# District 6960 Rotarian of the Decade Tradition, Committee, and Selection Procedure

### Tradition

Rotary District 6960 has an established tradition of recognizing the Rotarian of the Decade who, in the previous decade, had the most distinguished effect on advancing the Object of Rotary within District 6960. This tradition commenced in 1991, when the District recognized Past District Governor Neal Patterson, from the Rotary Club of Cape Coral, as its first recipient for the years 1981 - 1990. During the subsequent decades, on the years ending in "1", the previous award winner facilitated the selection of the next recipient.

#### District 6960 Rotarians of the Decade

1981 - 1990	Neal Patterson	Rotary Club of Cape Coral
1991 - 2000	John Smarge	Rotary Club of Naples
2001 - 2010	Jim Henry	Rotary Club of Sarasota
2011 - 2020	Pete Doragh	Rotary Club of Fort Myers South

## **Rotarian of the Decade Selection Committee**

The most recent surviving Rotarian of the Decade has the honor of serving as the Chair of District 6960's Rotarian of the Decade Committee. The Committee shall be comprised of the previous three (3) Rotarians of the Decade plus the sitting District Governor (defined as the Governor who will be serving in January following the last year of each respective decade). When only two (2) Rotarians of the Decade are available, the sitting District Governor-Elect shall serve as a member of the Committee. When only one (1) Rotarian of the Decade recipient is available, the District Governor-Nominee shall also be added to the Committee. If there are no Rotarians of the Decade available to serve, the Committee will comprise of the District Governor, District Governor-Elect and the District Governor Nominee; and the District Governor shall be designated as the Committee Chair. In the event of a tie when choosing the award winner, the Committee Chair will have the casting vote. Any member of the Committee must be an active member of Rotary.

#### **Selection Procedure**

Any District 6960 Rotarian, alive or dead, is eligible for nomination, with the exception of Past District 6960 Rotarian of the Decade award winners and the members of the Rotarian of the Decade Selection Committee. The selection process shall begin at least one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the District 6960 Conference convened during the first year of the decade (2031, 2041, etc.)

The Rotarian of the Decade selection shall start by the Committee Chair contacting, in writing, all surviving Past District Governors who served their Governor year in District 6960, requesting that within 30 days, they nominate up to two (2) Rotarians, alive or dead, that they believe to have been the most influential in advancing the Object of Rotary within District 6960 in the previous decade. The nomination must include the reason for their nomination, in up to - but not exceeding 200 words.

The Rotarian of the Decade Committee Members will each privately review all nominations, then the Committee with meet and select the Rotarian of the Decade at least 14 days prior to the District Conference. Confidentiality is paramount at all times. The Committee Chair will announce the next Rotarian of the Decade at a major function during the District Conference.