

# ROTARY CLUB OF LAKEWOOD RANCH NEWS

AUG. 3, 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

All four of the Rotary Youth Exchange students sponsored by the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch will be presenting this week.

Incoming students are **Simon Sisila** of Slovakia and **Nicolai (Nico) Wysmulski** of Poland.

Outgoing students are **Maya Leichter**, daughter of club member **Carey Leichter**, going to Japan, and **Alexandra (Alex) Layrissette**, daughter of **Donna Layrissette**, going to Brazil. Donna is our club's Youth Exchange Officer.



Clockwise, from top left: RYE students Nico, Simon, Maya and Alex.

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

Meeting ID: 289 101 885

Password: 907278

## LAST WEEK

President **Sybil Porter** presided over the first Club Assembly of the Rotary Year. She inducted **Nancy Janus, Ed.D.**, and **Brian Berry**; see Page 3 for more. Meeting topics included: 1) Please register for weekly lunch meetings rather than just show up; we are scrambling at the last minute to accommodate pop-ins. 2) Club Foundation Chair **John Bodenburt** talked about District 6960's grants program. 3) Membership Chair **Bill Porter** discussed plans to attract new members. 4) Zone 34 Public Image Coordinator **Susan Courter** encouraged everyone to use social media to share club news, especially about our Suncoast Food & Wine Fest.

## PROGRAMS

**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, TURNING TAXES**  
**INTO FAMILY WEALTH**  
**AND PHILANTHROPY**

**AUG. 31**

AT LAKEWOOD RANCH COUNTRY CLUB  
**CLUB ASSEMBLY**

CHECK US OUT!



# CALENDAR

**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 Woody** 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.

**Aug. 30:** 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. Attend via Zoom by [clicking here](#). Info: President **Sybil Porter** at [sporter@porterco.com](mailto:sporter@porterco.com).

**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 6-8.

**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 District 6960 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."

**Jan. 6:** Save the date for RLI sessions at north and south district locations.

**May 25:** Save the date for the Rotary International Convention in Singapore.

## Help plant our microforest

Join the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch, allies and the Lakewood Ranch Community Development District 1 to create a high-performance microforest at Greenbrook Adventure Park.

The planting day will be from 8 a.m. to noon Thursday, Aug. 3, at Greenbrook Park. (Yes, that is the morning of our weekly meeting, but if you can go and leave early to make it to our regular meeting, that would be great.) The microforest will include more than 50 native species of trees, shrubs and ground covers. The planting bed will be fully prepared -- even with the holes dug -- so volunteers only need to install the plants.

From the parking lot, follow signs to the site. Bring work gloves and a small trowel or garden's claw if you have them. Beverages will be provided. For details, send a text to 703-342-6185 or email [charles.c.reith@gmail.com](mailto:charles.c.reith@gmail.com).



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

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

## MEMBER CELEBRATIONS

### BIRTHDAYS

Al Taricco 8/3  
Steve Bordes 8/4  
Dave Sluzevich 8/14  
Anne Ross 8/20  
Judy Berlow 8/23

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Jerry and Marjorie Long 8/1  
Joyce and John Borda 8/6  
Mark and Lee Ann Brink 8/6  
Barry and Carol Sukoneck 8/18  
Jennifer Fretz-Smith and Ty Smith 8/27

### CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Barbara Jones 8/7/03  
Gary Houseworth 8/8/19  
Lang Woody 8/8/19  
*34 previous years in Rotary*  
Judi Bjork 8/11/22  
Eck Kuesters 8/16/17  
Donna Layriss 8/27/20



Fajita, front, poses with, from left, Membership Chair **Bill Porter**, President **Sybil Porter** and new club members **Nancy Janus** and **Brian Berry**.

