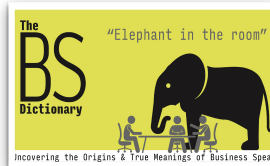


Rubber Ducky  
Sales are  
Swimming Along  
Nicely

LOCAL HIGH  
SCHOOLERS ARE  
SETTING THE PACE  
FOR US THIS YEAR



ROTARY MEANS  
BUSINESS  
MEAGAN PERKINS  
PROFILE



BITCOIN &  
BLOCKCHAIN ORIGIN  
STORY EXPLAINED



NEXT MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 20 AT 7:30AM  
ZOOM ID: 388 019 0662  
PASSWORD: 263 227

# THE.32081. ROTARIAN



Event organizers cheer on a winning duck at a previous Rubber Ducky Regatta held at Nocatee's Splash Park.

## Event Sales are Just Ducky Thanks to Local High School Partnerships

In early returns, 12 National Honor Society students at Nease HS have already sold almost 150 duck adoptions.

Local high school students are setting a high bar for sales this year for our Rubber Ducky Regatta. In early returns, 12 National Honor Society students at Nease High School have already sold almost 150 duck adoptions, according to high school sales co-coordinator, Bob Wiltfong. "It's inspiring to see so many local kids getting behind our Rubber Ducky Regatta this year," says Wiltfong. "If teenagers can sell a bunch of duck adoptions, we Rotarians certainly can."

The 7th Annual Rubber Ducky Regatta takes place on Sunday, May 16. The event raises money for the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra as well as the Learn to Read of St. Johns County organization. For the first time ever, our club is partnering with the National Honor Societies at 3 different local high schools to drive sales: Bartram Trail, Creekside and Nease (Ponte Vedra High School decided not to participate because of a staffing issue).

This year's Regatta will take place at about 12:30 PM as thousands of expected rubber duckies will let fly about 60 feet from the top of the Nocatee (210) Bridge into the cool waters of the Intracoastal. The ducks will waddle to the finish line near Palm Valley Outdoors Bar and Grill, headquarters for the Regatta. The first ducks over the finish line will win some exciting prizes including multiple gift cards, rounds of golf, St. Augustine Light House Family Pass for 4, theater tickets and four one way tickets on Southwest Airlines.

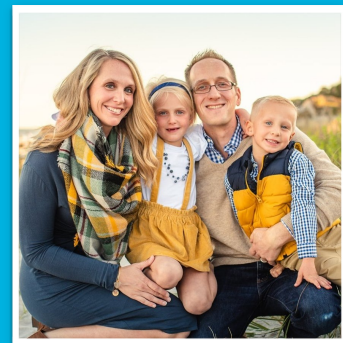
To be eligible to win, participants need to "adopt" one or more of the duckies. Attendance at the Regatta is not necessary to be eligible to win prizes. The easiest way to support the Regatta and "adopt" a ducky (or more) is by going online at [www.learnreadstjohns.org](http://www.learnreadstjohns.org) and following the prompts. Ponte Vedra Rotary Club members are encouraged to adopt at least a "Handful of Ducks"—that's 6 ducks for \$25. Adoptions can also be accomplished by completing the official Regatta adoption card—available upon request from Ponte Vedra Rotarians, Learn to Read and the Honor Societies at Nease, Bartram Trail and Creekside High Schools— and returning it to Learn to Read no later than May 10.

In addition to adopting a ducky or a group of them, sponsorships are still available to help support the Regatta for those who might want to promote their business while supporting a worthy cause. Volunteers for Race Day are also needed.

## Celebrations



President Ian Aguilar's wife, Nikki, celebrates her birthday on April 19th. Happy birthday, Nikki!



Ed Sarnowski and his wife, Jamie, celebrate their 9th wedding anniversary on April 21st. Congrats, you two!



Kelly Altosino-Sastre celebrates her birthday on April 24th. Happy birthday, Kelly!

