

# Rotary



# The Northern Light

A publication of the Rotary Club of Dunedin North



Issue 13: March 31, 2021

Our club welcomes all visitors. Why not join us either by zoom and in person on Wednesday mornings?



**Rotary Opens Opportunities**

### MEETING TIME/LOCATION:

7:30-8:30 am on Wednesdays  
Dunedin Golf Club, 1050 Palm Blvd.

### MAILING ADDRESS:

PO Box 307, Dunedin, FL 34697  
The Rotary Club of Dunedin North  
(Club #4270) was chartered on  
November 21, 1971.

**Doing good.  
Having FUN!**

Don't forget to check out  
Facebook and Twitter!  
Post your own pictures  
and news items.



Find out more about our club:  
**DunedinNorthRotary.org**

## Meeting Notes from March 24, 2021

**Steve Schwartz** continues to attend as a guest and we look forward to making him an official member in the near future. Our other guest this week was our speaker, **Dr. Ulyee Choe**. The meeting started late for Zoomers and in-person attendees when the doors to the club remained locked. Undaunted, Prez Mark Middleton drove to the back, unloaded his equipment and we were Zooming with his TV and computer camera. It was a little chilly for those who dressed to remain inside, and chairs near the edge were damp with dew.

Teresa Cordova O'Dea spoke about the roads diverging, Kert Rhodes led the *Pledge* and Prez Mark called attention to the Aquaman article in this month's *Rotarian*.

**Priscilla Hoag** was first with the happy buck as she gave Publix a thank you for running BOGO on Skippy peanut butter. Better rush out because it ends today. Edie Wiseman made a \$10 pledge because she and her husband received their 2nd vaccines yesterday. **Sherrie Davis Kinhead** was happy to receive a Tee Sign Sponsorship from Dave Gehris, who upped the donation by \$25 if he could have The 4-Way Test on his sign (Dave, we want The 5-Way Test—let's not leave out, "Is it FUN?") Sgt-at-Arms **Pat Snair** collected PB&J donations for Dunedin Cares at her office, Back "N" Balance, from Teresa and Doug Campbell. **Prez Mark** gave \$3 for the resourceful group who helped him save our meeting this morning, and pointed out that what we focus on expends as we have prospective members, Steve Schwartz and Jay LeFebvre, joining soon. **JoAnn Rooney** is pushing the PB&J challenge, received her first shot last Friday and purchased 4 raffle tickets from Prez Mark's website for a dinner for 10 by the Pisces chef that will benefit The Rotary Foundation. **Gary Coughlin** promised JoAnn that when HE wins, she can be one of the 10. Gary is also scheduled for his first shot at a Palm Harbor pharmacy, which was easy to schedule. **John Tornga** was happy over our resourcefulness when a door was locked. **Robin Kocher** received her second Moderna shot, which kicked her in the butt for 36 hours. **Sherrie** gave another buck because 4 of 19 attendees on the Zoom PR/Public Image district meeting the night before were from our club.

**Infectious disease doctor, Ulyee Choe**, also a Gator fan and DHS alumnus, gave the timeline of Covid-19 in the world, our state, and our county, along with current positivity rates. Covid-19 has caused a 16.5% rise in the mortality rate, if not directly, then indirectly as people failed to get medical help for other conditions or from suicide. An interesting statistic is that 95% of doctors opt to be vaccinated, 54% of nurses do, but only 35% front line workers want the vaccine. Dr. Choe feels we will need booster shots to help with the variants to counteract the decreased effectiveness of the current vaccines. An oral antibiotic is now in the pipeline. He hopes 60%-70% of our population either get vaccinated or have antibodies in order to achieve herd immunity.

Prez Mark closed as always with *The "5-Way" Test* with #5 being "Is it FUN?"

## You can still sign up for the District Conference, 4/22-4/25

There is a little time left for you to register for our District Conference held at the Naples Grande Beach Resort! Get to experience a top resort for \$300 less per night! And you will have the extraordinary opportunity to see and hear **Past Rotary International President 2016-17 John Germ!** Yes, that is correct, Gov. Jeanie is pleased to announce that President Germ and his wife Judy are attending OUR Conference. President Germ is also incoming Rotary Foundation Trustee Chairman. Conference Registration fee is \$150 per person for Rotarians and spouse or guest.