## Welcome to our club!

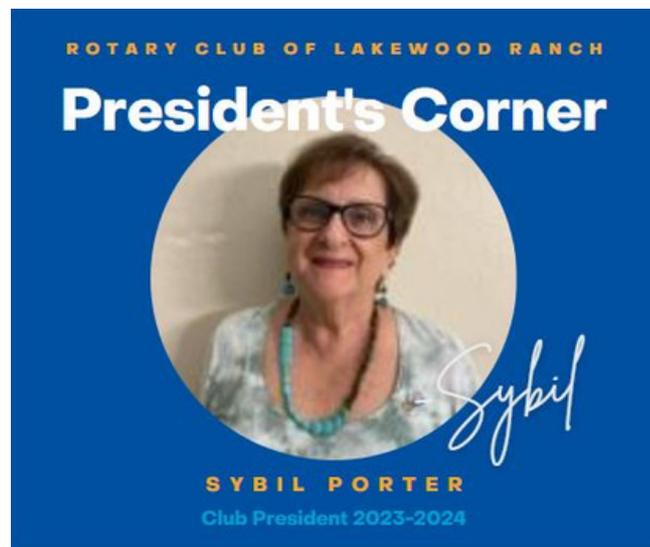
Club President **Sybil Porter** inducted our newest members, the husband-and-wife team of **Brian Berry** and **Nancy Janus**, Ed.D., at the July 27 meeting. Membership Chairman **Bill Porter** even gave Nancy's service dog, Fajita, a Rotary pin.

Nancy recently retired from her job as an Eckerd College professor of human development. Brian served as a school psychologist for 26 years and has written a book about intuitive health readings.

They have traveled with her students to many countries, specifically Cambodia, to shine a light on the horrors of child sex trafficking. Read an article about Nancy by [clicking here](#). Nancy is scheduled to speak to our club on Sept. 14.



Facebook post by Pam Blankenzee



Fellow Rotarians:

I can't believe it is now August. I know that many of you are away on vacation and I hope you enjoy your time relaxing.

This week's program is very exciting. We will be hosting our two Inbound exchange students; **Simon Sisila** from Slovenia and **Nico Wyszulski** from Poland. Our two outbound students, **Alexis Layrison** and **Maya Leichter**, will be with us as well. We will also host the Out-of-Door Academy's Interact contact, **Camela Giraud**, who we have been speaking with to re-form our Interact program at ODA. She and her students are excited and motivated to work with the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch again and have some ideas to partner with us. I am very hopeful that we will be able to successfully restart this Interact connection. If anyone is interested in working with our ODA club, please let me know.

I hope that those who attended last week's meeting enjoyed our first Club Assembly of the Rotary year. In future assemblies, we will showcase our members, report on ongoing projects and committee reports, and maybe throw in a few fun things. If you have creative ideas for using that time, please let me know.

**Lang Woody** is looking for "a few good men and women" to join the Social Committee to plan some events this year. This is the fun part of Rotary, where we can interact with each other informally with no business agenda. Please let Lang know if you are interested. I can tell you from my own experience, being on the social committee is great fun!

See you Thursday at Tara!



## Phase 1 of safe water project for Villa Talandracas is complete

We are happy to report that the Villa Talandracas Phase 1 Safe Water project in Peru has been completed and the Rotary Foundation Global Grant 2014857 has been closed.

Approximately 4,675 people live in the community of Villa Talandracas, Peru. Located in the hot and dry climate of northwestern Peru, most families work in the agricultural trade while earning around \$5 per day.

Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch Rotarians, **Annie Ross** and **John Freeman**, along with our Peru Host Rotary Club of Castilla partners, visited the community in late 2018 with the hopes and dreams of bringing clean water for all residents.

Villa Talandracas was like many communities in Peru – they lacked access to safe water. Water was pumped from a borehole for several hours a day with an extremely high electrical operating costs. While there was an existing, albeit aging, water tower and piped network that delivered water to every household, the water was untreated and caused unfortunate water-related diseases. Children were the most at risk and could not attend school while dealing with various illnesses.

