

# Rotary Club of Palm Beach Flagler

A 100% Paul Harris Sustaining Member Club

Tuesday 7:45 AM • Hyatt Place • 295 Lakeview Avenue, West Palm Beach  
website: palmbeachflaglerrotary.org

October, 2023



## 2023-2024 Board of Directors

Roop Gill, <i>President</i>	Plastic Surgeon
Charles Contessa, <i>Vice-President+</i>	Hospitality
Len Stevens, <i>Secretary++</i>	CPA (retired)
Silvia Evans <sup>^</sup> , <i>Treasurer</i>	Certified Public Accountant
Al Burlando, <i>Director++#</i>	Manufacturing
Elizabeth DeBrule, <i>Director</i>	Community Leader
Mary Rogan <sup>++</sup>	Community Leader
Bruce Taylor, <i>Director*++</i>	Computer Consultant
Graham Whitfield, <i>Sgt-at-Arms++</i>	Orthopedic Surgeon
Suzanne Turner, <i>Immediate Past-President*++</i>	Administrator, NFP (ret.)

## Members:

Alex Anderson	Foreign Service
Corey Brown*+	Financial Advisor
Suzi Edwards	Artist/Author
Lee Gordon*++#	Attorney: Real Estate
Daniel Kahan*++	Architect
Nixon Lajoie+	General Contractor
Ozzie Osborne*++	Information Technology (IT)
Umberto Rosi <sup>^</sup>	The Give Back Community
Thomas "Mac" Skelly++	Trust Administration (retired)
Beth Walton <sup>^</sup>	CEO, Town of Palm Beach United Way
Frederick Wright, Jr. ++	Real Estate Investor
John Young	Financial Advisor, CFP



Danielle Hickox Moore	Honorary Member (Mayor of Palm Beach)
Jack McDonald*+	Founding/Honorary Member
Jesse Newman*+	Founding Member (deceased)
Philip Whitacre*++	Founding Member (deceased)

\* Past President + Paul Harris Fellow ++ Multiple PHF  
<sup>^</sup> Corporate Membership #Active-Rule of 85

## October Speakers – Mary Rogan, Speaker Chair

Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup>	No Speaker – Club Business Meeting
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup>	Diane Witt – Rotary District 6930 Community Service Chair (appearing via Zoom)
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup>	James Goren – Pure Wave Bioenergetic Wellness
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> *	Laura Wissa, CEO/Founder, Prom Beach
Tues 31 <sup>st</sup>	Alfred Fincher – DEX Imaging Solutions

\*Monthly Club Board Meeting immediately following regular weekly meeting.

## New Categories of Club Membership

All service clubs (Rotary, Kiwanis, etc.) are facing challenges with membership growth and membership retention. It is a "sign of the times". Society has become more partitioned with increasing isolation of busy professionals and the need for community to bring people together is even more important today than ever before. Rotary serves a unique role as an international body of business and community leaders that seeks, as Paul Harris said, to "do good in the World".

Rotary International supports individual clubs taking whatever steps as are reasonably necessary to promote club growth and membership retention. In an effort to address this problem, your board of directors recently revised our club bylaws. The club approved our updated bylaws as of September 5, 2023. It is hoped that these changes will allow more flexibility as to both club attendance and club participation.

We are therefore offering three membership tiers with differing time, geographic and service emphases. The "original" in-person "Breakfast Club" meetings on Tuesday mornings with a guest speaker from 8-9 am will continue (currently at Hyatt Place). These members will now have the option of complimentary digital attendance (via zoom) if they are unable to attend in person that morning. About one meeting per quarter will have a service project component built into it. We are partnering with the Town of Palm Beach United Way to do this. The Breakfast Club is geared towards business and community leaders, and is limited to approximately 40 members.

