



## Voted Best Civic Club in the Ponte Vedra area!

### Meet Our Rotary Heroes

THIS TUESDAY,  
JANUARY 31, WE WILL  
HONOR THIS YEAR'S  
FIREFIGHTER &  
SHERIFF DEPUTY OF  
THE YEAR



### SUPER BOWL SQUARES

DETAILS ON A FUN  
CLUB FUNDRAISER FOR  
THE SUPER BOWL!



### JOINT SUCCESS!

OUR CLUB JOINS THE  
ROTARY CLUB OF  
PONTE VEDRA BEACH  
FOR A MEETING



### NEXT CLUB MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 AT 7:30AM  
TREYLOR PARK RESTAURANT IN  
NOCATEE

ZOOM: ID - 831 0429 0873; PASSWORD - 252056

# THE.32081.ROTARIAN

Club Awards Medals to our Rotary Heroes of the Year!



Rotary  
Club of Ponte Vedra



**Lieutenant Mike Pepper** is the 2022  
Rotary Hero Firefighter of the Year.

**Senior Deputy Nate Datsko** is the 2022  
Rotary Hero Deputy of the Year.

Two of St. Johns County's finest first responders will be celebrated this Tuesday, January 31, 6:30-8pm in Nocatee. The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra will award its Firefighter and Sheriff Deputy of the Year medals during a ceremony at the Coastal Oaks clubhouse (600 Bluewater Drive, Ponte Vedra, FL 32081).

**Lieutenant Mike Pepper** is the 2022 Rotary Hero Firefighter of the Year. Pepper represents St. Johns County Fire Rescue Station #18 in Nocatee. He was nominated to Lieutenant within five years of being with the department, and now has a 20-year career under his belt. Pepper is a father of four (as well as a future grandfather) and enjoys mentoring the next leaders in the department. Captain Shawn Vitori, who nominated Pepper for the award, says, "Lieutenant Pepper puts absolutely 100% into everything that he does, and does so to the highest standard."

**Senior Deputy Nate Datsko** is the 2022 Rotary Hero Deputy of the Year. Datsko represents the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office (SJSO) Delta Northeast sector. He's been with the SJSO since 2000 and is a 29-year veteran of law enforcement. Datsko is the father of six children, and works as a traffic homicide investigator as well as a DUI enforcement Deputy with the Traffic Unit. Nominating Sergeant Scott Yeoman says, "Senior Deputy Nate Datsko has always gone above and beyond the call of duty. He has a genuine passion for protecting our citizens."

Captains and other leaders within their respective departments nominated Pepper and Datsko for this recognition. The Rotary Heroes awards honor first responders who display excellence in their profession, high ethical standards and demonstrate the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self."

**All club members are encouraged to attend this Tuesday evening's medal ceremony.** All of our names have been registered with the security gate at Coastal Oaks for Tuesday night. Help us honor our local heroes and celebrate Service Above Self!



## ***UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS & SPEAKERS***

**January 31-** Rotary Heroes Event, 6:30pm-8pm, Coastal Oaks Clubhouse

**February 7** - Khalil Osiris: spent 20 years in prison before founding a nonprofit to aid at-risk youth

**March 7** - Tony Kazlauskas, MESH: non-profit that fills funding gaps for homeless students in St. Johns County

**March 21** - SJC Sheriff Rob Hardwick



## **Mark Your Calendars**

- **February 2:** President's Office Hours (6-7pm) — join club President Bob Wiltfong at the Greenwise Cafe in Nocatee for a drink and/or any club business you want to discuss
- **February 18:** [RLI, Santa Fe State College, Gainesville, 7-3:30pm](#) (your enrollment fee of \$100 to attend is reimbursed by our club; in other words, it's FREE for you to attend the Rotary Leadership Institute, RLI!)
- **March 25:**
  - [RYLA, Act I--Youth Leadership Summit, Part I and Food Packing, Location Beachside HS, St. Augustine](#). 8am-4:30pm; RYLA is Rotary Youth Leadership Awards — find out more [here](#)
  - District Grants Training, Food Packing, Beachside HS, St. Augustine
  - Rotary Fellowship (Scotch & Wine Tastings), Location TBD
- **March 28:** District Grant Training Seminar, Zoom, TBD (mandatory training for 2023/24 District Grant Applications)
- **April 15:** RYLA Act II: Zoom, TBD, 9am-1pm

