughters. Travel comes next even though she has been limited the past year or so due to Covid. She always tries for one adventuresome adventure during the trips, such as rappelling in Costa Rica or walking the bridge in Sydney Harbor. Her last trip was to Israel and Jordan. She admits she may be very direct and mouthy at times and was christened "Miss Snarky" (in fun) by fellow Rotarian and DFAC director, Patrick Donoghue. But being honest about DFAC's needs can result in large checks, such as the \$150,000 one that paid for the Café and bathroom renovations.

FOUNDATION AWARDS: Welch Agnew is having fun finally getting rid of all the Foundation PHF awards that accumulated while we were only Zooming. In fact, Welch might have an extra PHF pin for anyone who might have lost or damaged their previous pin beyond recognition, such as Dr. Bill, who found out that they stick into shoe soles and scuff badly when walking on rough surfaces. Not to worry, Dr. Bill (Huntley) now has a PHF+7 (that's two rubies) to replace that one. George Ann Bissett received her PHF+3, JoAnn Rooney her PHF+5 and Eileen McNeill her PHF+1.



PROGRAM: Dr. Heywood Mathews, marine biologist, is a well-known name in the scuba diving circles, which brought him to Jay LeFebvre's attention when Jay moved to our area. Now that Jay heads up local programs, Dr. Mathews was the first person he thought of.

Until Covid, Dr. Mathews taught at St. Petersburg College and certified over 1700 divers. A favorite story of his is when he taught a class of middle schoolers who ALL scored between 92-96 on a 100-question college exam

when only 4 college students scored in that range.

Mathews says red tide is not all bad... it put him through college when he was part of growing red tide in the lab and determining what affects the outbreaks. Red tide has been with us forever, with the native Americans reporting fish kills. In the 1990's, a correlation was finally made between the iron dust originating in a dry lake bed in Africa that blew our way and the red tide outbreaks. In addition, the bays and Gulf from here to Naples are suffering from nutrification caused by the release of waste water into our waterways before nutrients are removed. Back in 2005, red tide killed all life on Clearwater reef due to a thermal layer that prevented dead fish from floating up. As they decayed, oxygen was depleted even more from the water. It took over a year for the fish to return. Now, due to a grant, Mathews and others do fish counts on the reef twice-monthly to determine what is normal, but the money is running out.

Dr. Mathews did his thesis on artificial reefs while at FSU, which led to a memorial at Veteran's Reef, with fundraising help from his nephew, US Rep David Jolly. The Circle of Heroes is a collection of 12 lifesize statues at the reef representing the U.S. armed forces — Air Force, Army, Marines, Navy, and Coast Guard. One statue honors Seaman Apprentice William "Billy" Flores and includes the medal Flores never wore in person. He was on the USCGC Blackthorn, a 180-foot seagoing buoy tender, which sank in 1980 in a collision near the Tampa Bay Sunshine Skyway Bridge, resulting in 23 crew member fatalities. SA Flores, who had been out of boot camp just one year, opened the life jacket locker as USCGC Blackthorn capsized, securing its

hatch open with his belt, and made sure that his shipmates were able to access and use the life jackets. His actions saved a number of lives during the accident, but SA Flores died aboard Blackthorn. His family was presented with the Coast Guard Medal, the service's highest award for heroism in peacetime on 28 January 2000, the 20th anniversary of the tragedy.

Jay LeFebvre closed the meeting with the **4-Way Test** and remembered to add our 5th: Is it FUN?

Peace Pole Project Update

The Peace Pole project is moving ahead. The 8' aluminum pole with Peace in 8 languages is due to arrive in several weeks. Two new 4' benches (one being ADA compliant) that will flank an existing bench will be ordered soon. Each bench will have recessed plaques with "The Rotary Clubs of Dunedin." The sign telling about the project is being tailored to our clubs. The pole will be placed near the Community Center pond on the end outside the double doors on the side of the building. We hope the pole, benches and landscaping, with the fountain nearby, will encourage people to meditate and reflect.

Originally, World Peace Day, Sept. 21, was selected as the dedication date, but because a Dunedin church already has plans for a peace celebration, we are moving ours to a later date, which will be determined when all components are in and we know a completion date.

The committee hopes to make this a city-wide celebration. We need your ideas on how to expand the celebration. One suggestion was to have students write about peace.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

- Highway Pick-up – August 14
- Rotary Rays Day – September 19
- World Peace Day – September 21
- Cornhole Tournament – Oct. 3
- Alzheimer's Walk – October 9
- TRF Grants Training – October 9
- World Polio Day – October 24
- Highway Pick-up – November 13
- 50th Anniversary Celebration – November – details to come
- Heart of Dunedin – February 6
- Highway Pick-up – February 12
- District Conference – March 23-26

Spotlights and Greeters

UPCOMING MEETING DUTIES

Date	Member Spotlight	Greeters
8/18	Doug Campbell	Jennifer Bullock, Joe Mackin, Mel Ora, Doug Oppenheimer, Richard Gilliam
8/25	Mary Beth Carroll	Doug Campbell, Richard Gilliam
9/1	Gary Coughlin	Mary Beth Carroll
9/8	Sherrie Davis Kinkead	Gary Coughlin