

# The Northern Light A publication of the Rotary Club of Dunedin North



Issue 16: November 10, 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!

Don't forget to check out Facebook and Twitter! Post your own pictures and news items.





Find out more about our club:

DunedinNorthRotary.org

# Notes from November 3 Meeting —Sherrie Davis Kinkead

Once again only one person Zoomed: Lynne Faimalie. And **Paulee Bowin** for Brightway Insurance (Jessica Wilson) and Jody Craig for Heartfire Wealth (Patrick Donoghue) joined us. J. Richard Gilliam I again was joined by his son, **James R. II**. Teresa looked back to the future, saying we choose the direction our path travels, then prayed. Priscilla was our greeter and PE Gary led the *Pledge*.

**Happy Bucks: Mary Beth Carroll** is engaged!! And reports she is thankful and thrilled. Dr. **Pat Snair** attended the pipe band concert at the high school for the fire fighters cancer

benefit, with *Country Roads* as their last song playing homage to Dr. Pat's birth state. Additionally, Pat wore her T-shirt showing that Highland Roads lead to Dunedin. Priscilla reported she had a great night's sleep and all was good news-wise and weather-wise this morning. **Teresa Cordova O'Dea** had a nefarious entity take over her computer, creating a mess that now must be cleaned. **Jody Craig** is glad to officially be part of our club as a corporate member. PP **Mark Middleton** took 18 months to give his first happy buck and has not stopped talking since. When first attending our club, he saw Foundation chair Welch Agnew give Mary Beth Carroll a Foundation pin and has been chasing her ever since. PDG Mike Chapman made Mark



the district water project chair and last night was their committee meeting at Clear Sky. Our district is focused on Haiti and Honduras with the WASH sustainable program. Hearing that something simple like a door and roof on a latrine prevents rape and provides privacy for young girls who begin menstruating is powerful. Joe Mackin was really glad he joined our club and reports we are now in the top 10 of Dunedin Care's Turkey Drive. After hearing Sgt-at-Arms Kert Rhodes say, "Who's Next" over and over, Dr. Bill Huntley commented Kert must be a fan of The Who and their album by the same name. Richard Gilliam was glad to have his son visit again. Dick Spong was on a road trip for a couple of weeks, which ended up being 3000 miles through 16 states. As much as Dick loves golf, he only played twice during this time. But most exciting, he has two tickets to the British Open on Sunday at St. Andrews Golf Course next year! Gary Coughlin agreed with Priscilla that the news was good as the market keeps hitting highs. He congratulated Mary Beth and was going to bribe Dick Spong for a ticket but donated to CART instead to help with our nation's coin shortage. Paulee Bowin went to the Rolling Stones concert and reported that her podcast with Nick Adams where they talked about kids not learning the Pledge of Allegiance has been zapped from You Tube. (Dr. Bill shared that Nick was in town because he and Gus Billirakis hit it off when meeting) Sherrie Davis Kinkead said not to worry... Plumb Elementary, where her granddaughters attend, teach the *Pledge* and patriotic songs. For a while, every time Sherrie drove by a flag with the girls in the car, she had to put hand over heart and recite the *Pledge*. And they sang *You're a Grand Old Flag* in IHOP, receiving a standing ovation from the two tables that were filled. Kert Rhodes had a great turnout for KLeer Title's Halloween party where one person came as Lt. Dan, sitting on legs in a wheel chair the entire time—ouch! **Angie Eisele** thanked Paulee for bring up the Pledge topic, congratulated Mary Beth, fined herself for no badge and announced we are participating in the Christmas parade on Dec. 11. Dick Spong volunteered his convertible again.

Announcements: November 10 is the Marine Corps. birthday, followed by November 11, Veteran's Day. Prez John gave a little history on the tie we have to the **Unknown Soldier**. The hurricane that hit in Dunedin in 1921, carving Honeymoon Pass, also combined with another storm as it headed across the Atlantic. The American Legion were tasked with delivering the WWI unknown soldier to Arlington from Europe and had secured the coffin on the top deck. The captain almost lost ship, men and the soldier, but persevered. Found on the web: On Oct. 25 [2021], the Independence Seaport Museum in Philadelphia hosted a ceremony aboard USS Olympia, marking the 100th anniversary of the historic warship's transport of an unknown American soldier from France to the United States.

Jay Pitts hopes that Rotary International can do the same thing for **Alzheimer's** as they have done for polio. Let's continue to fill those blue buckets and be the highest contributor to CART in the district. Eileen McNeill, who works with Hospice patients, emphasized the need for a cure, as 3 of the 5 people she sees today have Alzheimer's.

Steve Schwartz needs **3-4 more volunteers** for the afternoon parking hours at the **Celtic Festival**. Gary will need a few volunteers to help with our member tent.

Dr. Pat has **parking passes for** use during **Dunedin Wines the Blues** for Back 'N' Balance's parking lot, which is off the Pinellas Trail close to downtown.

**Salvation Army Bell Ringing** begins the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Watch your email for online sign-ups. Doug Campbell is heading up our efforts.

**Spotlight:** Alan Gustafson was the scheduled spotlight, but due to running short of time, he suggested postponing his until next week to give the speaker more time.



