



BE THE INSPIRATION

Issue 8 • February 2019

RI President 2018- 2019: Barry Rassin

# The District Newsletter



ROTARY DISTRICT 6950 • ZONE 34 • FLORIDA • USA

## The Magic of Storytelling

Rotary is a place where we come to share out stories. In my first newsletter as Governor last July, you may recall that I wrote, "Good things happen when you bring good people together, share stories, and ask them to solve a problem." That's what I told the members of the newly formed New Port Richey Rotaract Club when Maria and I visited them this past week. I told them the same thing but substituted the word "magic" for "good things" because I have personally seen the magic of Rotary as I visit with Rotarians from all 48 clubs in our District.

There are too many examples to write about in this short article, but I am flabbergasted by the generosity of Rotarians, and the power of the Rotary brand to get things done. Our Rotary clubs' relief efforts to the Florida panhandle is just one example of magical things happening when you bring good people together, share stories, and ask them to solve a problem. When one club president from our District shared stories with another Rotarian from a panhandle area Rotary club, a sudden surge of generosity came about and resulted in \$25,000 collected for hurricane relief efforts. This would not have happened if those two Rotarians had not exchanged their stories.

Another example of magic through storytelling is the year-long "Cruise for the Cure" round trip by Jean and Jerry Coleman, of the Tarpon Springs Rotary Club on their boat, Makin' Memories to raise awareness of the Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust (CART) project. Jean and Jerry visited a lot of Rotary clubs and made new friends along the way. Some coins were collected for CART, but more importantly, they raised awareness of what many Rotarians have been doing to help scien-

tists to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease.

When I visited the new Rotaract club in New Port Richey this past week, I sat quietly in the background, and I watched as the young Rotaractors planned their first-ever wine & cheese fundraiser. I could sense that they were a bit tentative, and that is understandable because none of them had ever planned a special event such as this one. How to solicit sponsorships, how to advertise, what permits needed to be applied for? These were all questions that were new to them. Fortunately, there were several Rotarians in the room as well, and the Rotaractors often turned to them to ask their advice. Everyone is new at something at some time. We have all been there. It was heartening to see these young people asking for guidance from their older and more experienced Rotarian partners.

At the end of the meeting, I asked the Rotaract president if I could say a few words. After all, that's what Governors do! He graciously agreed, and I stood up to tell a story. I told them about a documentary that I watched as a freshman in an Anthropology class at Miami-Dade Community College in 1974. It was about the Bushmen of the Kalahari, a remarkable hunting-gathering people of Southern Africa.

In that documentary, a small group of male hunters stalked a giraffe after they had shot it with a poisoned dart from a handmade blowgun. Being that the poison was slow-acting, and the giraffe was a very large animal, this small group of male hunters had to follow the animal for four days, until the poison finally took effect, and the giraffe fell dead on the barren desert ground.

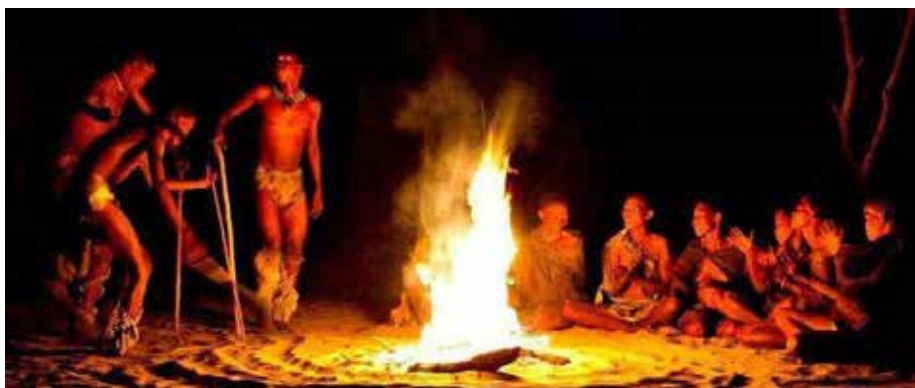
Continued on page 2

Immediately, some of the hunters began to butcher the animal, while others kept lions, hyenas and other predators at bay. One of the hunters travelled back to fetch the women, children, and older males, who had been left behind to gather food and to keep perimeter security at their previously established camp, many miles away.

Along the way, the hunting party had filled empty ostrich egg shells with precious water and buried them in the sand. These buried sources of water, not only would help to guide the one returning hunter to the rest of the clan, but would also help sustain them as they all moved from their old camp to their newly established camp around the dead giraffe. This clan did not need a realtor to find a new home. They merely settled where their food source for the next month or so was located.

