

# SAN-CAPTIONS

8-30-19



District 6960 Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club Organized 1979



Chartered March 18, 1980

**Get all our club news**

**Website: [www.sanibelrotary.org](http://www.sanibelrotary.org)**

**FACEBOOK: Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club**



Rotarian, Chet Sadler recently took a 5-week mission trip abroad representing the Sanibel Community Church. While traveling Chet took advantage of some of his free time and attended Rotary club meetings in Armenia, Palestine, Lithuania, and Jordan.



## BIDDING IS STILL OPEN FOR:

A ROUND OF GOLF FOR FOUR  
AT THE BEAUTIFUL AND CHALLENGING  
18-HOLES -70 COURSE  
DUNES GOLF & TENNIS CLUB ON SANIBEL  
CERTIFICATE GOOD TILL OCTOBER 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2019  
VALUE \$220.00

BIDDING CLOSED FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>  
SEND YOUR BID BY E-MAIL TO:  
[EBOHROFEN@ROHDEDALES.COM](mailto:EBOHROFEN@ROHDEDALES.COM)

## UPCOMING PROGRAM SPEAKERS 2019

September 06th  
Classification Talks  
September 13th  
Club Assembly Committee Reports  
September 20th  
James Evans, Natural Resources Director,  
Sanibel  
September 27th  
Richard Kirchner; Rotary District Governor  
October 04th  
Dottie Pacharis, Author and Mental Health  
Advocate

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Saturday, September 7 Dictionary Labeling Day, 9:00am- Lee Education Center, Fort Myers, car-pooling available...more info. Lee Almas
- Saturday, September 21, Road Kill
- Friday, October 4, Dictionary Day
- Thursday, October 24, World Polio Day
- Saturday, November 9, Meals of Hope
- Monday, December 2 Holiday Party.

**CLUB SONG ...Giver of all things good, We Thank you for this food, With one accord. Lead us we humbly pray, Onward in Rotary's way of service day by day, Most Gracious Lord (Tune of My Country Tis of Thee)**

## **PROGRAM REVIEW 8/30/19 by Shirley Jewell**

Wasn't sure we were going to have a speaker this past Friday morning at Rotary. Hurricane news was saturating the airwaves and the community was buzzing with ideas about how to prepare for Hurricane Dorian, if she headed this way. The City of Sanibel had already gone into Hurricane preparedness mode, but like the rest of us, just waiting to see the impending path of the storm. To add to our speaker uncertainty, Sanibel-Captiva Rotary's speaker for the morning was Sanibel Mayor, Kevin Ruane. Would he be able to make it, or would he be called into a City readiness natural disaster meeting? The storm path was not yet determined by mother nature. Luck was on our side though and Kevin was able to make our 7:00a.m. Rotary meeting.

After Kevin was introduced to the club, like the mayor of Sanibel wasn't known by all of us, Kevin remarked that it was because of his own experiences during Hurricane Charlie in 2004 that he realized the importance of this Island to himself and his family. He was not, yet, a full-time Sanibel resident but was spending some time here and got an up close and personal look at the operational side of our City Government during Hurricane Charley because he was bunkered down at the Bell Tower Holiday Inn, Fort Myers. Bell Tower was the official City of Sanibel command post during Hurricane Charlie and the cooperation and teamwork done by our Government Officials, Police Department, and City Department Heads was amazing. If a problem on Sanibel existed because of the Hurricane, that problem was solved. The Sanibel community pulled together, the constant meetings and communication efforts addressing informational needs to all were ongoing constantly and the safety of those still on the Island was of great concern.

That's when Kevin and his family felt that Sanibel would become their permanent home and felt they wanted to be part of this very special community. Immediately after Hurricane Charley hit, Ruane became a member of the Hurricane Damage Assessment Team in Sanibel. He, also, found a new job, as Project Manager at Gulfside Place Condominium overseeing and restoring 84 damaged units from the Hurricane.

Ruane was appointed to the Sanibel City Council to fill an interim vacant seat in February 2007. And later that year in May 2007, was elected for a permanent position on Sanibel City Council. The rest is Sanibel history. Kevin Ruane has served on the Sanibel City Council, partner with government agencies, individuals and organizations that are working toward environmental



improvements in the state, particularly water quality issues. His state organizational credentials are too numerous to mention, and he has always showed leadership qualities in his position as Mayor of Sanibel by representing Sanibel and Southwest Florida in an educated and informative way on all issues involving our community.

During his time in office, Ruane and the City of Sanibel has strengthened the community. Taxes have been cut 24% in the last 12 years and an increase of city reserves have risen from \$2 million to \$9 million while cutting the city's debt by nearly 74%.

Water quality is of utmost importance for the City of Sanibel. Kevin has attended many meetings with our state legislators and the governor on this issue. More than \$680 million from the \$91 billion budget approved recently by the Florida legislature will go towards the environment, like fighting red tide and toxic algae blooms. A quote from Governor DeSantis, "Florida has got a lot of skin in the game. We're putting up big money." DeSantis also called on the federal government to do its part. The late Lee County Commissioner, Larry Kiker, Fort Myers Beach Mayor Alan Mandel and Mayor Kevin Ruane flew to Washington, D.C. to bring national attention to the water releases from Lake O and the destructive effect these releases have on the water quality and the health of the surrounding environment in Southwest Florida. Kevin did mention that the United States Senate is the blocking point for much of the legislative delay on environmental issues. Although Ruane did say, that our Florida State Senator, Rubio was working toward improving this situation, we need many more Senators to take this situation seriously and improve the quality of water here in the

**HURRICANE DORIAN DIASTER RELIEF – OUR ROTARY DISTRICT 6960 IS PART OF ROTARY ZONE 33 & 34 – WHICH INCLUDES THE MID ATLANTIC AND SOUTHEASTERN USA AND ALL OF THE CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES from Pennsylvania to the coast of So.**

**America.** Information regarding how you can help the people affected by Hurricane Dorian can be found on Rotary Zone 33 & 34 Facebook Public Page. This Facebook page is, also, a source of what clubs in the area are experiencing and how they are helping those in need. **LOCALLY**, Rotarian John Smarge has a warehouse in Naples, where supplies may be brought...3861 Domestic Ave, Naples...Ray the Mover/No. Am. VanLines