For more information on the Regatta, please contact Rotary Chair, Gary Smith at [gary\\_smith1@ml.com](mailto:gary_smith1@ml.com) or Ponte Vedra Rotary Club President, Ian Aguilar at [ian.aguilar@wealthguards.com](mailto:ian.aguilar@wealthguards.com). For information about Learn to Read and/or the Regatta, please contact its President & CEO, Ann Breidenstein at [annb@learntoreadstjohns.org](mailto:annb@learntoreadstjohns.org). - Denny Baldwin & Bob Wiltfong



## Rotary Means Business



Meagan Perkins just celebrated her third year as a member of the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra. Meagan is a practicing Land use and Zoning attorney with her own company, Hart Resources LLC. She was admitted to the Florida Bar in 2011 and began her legal career practicing in the Fourth Judicial Circuit as an Assistant State Attorney. Meagan transitioned into real estate law practicing land use and zoning in Duval, Clay, Nassau and St. Johns Counties. She currently sits on the St. Johns County Planning and Zoning Agency and is the first female in over 10 years to be appointed to this agency. In addition to real estate law, she is a residential developer and works alongside her father developing several communities within the surrounding counties. In 2020, Meagan was recognized as St. Augustine's top 40 under 40 and she was invited to join NEFBA's (Northeast Florida Builders Association) emerging leaders program. She successfully completed the program and is looking forward to serving

both NEFBA and the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra.

For any zoning/real estate inquiries or questions Meagan can be reached at 904-449-9208 or email at [thehartperkinsfirm@gmail.com](mailto:thehartperkinsfirm@gmail.com).



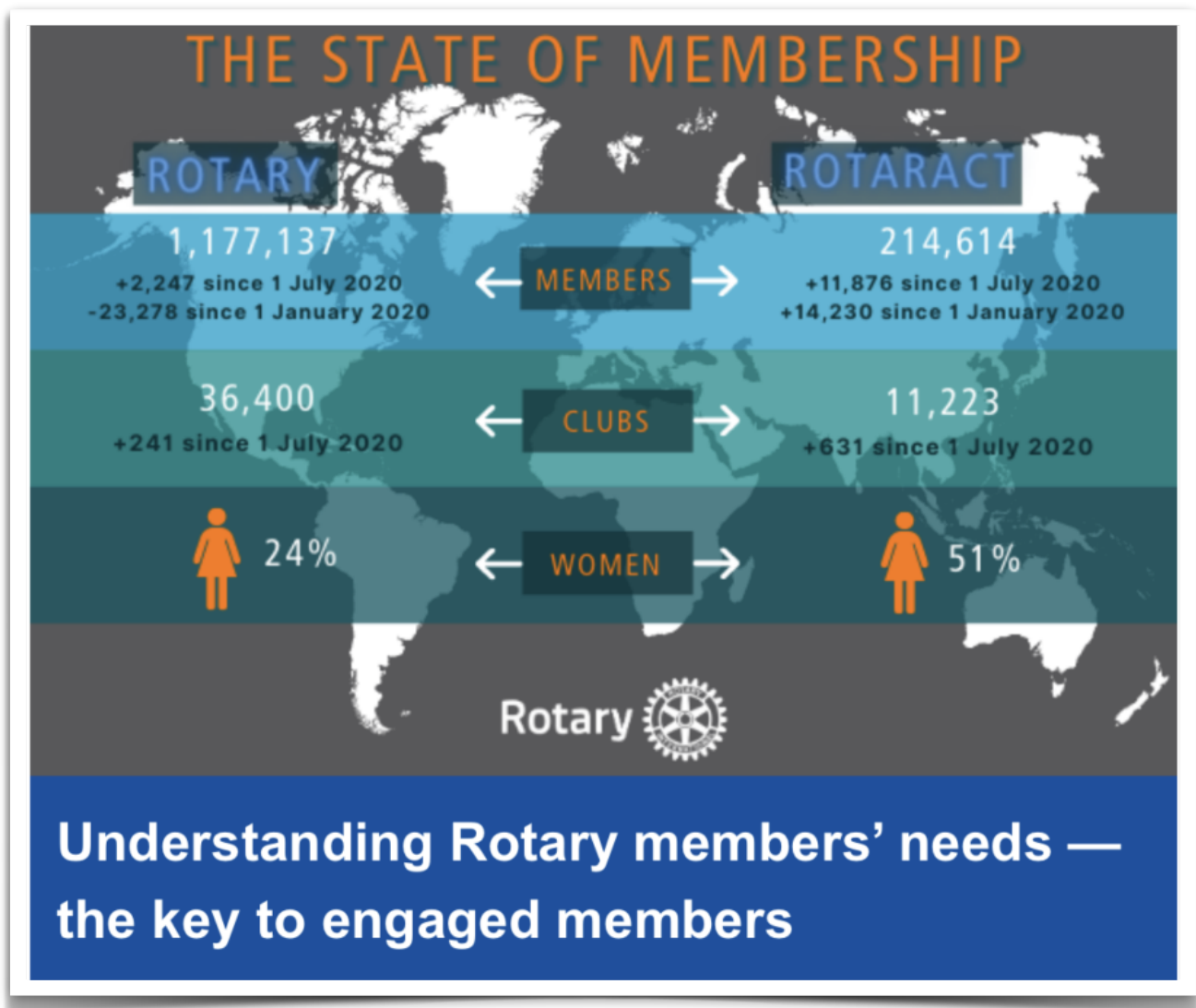
• **PETS District Breakouts** Fri, May 7 6:30 pm via Zoom.

