

Rotary



Club of Sanibel-Captiva

Rotarians STILL Making a Difference, even if it must be a solo effort!

**Not even COVID-19 can keep a good thing like Rotary down!
Keep reading to see how our members are making a difference!**



If you know of another person helping others during this difficult time, please forward them to our President Eldon or to rotarycindycarter@gmail.com so we can share our good works with each other and lift each other up!

Supporting our Supporters

For the past few weeks while Florida is slowly and responsibly reopening, some Rotarians have joined together and started to patronize our local restaurants. The restaurants they are visiting, are those who donate and sponsor our Arts & Crafts Festival and who have struggled with being closed and then at 50% capacity due to COVID19. So far, various Rotarians have eaten at CIPS and Over Easy. This week, they gathered at the Blue Giraffe, owned by Rotarian Bill Letendre. They also leave a large tip specifically for the staff to help in this crazy time. If you would like to join them, they eat on Tuesdays at 11:30. President Eldon announces the restaurant of the week at Friday's meetings.



Speakers

Birthdays

Chester James Sadler
May 30th

Scott T Mowry
June 3rd

Robert Eidsvold Jr.
June 7th

John Paul White
June 9th

Michael F. Raab
June 12th

Bill Harkey
June 17th

Christopher J. DeCosta
June 19th

Robert D Sprotte
June 25th

Wedding Anniversaries

Richard P. Waterhouse
June 6th

John Schwandke
June 7th

John Grey
June 13th

Robert D Sprotte
June 16th

Edward C. Wheeler
June 20th

Donald McDonald
June 20th

Robb Willis
June 21st

L Carlton Anderson
June 26th

Years of Service

Brian S. Boyd
06-20-2014
6 Years

Ralph C. Korn
06-19-2015
5 Years



Clark Rambo
06-08-2018
2 Years

Rotarians Donald McDonald, Bill Letendre, Bill Harkey, Jonathan Dean and Eldon Bohrofen.

Friday's Speaker: Howard Simon

Please join us this Friday to help us welcome Howard Simon as our speaker. Howard retired in November 2018 as the longest serving state director for the American Civil Liberties Union in the organization's 100-year history. He served 23 years as Executive Director of the ACLU of Michigan, and 21 years as Florida Director.

Howard graduated from the City College of New York and earned a Ph.D. in legal and political philosophy from the University of Minnesota. He taught at the University of Minnesota and DePauw University as a member of the Department of Philosophy and Religion.

Howard led the Florida ACLU through numerous controversies including those involving school vouchers, abortion rights, the Terri Schiavo case, and a host of issues involving freedom of speech. He has been an advocate for voting rights since working as a college student in Selma for the passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965. With the ACLU, he: helped draft the constitutional amendment to restore the right to vote that ended Florida's Civil War-era lifetime voting ban; worked successfully to replace paperless electronic voting with the paper-based voting system now in use throughout the state;

challenged restrictions on voter registration as well as legislative efforts to restrict early and Sunday voting, and

helped secure passage of the Fair Districts Amendments curbing partisan Gerrymandering.

Following his retirement from the ACLU, Howard created Clean Okeechobee Waters Foundation to work with biomedical scientists and physicians who have linked toxins produced by Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs) to neurological illnesses, including ALS and Alzheimer's disease. He is an advocate for policies, and especially action by the Florida Legislature, to address the public health threat from HABs.

In addition to his service on the Board of the Florida Policy Institute, Howard also serves as a Board member of Calusa Waterkeeper. Howard and his wife Beth Wilson, the former Executive Director of the ACLU of Kentucky and the Deputy Director of the ACLU of Florida, retired to Sanibel Island.

2nd Place District-Wide 4-Way Test Essay Winner

Each year, our Rotary club sponsors the 4-Way Test Essay Contest for 8th grade students. The Downtown Ft Myers Rotary Club sponsored the 2nd place winner, Jaansi Parsa, for the District 4 Way Test Essay contest this year. To read a copy of her essay, please click on the link attached. <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/cjb6hsod1x4n5kj/AACKCpbrnukpzVlploJYP1aa?dl=0>

Returning the Favor

Throughout the year, our Sanibel small businesses are solicited numerous times for donations to many worthy causes on the Island, everyone from Sanibel Service Clubs, to nonprofits for animals, children, neighbors and conservation, the list goes on and on. In this difficult time, our nonprofits need help more than ever, but our small businesses need it even more! Our small businesses employ many people on our Island and off, many of these employees live paycheck to paycheck. So if you have the opportunity and means to grab some takeout from a favorite restaurant or to purchase a gift certificate for later use, please do so. Sanibel small businesses always help Rotary to achieve our goals to help others, it's our turn to return the favor to them.

