

ROTARY CLUB OF LAKEWOOD RANCH NEWS

JULY 20, 2023

2023-24 Leadership
RI President Gordon McInally
District 6960 Governor Alfred Current
Club President Sybil Porter

ROTARY CLUB OF LAKEWOOD RANCH | 8374 MARKET STREET #449 | LAKEWOOD RANCH, FL 34202

THIS WEEK

Evan Barniski, associate vice President of Mote Aquarium, will present "An Update on the Mote Aquarium Construction." Evan oversees all aspects of the daily operations of the Aquarium. Evan began his career at Clearwater Marine Aquarium in 2004 as a Life Support Operator. He joined Mote Marine in 2006 as an Offsite Aquarist and was promoted to Offsite Exhibits Supervisor. Evan was subsequently promoted to Senior Aquarist, Departmental Manager of Fish and Invertebrates, and then to his current position. Evan is deeply involved in all aspects of the new Mote Science Education Aquarium SEA, planned to open in winter 2024 at Nathan Benderson Park. Evan received a bachelor of science in biology from the University of Richmond and a master in business administration from the University of South Florida.



Evan Barniski

[Click here](#) to join Zoom meetings at noon Thursdays.

Meeting ID: 289 101 885

Password: 907278

LAST WEEK



Gordon McInally

We were treated to a speech Rotary International President **Gordon McInally** of Scotland delivered at the recent convention in Melbourne. He said one of his major focuses to help Create Hope in the World is removing barriers to mental health, finding ways to care for others, and showing the world that we are #PeopleOfAction. Learn more about him and his wife, **Heather**, by [clicking here](#). Visit his Facebook page [here](#). Follow him on Instagram [here](#) and Twitter [here](#).

PROGRAMS

JULY 20

AT PALM-AIRE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

**EVAN BARNISKI, MOTE
MARINE LABORATORY
AND AQUARIUM**

JULY 27

AT TARA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
CLUB ASSEMBLY

AUG. 3

AT TARA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
**DONNA LAYRISSE,
ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE**

AUG. 10

AT LAKEWOOD RANCH COUNTRY CLUB
**MISSY PARMENTER,
HARBOR58**

AUG. 17

AT LAKEWOOD RANCH COUNTRY CLUB
**DISTRICT GOVERNOR
ALFRED CURRENT**

AUG. 24

AT LAKEWOOD RANCH COUNTRY CLUB
**CHRIS FEHR,
INCOME TAX PLANNING**

CHECK US OUT!



CALENDAR

July 26: Club board meeting, 6 to 7 p.m. at the Law Offices of Najmy-Thompson, 6320 Venture Drive, Lakewood Ranch; meetings are the last Wednesday of each month. Info: President **Sybil Porter** at sporter@porterccs.com.

Aug. 3: Thirsty Thursday social at 5:30 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at McGrath's Irish Ale House on Lakewood Main Street. RSVP by Aug. 2 with **Lang Woodydy** at lang66@comcast.net.

Aug. 17: District Governor **Alfred Current** makes his official visit to our club.

Aug. 26: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rotary Leadership Institute Parts 1, 2 and 3 at the Out-of-Door Academy in Lakewood Ranch and at Keiser University in Naples. Registration required on DACdb.

Nov. 4: District 6960 Rotary Fun, Family & Friends Luau with project showcases, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Rotary Club of Englewood's youth campground, 3989 S. Moon Drive, Venice. Cost is \$30, free for age 17 and younger. Register on DACdb.

Nov. 11: Our club hosts its signature event, the Suncoast Food & Wine Festival, at Premier Sports Campus in Lakewood Ranch. See details on Pages 5 to 7.

Oct. 21: Save the date for Rotary Leadership Institute Parts 1, 2 and 3 at north and south locations TBA.

Oct. 24: World Polio Day observances.

Feb. 17: Save the date for the Foundation Ball with special guest past RI President **Mark Maloney**.

April 27: Save the date for the District Training Assembly.

July 12-13: Save the dates for the District 6960 District Conference, "Yacht Rock."

Opportunity to welcome incoming RYE students

The Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch is proud to be hosting two incoming Rotary Youth Exchange students this year, **Nicholai (Nico)** from Poland and **Simon** from Slovakia.

