



RI President 2019- 2020: Mark Daniel Maloney

The District Newsletter



Issue 1 • August 2019

ROTARY DISTRICT 6950 • ZONE 34 • FLORIDA • USA

Happy New Rotary Year!!!! Aloha! Aloha!



In honor of our 2020 Rotary International Convention, being held in Hawaii, Rotary International President Mark Maloney has tagged us all “The Aloha Gang”. I like it and I’m in hopes we’ll all have a lot of fun with it. Theresa Lynn (TLC) and I have already registered for the convention and reserved our rooms. The dates for the convention are June 6-10, 2020. You can register for the convention and book hotel accommodations at www.riconvention.org. I would urge anyone thinking of attending to register and book your rooms now. Many hotels near the convention site have already sold out. Airbnb and VRBO may be an alternative for those looking for lodging. We are hoping to have several hundred from our District in attendance. We may even come up with a Rotary District 6950 shirt and blouse for us to wear there. TLC and I just returned from the International Convention in Hamburg, Germany. What an incredible trip! We took the time to experience the world of Rotary. We had an opportunity to connect in a way that is simply not possible anywhere else. We could sit down next to someone from another part of the globe and call them by their first name – and because all of us were Rotarians, none of us were strangers. Connections like these change the world.

I believe our 2019-2020 Rotary Theme, “Rotary Con-

nects the World” is so powerful because it allows us to connect with each other, in deep and meaningful ways, across our differences, across our cultures, across our religions and across all our political views. Connections like these are so significant in helping us all come together to create lasting positive change in all parts of our world.

“Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across our globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.”

Our vision statement says so many different things that make us the Rotarians that we are, let’s look at it.

We see a world where people unite:

Rotary connects us to people we would never otherwise have met who are more like us than we ever could have known. It connects us to our communities, to professional opportunities and to people who need our help.

We take action to create lasting change:

Rotary connects us with fellow Rotarians. We are people of action – people who not only want to change the world but also have the ability to turn inspiration into real and lasting change.

Rotary connects us across the globe:

In Rotary, none of us is an island, whoever we are, wherever we are from, whatever language we speak or traditions we follow, we are all connected to each other, and members of not only of our clubs but also of this amazing global organization.



Rotary connects us with our communities:

We understand the needs of our neighbors in substantive and meaningful ways, needs that so many others pass by without noticing. In that process, we forge sustainable projects and we gain a better understanding of all the resources that friends and neighbors can muster.

Rotary connects us to ourselves:

Rotary allows us to shape the best version of ourselves. Every Rotarian brings a unique point of view and a different way of getting things done. We are all born with different talents. Whether our strength is providing service on the ground or helping to administer projects from an office, Rotary gives each of us a chance to harness those talents to show leadership by making a powerful impact in our communities and in our world.

Wherever we live, we benefit from being part of our community. Those benefits are not free. We need to give something back for the privilege of being part of our community. That philosophy lies at the heart of Rotary. While we may approach things differently, together we are so powerful. We represent an organization of over 1.2 million inspired women and men, who have come to Rotary with the goal of building a better world. Building a better world might seem like a daunting task – until you understand the power of connection. Because it is the power of connection that will allow all of us to do the tasks that we have set out to do.

My fellow Rotarians, if you ever have doubts that Rotary can live up to all of our lofty goals, that we have set the bar too high, that we are too ambitious, or that we are promoting beyond what we can do, I want you to remember what Rotary has already accomplished in the eradication of polio. Remember none of us are going to do anything alone. We are Rotarians, Rotaractors, and supportive members of the family of Rotary and we are going to harness the power of connection just as our or-

ganization has been doing for over 114 years. We have a long, proud heritage, and we will thrive for another 114 years, because we are not afraid of change.

We are going to grow Rotary, reaching out to new members, engaging current members, and creating more alternatives for membership for the next generation of Rotarians. A key facet of that growth is becoming more diverse and providing leadership opportunities to every Rotarian.

We will become a more family-friendly Rotary – one that welcomes children to our activities and that is considerate of families in our scheduling. We will be a Rotary that respects professional commitments and does not require Rotary leadership to be a full-time job.

We have a proud legacy upon which to build. This year we will further that legacy as “Rotary Connects the World.” Theresa and I look forward to walking with you on this important journey.

Allen & Theresa Lynn Collins
District Governor 2019-2020



Basic Education and Literacy is one of Rotary's 6 Areas of Focus!

