

**August is
Membership
Month**
A LOOK BACK AT
OUR CLUB'S
MEMBERSHIP WHILE
LOOKING FORWARD



**HOW TO HAVE A
CONVERSATION WITH
THE UNVACCINATED**



GUEST SPEAKERS
PAST AND FUTURE SPEAKERS
TO THE CLUB



NEXT CLUB MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 10 AT 7:30AM
TREYLOR PARK RESTAURANT
PATIO - NOCATEE

THE.32081.ROTARIAN



**From the President's Desk:
Theme for August -
MEMBERSHIP!**

Let us celebrate US, the members of our club! Rotarians around the world have service on their hearts. Rotarians are the “boots on the ground” developing and carrying out great projects that make a difference in their local communities, as well as the far reaches of the world.

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra is no different. Oh, what we have accomplished in just a little over 3 years! Our list of accomplishments is sooo long, but here is a bit of what we have accomplished:



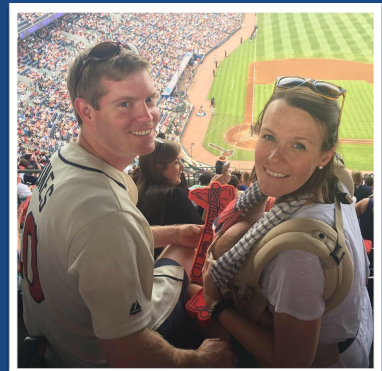
•We have partnered with local Rotary Clubs to secure matching district grants for **PPE masks for teachers and administrators**, as well as toward the purchase of an **all-terrain vehicle for adults and children with disabilities** at Camp Rotary in Bradenton, FL

- We raised \$1,100 for **Blessings in a Backpack** for 150 **local children experiencing food insecurity** over the weekends
- We raised \$875 for **Fostering Connections** for 25 **backpacks for children moving into foster care**
- Donated 100 sets of **toothbrushes, paste and floss to children in Zimbabwe** in partnership with East Carolina University Nutrition Program

Celebrations!



Jim Huster celebrates his birthday on August 11th. Happy birthday, Jim!



Tyler Limbaugh celebrates his birthday on August 15th. Happy birthday, Tytler!



Andy Erickson's wife, Polly, celebrates her birthday on August 20th!



- Donated \$1,700 to the **St. Johns Food Pantry**, and \$3500 in **donated food items**

- **Packed** over 154,000 **meals** with other Rotarians and community groups **with Rise Against Hunger and Save My Starving Children Foundation**

- **Made and served dinner for staff at Camp I Am Special**



- **Donated hundreds of school and craft supplies** to **INK of St. Johns County** as well as **Title 1 schools in Daytona for summer camp programs**

- **Sponsored two deserving families** at the Christmas Holidays **with gifts and grocery gift cards**





• **Participated in eleven At-Home Family Friendly Service Projects** during social distancing to benefit nine nonprofits and Starling at Nocatee Assisted Living Facility Residents, hundreds of items donated

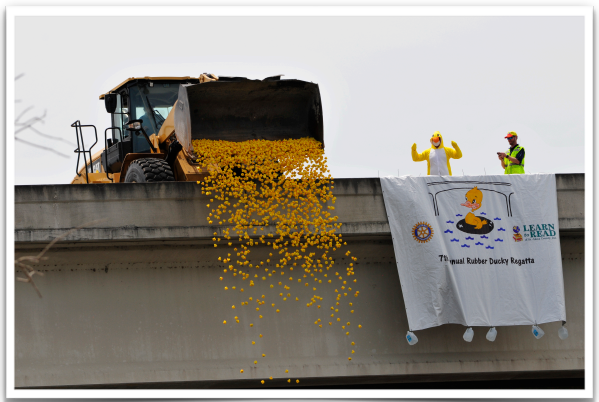
• **Sponsored a Rotary Youth Exchange Student from India** for the 2018-2019 school year

• **Raised \$3800 for Autism Speaks Annual Walk**



• **Donated \$7500 for 94 Bio-Sand Filters for "Water for Cambodia Project"**

• **Raised \$22,000 for the 2021 Rubber Ducky Regatta**, with Learn To Read St. Johns being named as the primary beneficiary as well as our own newly formed RCPV Foundation