(continued)



## Celebrations

### Birthdays:

14<sup>th</sup> – Mary Rogan  
20<sup>th</sup> – Dani Moore  
29<sup>th</sup> – Silvia Evans

### Anniversaries:

24<sup>th</sup> – Daniel & Shanna Kahan  
26<sup>th</sup> – Corey & Natassia Brown  
28<sup>th</sup> – Silvia & Bill Evans



**Rotary International (RI) News:** Rotary International has designated certain months of the year as times for Rotary clubs to emphasize the involvement of all Rotarians in designated activities or to highlight specific Areas of Focus. Clubs are encouraged to plan special programs on the appropriate topics during these months. **October has been designated as Community Economic and Development Month.** October 24<sup>th</sup> is also designated as World Polio Day.

**Rotary District 6930 News:** Need to “make up”? Try one of our local neighboring clubs: (1) ***Palm Beach*** (Thursdays at 12:15 pm at Bice Ristorante, off Worth Ave.); (2) ***West Palm Beach*** (Tuesdays at Noon at The Drive Shack, WPB); (3) ***Lake Worth*** (Wednesdays at Noon at The Irish Brigade); (4) ***Singer Island*** (Fridays at 12:15 pm at Sailfish Marina); (5) ***The Northern Palm Beaches*** (Tuesdays at 8:00 am at Cypress Island Clubhouse); (6) ***Jupiter-Tequesta*** (Tuesdays at Noon at Mangrove Bay, Jupiter); (7) ***Royal Palm Beach*** (Tuesdays at 7:30 am at Hilary’s Restaurant and Royal Deli); and (8) ***Wellington*** (Thursdays at 12:15 pm at the Wanderers Club).

### Membership Changes (continued)

A second membership tier is designed for professionals and those who travel frequently. This is "Digital" membership, which caps in-person attendance to a maximum of three breakfasts per quarter.

The third membership tier is the "Service Arm" membership, for Rotarians who only want to be involved in service projects. This level is open to all who would emulate the Rotary ideals of "service above self" and are approved to be members by current members. Besides the opportunity to participate in a monthly service project (tentatively scheduled for Wednesday mornings) with the Town of Palm Beach United Way, we also plan to work with Habitat for Humanity to serve the elderly / veterans, non-profits working with those dealing with extreme poverty, and to generally aid in furthering children's education.

All membership tiers still require a prospect to first attend three times in person before submitting an application, but this can be at a breakfast meeting, social or service project. This is so current members will continue to have an opportunity to meet with potential members during the selection process.

All active members at any tier are invited to social and service events although certain social events may be first offered to the "Breakfast Club" membership tier if space is exclusively limited. For the majority of social events, family members, friends of Rotarians and prior Rotarians are always welcome. A regular happy hour social will be held on the last Wednesday of each

### Membership (continued)

month (currently at The Breakers). We will also be planning some other exciting socials including plays, art experiences, fundraisers (such as a Vegas Holiday Party), and even escape rooms!

This is an ongoing work-in-progress by the board and active membership of the Palm Beach Flagler Rotary Club. If you have specific questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to our current Club President, Dr. Roop Monica Gill.

### ‘National Read For The Record’ Service Project

When: Thursday, October 26, 2022 (details to follow)

Where: Opportunity Early Childhood Education And Family Center, 4171 Westgate Avenue, West Palm Beach

Time: 8:45 am (we will be finished before 9:30)

*Read for the Record* is a global moment to raise awareness around the critical importance of early literacy and increase access to high-quality children’s books. Each year, Read for the Record brings together millions of adults and children as they read the same book on the same day, building an intergenerational community through reading. To date, over 24 million people have participated in Read for the Record, and hundreds of thousands of high-quality books have been distributed to children in underserved communities across the United States.

**Palm Beach Flagler Rotary Club**  
Lee B. Gordon,  
Club Executive Secretary

**Mailing Address:**  
P. O. Box 415  
Palm Beach, FL 33480

**Contact Information:**  
rotarypbflagler@gmail.com