Tip of the month:

With kids out of school for the summer, why not turn your grocery store trip into a literacy activity? Give each child a notebook and marker and have them locate and write the name of items that start with the first letter of their names.

Membership Plus - Welcome to 2019/20



Our 'Rotary Connects the World' year has now started and already DGs or AGs are visiting Clubs delivering information, hopes and aspirations for this Rotary year. New teams are in place with fresh ideas and plans for success in improving Clubs and Districts.

So what will success look like, and when should the measure of this success take place. Surely success in Rotary is an ongoing phenomenon, not restricted to an arbitrary time-frame, but more a progression of constant improvement.

However, inevitably, due to our annual reconstruction, measurement is taken at the end of each Rotary year, when we look at Annual giving and growth in particular. One thing is absolutely sure, growth in these areas does not happen automatically or by accident. Growth is the product of hard work, clear and consistent messaging, a willingness and determination to succeed, and a plan for that growth.

Now is the time to ensure we have all components in place, to make sure that at the end of our term of office, we can proudly review the positive conclusion our plans and policies created. Growth comes in small steps throughout the year, because we make it happen. Our RI President charged us with the responsibility to Grow Rotary, and that is something we need to do consistently, throughout our term of office. Let's start as we mean to go on!

Rotary Club of Seven Springs Installation



Rotary Club of Seven Springs installed new officers at the Installation and Awards Banquet held June 22, 2019 at Seven Springs Golf & Country Club. Outgoing President Glenn Jacobs recognized his outgoing board of directors with wonderful personal gifts. Linda Christle was presented with a Paul Harris award from the Club in recognition of her dedication to the ideals of Rotary. Julie Rockwell was presented the Jerry Scarano Award by last year's recipient Gary Davis and Trish Kley and Tim Howells were recognized for their over 13 years of support for the club in the positions of Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

The evening ended with the induction of the new Board of Directors by Past President Donald Davis. The Officer and Directors are as follows: President, Rick

Wright, President Elect, Gary Davis, Vice President, Rick Senderling, Secretary, Julie Rockwell, Treasurer, Patrick McDermott (not pictured), Sgt. At Arms, Nancy Dougherty, Immed. Past President, Glenn Jacobs, RI Foundation Chair, Ray Ford, Membership Chair, Luke Walker, International Service Chair, Dave Barzelay, Community Service, Joe Massa, Vocational Service, Paul Atherton, Youth Services, John Fey, Club Administration, Tara O'Connor, Director at Large, Mark Motyl.

Photos Courtesy of Tom Bailey.



The Rotary Foundation D6950 Final Numbers

To All:

I would like to begin my last Foundation Report by recognizing and congratulating now PDG Eloy Nunez and his AG string. Your leadership was inspiring and infectious, thus resulting in another incredible year in District 6950.



\$125,000 at the club level for Polio Eradication – hats off!!

I will sign off with a most gratifying three years as your District Foundation Chair and want to make sure ya'll understand just how special and appreciative I am of each Rotarian's generous continued support, and most of all, my Foundation Committee. They – not me – are the reason we have had multiple years of record success! It truly begins with my right hand and dear friend, Jack Thies. He, along with Robin Schneider, gave me the support of Co-Chairs. Also, other committee chairs include: Becky Bennett (District Grants); Karen Van Sickle (Polio); Jocelyn, Rebecca & Lace (Global Grants & Scholarships); Don Shook (Annual Fund) and Wayne Berryhill (Paul Harris Society). Altogether, 26 team members made these memorable and successful years. It has been an honor serving alongside each of you, as well as speaking to and working with so many dedicated and passionate Rotarians.

- Listed below are some highlights of how we compared within our Zone 34 and its 14 Districts and the world:
- Annual Fund - Zone 34-ranked 4th in the world, 5.6 million raised.
- Polio Fund - Zone 34-ranked 2nd in the world, over 3.2 million raised.
- Total Giving – Zone 34-ranked 3rd in the world, more than 10 MILLION raised. WOW!!

We should be very proud of Zone 34's world ranking and we, District 6950, played a significant role in these results.

- Annual Fund – D6950 ranked Top 6 with \$389,010.
- Polio Fund – D6950 ranked 4th in total giving with \$174,290.
- Per Capita – D6950 ranked 3rd with \$208.81.
- Overall giving including endowment was an astounding \$681,362.