There they gathered that night and started a fire to cook their first piece of the giraffe that they had just killed. Around the fire, the hunters told their stories to the women and children, and the women told their stories to the hunters who had been away for many days. Around the fire they sang and told funny stories that only the Bushmen could appreciate and talked about the fear of the darkness that surrounded them. Invisible in the darkness, prides of lions, hyenas, leopards, and other dangerous predators stalked the clan, waiting for one of them to stray from the relative security of the fire.

Remarkably, the Bushmen of the Kalahari have done this for at least 30,000 years. Stories of the hunt have been handed down from father and mother to their sons and daughters. I told the Rotaractors that that was how Rotary got started. They all laughed and got a kick out of the story. Yes, it was a little bit of a fib, but I meant to get a point across of what the essence of Rotary is.



Rotary is a place where good people come together, tell their stories, and find ways to solve problems. While we no longer need to eat giraffes and our club meeting dates and times are much more predictable than the Bushmen's, we still have the same needs to meet and talk with our friends and to solve problems together. We're still afraid of the predators that lurk in the darkness around us. We still want to make jokes and laugh and tell our stories to our friends.

On the middle table of the new Rotaract club's meeting place, there was a tiny little American flag, which they used for the pledge of allegiance. Someone brought a copy of the Four Way Test, which was read out loud. They now have a place to meet, and good people with good ideas on how to help the community. I asked them to tell each other their stories the next time they meet. I can tell already that this new Rotaract club is going to be very successful and will be around a long time.



**Eloy Nuñez**  
District Governor 2018-19

### **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?

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## District Calendar

**February 2nd - 9 am**  
**Pre-PETS - President Elect training**  
Save the Date! Location to be announced very soon!

**February 2nd - 5pm**  
**Rotary Craft Brewfest**  
Rock Crusher Canyon, Crystal River Florida. Annual Fundraiser featuring craft beer tasting, great music, amazing food and loads of fun. Rotary Club of Inverness

**February 7th - 7:30 pm**  
**Rotary Night with Tampa Bay Lightning**  
Pregame event at Budweiser Biergarten starts at 5:30 pm.

**February 8th - 1pm**  
**4th Annual Shootin' for the Stars-Clay Shoot**  
The Rotary Club of Wesley Chapel Sunrise invites you to join us as a sponsor. Tampa Bay Sporting Clays. 10514 Ehren Cutoff, Land O Lakes, FL 34639  
Paul Przepis at 813-549-1001  
or Pprzepis@KimseyLaw.com

**February 16th - noon**  
**Diva's & Diamonds Spa Day**  
Mimosa's, Shopping & Relaxi. Pedicure, Manicures, Facials, Make Up, Hair & Massage. \$75 gets one service, choice of mini facial, or mani, or pedi, one cocktail, and a light lunch. Upgrade to \$125 and get two services.  
[Click Here for more information.](#)

**March 16th - 10 am**  
**Shrimpapalooza**  
The Rotary Club of Homasassa Springs Charitable Foundation, Inc. will be sponsoring the 8th annual SprimpaPalooza. For more information, contact Gregg at (352)634-0918 or Tom at (352)201-2520

## Help us deliver wheel chairs, expandable hospital beds, patient lifts, and other medical supplies



Our Rotary district received a request from a former Rotarian to assist getting some donated hospital equipment (several electric wheel chairs, expandable hospital beds, patient lifts and miscellaneous supplies) delivered to Our Lady of Mercy Hospital in Tacloban City, Philippines. District Governor Eloy Nuñez requested that I take a look at this request and see if we can possibly do anything to help. My initial research revealed that Our Lady of Mercy Hospital is a non-profit organization operated by the Religious Sisters of Mercy in Tacloban, Philippines under the leadership of Sister Carmela Cabactulan, Sister Superior of the Religious Sisters of Mercy in Tacloban. The hospital caters to the needs of poor and disabled people, but has very limited equipment and virtually no specialized equipment to meet their needs.

The hospital and the area were hit with a category 5 hurricane in 2013, and again last year in 2018 with another category 5 hurricane. Additional discussion with Sister Superior Carmela Cabactulan, the local Rotary clubs, and Rotary district in the area has confirmed that the needs are real and they are in a very desperate situation. The most economical way to ship these large and heavy equipment to Tacloban is to ship them in a 20-foot shipping container by sea to a local Rotary club and have the Rotarians deliver the equipment to the hospital once they arrive at the port of entry. The Rotary club of Tacloban has agreed to take on this task and their Rotary district is fully supportive of this effort.