It is customary in the RYE program to have Rotary members, host families and any others interested greet the students at the airport to provide a warm, friendly welcome with banners and signs. Simon arrives around 7:30 p.m. July 25 and Nico arrives around 10 a.m. July 28 at the Southwest Florida International Airport in Fort Myers.

If you are interested in joining our RYE team at the airport, please contact **Donna Layrisse** at dlayrisse@hotmail.com or call/text (770)330-1380. We are hoping to have a nice group to join us!



ORDER A LICENSE PLATE; YOU'LL SUPPORT ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAMS!

Pre-order your Florida Rotary license plate at FloridaRotaryTag.com or by [clicking here](#). For each order, \$25 goes toward Rotary youth programs.

MEMBER CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

Carl Baldwin 7/2
Ethan Wolfson 7/2
Helene Obst 7/4
John Bodenburt 7/3
Vonda Johnson 7/10
Rick Schendel 7/10
Chris Fehr 7/12
Russ Sexton 7/13
Don Haake 7/17
Marty Saia 7/28

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Gena and Patrick Martin 7/2
Jim and Marion Frederick 7/5
Bob and Zita Grepling 7/11
Don and Jane Stanton 7/18
Ken and Rhonda Kaplan 7/19

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Chuck Glazer 7/1/19
26 previous years in Rotary
Denise Hearn 7/1/16
Jerry Hearn 7/1/16
Ethan Wolfson 7/1/21
Joyce Borda 7/11/19
6 previous years in Rotary
Glynis Grawburg 7/14/22
Terry Byce 7/23/20
Bob Wyatt 7/8/21
3 previous years in Rotary

ShelterBox briefing

I would like to personally invite you to join us for ShelterBox USA's Rotary Briefing on Projects we are seeking support for hosted by Rotary Relations Manager **Bill Tobin**.

ShelterBox is seeking project sponsorship support to assist vulnerable families in vital need of humanitarian shelter assistance. We are holding a briefing to outline several of these fundable opportunities to partner with your Rotary club or district as major stakeholders in our intervention. We will cover our current work in:

- The Philippines: Building support and resources for ShelterBox Operations Philippines through pre-positioned aid and more to ensure they are well prepared for a rapid response when disaster strikes.
- Cameroon: Working to support 9,800 vulnerable families displaced by ongoing instability and violence brought on by terror, conflict and climate change.
- Syria: The upcoming phase of our longest standing piece of work. Continuing to support thousands of families displaced by the ongoing conflict, climate extremes, and the recent earthquake.

Global displacement reached a staggering 108 million at the end of 2022. According to the United Nations Higher Commissioner for Refugees, this number is only expected to rise this year with persistent global conflicts and natural disasters worsened by climate change. We hope you are able to join us to learn how to help support the critical work ShelterBox is doing to work towards a world where no family is left without shelter after disaster.

This invitation is extended to Club and District leaders, their directors and committee members who want to learn how their club or district can be a primary stakeholder in a ShelterBox project.

The ShelterBox Project Sponsorship briefing will take place at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 1, and at noon Saturday, Aug. 5. To register for Tuesday, [click here](#). For Saturday, [click here](#).

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions to Bill Tobin btobin@shelterboxusa.org. We hope to see you at the webinar.

Sincerely,

Ariana Aranda

Rotary and Foundations Intern
ShelterBox USA



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

I am so pleased with the responses I have received the past two weeks. I am sensing an enthusiasm within our club and feel that it will only increase in the coming weeks.

I hope that you are understanding of my decision to return to the original Four Way Test. As I said on Thursday, we KNOW we are having fun, but several members felt that we should follow the traditional creed.

I have also made a decision that we will no longer have a song prior to our meeting. I have discussed this with **Vonda Johnson**, and she is agreeable. She too felt it was getting more difficult to find suitable songs that would appeal to all of us.

Two more things to take away from last week's meeting:

- 1. We are still looking for host families for our two exchange students. We have families for their first few months, but will need other families going forward. Please see **Donna Layrisse** if you know of someone who would be able to volunteer. Also, we are looking for a few folks to arrange to meet them as they land at the Fort Myers airport. I will be going and can drive a few of you. Please let me know.
- 2. I will be asking some of you to help out with our task force for identifying younger members. I feel gaining your input is so important.