Yes, let's celebrate our members! We are blessed to have members that have in excess of 20 years with Rotary. They are always generous with their time, their experiences, ideas, and guidance. We celebrate you:

- Denny Baldwin - 54 years
- Andy Erickson - 51 years
- Kelly Sastre - 25 years
- Linda Lomax - 23 years

To those who were instrumental from the beginning! Our original Chartered Members include:

- Josh Woolsey
- Gary Smith
- Jeremiah Blocker
- Darrel Clarkson
- MaryBeth Murray
- Karen Everett (14 years)
- Hilary Wilson
- Josh Hull (6 years)
- Meagan Perkins
- Ian Aguilar

Of course we can't forget:

- Sean Smith - 16 years in Rotary
- Derek Wheeler - 3 years in Rotary
- Eddie Sarnowski - 3 years in Rotary
- Tyler Limbaugh - 3 years in Rotary

And our newest members. We are so glad you share our spirit of service. Welcome to Rotary!

- Bob Wiltfong
- Becky Richmond
- Jim Huster
- John Richardson
- Eli Tavaréz

If you are reading this, and thinking Rotary might be for you, please reach out to myself, or Ian Aguilar, our 2021-2022 Membership Chair. You are also invited to visit one or our Tuesday morning meetings.

A New Service Opportunity for You!

Hello Interfaith Friends,

We certainly live in extraordinary times. Our custom is to provide programming which furthers the OneJax mission as well as making Jacksonville a more humane, understanding community.

Today, we write for a different purpose. As you probably know, our hospitals are inundated with patients struggling with COVID-19. Hospital workers are working double shifts, volunteering for desk jobs in the evenings, and other things just to try and keep up with demand.

We have a request from Baptist Health that might interest you, your faith community, or congregation. Local individuals and organizations are joining together to provide meals for nurses at Baptist. The meals not only fill a physical need they also are a huge encouragement to overworked and stressed hospital staff. If you or your faith community would be interested in exploring this service opportunity at Baptist, please contact Valerie Brown (Valerie.Brown@bmcjax.com).

If another of our city's hospitals is within your sphere of influence and service, we encourage you to reach out to them. Everything we can do in this moment matters.

Gratefully,

Kyle Reese
Executive Director

OneJax Institute
University of North Florida
1 UNF Drive | Building 53 | Suite 2750
Jacksonville, FL 32224
OneJax Office: (904) 620-1529 | My Cell: (904) 309-1970
Fax: (904) 620-5604
www.onejax.org



TAKE NOTE

Next Ponte Vedra Rotary Service Committee Meeting—Thursday, August 12, 2021, 7:30 AM via Zoom—contact Denny Baldwin at drbaldwin32@gmail.com for Zoom invite.

How to Have a Conversation about the Covid Vaccination

(CNN, with some Editor changes) - Many vaccinated people are angry at those who aren't. If you've had your Covid shots, you may agree with Gov. Kay Ivey of Alabama, who said recently: "Folks supposed to have common sense, but it's time to start blaming the unvaccinated folks, not the regular folks. It's the unvaccinated folks that are letting us down."



And it's not just the masses who are letting us down but people close to us: our coworkers, friends, family members. You may be furious at what you see as the selfishness and ignorance and lack of civic responsibility in the people in your life who refuse to get the jab.

And you're not alone -- social media is rife with posts that attempt to convince people to get vaccinated by explaining how wrongheaded they are. It's human nature. You might be doing the same kind of browbeating yourself.

But here's a question: How's that strategy working for you? After you lay into the anti-vaxxers and the vaccine-hesitant, are they thanking you for setting them straight and rushing to make appointments?

Our guess is, that's not what's happening.

There's a well-documented phenomenon in psychology called **the "backfire effect."** Giving people facts disproving their incorrect beliefs can actually reinforce those

beliefs. Researchers have observed this phenomenon in the context of political misconceptions, voting preferences, the decision to vaccinate one's children and whether to get a flu vaccine oneself. The more people are confronted with facts at odds with their opinions, the stronger they cling to those opinions.

