



CREATE HOPE in the **WORLD** Rotary



Club
Ponte
Vedra
Beach

Invocation:

Toni Chrabot

Pledge:

Christine Ng

If you missed last week-Mr. Sunshine himself is back! Love seeing you back with us! We also heard a great presentation from guest speaker, Lee Smith, Executive Director, THE PLAYERS. Lee spoke to club about the upcoming tournament, the newest offerings, fan experiences and impact to the local community. From the initial idea by former PGA TOUR Commissioner Deane R.Beman, THE PLAYERS Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass was built in 1980 to be the permanent home of THE PLAYERS Championship.



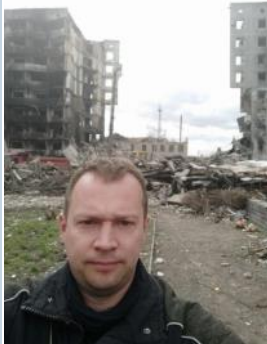
This year THE PLAYERS celebrates its 50th Anniversary! Just a reminder we will not meet tournament week, so no meeting the 14th. A BIG thank you to **Karsten Amlie** for all your efforts to raise awareness and funds during the Polar Plunge. \$438 were raised by members of TBRCITW-thank you to everyone who donated!



Ladies-join us at SoNapa Grille in South Jacksonville Beach Tuesday, March 5th from 5-7pm in the Barrell Room. This is always a fun time to connect with new members or catch up with old ones. See you there!



March 7th: Program:



Kostya was born in Ukraine in 1980 while it was part of the Soviet Union. He was 11 when the Soviet Union was dissolved and Ukraine gained it's independence. This started a period of transition to a market economy, in which Ukraine suffered an eight year recession. Subsequently however, the economy experienced a high increase in GDP growth until the economy plunged during the Great Recession. He lived through the years of political unrest and Russian aggression that followed. In 1999 Kostya began working for Music Mission Kiev (MMK) He worked there for 20 years first as a translator, then Business Manager and President of the MMK's charitable foundation. MMK is an organization started by

Roger McMurrin, an American Presbyterian Pastor and music director. The corporate offices are in Orlando, Florida. It's goal was to bring Sacred Music and Christianity back to Ukraine. MMK also raised funds to support the many orphans and widows in Greater Kiev. MMK grew into a large symphony and choir that traveled sharing the Gospel, performing and fundraising all over the world. Kostya has organized concerts in the US for MMK and has visited 40 states as a result. His wife, Kateryna, was a choir member with MMK as well as an accomplished pianist, music teacher and conductor. Kostya, Kateryna, and their 10 year old son Tim were living in a suburb 10 miles outside of Kiev on February 24, 2022 when the life-thread of millions of Ukrainian families, including his, was brutally torn apart because of the Russian invasion. They experienced first hand the anxiety and terror of war, hiding in the basement of a woodshed for days while sirens rang and bombs fell. Kostya put his wife and son on an evacuation train as soon as was possible. Kostya, and all men, were not allowed to leave. Kateryna and Tim stayed in Bulgaria for 4 months until June 2022 when they got a sponsor and were granted entry into the US through the United for Ukraine program. Their family was separated for almost 2 years until December 19, 2023 when Kostya arrived. The family has been supported by many people since arriving, notably Rotary members Jim Hoener and Vickie Cavey. Kostya has a Bachelors in Business Administration from Concordia Ukrainian-American Liberal Arts International University, as well as a Masters of Business Administration from National Technical University of Ukraine.

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2023-2024*

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by Toni Boudreaux-Godwin
of the Rotary Club of PVB*

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Tamara Renuart**



David & Jennifer Logue



**Join us for Rise Against Hunger
Saturday, March 23rd from 10am to
12pm at Fletcher High School.
We will be assembling meals to
benefit international hunger.**

March Speakers & Upcoming Events

March 5th: Women in Rotary Happy Hour. Join us at SoNapa Grille from 5-7pm in the Barrell Room.

March 7th: Kostya Vikulkin: A Personal Ukranian Refugee Story

March 14th: No Meeting: Have fun at TPC!

March 19th: *Board Meeting*

March 21st: Toni Chrabot, Negotiations in the FBI

March 23rd: Rise Against Hunger

March 28th: Non-Profit Week!

Board meetings are held every third Tuesday from 7:30-8:30am at Vicars Landing-upstairs in their conference room.

Red badgers are encouraged to attend!

On the Web Club
#21038
Just click the links!

PVB Rotary Club

Rotary District 6970

Rotary International

RYE6970

Beaches Rotaract



Please take a moment to RSVP for the MASH Bash! We need to get a proper head-count so we know how many tickets we have to distribute and to also project food and bev. Thank you!