The Villa Talandracas Phase 1 Safe Water project serving 1,075 residents has been completed with your help and other Rotary Club partners. This community now has a solar- powered water system with 160 solar panels, a new solar- powered pump and a solar inverter electrical system. Thanks to this new system, Villa Talandracas Phase 1 now meets all their water production needs purely on solar power. Families are now drinking safe water that has been chlorinated before it reaches each home. Each of the 215 households now have newly installed water meters that help each household pay

### See project photos and a video

To view the Villa Talandracas Phase 1 photo album, please [click here](#). Please [click here](#) to view a five-minute video for an excellent overview of the project.

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only for their amount of water usage and the community's water is properly conserved.

We are happy to report that the project commissioning ceremony just took place on Nov. 29, 2020, and the community is daily producing and consuming safe water. The Safe Water Committee is fully trained supporting their community. The Villa Talandracas Phase 1 project has completed the one-year follow-up and support phase by our long-standing NGO partner, Water Mission. Throughout the year, the Rotary Club of Castilla and Water Mission Peru team made regularly scheduled visits to support the community with any technical, managerial, or financial challenges as they moved toward a full project transition.

Thanks to your support, 1,075 residents now have access to a sustainable, safe water system. Your humanitarian investment has helped the families of this community lead healthier, more productive lives for generations to come.

Phase 2 of this project has been approved and will serve 3,600 additional residents. We are currently in the implementing phases and appreciate your support.

With your help, we look forward to assisting many more communities with their clean water journey!

Yours in Rotary Service,  
Clean Water Team, Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch

# MORE PROJECTS FOR OUR NEXT MISSION

We just started a new project at Swan Lake Village on July 17 with more than 3,000 pounds of trash removed from Unit B-7. This two-bedroom unit was given to us by the Swan Lake Management to renovate for a needy veteran. Rotarian **Terry Byce** participated in this endeavor.

We painted Unit B-7's ceilings and bedroom walls last week. We ordered the metal for the carport and to repair to the roof. The material is expected to be delivered around Labor Day. We decided to complete repairs to the inside while we wait for the metal to be delivered. Most of this work consists of painting, a little paneling replacement and installation of the vinyl flooring along with replacing the lower portion of the kitchen cabinets. All interior components are within our capabilities and can be performed in air-conditioned space to offset the summer heat! See the photos of this unit on this page. The exterior looks great.

We have an 80-year-old disabled veteran candidate who lives in a mobile home that needs extensive repairs that cannot be accomplished with anyone living there. If he qualifies, Unit B-7, would be perfect for his needs. Veterans like him are why we do what we do!

To volunteer to help over the next couple of months, access Unit B7 in Swan Lake Village, 620 57th Ave. W., Bradenton, by going to the front office parking lot, then walk about a half-block to the first street on your left. Normal working hours are 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Please contact Greg Kisella or Terry Byce to be added to the volunteer list.

**Greg Kisela**, president/CEO of Our Next Mission  
Cell: 850-585-1698  
Email: [gkiselaonm@gmail.com](mailto:gkiselaonm@gmail.com)  
[ournextmission.org](http://ournextmission.org)

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





## Help needed to find restaurants and sponsors for our signature fundraiser

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 7. Restaurants interested in participating can [click here](#) (or see the form on the next page of this newsletter).

**Anna Maria Oyster Bar**  
**Apollonia**  
**Beach Bistro**  
**Bijou Cafe**  
**Boys & Girls Clubs of Manatee County Culinary Program**  
**Café L'Europe**  
**Connors Steak & Seafood**  
**D'Lites 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**  
**The Rosemary and Thyme**  
**Sage SRQ**  
**Seasons 52 Fresh Grill (VIP)**  
**Sofia's Mediterranean Restaurant**  
**Starbucks**  
**The Breakfast Company**  
**The Capital Grille**  
**Triple Tail Seafood & Spirits**  
**Urban Taco**  
**Yard House**  
 \*taking four spots

## Festival tickets now being sold at early bird prices

==**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**  
 Ambassadors - **Ted Lindenberg**



**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](mailto: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...

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

or email: [restaurants@suncoastfoodandwinefest.com](mailto: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](mailto:Sponsorships@SuncoastFoodAndWinefest.com)**