And if arguing with facts backfires, you know what backfires even more? Criticizing, blaming and shaming them for being thoughtless, selfish, stupid, ignorant or psychopathic. You can check this yourself: When was the last time you changed your behavior in response to someone blaming or shaming you?

So when we can't persuade with facts or criticism, what can we lead with instead?

Two things: empathy and curiosity.

Empathy is about validating the other person's perspective without agreeing or disagreeing with them. It's making true statements that show the other person that you understand them to their satisfaction. Extend your empathy to the unvaccinated. What do they care deeply about? Here's what we've heard from the vaccine hesitant people in our lives:

- "I don't want to put unknown chemicals in my body."
- "I don't trust pharmaceutical companies."
- "I don't want to be told what to do about my body."
- "These vaccines have been rushed through without enough research, and they aren't even fully approved by the FDA."
- "My chances of getting harmed by the vaccine are much higher than my risk of dying of Covid."

I know you can argue with these statements. You might be doing it in your head right now. But can you empathize with them as well? Does it make sense that someone would want to avoid putting unknown chemicals in their body? Is it reasonable not to fully trust the pharmaceutical industry?

And then, encourage them to talk. That's where curiosity comes in. Ask questions, not to trap them in logical inconsistencies, but because you are truly curious about their answers. How do they compare the relative risks of vaccines and Covid? What data are they looking at? What makes them doubt the safety of the vaccine? What have they seen and heard?

Once they feel like you care about their opinion so you can learn from it -- and them -- rather than demolish it -- or them -- you're in a real conversation. Now you can get to the important questions: What do they want? For themselves, for their loved ones, for their country, for the world?

Chances are, this is where you can find common ground.



Recent Meeting Highlights



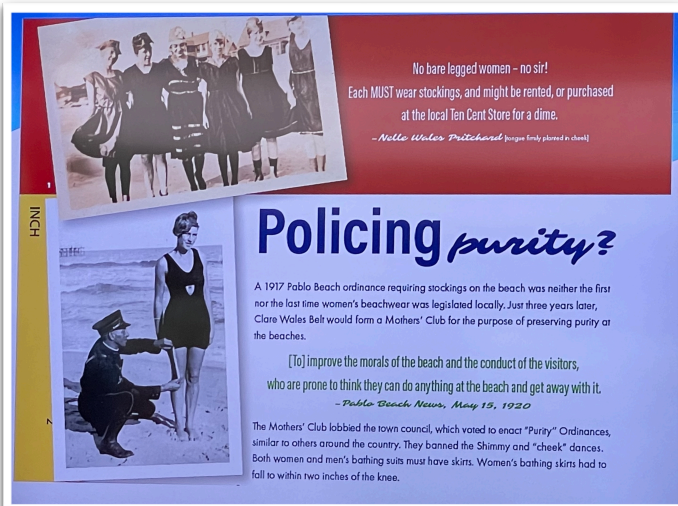
Diana Rosito, Senior Coordinator at the Nocatee Center for Healthy Living, addresses the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra at our meeting on July 27, 2021



Diana Rosito and Katie Golson of the Baptist Center for Healthy Living in Nocatee address our club.