- **May 12:** District Training Assembly, Trinity Parrish/Flagler College, St. Augustine
- **May 12-13:** District Conference, Trinity Parrish, St. Augustine
- **May 13:** RYLA Act III: St. Augustine, 8-4:30pm
- **May 27-31:** [2023: Rotary International Convention, Melbourne, Australia](#)

## Club Members Here & There



Rotarians Mean Business: Luis Monegro completes roofing work at Jim Huster's home.



Meagan Perkins's daughter, Cami, launches her Girl Scout cookie drive. Order your box by clicking [here](#).



Club President, Bob Wiltfong, joins other Rotarians at the Rotary Club of Northwest Jacksonville's "Rotary Roundup" event last weekend.



## Recent Club Speakers



Dr. Lisa Amato speaks to our club on January 10 about the upcoming Kate Cup tennis tournament.



Author, Andrew Nagorski, talks about his latest book, "Saving Freud," at our club meeting on January 17.

**Rotary**  
Club of Ponte Vedra



Follow the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra



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## Super Bowl Squares are Here!



	QUARTER 1	QUARTER 2	QUARTER 3	QUARTER 4
TEAMS				
SCORE				


We're going to try something new this year: a Super Bowl Squares fundraiser game!

### How do Super Bowl squares work?

The game starts with a 10-by-10 grid (see image to the left). Each white box in that grid has a \$10 price tag.

Before the Super Bowl kicks off, you and and/or anyone you know can buy (as many as you like) individual boxes until all 100 spaces in the grid are accounted for. The numbers 0-9 are then assigned (at random) to the (shaded) columns and rows, and each team playing in the Super Bowl is assigned to the vertical or horizontal axis. This gives each box on the grid two numbers (i.e. 5 and 7 ) that are attached to each football team (i.e. Chiefs and Eagles).

At the end of each quarter of the Super Bowl, a winning box is decided by what numbers and teams are attached to the score of the football game. For instance, if the Chiefs are ahead 15 to 7 over the Eagles at the end of the 1st quarter, then the box that has 5 for the Chiefs and 7 for the Eagles wins a jackpot!



## What are the jackpots?

With 100 boxes available at \$10/box, we'll have a total kitty of \$1000 from this fundraiser. Half of that kitty will go to our club's coffers. The other half (\$500) will be paid out in jackpots:

- 1st quarter jackpot = \$50
- 2nd quarter (half time) jackpot = \$75
- 3rd quarter jackpot = \$125
- 4th quarter (final score) jackpot = \$250

After tonight's NFL games are decided, club President, Bob Wiltfong, will email all club members a complete Super Bowl Squares game board (with the teams playing in the game listed on it). Please share this game with your friends and family — as it not only raises money for our club, but it makes watching the Super Bowl game a whole lot more fun! If we sell out of boxes, no problem. We can always create another board depending on demand. All payments will be collected by Bob (either by cash or his Venmo account @bob-wiltfong) and must be turned in by kick off of the Super Bowl (in two weeks). Have fun and good luck!

## Joint Club Meeting with Ponte Vedra Beach



This past Thursday, January 26, we held a joint meeting with the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach at Marsh Landing Country Club. What a great event! As part of the “Beyond the Business Card” theme, we all got to know each other better through some fun conversation cards that were given to each table. Thank you to the RCPVB for hosting us!

RCPVB President, Doc Renuart, and RCPV President, Bob Wiltfong, address approximately 100 Rotarians and their guests at the “Beyond the Business Card” event on January 26.

