

We've Only Just Begun

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PONTE VEDRA CELEBRATES ITS 3RD ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK



IN-PERSON MEETINGS ARE COMING BACK!



FIND OUT WHO THE SPEAKERS ARE AT OUR NEXT MEETINGS



NEXT MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 6TH AT 7:30AM
ZOOM MEETING ID: 388 019 0662
PASSWORD: 263 227

THE.32081.ROTARIAN



The Charter Board of Directors for our Club, April 2018

Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra Celebrates Its 3rd Anniversary

Since its founding, the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra has raised tens of thousands of dollars for charity.



The Charter Presentation Ceremony

L-R: DGN Mike Darragh, PDG Fel Lee, DGE Jeanette Loftus, Charter Club President Kelly Altosino-Sastre and RI Zone Director David Stovall

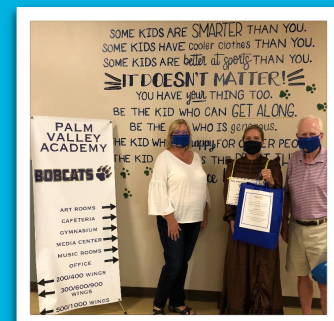
On April 2, 2021, The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra is celebrating its 3rd anniversary. Chartered by Rotary International (R.I.) on April 2, 2018 as Club #89151, our Club has grown to about 30 members and is presently engaged in a host of local and international service projects, along with its regular 3 times a month meetings and social occasions.

While founding members, Karen Altosino-Sastre, Jeremiah Blocker, Darrell Clarkson, and Josh Hull were all Rotarians before our club started, the following charter members are celebrating 3 years of "Service Above Self" here in Nocatee: MaryBeth Murray, Gary Smith, Josh Woolsey, Adam Podlesh, Hilary Wilson, Meagan Perkins and Braxton Adamson. Although not strictly a charter member, President Ian Aguilar, joined the Club on April 18, 2018 so he is similarly celebrating his 3rd anniversary of membership. We raise a glass to them and their foresight and look forward to the continued success of The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra! - by *Denny Baldwin*

Celebrations!



In 3 short years, our club has taken part in several charity efforts, raising tens of thousands of dollars for good causes here in St. Johns County and abroad!





Water for Cambodia Project Director, Andy Erickson, addresses the crowd gathered for our fundraising victory celebration held on World Water Day, March 22, 2021, on the patio area of Treylor Park restaurant in Nocatee.

Club Raises \$7000 for Water for Cambodia Project

The Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra gathered on the patio of Treylor Park restaurant in Nocatee this past Monday, March 22nd, to commemorate World Water Day. To celebrate, the group marked the end of a fundraising effort for clean water filters in Cambodia. This effort resulted in a contribution of \$7000 to the Rotary-sponsored Water for Cambodia project.



Denny and Gail Baldwin's grandkids, Olivia and Max, emptied their "piggy bank" for Water for Cambodia.

The President of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra, Ian Aguilar, told those gathered that, "Through our club's efforts 87 additional bio-sand water filters will be installed in the Siem Reap region of Cambodia, and will help over 435 needy villagers there." Approximately 15 Rotarians from Nocatee and Bartram Trail were in attendance to applaud the news.

Rotary International set up the Water for Cambodia project in Siem Reap after local health officials requested help there. At that point, more than 1 out of every 10 children under the age of five was dying due to clean water issues like malaria, diarrhea and respiratory diseases. Through the leadership of Rotarian Gunther Hausen, now deceased, the minds and hearts and funding capabilities of Rotary were enlisted to take strong action.

Water for Cambodia relies heavily on locally made bio-sand filters that require no electricity and last for many years. Dirty water is filtered through three layers of sand and gravel, coming out on the other end with very few bacteria and no parasites. The filters are periodically tested by a project-owned water lab in the area to make sure they're working properly.

