

Club President's Letter 2020 - 2021

Dear Fellow Rotarians and Friends of Rotary

It is my honor and privilege to serve as your 98th President of the Rotary Club of Ft. Lauderdale. We are the longest running service club in Broward County and the largest Rotary Club in our District.

I don't have to tell you that we are starting this year under very challenging circumstances due to the COVID-19 Global Pandemic. The Rotary International theme this year is "Rotary Opens Opportunities." Currently, our club is meeting virtually, via Zoom, on Wednesdays starting at 12:30 p.m. Now would be the perfect Opportunity to attend a virtual meeting, and to see all of the great works that our Club provides.

Locally, our Club is involved in dozens of projects. For example, over the years, our Rotary Club has given in excess of \$2.4 million in scholarships to deserving local students. In addition, we are actively involved in feeding local families through our worthy projects, including "Turkey's Take Flight," "Thanksgiving Basket Project" and our "Rotary Cares Project." Furthermore, each year, our Club collects and donates hundreds of toys and gifts to children in need. We have also provided hurricane and disaster relief in times of emergency to our community. Every year, our Rotary Club chairs the Challenge Air project during which airplane rides are provided to children with physical and mental challenges. These are just a few of the projects in which our Club is involved, and under our current circumstances, with COVID-19, as further needs arise, we shall use this as an Opportunity to help out.

Internationally, the Ft. Lauderdale Rotary Club is involved in numerous worthy causes. We support Rotary International in its continued quest to eradicate polio from the face of this earth. WE'RE THIS CLOSE! Our Club supports the Wheelchair Foundation which provides the gift of mobility to those in need throughout the world. Ft. Lauderdale Rotary supports "A Spring of Hope" in Africa, in addition to other water projects, including LifeStraw, throughout the world. We also support an International Rotary Global Grant which helps with childhood development training in South Africa. Last year, we assisted in providing food and provisions to those in need after Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas. As further needs arise we will see this as an Opportunity to help.

Each week, we bring in excellent speakers to keep our members and guests informed. We conduct an annual raffle with the proceeds going to our 1090 Foundation for scholarships and community projects. In addition, we host our annual Pirate Fest at Esplanade Park. Each month, one of our members host a Social Happy Hour. We have a float at the St. Patrick's Day Parade. We have an annual Picnic, Golf Tournament, and Holiday Party, and we otherwise get together informally. It's a great group of people who meet to engage and "Open Opportunities." We invite you to consider joining us at the Ft. Lauderdale Rotary Club. Hope you can join us!

Perry Monioudis, 2020 - 2021 President
Rotary Club of Ft. Lauderdale