\$15 for children. Adult registration includes 2 Breakfast Buffets, 1 Lunch Buffet, Luau Banquet and one Luau cocktail. Child registration includes 2 Breakfast Buffets and 1 Lunch Buffet.

Room rates for our block are \$189 a night, which includes resort charges, fees, and self-parking! Stay additional nights for the same rate, pending availability! NOTE: Reservations made after April 10 will be over \$500 a night plus \$35 a day resort fees, plus tax.

Individuals needing Registration assistance may call Hotel Reservations at 844-489-9663 and provide our group code: GROSTAR21 or email reservations@naplesgrande.com noting the group code GROSTAR21, your name and call back phone number.

Event Sponsors are needed, please contact Gov. Germain for opportunities, or reply to this email.

Check out the following Conference video highlighting the Naples Grande Hotel & Beach Resort AND imagine yourself there - right there very soon!  
<https://youtu.be/VFmvHq7LG3U>

## Once again, the RI Convention is virtual!

### ROTARY OPENS OPPORTUNITIES

Please join us for 2021 Virtual Convention: Rotary Opens Opportunities, 12-16 June. Registration opens in mid-April so watch for details on how you can participate.

This year's event will connect you, virtually, with members around the world. It will open new opportunities to learn and to engage with the family of Rotary, near and far. Together, we'll inspire action, strengthen our commitments, work on our challenges, and celebrate our successes

Visit the [convention event page](#) on Facebook to connect with other participants and share what you're looking forward to experiencing with #Rotary21. The Virtual Convention is open to all Rotary members and participants, so invite a friend to join you or share the event with your community.



## The World Is Still Battling Polio. What That Warning Means for Covid-19.

—Excerpt from *The Wall Street Journal*

ESHAWAR, Pakistan—Decades of work brought the world close to ending polio, but misinformation, religious beliefs and economic grievances have fueled resistance to inoculations. After decades of work, polio had been wiped out almost everywhere in the world. All that was left were pockets in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Medical experts hoped 2020 would be the last year that the main form of the virus, which can permanently paralyze or cause death, posed a threat. The coronavirus pandemic put a halt to that progress.

In March, house-to-house vaccination teams working across Pakistan were forced to stop their work because of Covid-19. As a result, polio resurged, including a mutated form of the virus. It has now been detected in samples taken from sewers in 74% of Pakistan in late 2020, up from just 13% in early 2018.

“Now the virus isn’t just in select pockets. The risk is everywhere” in the country, said Rana Safdar, the doctor in charge of Pakistan’s polio campaign.

## How has the novel coronavirus disease pandemic affected anti-polio efforts in Nigeria?

Tunji Funsho, a Lagos-based cardiologist who chairs Rotary’s Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee, for eradicating polio in Africa’s most populous country answers the question:

While mass polio immunization campaigns were temporarily paused everywhere

in March in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, efforts resumed across Africa (as well as in Pakistan and Afghanistan) in July.

As campaigns resumed, safeguards were put in place to ensure that health workers could deliver immunizations safely and would not contribute to the spread of COVID-19.

Nevertheless, even as Rotary and its GPEI partners remain focused on polio eradication, the GPEI’s Polio Oversight Board announced it is extending previous support to the next phase of the coronavirus pandemic — vaccine introduction and delivery — and so too will Rotary.

Rotary will take a proactive approach as its members become involved in this phase, at the local club level.

Specifically, Rotary International President Holger Knaack and The Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair KR “Ravi” Ravindran formed a COVID-19 response task force and are calling on Rotary’s 36,000 clubs around the world to connect with their local health authorities to ask how they can best support community COVID-19 vaccination or preparedness efforts.

Rotary and its GPEI partners have a moral obligation to leverage our knowledge and success in polio eradication as the world faces the worst pandemic in a century.

Even as we lend our tools, knowledge, and polio infrastructure to assist with COVID-19 response efforts, we must remain laser-focused on meeting the remaining challenges to a polio-free world.

COVID-19 is a setback to the last mile of polio eradication just as the 2016 Borno State wild poliovirus outbreak was a setback to the certification of the WHO African region. Together, we must end the pandemic, then put the full weight of our expertise and resources towards ending polio for good.

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