Water for Cambodia has been blessed over the years by a string of global grants from the Rotary Foundation, and that strong support continues. There are now over 25,000 family filters in use in the Siem Reap section of Cambodia, serving over 125,000 villagers. Each filter costs about \$80 to produce and serves about 5 people per filter. - by *Andy Erickson & Bob Wiltfong*



The infographic features a photograph of two women in traditional Middle Eastern attire. One woman, wearing a yellow headscarf and a brown jacket, is holding a clipboard and a red folder, appearing to be a health worker. The other woman, wearing a white headscarf and a white jacket, is holding a blue bag and looking at the clipboard. The background is a light blue gradient with several yellow water drop icons. A large yellow water drop in the center contains the text "2.5 BILLION children immunized against polio". To the right, a white box with a yellow border contains the text "WE SOLVE PROBLEMS", "No challenge is too big for us", and a paragraph about Rotary's mission.

WE SOLVE PROBLEMS

No challenge is too big for us

For more than 110 years, we've bridged cultures and connected continents to champion peace, fight illiteracy and poverty, promote clean water and sanitation, and fight disease.

2.5
BILLION
children
immunized
against polio

Board of Directors Says Club Will Start Meeting Again In-Person in May



At our most recent Board of Directors meeting on March 26th, club leaders decided that we will start holding in-person meetings again starting May 1st. Board members felt enough people are getting vaccinated against COVID-19 locally that the move makes sense. The plan is for members and guests to still be able to attend meetings virtually via Zoom, if they so choose. The club is investigating spaces other than Treylor Park restaurant in Nocatee to resume its meetings. Possible new meeting sites include Flagler Health Village (where the new YMCA is). The club is looking for a location that can accommodate as many as 30 people at a time in-person while also streaming activities to virtually.

In other news from the Board meeting, the President Elect Nominating Committee is reassembling to identify members who might serve as future presidents of the club. Meagan Perkins had to step away from her President-Elect position for the 2022-23 cycle after taking on a leadership role in one of her professional organizations. Also, the Board reviewed the great work Sean Smith has been doing in collecting member dues and getting our financial books in order. There was also very promising reports on the formation of a Rotary Foundation in the club's name starting this summer. If established, the Foundation can start granting money in the club's name for scholarships and charity grants in the local area. - *by Bob Wiltfong*



• **PETS District Breakouts** Fri, May 7 6:30 pm via Zoom. ALL President-Elects and AG2s should be in attendance.

• **District Training Assembly** Sat, May 8 9:00 am via zoom. ALL Rotarians should join us for this informative learning event. Our guest speaker will be PRIP Barry Rassin who will speak on Rotary's new Seventh Avenue of Focus, and provide an update on Hurricane Dorian relief efforts.



Our Next Club Speakers: Lightning & Thunder

Ann Breidenstein is the founder and CEO of Learn to Read of St. Johns County,



Inc. The mission of Learn to Read is to support adult learners in our area with literacy tutoring, thereby removing barriers to employment, higher education, economic mobility and health literacy.

Learn to Read is partnering with the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra on this year's Rubber Ducky Regatta. **Ann will talk to us during our regular club meeting on Tuesday, April 6th, at 7:30am about all the exciting developments for this year's Regatta —** including what we can do as a club to make this year's event the best one yet. Please make plans to attend and bring a guest (or two) with you!

On April 20th, the Chief Marketing Officer of Korn Ferry will be our featured speaker. Nocatee resident, Jill Wiltfong, oversees the relationship for Korn Ferry on its developmental tour with The PGA Tour. The Korn Ferry Tour is the primary pathway for professional golfers seeking to earn their PGA Tour card. Past alum of the tour include Bryson Dechambeau, Tony Finau and Justin Thomas. **Jill will speak to us about this relationship and how it impacts Korn Ferry's business.**

Korn Ferry is a global organizational consulting firm that deals in hiring, leadership development and benefits & rewards. It is a \$2 billion company with 7500 employees in more than 50 countries. Jill is a graduate of the University of Texas and has her MBA degree from Cornell. Her husband, Bob, is also a member of our club!