We have decided to start a campaign to collect additional equipment and supplies to fill up this shipping container and the Rotary club of Oldsmar/Eastlake under the leadership of President Howard McLymont has agreed to take the lead in this effort. Many of us may

have equipment and supplies that are no longer needed (e.g. wheel chairs, walkers, nebulizer machines, misc. supplies etc...) or know someone who does and can donate to this cause.

I am appealing directly to all Club Presidents, Club Service Chairs, and Club International Service Chairs to step up to help or to partner with RC of Oldsmar/Eastlake in this very worthwhile international project.

Equipment and supplies donations will be accepted for the next four weeks by RC of Oldsmar/Eastlake. Pickup is available by contacting me directly or by contacting RC of Oldsmar/Eastlake president, Howard McLymont at [hmclymont45@gmail.com](mailto:hmclymont45@gmail.com). Donations to help with the \$2,000 shipping cost are also accepted by the RC of Oldsmar/Eastlake. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law and RC of Oldsmar/Eastlake's 501(c)(3) Non-Profit/Charities Foundation will be issuing tax receipts for all donations. Check should be made payable and mail to:

Oldsmar Florida Rotary Charities, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1372  
Oldsmar, Florida 34677-1372  
EIN: 47-1302459

Thank you for everything you do to make a difference in the world and please feel free to contact me at any time if you have any question about this project.

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(813) 598-8745 Cell



## Rotarians Support Migrant Families of Mission Guadalupe

The late Mayor of Seminole, Jimmy Johnson, began supporting the Mission Guadalupe while he was manager of K-Mart in Winter Haven in the 80's. The Mission, located in Wahneta Florida, caters to hundreds of migrant families working the orange groves. As Jimmy's health declined and since he had been a Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Seminole Lake, the Club (through its Charitable Foundation and by creating the Jimmy Johnson's Children's Holiday Fund) agreed to take on the responsibility of continuing to raise funds to buy Christmas gifts for the children given out on Epiphany (the first Sunday in January after the New Year). This Three Kings Celebration provided gifts to the 150 children of the families invited to attend this past January 6th.



*Photo: (L-R): Rotarian Lucienne Hastings, Luz Yaneth Infante, Rotarian Rosa Sang, Rotarian Mike Hurtack, King, Suzanne Bessler King and child, Rotarian George Bessler, King, King, Padre Luis Osario*

A number of Rotarians and guests attended the ceremony and are named in the photo. Prepared by Gene Stern, Public Image Chair, 727-369-1512 [gene.stern@LFG.com](mailto:gene.stern@LFG.com)



*Photo: Many of the families that gathered at the Mission for the Three Kings Celebration*



**77**  
VICTOR HEDMAN

You're invited to  
**ROTARY NIGHT**

with the Tampa Bay Lightning



VS



**THU, FEB 7 • 7:30 PM**

We are excited to have you join us! Our pre-game event at the Budweiser Biergarten starts at 5:30 PM. Please indicate below how many tickets you would like to purchase.

TampaBayLightning.com |  **BE THE THUNDER** | 

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone Number

E-Mail

Rotary Club

Member #  District

<b>\$110 - Club Level Ticket* and a \$20 Bolt Bucks gift card.</b> Includes a \$10 donation to PolioPlus.	QUANTITY
	<input type="text"/>
<b>\$57 - Terrace Level Ticket* and a \$20 Bolt Bucks gift card.</b> Includes a \$10 donation to PolioPlus.	QUANTITY
	<input type="text"/>

**All purchases include a donation to The Rotary Foundation**

\*Due to limited availability, we cannot guarantee disabled seating will be near your group.

TOTAL COST	<input type="text"/>
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Make all checks payable to Beil & Hay Trust Account. Mail check, order form and either a self-addressed envelope or \$2 for shipping to:

**Beil & Hay, PA**  
**Eugene Beil**  
 12300 US Hwy 19  
 Hudson, FL 34667

All purchases include a donation to The Rotary Foundation in the name of the purchaser. For more information please contact Dean Dickinson at ddickinson@amaliearena.com

**Scott Post**, editor

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

Deadline: February 25, 2019 for next issue

## Medical Mission to Peru



Dr. Sandra Lilo has been a member of the Seminole Lake Rotary Club since 1991 and has spearheaded 21 medical missions to Peru to alleviate the medical needs of the people suffering from cleft palate syndrome and lack of dental care options. She and her medical team just returned from Chiclayo, Peru where she and her team worked within the Paul Harris Clinic, funded by the Rotary Club of Chiclayo in 1992, and began with a staff of 5. Today it has a staff of 55 and is still maintained by the Rotary Club of Chiclayo.