**Remember when you asked
that small business to
support your fundraiser?
It's time to support them.
They're the heart of a town.**

Rotary Donations of an Additional \$11,000

Sanibel is its own little paradise and has some of the most unique shops and businesses and premier restaurants to offer our locals and guests alike. Recently, for the safety of their employees and guests, during their prime season, the businesses were mandated to close their doors. A note that many people overlook when living in or visiting a paradise, is the total number of people needed to make that paradise a reality. Employees that work in the food industry providing us with top-notch culinary experiences, employees that upkeep the rooms and houses that were occupied, employees in the stores that provide so many different shopping experiences, many of these people will never be seen, or least noticed. However, with the closing of businesses, these very employees that are the backbone of our paradise, are out of a job and suffering extreme financial hardships. During a hurricane, these hardships are a few weeks and somewhat expected on an annual basis, but during this extreme time, it has been going on for months causing financial devastation.

Last month, the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary recognized this need in our community and contributed \$10,000 to the Sanibel Community COVID-19 Relief Fund which was managed by FISH of SanCap, to help the support staff of our Community who have been unemployed due to this pandemic. This fund was created in conjunction with other service organizations on the Islands, as well as individuals, a true community effort. It is with mixed emotions that it can be reported that many families were helped with the Rotary contributions, however, it is just the tip of the iceberg and that fund was quickly exhausted. Again, recognizing the continuing need in our Community, members from the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club are contributing an additional \$11,000 to help to people from our Community affected by the COVID-19 crisis. These contributions will be divided between FISH and the Harry Chapin Food Bank.

FISH of SanCap is a human services organization, focused for over thirty-eight years on ♦neighbors helping neighbors♦. The mission of F.I.S.H. is to lend a helping hand to those who live, work or visit here. The F.I.S.H. vision is to enrich the lives of everyone on Sanibel and Captiva Islands through an array of Food Programs, Island Based Workshops, Social Services and Helping Hands. Sanibel Community COVID-19 Relief Fund is open for receiving donations from the public and Island organizations.

The Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwest Florida is the largest hunger-relief network in Southwest Florida, serving Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee counties. Their need has increased 40% recently due to the effects of the Pandemic. They distribute over 600,000 pounds of food each week to those who need a hand up. Most of their produce is donated directly from farms in which the Food Bank pays for the transportation of the food.

If you would like to make a contribution, please send your donations to the Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Trust Fund with a note in the memo line about what you would like your donation to go towards.

Lending a Helping Hand

Rachel Tritaik, Rotarian, Physical Therapist and Owner of Island Therapy Center, still has cloth masks available in the lobby of her disinfected therapy center. Please contact her at rachel@islandtherapycenter.com if you need additional information.

If you need hand sanitizer, she can help as well. Just bring a clean, empty pump-bottle and she can re-fill it with a mixture of rubbing alcohol and ultrasound gel.

Thank you for your generous offer, Rachel! A true example of our 4-Way Test!

We need your Updated Information

We are in the process of forming a Disaster Notification Committee with the very active hurricane season approaching. Please go into the DACdb webpage and be sure your contact information is up to date, including the carrier of your cell phone so you can receive texts. If you have any problems or have trouble figuring it out, no worries, please contact me (Cindy) by replying to this bulletin (just to me- not to everyone!) and I will help you get it squared away.

Music Soothes the Soul

Member John Fredricks has offered to send out a weekly email with him playing piano to those who would like it. Please email him at fredricksjohn44@gmail.com if you would like to receive these beautiful recordings! I listened to last week's recording and it was outstanding! Thank you, John!

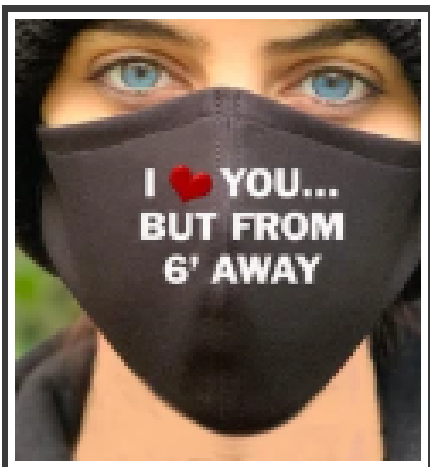


Zoom Meeting this Friday!


Please attend our club's virtual Rotary meeting this Friday, May 29 at 7:30 AM. Please arrive before 7:30 AM as our members like to begin promptly at 7:30 AM. Our guest speaker will be Howard Simon, retired Executive Director of the ACLU of Michigan and 21 years as a Florida Director. Please email President, Eldon, if you would like to join and have not yet received an email with the Zoom Meeting address.

Just a thought...

Restrictions are being lifted, but please keep in mind that a social distance is highly encouraged.



Rotary's 4-Way Test



Rotary

The Four-Way Test

of what we think, say or do

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build good will and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Club Meeting

Sanibel-Captiva
Meets at The Dunes Golf & Tennis Club
949 Sand Castle Road
Sanibel, FL 33957
Time: Friday at 07:00 AM