Our Next Big Thing: The Rubber Ducky Regatta on May 16th

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, May 16th, at 12pm**. That's when we plan to drop thousands of rubber dummies into the intracoastal waterway from the north side of the Palm Valley/Ponte Vedra (210) bridge. The ducks will waddle to a finish line opposite the **Palm Valley Outdoors Bar & Grill (377 S. Roscoe Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082, headquarters for the event)**.

The 7th Annual Rubber Ducky Regatta raises money for the Learn to Read of St. Johns County organization as well as our own Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra. Participants "adopt" a duck (or group of ducks in the race) to try to win fabulous prizes including multiple \$100 gift cards and four 1-way tickets from Southwest Airlines to anywhere in the United States including Hawaii and Puerto Rico.



Adoption fees range from \$5 for one ducky up to \$100 for the "Quacks Galore" package of 25 dummies. You can adopt your duck(s) by going to <https://learntoreadstjohns.org/product/rubber-ducky-regatta-adoption/>. - by Bob Wiltfong



Great News! The Florida Rotary License Plate is ready for pre-order. We need 3000 people to order one for the dream to become reality. This is a multi-district initiative to support Rotary district youth programs in Florida.

<http://floridarotarytag.com/>

<https://client.pointandpay.net/web/OrangeCountyLPVoucher> -

- by Kelly Altosino-Sastre

Rotary International's Theme for April: Maternal and Child Health



An estimate just short of 6 million children under the age of five die each year in this world because of malnutrition, inadequate health care, and poor sanitation. That's enough children to fill the city of Jacksonville 6 times over! Even more shocking, all of the maladies listed here can be prevented.

That's why Rotary makes high-quality health care available to vulnerable mothers and children so they can live longer and grow stronger. Rotary has expanded access to quality care, so mothers and children everywhere can have the same opportunities for a healthy future.

How Rotary makes this help happen:

Rotary provides education, immunizations, birth kits, and mobile health clinics for cancer screenings and other health services. Women are taught how to prevent mother-to-infant HIV transmission, how to breast-feed, and how to protect themselves and their children from disease. The Rotary Foundation reaches mothers and children in need by giving communities the help and training they need to take control of their own maternal and infant health care. - *by Kelly Altosino-Sastre*





Area 7 & Beyond!

By Kelly Altosino-Sastre



What is an AG?

In District 6970 there are 36 Assistant Governors. AGs act as consultants to clubs. There are 12 areas and each area has three AGs. Each AG serves a three year term with a specific focus each year. AG1 assists area clubs with Membership, AG2 assists clubs with The Rotary Foundation and AG3 assists the other area AGs when needed, but works directly with the District Governor. Our club member, Kelly Altosino-Sastre, was appointed by the 2022-2023 District Governor Nominee (DGN) Jeff Michelman. Kelly is serving as the AG1 for our area this Rotary year.



Are you a Nocatee resident who values service above self? Are you looking for good networking and community building opportunities in the area?

Then the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra is for you! Check us at out at www.pontevedrarotary.org and visit one of our meetings!



Upcoming Meetings & Speakers

Tuesday, April 6 at 7:30am - regular meeting

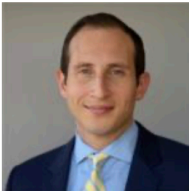
Meeting Location: Zoom (Meeting #: 388 019 0662; Password: 263 227)

Speaker: Ann Breidenstein, CEO of Learn to Read of St. Johns County

Tuesday, April 20 at 7:30am - regular meeting

Meeting Location: Zoom (Meeting #: 388 019 0662; Password: 263 227)

Speaker: Jill Wiltfong, CMO of Korn Ferry



President

Ian Aguilar



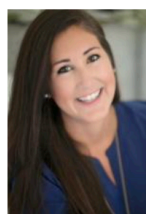
President-Elect

Mary Beth Murray



Vice President

Kelly Altosino-Sastre



**President-Nominee
Secretary**

Meagan Perkins



**Public Relations
Chair**

Bob Wiltfong



Membership Chair

Mark Hulsey



**Community Service
Chair**

Denny Baldwin



Speaker Chair

Karen Everett



General Counsel

Edward Sarnowski