Dr. Iris Villalobes, the Medical Director of the Clinic, flew to be at the Seminole Lake Rotary Club meeting to present a plaque expressing their deep gratitude for the efforts of Sandra and her team after their recent mission trip that ended in October 2018.

Photo: (L-R): Dr. Sandra Lilo, Dr. Iris Villalobes, team member and translator, Rosa Sang

Prepared by Gene Stern, Public Image Chair, [gene.stern@LFG.com](mailto:gene.stern@LFG.com) 727-369-1512

## Osceola HS Students of Month

Osceola Fundamental High School principal, Michael Bohnet, introduced the two students of the month to the Rotary Club of Seminole Lake at their new meeting location of Chapel on the Hill on Park Blvd.

Patrick Sulte has a GPA of 4.08 and has been an academic leader all four years at Osceola. He has been on the varsity football team for three years and always maintained a 4.0 GPA during the football season. Patrick has volunteered 100 hours at Lealman elementary while also being a member of the Spanish and National Honor Societies. He plans to study engineering at one of Florida Universities with U of F being his first choice.



Caroline Adikes has a GPA of 4.5 while being Junior and Senior Class President. She has been a member of the varsity cross country and tennis teams and attained the highest level of distinction in Girl Scouting. Caroline volunteers at RCS food bank and Grace House while also taking mission trips to Washington and Belize. A member of numerous honor societies and an AP Scholar of Distinction, she plans to attend either FSU or U of F in the fall.

Photo: (L-R): Patrick Sulte, Caroline Adikes and Principal Bohnet

Prepared by and photo by Gene Stern, Public Image Chair, [gene.stern@LFG.com](mailto:gene.stern@LFG.com) 727-369-1512



**BE THE  
INSPIRATION**

**The District Newsletter**

**District 6950 Attendance &  
Club Meeting Location for  
December 2018**

Welcome to our  
new, returning and  
transferring Rotarians!