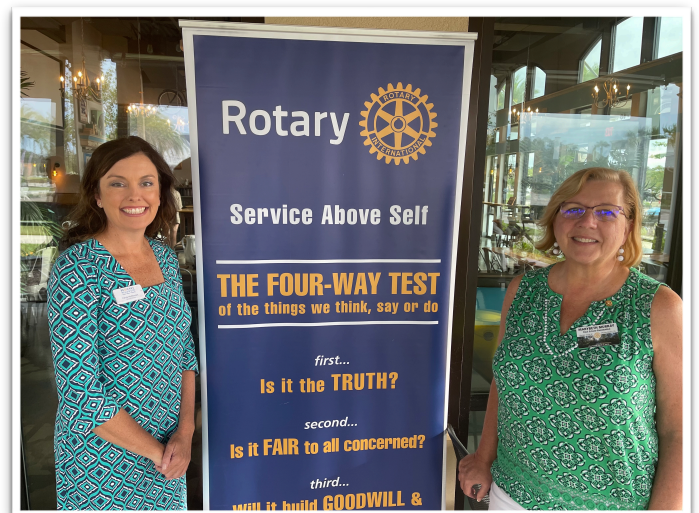
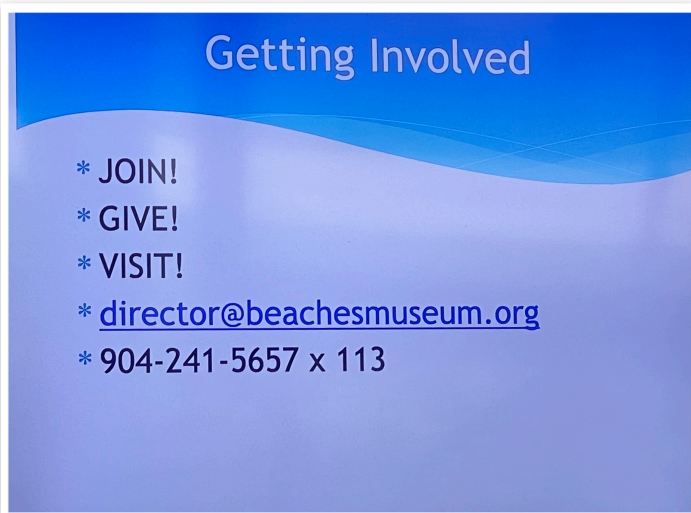
Chris Hoffman, Executive Director of the Beaches Museum, addresses the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra on August 3, 2021.



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1.) A slide from Chris Hoffman's presentation to our club, 2.) Another slide, 3.) Chris Hoffman with Club President MaryBeth Murray, 4.) Contact information for the Beaches Museum

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Rotary Leadership Institute

building a better Rotary through education

A successful Rotary Club is best maintained by giving members the necessary leadership skills and Rotary knowledge taught at our upcoming District 6970 Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI). Registration is now open to all Rotarians:

WHEN: Saturday, August 28th
 Breakfast & Sign-In 7:00 – 7:45am
 Classes 8:00am to 3:00pm

WHERE: Daytona State College
 Flagler/Palm Coast Campus
 3000 Palm Coast Pkwy., Bldg. #3
 Palm Coast, FL 32137

FEE: \$100.00 per Rotarian
 includes class registration,
 course material notebook,
 breakfast, lunch, facility fees and
 course completion certificate
*Some clubs subsidize this expense.
 Ask your club leadership for details.*

**We're Back
IN PERSON**
& Registering Is Easy As...

- 1** Go to www.DACdb.com and log on to your account or create a new one
- 2** Click on the "District" tab and then click on the "Calendar" button
- 3** Scroll down to August 28th, find the RLI announcement, click on the red "Register Now" and follow the prompts!

At RLI, you will share discussions with newer members starting their Rotary journey as well as members of many years all looking to expand their Rotary knowledge. You will learn from different perspectives of Rotarians from around our District. And, you will have time for networking with those same Rotarians. Remember, discussion group size is limited and **registration closes on Tuesday, August 17th**. Don't miss out . . . register today!

Service Projects, Rotary Opportunities, Analyzing Your Rotary Club, Strategic Planning, Foundation Grants, Effective Leadership Strategies, and the History of Rotary are just some of the interesting topics that will be discussed during this RLI session. Plus a special Graduate Class will focus on **Membership** . . . a lively and timely topic available to all RLI Part 3 Graduates.

Join us for **"In-Person" RLI . . . August 28th in Palm Coast!** For more information, contact District 6970 RLI Director Mickey Ulmer at alljustright@aol.com or 904-583-1032.



Get Involved with Fellowships



Rotary Fellowships are international groups that share a common passion or profession. Membership in a fellowship is open to any person who's interested.

How can you get involved with Rotary Fellowships?

- Visit the [Rotary Fellowships page](#) to browse more than 90 topics.
- Learn about these newly launched groups: [Argentine Culture](#), [Comedy & Laughter](#), [Empowering Women](#), [Global Development](#), [Leadership Education & Development](#), and [Palmwine](#).
- [Read stories](#) about Rotary Fellowship activities.
- Join a Rotary Fellowship to [build international friendships](#).