You are all to be commended and my heartfelt thanks to each of you and your respective clubs for the tremendous support of OUR Rotary Foundation. Our highest priority in Rotary International and our only Foundation Goal in District 6950 was to raise \$100,000 for Polio Eradication. Well, mission accomplished by the Rotarians within this district; we raised an all-time record of

Yours in Rotary,

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The Four-Way Test

The test, which has been translated into more than 100 languages, asks the following questions:

Of the things we think, say or do

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Great American Teach-in



The Great American Teach-In has been a staple of the many school districts in District 6950. Held on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving week, this year it will be held on November 20 in all the public schools of each school district. Hernando School District is not participating but they do have a Career Day. In contacting those schools please request which member of school administration is charged with coordinating their Career day.

I have asked Gene Stern, District Vocational Avenue of Service Director and a member of the Seminole Lake Club, to coordinate and provide guidance to our Clubs in supporting this very worthwhile opportunity. The Great American Teach In is in its 14th year as a volunteer supported event in which lay people are given

the chance to expound on their vocations or interests to students as an instructor. Gene has been a volunteer instructor every year and he indicated this a great way of teaching about his profession (financial matters) and about Rotary.

I have made a commitment that our Rotarians need to support this Vocational avenue of service by having each Club in the District provide at least three additional volunteers over what they may have had in previous years.

Each Rotarian who wishes to participate will need to contact the public school of their choice and ask for the volunteer coordinator or, if not available, the secretary to the principal, to place their name on the volunteer list for that day. Each school district has differing rules on how the volunteer “teacher” is to be vetted and you need to ask the school contact for those procedures.

Please contact Gene Stern with any need for more information: 727-369-1512 gene.stern@LFG.com

Mark Vernick inducted as newest member



Seminole Lake Rotary president, Vivian Lurie, inducted her first new member since assuming duties as President on July 1.

Rotarian David Buzza had introduced Mark Vernick, a local Seminole Financial Planner, to the Club in May and Mark then decided that Seminole Lake Rotary met

his desire to provide community service.

Rotary International was founded in 1905 and has become the largest service organization in the world with over 1.3 MM men and women serving in over 30,000 clubs in over 160 countries. The Rotary Foundation has consistently ranked as one of the most efficient Foundations in the world by ranking agency, Charity Navigator, and is very close to helping eradicate the scourge of Polio, worldwide, working closely with the Bill and Melinda Gates Charitable Foundation in this exceptional cause.

Prepared by Gene Stern, gene.stern@LFG.com

Photo: (L-R): Rotarian David Buzza, Mark Vernick and President Vivian Lurie

Scott Post, editor

Suncoast Printing • 3601 Grand Boulevard • New Port Richey, FL 34652 • www.suncoastprinting.com

E-mail news to: RotaryNews6950@gmail.com (Please send text as word documents and photos as jpgs)

Deadline: August 25, 2019 for next issue

Installation of new Board and Officer



The Rotary Club of Seminole Lake held its annual installation luncheon at the Parkview Room at Seminole City Park on Sunday June 30.

Past District Governor Tim Schuler preside over the actual installation and Governor-Elect Allen Collins presented the President's pin to Vivian Lurie. Vivian is the spouse of Doctor Ed Lurie who has been a Rotarian in the Noon Club for over 50 years with perfect attendance!

President Gary Marcus was the emcee and gave out mementos and gifts to many hard-working Rotarians

and their spouses with three spouses being names as Honorary Members for their extraordinary efforts in supporting the Club (Suzanne Bessler, Candy Buzza and Renee Cachia).

Prepared by Gene Stern Public Image Chair gene.stern@LFG.com 727-369-1512

Picture: L-R Governor Allen Collins, Vivian Lurie and Out-going President Gary Marcus

Picture: L-R President Gary Marcus and Rotarian of Year Laurie Miller

Rotary Club of Seven Springs Presents Scholarship

The Rotary Club of Seven Springs presented a \$2,000 scholarship to Andy Nguyen, 2019 graduate of JW Mitchell High School. The Scholarship was possible through the fundraising efforts of the club members including the Cotee River Flats Fishing Tournament and the annual Cruise Raffle. Presenting the scholarship is club member Nancy Dougherty.



Photo by Trish Kley

Pictured, Nancy Dougherty, Andy Nguyen.