

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

February, 2024



2023-2024 Board of Directors

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

Members:

Alex Anderson	Foreign Service
Riccardo Boehm++	Education
Corey Brown*+	Financial Advisor
Yu Ling Cui	Business Management Consulting
Lee Gordon*++#	Attorney: Real Estate
Daniel Kahan*++	Architect
Nixon Lajoie+	General Contractor
Ozzie Osborne*++	Information Technology (IT)
Thomas "Mac" Skelly++	Trust Administration (retired)
Beth Walton [^]	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
[^] Corporate Membership #Active-Rule of 85

February Speakers – Mary Rogan, Speaker Chair

Tues 6 th	TBA
Tues 13 th	Official Visit from Rotary International District Governor Douglas Heizer
Tues 20 th	Sharon Seagren, Founder and CEO Algae Power
Tues 27 th *	Paola Sanchez, Associate Executive Director Palm Beach Art, Antique & Design Showroom

*Monthly Club Board Meeting immediately following regular weekly meeting.

Happy Hour is the last Wednesday of every month!

Next Community Service Project: Annual Dictionary/Thesaurus/Reading Project

Every year our club participates in The Dictionary Project. We have "adopted" Hope Rural School in Indiantown, Florida as our partner.

Hope Rural is located thirty miles from West Palm Beach. Migrants and immigrant farm workers have called it home for decades and continue to claim it as a refuge from the economic and political hardships plaguing their own countries. Indiantown welcomes a diverse population from Mexico, Guatemala, Haiti, Puerto Rico, and the United States.

In the late 1970s, a group of concerned residents wanted to provide an education for the children of migrant farm workers. Language deficiencies and cultural differences made school a daily anxiety for migrant children and isolated them from their peers. Since there was no provision at that time for public schools to address this need, Hope Rural was founded with its mission to educate primarily, but not exclusively, children of migrant/immigrant farm worker parents.

What originally served 30 children has since grown to serve closer to 150 children. In addition, Hope Rural now supports entire families with the inclusion of parenting and English classes for adults.

(continued)



Celebrations

Birthdays:

8th – Graham Whitfield
16th – Nixon Lajoie
29th – Elizabeth Debrule

Anniversaries:

29th – Ozzie & Ana Osborne



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. **February has been designated as Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month. February 23rd**, the anniversary of the first ever Rotary club meeting, is observed as **World Understanding and Peace Day**. On that day, clubs are expected to give special recognition to Rotary's commitment to international understanding, friendship and peace.

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).

Hope Rural (continued)

The Dictionary Project is a 501(c)(3) and is a Rotary adopted project in which Rotary clubs nationwide donate dictionaries to third and fourth grade students. The goal is to assist all students in becoming good writers, active readers, creative thinkers, and resourceful learners by providing each of them with their own personal dictionary, as a gift, that they can “call their own” and use at both school and at home for many years.

Our Club has expanded this service project by additionally donating a thesaurus to every fifth grade student and by reading to several pre-K classrooms.

This year our project will be on Friday, March 8th.

We will meet, as a group, in the parking lot in front of Café Chardonnay (the NW corner of PGA Boulevard and Military Trail) at 8:30 am, and will take 1-2 cars to Hope Rural. We are typically back to Café Chardonnay before 11:30am.

If you are new to the Club or have never had the opportunity to visit Hope Rural, you will be impressed with not only the high level of education being offered, but the additional emphasis on civics, community service, and religion so as to help nurture the full potential of each individual.

Happy Leap Year!

Indeed, 2024 is a leap year. Thursday, February 29, 2024, is Leap Day. The next leap year comes around in 2028. If you know a special Pisces born on February 29, or a couple married on February 29, celebrate them big this year because their birthday or anniversary won't fall on the actual date again for a while!

Leap years originated with the Roman-era Julian calendar, named after Julius Caesar. Based on the Egyptian solar calendar, it was a major improvement at the time, as seasonal drift was an issue for the Roman calendar before then. However, by using 365.25 days as the length of the year, the Julian calendar rounded slightly and overcorrected the problem, adding one too many Leap Days per century. The Gregorian calendar addressed that. The rule is: Leap year is every four years, but *not* if the year is divisible by 100, *unless* it's also divisible by 400. That means that we typically skip a leap year once every century, but every fourth century, we keep it.

When we have a leap year, the calendar lengthens to 366 days to solve an age-old quandary: the fact that it takes 365.2422 days, not an even 365, for the Earth to complete its orbit around the sun. Without a Leap Day, we would lose 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 46 seconds every year. Leap years keep our calendar aligned with the solar calendar.

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

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