

# St. Simons

# Rotary Spray

Volume 24, Number 27

# **CLUB NEWS**



**Marion Moore** 

**February 18** 





#### **ROTABUCKS FEBRUARY 6**

\$22

And the winner was...

**Stan Kyker** 

But no joker!



#### **Rotary Cares**

Please keep Sue Cansler in your thoughts and prayers as she recovers from a fall and hip replacement.

## **Guests at the February 6th meeting**

Amy Abbott Prospective Member

Milt Leggett Guest of Paul Pieschel

Sharon Parham Guest of Paul Pieschel

Deborah Mantick Guest of Jim Henderson



Prospective member Amy Abbott

#### **First Tuesday Fun**







#### February 6th Meeting



#### **Buff Leavy**

### The state of Journalism and traditional news outlets





Buff feels that the community newspaper, like the Brunswick News, is the future of newspapers. There are a lot of service elements that make it relevant. The Brunswick News has been in his family for 4 generations. Even though his mother was divorced, she supported the newspaper and encouraged people to read it. She believed that it educates people about what is happening.

Brunswick News reporters go to every county, city, education meeting. The paper has more journalists than ever and works to gain a wide audience range. There should be something for everyone. Buff tries for the paper to be everything to everybody, even though he knows that can't really be done.

They do a daily editorial that sometimes gets many people mad. But the goal is to try to gauge what is good for the community. Buff is working on bringing back a strong business presence. He encourages local business people to get free announcements on the business page for such things as expanding, receiving an award, starting a new business, etc.

The News obtained 1300 new online subscribers since the start of Covid. Most people have retained their subscriptions. Buff feels the paper is important for people who want the truth as opposed to the many false stories posted on social media.

### **Upcoming meetings & speakers:**

02/20 Dr. Elizabeth Booth Georgia DNR Head of Water Quality

02/27 Annual Club Speech contest

03/21 Thursday meeting at Embassy Suites Hotel 12:00 for lunch.

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#### **February 13th Meeting**

#### **Daren Pietsch**

## Progress in BQK and History/celebrations of the Torras Causeway



Daren Pietsch, President of Torras Properties will speak with us about very exciting growth happening in Brunswick and around the Golden Isles. He plans to focus some on the upcoming 100th Anniversary of the Causeway - and celebrations currently being planned.

As an industry specialist of Heritage Capital Group, Daren's primary areas of expertise are M&A transactions in the U.S. and abroad, growth strategy development & implementation, corporate turnaround, and shareholder value creation. He has

experience in several industry sectors including construction, logistics/distribution, and manufacturing (forest products, chemical, marine equipment).

Prior to joining Heritage Capital Group, he held leadership positions with Georgia-Pacific, Rayonier, Hilti, and PaR Systems. Daren also served 11 years in the United States Coast Guard, both on active and reserve duty. He was trained as a ship navigator and for his final active duty assignment, was selected as the Liaison Officer for the 1996 Olympic yachting events in Savannah. He led Marine Systems Technology in Winsford, England, a company PaR acquired in 2012. Daren joined PaR shortly after it was acquired by London-based private equity firm MML Capital Partners in 2009 and was instrumental in developing and implementing PaR's domestic and international growth strategies from that point forward. Throughout his time with PaR, Pietsch gained valuable experience acquiring and integrating companies, as well as ultimately selling the company to The Pohlad Companies in late 2017.

Daren serves on the World Trade Center Savannah Board of Directors, as a Trustee for the College of Coastal Georgia Foundation, and is on the Georgia Tech Government & Community Relations Steering Committee. He is also an alumnus of Leadership Glynn. Daren earned a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. He went on to complete his postgraduate education in England and earned degrees in finance/financial law and strategy from the University of London and the University of Oxford, respectively. Daren holds FINRA Series 63 and 79 securities licenses and is a Fellow (FStratPS) of The Strategic Planning Society based in London, U.K.

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Leslie Mattingly is travelling to Puerto Rico leaving on March 12 and returning on the 14th or 15th. This is to meet with Cadre Wade Nomara to visit several farms and attend a meeting. The purpose is to conduct inspections to ensure the large Global Grant is being used correctly. Please contact Leslie if you would like to accompany her on this important and interesting trip.

We have a group of Serbian Rotarians visiting from the evening of April 22nd to the morning of April 26. They will be speaking at our April 23rd meeting. Please contact Mike Muldowney if you can help with logistics and/or transportation especially on Thursday April 25 when we give them a warm welcome tour. They all speak excellent English.

BBQ pork on a bun. Sides cole slaw and potato salad. Chef's choice dessert.



	<u> Area Rotary</u>	Club Meetings
Brunswick	Embassy Suites	Thurs, 12:00 pm
Golden Isles	Kemble Center, SGHS	Wed., 7:30 am
Jekyll Island	Jekyll Island Golf Club	Wed., 7:30 am
St. Simons	Best Western	Tues., 1:00 pm

#### ROTARY WEBSITES

www.ssirotary\_org - St. Simon Rotary Website
www.rotarydistrict6920.org - District 6920 Website
www.facebook.com/rotaryssi - St. Simons Rotary Facebook
www.facebook.com/Rotary6920 - District Facebook Page

#### **Four Way Test**

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOODWILL &
better FRIENDSHIP?

Is it BENEFICIAL to all
concerned?