Lastly, remember that our meeting this week will be at Palm Aire Country Club. See you there.

OUR NEXT MISSION HOMES DEDICATED

We turned over Colony Cove unit (shown at right) to **Daniel Malvestuto**, a disabled Navy/Marine Corps veteran who was referred by the Bradenton VFW (Palma Sola). The title was transferred via the Manatee County Tax Collector's Office. The dedication ceremony was June 30.

On July 7, we held a dedication ceremony at Pescara Lake for **Thomas Forrester**, a disabled veteran referred to us by Jewish Family & Children's Service of the Suncoast. The 30-plus attendees for the ceremony included Rotarians **Terry Byce**, **Russ Sexton**, **Susan Hubbell** and **Guy Perry**. The club is a valuable partner to Our Next Mission and was mentioned during the ceremony.

Please review this [video link](#) from a recent Bay News 9 interview featuring some of the veteran recipients of the homes renovated and donated by Our Next Mission with support from the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch.

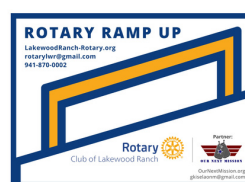
We are doing a couple of bathroom renovations for at-risk veterans. We also are exploring relocating a donated classroom from the Manatee County School District to a 5-acre parcel in Duette. We will place this unit on a residentially zoned parcel vs. a mobile home park. Manatee County's Developmental Services has been very supportive of this initiative. The School Board believes they will have a unit available over the next three to six months. The recipient of this unit is a Navy veteran who tragically lost his disabled wife when their mobile home burned several months ago. The veteran understands the timeframe and is willing to wait.

Greg Kisela, president/CEO of Our Next Mission
Cell: 850-585-1698
Email: gkiselaonm@gmail.com
ournextmission.org

Terry Byce
Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch
Veterans Committee
Home: 941-351-0092
Cell: 703-627-7765
Email: terry.byce@verizon.net



Over 35 neighbors, volunteers and partners attended the Colony Cove home dedication, shown above, on June 30. Tampa TV Channel 13 filmed the event. Daniel, the new homeowner, is shown in the light blue Hawaiian shirt and shorts. Rotarians **Terry Byce** and **Russ Sexton** attended. Below, the Pescara Lake dedication on July 7 was also well-attended.





Help needed to find restaurants and sponsors for our annual event

You can help our club's Suncoast Food & Wine Fest Committee by recruiting restaurants and sponsors for the Nov. 11 fundraiser. Event proceeds are given as grants to deserving nonprofit causes.

We now have 37 restaurants (see the current list below; two are taking four spots each) that have committed to participate, and we are expecting more, making it over 40. We'll update this information regularly in the newsletter so Rotarians don't duplicate efforts. When you are a patron in a participating restaurant, please thank them for their support.

Share registration forms with your friends and associates. Suncoast Food & Wine Fest Sponsorship information can be found [here](#) and on Page 8. Restaurants interested in participating can [click here](#) (or see the form on the next page of this newsletter).

Anna Maria Oyster Bar
Apollonia
Bijou Cafe
Boys & Girls Clubs of Manatee County Culinary Program
Café L'Europe
Connors Steak & Seafood
D'Lite's Shoppe
Drunken Poet Café
Fleming's Steakhouse
Gecko's Grill & Pub
Glory Days Grill
Jpan Sushi & Grill
Kore Steakhouse
La Mucca Ballerina
Longhorn Steakhouse
Mademoiselle Paris
Madfish Grille
***Manatee Technical College Culinary Program**
Mean Deans

Miguel's Restaurant
Nothing Bundt Cakes
Pacific Counter
Paramo Cafe & Restaurant
Pascone's Ristorante
PF Chang China Bistro
Post Kitchen & Bar
Remy's on Main
Riverhouse Grill
Sage SRQ
Seasons 52 Fresh Grill (VIP)
Sofia's Mediterranean Restaurant
Starbucks
The Breakfast Company
The Capital Grille
The Rosemary and Thyme
Triple Tail Seafood & Spirits
Urban Taco
 *taking four spots

Festival tickets now being sold

==**Early bird ticket sales** for the Suncoast Food & Wine Fest began July 1.