## From the President's Desk



The term “**big hairy audacious goal**” refers to a clear and compelling target that an organization tries to reach. Commonly abbreviate as **BHAG** (**pronounced "bee hag"**), our members embraced this concept at the beginning of this Rotary year (July 1-June 30) by defining 4 BHAGs for our club. Now that we're about half way through the year, let's see where we are with our big, hairy audacious goals:

### **BHAG #1: Apply for District Grant (Water Fountain Stations at Davis Park with RCPV Branding)**



**This one is currently on a holding pattern** as we wait for the St. Johns County Parks & Recreation Department to re-engage with us. The good news is they're on board with the idea and are excited about using this project as a pilot for their recently established Parks & Rec Foundation. Furthermore, the President-elect of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Beach, Jennifer Logue, has expressed an interest in possibly partnering with us on this project. The bad news is that the Foundation is still waiting to hire its Executive Director, and the Parks & Rec Department doesn't seem to be in a hurry to get this done until, at the very least, that hire is complete. Thank you, Denny Baldwin, for staying on top of this for us!

## BHAG #2: Net 10 Members



Our Membership Chair, MaryBeth Murray, has been doing an outstanding job in her role (thank you, MaryBeth!) and we've inducted some outstanding new members in recent months (I'm looking at you, Dean Jones, Sarah Schmitt, and David Torres!). Furthermore, we continue to have a healthy list of guests at our club meetings who express an interest in becoming Rotarians. With that said, we've lost a few club members this year (due to a lack of commitment and/or life changes), so, number-wise, we're basically where we were at on July 1 still. However, we have a few new (outstanding) member candidates in the pipeline and **I'm optimistic that we will finish this year very strong with new member inductions!**

## BHAG #3: Rotary Community Social Night



Our club celebrates its 5th Anniversary this April 2nd. We have budgeted \$1000 for our club to mark this occasion by throwing some kind of community party around that time. Thankfully, we have two resident "Ministers of Fun" in Luis Monegro and David Torres who have volunteered to chair our efforts for this event. I've told them that they can, basically, plan whatever they want. I'm looking forward to what they come up with for us! In other words, **we're on track to fulfill this BHAG!**

## BHAG #4-Building Endowment to \$50,000



Of all the BHAGs listed here, this one, to me, is probably the most important to the future health and vitality of our club (but also the most daunting of tasks). The current balance for our club's Foundation Endowment is about \$16,000. Not bad. But if we really want a club Foundation that helps define Nocatee and the people who live here, we need an Endowment of \$50,000

or more. That number allows bank interest to accrue in such a way that the Foundation starts to build on itself a bit.

Where do we get roughly \$34,000 to get to that golden \$50,000 number? The answer is through corporate sponsorships of our Rubber Duck Race. The Rubber Duck Race is our club's biggest Foundation fundraiser of the year. That's why it's so important that each of us get out there and try to confirm as many corporate sponsors for the Race as possible. Simply put, **without corporate sponsors for our Rubber Duck Race this year, we will not hit this BHAG and that will limit the growth and reach of our club to do good in this world.**



My Mom received this wonderful flower arrangement from the club last week. As you may know, my 90-year old mother was involved in a car accident (not her fault, btw) last month that resulted in 5 broken ribs and a broken sternum in Texas. It was touch and go for awhile, but I'm happy to report that she is now back home and getting a little bit better every day. She sent a thank you card to our club this past week which said, in part, "Thank you for the beautiful bouquet of yellow roses (to remind me of Texas where I live) and sunflowers (to remind me of Kansas where I lived my first 21 years)." I'm a happy son. Thank you, Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra! - Bob Wiltfong





## **CLUB'S MISSION STATEMENT**

To realize our club's potential through increased membership and engagement; expanded diversity, equity, inclusion and service; and enhanced fellowship and comfort.

## **CLUB'S VISION STATEMENT**

A vibrant, diverse and inclusive Rotary club that is widely recognized for highly effective programs and projects within a framework of friendship and service.

## **CLUB'S CORE VALUES**

Fellowship•Integrity•Diversity•Service•Leadership



**President**  
Bob Wiltfong



**Secretary**  
Rosemary Lorenz



**Treasurer**  
Sean Smith



**President-elect**  
Josh Hull



**Community Service Chair**  
Denny Baldwin



**Membership Chair**  
MaryBeth Murray



**Sergeant-at-Arms**  
Linda Lomax



**Program Chair**  
Karen Everett



**Rotary Foundation Chair/  
International Service Chair**  
Andy Erickson



**General Counsel**  
Edward Sarnowski