**January 2018**

**Meeting locations have been updated. Please refer to this list when checking on club meeting days and locations.**

Club	Members 6/30/18	Members Current	Average Attend %	Meeting Location
Belleair	30	8	46	Thu. 12:15pm - Belleair Country Club (25 Belleview Rd.)
Brooksville	37	41	38	Thu. Noon - Southern Hills Plantation Club (State Rd 41 Brooksville)
Central Citrus County	19	22	22	Wed. 7:45am - Black Diamond Golf and Country Club
Central Pinellas	11	15	7	Tue. 5:45pm - Liberty Lanes (11401 Starkey Rd, Largo)
Cleanwater	89	81	28	Wed. 12:15pm - Belleair Country Club
Cleanwater Beach	13	11	34	Club is reorganizing....watch the DaCdB for updates
Cleanwater East	26	29	19	Cleanwater, Building ES, Rm 111 - check Facebook page for meeting dates
Crystal River	68	65	27	Mon. 12:15pm - Plantation Inn and Golf Resort
Dade City	40	43	26	Mon. Noon - Kafe Kokopelli (Citrus Room- 37940 Live Oak Avenue Dade City)
Dade City Sunrise	12	13	3	Thu. 7:00am- The Hampton Inn (13215 US Hwy 301, Dade City)
Dunedin	51	54	35	Tue. 12:15pm - Church of Good Shepherd (629 Edgewater Drive, Dunedin)
Dunedin North	49	50	14	Wed. 7:30am - Dunedin Golf Club
Dunedin Waterside	25	26	45	Wed. 6:30pm -Sea Sea Riders (221 Main Street Dunedin, FL 34698)
East Lake Sunrise	17	21	30	Thu. 7:45am - Daddy's Grill (1st Thursday of month meeting 6 pm at same location)
Gulf Beaches	45	38	24	Tue. 12:15pm - Treasure Island Yacht & Tennis Club (400 Treasure Island Causeway, Treasure Island)
Holiday	35	34	36	Tue. Noon - Brix 33 Bistro (8351 SR 54 Trinity 34655)
Homosassa Springs	16	16	17	Thu. 7am - Luigi's (4538 Suncoast Blvd. - US19)
Hudson	19	19	29	Thu. Noon - CARES Enrichment Center (12417 Clock Tower Pkwy. Hudson, Bayonet Pt.)
Indian Rocks Beach	35	39	16	Wed. 7:15am Jimmy Guana's Restaurant, Holiday Inn Harborside (401 2nd St.)
Inverness	83	80	9	Tue. Noon - Inverness Golf and Country Club (Inverness)
Kings Bay- Crystal River	67	66	39	Wed. 12:15pm - George Washington Carver Community Center
Land O'Lakes	21	23	15	Fri. 8:00am - Copperstone Executive Offices (3632 Land O'Lakes Blvd)
Largo	22	22	33	Mon. Noon - Alfano's Restaurant (Clearwater)
New Port Richey	142	142	4	Wed. 12:15pm - Spartan Manor (6121 Massachusetts Avenue)
Oldsmar/East Lake	16	15	8	Thu. 12:15pm - Flamestone Grill (4009 Tampa Rd)
Palm Harbor	24	31	10	Wed. 12:15pm - Leo's Italian Grill (Palm Harbor)
Pinellas Park	38	35	11	Thu. 12:15pm - Banquet Masters (13355 49th St N)
Port Richey	41	42	37	Fri. Noon - The Columbian Event Center (5850 Farrell Way (KOC) Drive)
Rotary E-Club of SE USA	24	26	5	Anytime at <a href="http://www.rotaryclub34.org">www.rotaryclub34.org</a>
Safety Harbor	17	17	47	Fri. 7:30am - Paradise Restaurant (5th and Main Street in Safety Harbor)
San Antonio	18	18	48	Tue. 6:30pm - 10641 Old Tampa Bay Drive, San Antonio
Seminole	55	51	25	Wed. 12:15pm - Lake Seminole Golf & Country Club (6100 Augusta Blvd.)
Seminole Lake	34	33	2	Fri. 7:15am - Roskamp Auditorium (Freedom Square)
Seven Springs	50	50	13	Thu. 7:30am - Seven Springs Country Club (3535 Trophy Blvd.)
Spring Hill	17	18	23	Thu. 7:45am - IHOP Restaurant (US19)
Spring Hill Central	18	19	42	Thu. 12:15pm - Silverthorn Golf and Country Club
St. Petersburg	91	92	40	Fri. Noon - St. Petersburg Yacht Club (11 Central Avenue)
St. Petersburg Mid-Town	14	15	44	Wed. 11:45pm - Callaloo Restaurant
St. Petersburg Sunrise	31	31	6	Tue. 7:45 am - St. Petersburg Yacht Club (11 Central Ave)
St. Petersburg Sunset	20	22	12	Wed. 6:15 pm - St Pete Museum of History (335 2nd Ave NE, St Pete) (2nd & 4th Wed. Only)
St. Petersburg West	35	32	31	Wed. 7:45am - Pasadena Yacht and Country Club
Sugarmill Woods-Citrus County	35	31	21	Tue. 5:00pm - Sugarmill Woods Country Club (Homosassa)
Tarpon Springs	109	105	18	Thu. 12:15pm - Tarpon Springs Yacht Club (350 S. Spring Blvd.)
Trinity	81	75	32	Fri. 12:15pm -Seven Springs Golf & Country Club (3535 Trophy Blvd.)
Wesley Chapel	60	56	41	Wed. 12:15pm - Lexington Oaks Golf Club (26133 Lexington Blvd Wesley Chapel 33544)
Wesley Chapel Sunrise	8	8	1	Fri. 7:15am - The Happy Hangar Restaurant -1st and 3rd Friday of the month
Zephyrhills	36	35	43	Thu. 12:15pm - Zephyrhills Rotary Youth building (Shepard Park)
Zephyrhills Daybreak	24	23	20	Wed. 7:00am - First United Methodist Church (38635 Fifth Ave, Zephyrhills)

**DUNEDIN NORTH**

Bell, Tanya

**HOLIDAY**

Cook, Angel

**INDIAN ROCKS BEACH**

Roses, Gloria

**INVERNESS**

Hinote, Carla D

Khoury, Glenn

**KINGS BAY - CRYSTAL**

**RIVER**

Lundberg, Ronald J

Brongers, Johan

Brown, Otis

**ROTARY E-CLUB OF**

**SOUTHEAST USA &**

**CARIBBEAN**

Gallant, John H

**SAN ANTONIO**

Fredricksom, Kelly

**SEMINOLE LAKE**

Meyer, Douglas B.

**TRINITY**

Conologue, Carol

Rodeheaver, Gene

Tarbox, Jill

McWilliams, Gil