[Find resources](#) to learn more about launching a Rotary Fellowship.

CHANGE OF PLANS!

The fundraising event for the YMCA in Nocatee and Nease High School at Grumpy's Restaurant this past weekend has been rescheduled. Due to unprecedented delays in construction and supplies, organizers decided to postpone Grumpy's soft opening until August 13th and 14th. Those who had an existing reservation should have been notified.

If you are interested in RSVPing for these new dates, please review the information below, and let them know you are a guest of the YMCA.

To RSVP, please e-mail: thefountains@grumpysrestaurantco.com

Details:

155 Fountains Way
Building 1, Suite 1
St. Johns, FL 32259

Friday August 13th and Saturday August 14th, 9A-1P

\$12 per adult and \$6 per child to enjoy your favorite meal and drink

Upcoming Speakers



August 10th

Ken Babby, Owner & CEO of the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp



August 17th

Nick Morrow, Director of Athletics at UNF



August 24th

Dr. Mona Shah, Cardiologist at Baptist Health System



September 14th

Jeremiah Blocker, Club Member & St. Johns County
Commissioner

Are You Ready to Show Off Rotary Pride on Your Vehicle?



After working on the project for over seven years, we now have an approved Florida Rotary License Plate! The new tag will help fund Rotary Youth Programs across all Florida Rotary Districts and is already available for pre-purchase. The state will begin production of the plates only after 3,000 vouchers for them are sold, so get yours NOW!

You can pre-order at any tag agency in the state of Florida or by clicking on this link: Florida's Rotary License Plate Pre-Order (floridarotarytag.com). If you have any questions, contact District 6970 Governor-Elect, Jeff Michelman at dr.jeff.rotaryd6970@gmail.com.



TAKE NOTE

Tuesday, August 31st is the 5th Tuesday of the month, so no regular meeting, but our **first social event of the new Rotary year! Breakfast at First Watch- 7:30am**. Separate checks. Hope you can join us!

This Day in History



August 8, 1974

In an evening televised address on August 8, 1974, President Richard M. Nixon announces his intention to become the first president in American history to resign. With impeachment proceedings underway against him for his involvement in the Watergate affair, Nixon was finally bowing to pressure from the public and Congress to leave the White House. Just before noon the next day, Nixon officially ended his term as the 37th president of the United States. Before departing with his family in a helicopter from the White House lawn, he smiled farewell and enigmatically raised his arms in a victory or peace salute.

Follow the
Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra

<https://www.pontevedrarotary.org/>



For comments, questions or inquiries about the 32081.Rotarian
Please contact the Editor, Bob Wiltfong, at bobwiltfong37@gmail.com

Interested in joining the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra?
Please contact our Membership Chair, Ian Aguilar, at (315)-825-5220 or
ian.aguilar@wealthguards.com

Next Meetings & Speakers

Tuesday, August 10 at 7:30am

In Person: The patio at Treylor Park Restaurant

Virtual: Zoom: ID - 388 019 0662; Password - 263 227

Speaker: Ken Babby, Owner & CEO of the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp

Tuesday, August 17 at 7:30am

In Person: The patio at Treylor Park Restaurant

Virtual: Zoom: ID - 388 019 0662; Password - 263 227

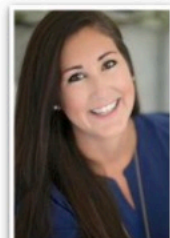
Speaker: Nick Morrow, Director of Athletics at UNF



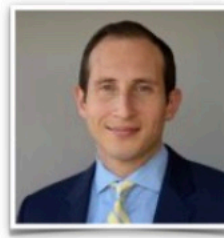
President
MaryBeth Murray



**President-Elect/
Public Relations**
Bob Wiltfong



Secretary
Meagan Perkins



Membership
Ian Aguilar



**Community
Service**
Denny Baldwin



Speakers
Karen Everett



**Sergeant-at-
Arms**
Linda Lomax



General Counsel
Edward Sarnowski



Treasurer
Sean Smith



Mary Stutts
Assistant
Governor