GENERAL ADMISSION: Save \$10! Early bird cost - \$85 - Includes all food and beverages and free parking.

VIP ADMISSION: Save \$25! Early bird cost - \$160 - VIP ticket includes one hour EARLY ENTRY to the event and access to the VIP Tent with special food and beverages.

==**Regular ticket prices** go into effect Sept. 1.

GENERAL ADMISSION - \$95 Includes all food and beverages and free parking.

VIP ADMISSION - \$185 VIP ticket includes one hour EARLY ENTRY to the event and access to the VIP Tent with special food and beverages.

Committee Leaders

Overall Chair - **Steve Kelle**

Restaurants - **Joan Frey**

Sponsors - **Barbara Jones**

VIP - **Susan Courter**

Wine - **Carmen Spagnola**

Cooking Tent - **Laura Adcock**
and **Judy Berlow**

Tickets - **Fred Lopez** and

Barbara Spangler

Parking - **Ethan Wolfson**

Operations - **Lang Woodydy**



Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch • 21st Annual Suncoast Food & Wine Fest
Saturday, November 11, 2023 • 12:00-4:00 PM

Restaurant Registration Form ~ Please Return ASAP / Deadline Oct 1, 2023

Restaurant: _____ Contact: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

You will receive a complimentary link to your website from the Suncoast Food & Wine Fest website.

Type of Cuisine or Specialty: _____

Please give us a brief description of your restaurant for event advertising (i.e. need for reservations, private rooms, catering, etc.) If you have participated before we can use the description from last year if you prefer.

Would you be willing to donate gift certificates or gift baskets to be auctioned to raise additional funds? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Food item you will be serving: _____

*Our past experience suggests that you should be prepared to serve approximately 1500 serving portions.
This is essential to ensure that we do not run short of tastings.*

NEW RESTAURANTS ONLY:

Please email a high resolution restaurant logo (144 dpi or greater) to ... restaurants@suncoastfoodandwinefest.com

Will you be bringing your own butane or propane burner: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please be aware that no grills may be operated under the cover of a tent.

Any restaurant cooking with a fryer or hot oil must furnish their own K type fire extinguisher. (Manatee County Fire Marshal)

Will you need electricity: ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes – How many 110v receptacles: _____

Will you need supplies to serve to the public? ☐ Forks ☐ Spoons ☐ Knives ☐ Plates ☐ Bowls

Will you bring your own? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Number of staff helping: _____

ARRIVAL TIME FOR SET-UP IS NO LATER THAN 10:00 AM

VIP Entry Starts At 12:00 Noon!

For more information, please call...

Julie Poulin, Restaurant Committee Co-Chair 813-523-2910

Joan L. Frey, Restaurant Committee Co-Chair 941-343-4607

or email: restaurants@suncoastfoodandwinefest.com

Return the completed form to the above email address or contact us to pick it up.





Yes!

...we want to support the charities and projects of the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch, and we will be a sponsor for the 2023 Suncoast Food & Wine Fest at the sponsorship level indicated below (check one):

☐ **\$20,000 Presenting Sponsor**

☐ **\$12,500 Co-Host Sponsor**

☐ **\$8,000 Platinum**

☐ **\$5,000 Gold** ☐ **\$3,500 Titanium**

☐ **\$1,500 Silver** ☐ **\$500 Bronze**

☐ **Our Check Is Enclosed With This Sponsorship Registration** ☐ **Please Bill Us** ☐ **In Kind**

In order to be guaranteed that you are included in all promotional material for the Food & Wine Fest, Sponsors must commit with signed Sponsor Form by July 31st, 2023.

(Please Print Legibly As We Use This Information To Identify You In Our Materials.)

Company Name: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Authorized Signee: (Print) _____

Signature: _____ Title: _____

Key Contact: _____ Title: _____

Phone No: _____ Email: _____

Please make checks payable to: **Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch**
Mail to: 8374 Market Street #449 Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202-5137

Or Return To Rotary Member:

Name: _____ Ph: _____ Email: _____

Or Email To: Sponsorships@SuncoastFoodAndWinefest.com

