Rotary



Invocation: Mary Anne Thomas Pledge: Randy Hayes

> Club Officers Doc Renuart President

Jennifer Logue President-Elect

Beverly Flanagan President Nominee

Lori Anderson Immediate Past President

Emily Rhodin Secretary

Lorraine Dorsa *Treasurer*

Tim Crosby Sergeant at Arms

Chris Bondani *Legal Counsel*

<u>Board Members</u> Toni Chrabot Beverly Flanagan Toni Boudreaux-Godwin Vince Grassia Sherry Mahoney

Appointed Wayne Gordon Andre Green Donna Guzzo Shelley Morgan Marc Ressler Billy Wagner

Jeff Michelman Rotary Club of Jacksonville Oceanside 2022-2023 District 6970

Jennifer Jones Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland Ontario, Canada Rotary International President 2022-2023

Rotary Rote Published Weekly by the Rotary Club of PVB

Former Rotary Youth Exchange student shares experiences in Ukraine

PVB Rotarians had an opportunity to experience the transformational impact of Rotary International last week, when a former Rotary Youth Exchange student shared her recent experiences aiding humanitarian efforts in war-torn Ukraine.

St. Augustine photographer Amanda Lamosova -- a former RYE student to Slovakia who married a Slovakian -- recently served as a translator with



a humanitarian team bringing much-needed supplies across the Slovakian border to Ukraine, where local Rotary clubs helped distribute them. In addition to mattresses for refugees sleeping on the ground, much-needed supplies included diapers and other children's items. In one encounter, Amanda recalled sharing her own child's Ninja Turtle toy with three young refugee boys who were "covered from head to toe in dirt."

"When the oldest boy took the toy, it was like all of the trauma and sadness just melted away from his face and he was 11 years old again," she said. "It was beautiful and heart breaking at the same time."

Responding to a question from the audience, Amanda agreed that her experiences as a Rotary Youth Exchange student transformed her life and put her on a path to aid the people of Ukraine. "It's totally like a God thing," she said. "It's like each step of the way, each person I met, brought me to this place."

Amanda shared photos of the relief efforts -- including those being conducted by Ukrainian Rotary clubs -- and noted that donations are dwindling. To make a donation, visit <u>www.sweetsmilesflorida.com/helpukraine</u>. Club President Doc Renuart, meanwhile, noted that our district's recent fundraising efforts for Ukraine enabled us to donate a new fire truck to the people there. Way to go, Rotarians!

A visit from Matus!



Continuing with the RYE/Slovakian theme, last Thursday's meeting included a visit from Matus! The former RYE student from Slovakia stopped by to perform a few tunes on the piano -including a Slovakian folk song performed by Immediate Past President Lori Anderson! Citing fears of being besieged by recording contract offers, Lori declined to share the video of her performance, but you can hear Matus performing solo on the club's Facebook page!



TBRCITW celebrates perfect attendance

The Best Rotary Club in the World celebrated the perfect attendance of many members last week, handing out pins ranging from one year to 43 years of showing up! In keeping with tradition, several of those earning perfect attendance pins were not present to collect them -- but that's okay, because between visits to other clubs and our own club's many social events and committee meetings, there are ample opportunities to balance the scales and earn a perfect attendance pin!

Rotarian Donna Guzzo displays the donation the First Coast Cultural Center received from The Best Rotary Club in the World!







August 18 Program: Donna Orender

Donna Orender is CEO of Orender Unlimited and is a recognized leader and business executive. Donna has had a stellar business career, having worked in the sports television and production industry before spending 17 years at the PGA Tour. She was recruited by Adam Silver to become president of the WNBA, which under her leadership achieved double-digit growth in all business metrics. Last summer, Donna was inducted into the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in Israel. She has been recognized as one of the top 10 most powerful women in sports and currently serves on boards of both public and private companies.

Upcoming Speakers and Events

August 20: Vibrant Club Seminar, Palatka 8 a.m. -1 p.m. August 25: *DG Jeff Michelman* August 27: Ecology Day

September: September 8: Brian Sexton September 15: Dr. Joe Saviak

*Board meetings are from 7:30-8:30 a.m. and red badgers are encouraged to attend!