**Program: Suze MacDonald** (shown left with program chair Jay LeFebvre) **with Force Blue** was born in NJ, served in the army in intelligence and retired with the rank of Lt. Colonel. She is a dive instructor and master diver out of Clearwater. Force Blue brings the spirit of conservation to the shores of Florida. Established as a 501c3 nonprofit organization in 2016, FORCE BLUE seeks to address two seemingly unrelated problems — the rapidly declining health of our planet's marine resources and the difficulty returning combat veterans have in adjusting to civilian life — through one, mission-focused program. By uniting the

community of Special Operations veterans with the world of marine science and conservation, FORCE BLUE has created a transpartisan model of caring, cooperation and positive change with the power to restore lives and restore the planet.

The idea for FORCE BLUE grew out of a dive trip co-founders Jim Ritterhoff and Rudy Reyes took to the Cayman Islands in Summer 2015 to meet up with their friend, Keith Sahm, General Manager of Sunset House, the oldest continuously operated dive resort in the Caribbean.

For Ritterhoff and Sahm, experienced recreational divers who'd been reef diving for decades, this was just another week in paradise. But for Reyes, a former Recon Marine who had struggled with PTS and depression since returning home from multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, the experience was nothing short of life changing. For Reyes, like most SOF veterans, diving had never been about exploration or enjoyment. To him diving meant hauling 200 lbs. of gear underwater to destroy some potentially dangerous target in the dead of night. What Cayman offered was transformative.

Reyes immediately proposed scheduling another trip so that he could bring down more of his Recon brothers to experience what he just had. But after a few hours of discussion, the three men hatched a different plan. One that would include combat divers from all branches of service, along with marine scientists, conservationists and journalists.

# **Golf Tournament Date Chosen (and other board notes)**

We had a short board meeting to discuss several time-sensitive items. The board voted to split 1/3 of the expenses, up to \$500 per club, for the Peace Pole Dedication on Feb. 23, 2022 with the downtown and Waterside clubs.

Another payment came in for our Cornhole Tournament, which will bring our donation to \$8500 for CART. This does not include money raised in the blue buckets, which we'll give later.

Sherrie suggested that tips received at Dunedin Wines the Blues be donated to Dunedin Cares Turkey Drive, feeling that people may give more. The board approved.

Kert Rhodes was given two dates next year, one in April and one in May, that the Dunedin Golf Club was open to host our 2022 Charity Golf Tournament. We have The Heart of Dunedin in early February, the Peace Pole dedication later in February and a suggested 5K Race to support the district's water project in late March or early April. The board felt the May 13 date would be the best. Be sure to mark your calendars and let's make this one even more fun than our last one. After all, giving money away is our reward for working hard to raise it.

# **Update from World Polio Day**

Rotary's goal of ridding the world of polio is within reach, global health experts said during the 2021 World Polio Day Online Global Update on 24 October. The 30-minute program, "Delivering on our Promise of a Polio-Free World," provided encouraging information about the progress and remaining challenges in the fight to end polio. So far in 2021, only two cases

of wild polio have been reported — the lowest circulation of the disease ever — with one infection each in Afghanistan and Pakistan, the two countries where polio remains endemic.

During a Q&A session, Dr. Hamid Jafari, director for the WHO's Eastern Mediterranean Region, attributed the low case count to several factors, including mass polio vaccination campaigns resuming after the interruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the natural immunity induced by the wild polio outbreaks of previous years, and the restrictions on travel and population movement that also were due to the pandemic.

Jafari also addressed the challenges of political change and security concerns in Afghanistan and explained that the polio program there is used to adapting operationally during uncertainty. "Currently we do see opportunities coming up as well, so that we may have access to all parts of Afghanistan for implementing mass vaccination campaigns," he said.

According to the WHO and UNICEF, nationwide house-to-house polio vaccinations will resume in Afghanistan in early November, providing access to children in areas where campaigns had been banned for the last three years.

## **Malawi Water Project**

When the RC of Powhatan County, VA, asked Paul Sabbatini to serve as international service chair, he had big ideas. A native of Malawi, he told the club about that country's water issues, which are exacerbated by deforestation, shortages of potable water, and dismal sanitation. The club teamed up with Total LandCare, a nonprofit dedicated to aiding smallholding farmers in sub-Saharan Africa. In 2015 the partners installed two wells in the Dedza district. In the years since, the commitment has expanded to include eco-friendly pit latrines, foot-operated treadle pumps for irrigation, and fuel-efficient cookstoves. In 2020 the club, as well as non-Rotarian donors, provided financial support for 10 new wells, augmented by additional wells in 2021. "That water is lifesaving," Sabbatini says.

UPCOMING MEETING DUTIES			
Date	Member Spotlight	Greeters	Speaker
11/10	Alan Gustafson	Members at Large	Andy Polce, House of Beer (HOB)
11/17	None	TBD by Breakfast Committee	50th Anniversary Breakfast/ Scott Deitche, Author of Cigar City Mafia
12/1	Tom Hribernik	Alan Gustafson	Terry Carter, President of the Hillsborough Boys and Girls Club