

# Rotary



# Club of Stuart-Sunrise

## Club Meeting

Stuart-Sunrise  
Meets at Banyan Creek  
Country Club  
1701 SW Crane Creek Ave  
Palm City, FL 34990  
Time: Thursday at 07:30  
AM

## Speakers

### March 14, 2024

[Nils Weibull](#)  
SCORE- nation's largest network of volunteer, expert business mentors.

### March 21, 2024

[Lisa Rhodes](#)  
Education Foundation of Martin County

## Birthdays



Gene L.  
VanCuren  
March 21st

## Club Member Anniversaries



Gene L.  
VanCuren  
03-12-1984  
40 Years



Richard P. Zurich  
03-12-1984  
40 Years



Linda Weiksner  
03-13-2020  
4 Years

## Rotary News for March 7, 2024

President John led the Pledge and Sue offered the invocation.

Dave Geller is on the mend and hopefully will attend next week's meeting. Clark Advance Learning Center Interact Club President Dakota Beurrier circulated the Change 4 Change jar, collecting money for this month's charity-House of Hope. Interact members have been performing hands-on service for the charities they support.

Guests Kerstin Weibull, Dr. Denisha Bonds, Dakota Beurrier and Mark Jacob were welcomed. Mark is the husband of new member Carrie Straub.

Happy Dollars were offered by Butch, in honor of his birthday, Tom B. for a great experience at PETs, Charles for a successful We Do Good event which helps the organization provide help to those they serve, Dave S for an up close view of Washington DC last week, Rick for the rainy weekend that led to high attendance at the Elliott Museum, Hap, for his family and Rotary, Sue who Skyped with former Rotary Youth Exchange Student Julia and committed to attending Julia's medical school graduation next year in Brazil. Sue also mentioned that she is leaving town for a long weekend of golf with friends and Tom will be on his own.

Kathy reviewed the opportunity for the club to sponsor a Born Learning Trail at Jock Leighton Park in Palm City, in partnership with United Way. The trail is aimed at 3-5 year olds and works to engage the whole family. Kathy will submit a District Grant application for next year and tentatively the project will get underway in the fall. The club will paint the sidewalks in the park using stencils. The accompanying signs will have the club name and logo on it. The videos below provide more information.

Born Learning You Tube links:

[Born Learning You Tube video](#)

[Born Learning You Tube video](#)

Sue reminded club members of Waterfest March 23 10AM-2PM in Memorial Park. We will be once again helping in the Face Painting tent; no painting skills required! A sign-up sheet will circulate at the next two meetings.

The 50-50 was won by Sue who will use it during this weekend's golf outing with friends.

## New Club Members and Paul Harris Award recipient

The newest club members Carrie Straub, Matt Straub, and Scott Gilmour were officially inducted into the club. Carrie and Matt were sponsored by Beth Brownell and Sue Whittington sponsored Scott. It was noted that they have already been active in club activities. Welcome and we look



forward to your ideas and energy!



Foundation Chair Kathy presented Nils Weibull with a Paul Harris+3 in recognition of his ongoing support of The Rotary Foundation. Thank you, Nils, for all you do for the club, the District, Rotary International and the world.

## District Governor Doug Heizer

By Beth Brownell

Hap Mills, Assistant Area Governor, introduced District Governor Doug Heizer. Doug, a native Brazilian, owns the Boca Raton Tribune. Doug mentioned that our club exemplifies the concept of Rotary as family, as when he arrived he saw members greeting each other with hugs. Doug acknowledged the induction into the club of three new members, saying that new members define that it is not so much their age, but the fresh minds and new ideas they bring. He also acknowledged Nils, who serves the District on the Foundation Committee, receiving a Paul Harris+3. Doug also acknowledged Hap, who he asked to serve the District this year due to his long history of being a Rotarian and the knowledge that comes with being involved at so many levels for so long.



Doug reviewed the upcoming District Conference where the focus will be Next Generation, not only the next generation of Rotarians. Interact and Rotaract are two groups serving this population. Speakers at the conference will be high-level, engaging speakers.

Doug offered to send 2 students to RYLA if the club matches. Interact President Dakota, mentioned that the timing of this year's event unfortunately runs into state exams as well as final projects, and other coursework. Dakota, a former RYLA participant, described the program and how it has helped her become a more effective leader.

### Polio Plus

As described in the email sent to members earlier this week, donations to The Rotary Foundation do not go to Polio Plus. Doug mentioned that funds from Polio Plus go toward the eradication of more than polio. The "plus" is something else that is provided as a part of the polio eradication campaign. It might be a hand-operated tricycle or access to water. It might be additional medical treatment, bed nets, or soap. A 2010 study estimates that vitamin A drops given to children at the same time as the polio vaccine have prevented 1.25 million deaths by decreasing susceptibility to infectious diseases.

Doug emphasized that Poliovirus is in the water in the US and without high vaccination rates among our children and grandchildren, it will once again become a scourge. Doug asked how many club members were acquainted with someone who had been afflicted with polio and several members raised their hands.

The Polio Plus Society recognizes Rotarians who pledge \$100 a year to help eradicate polio. Doug asked members to sign the pledge form to increase the funds available to fight the disease worldwide. Thank you to our members who supported District Governor Doug in his effort to rid the world of polio.



## Southeast Florida Honor Flight Guardians

Appearing at three Martin County high schools, club member HB Barrett presented information about Southeast Florida Honor Flights to Washington DC for US veterans. Stuart-Sunrise Rotary Club sponsors one student, historically a JROTC cadet, from each school to serve as guardians for one veteran during the very long day. Guardians ensure that their veteran has a safe and memorable experience, forging a bond over the long day. Vietnam veteran Gary Merritt spoke about the benefits to both the guardians and veterans of participating in Honor Flight.

Vietnam veteran Gary Merritt Rotarian HB Barrett