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.





## Ask Not What National Volunteer Week Can Do for You; Ask What You Can Do for National Volunteer Week

National Volunteer Week runs from April 18 through April 24. In the true spirit of Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self" consider:

- Thanking a volunteer with a note, phone call or social media post
- Donating to a favorite local charity like Learn to Read's Rubber Ducky Regatta
- Thinking about how you can best practice Rotary's "Service Above Self" this coming year



# Speaker Spotlight:

## Jill Wiltfong Speaks on April 20th, Rory Diamond on May 4



**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, Will Zalatoris 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! **Please make plans to attend Jill's visit by attending our next regular club meeting Tuesday, April 20th, at 7:30am via Zoom - ( ID: 388 019 0662; Password: 263 227)).**

**On May 4th, the Chief Executive Officer of K9s For Warriors, Rory Diamond, will be our featured speaker.** As CEO, Rory is responsible for the executive management and strategic vision of K9s for Warriors. Under his leadership, the organization has grown into the nation's largest provider of service dogs for disabled American veterans and the largest service dog agency in the world using primarily rescue dogs. **The topic of Rory's presentation will be K9s for Warriors's mission, growth plans and new logo.**

In 2019, Rory was elected to the Jacksonville City Council representing the Jacksonville Beaches. He earned his JD from the University of San Diego School of Law, graduating cum laude, and completed his B.A. in Political Science from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Rory is an avid surfer as well! **Please make plans to attend Rory's visit by attending our club meeting on Tuesday, May 4th, at 7:30am via Zoom - ( ID: 388 019 0662; Password: 263 227)).** - Bob Wiltfong

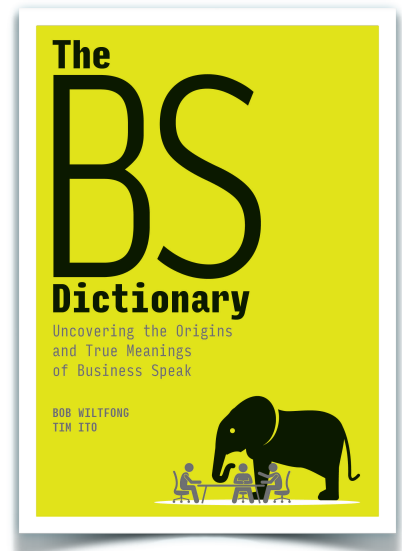




# A Bit of BS

By Bob Wiltfong

Last week I shared the origin story of “rule of thumb” — one of the nearly 300 business speak (BS) phrases detailed in my book, “The BS Dictionary: Uncovering the Origins and True Meanings of Business Speak.” This week, one of my favorite origin stories from the book.



## **BITCOIN and BLOCKCHAIN**

In 2008, an anonymous scientist under the name Satoshi Nakamoto published a nine-page white paper on a mailing list for people interested in cryptography (the practice and study of techniques for secure communication). The white paper was titled “Bitcoin: A Peer-to- Peer Electronic Cash System,” and it outlined in detail how to make a completely novel cryptocurrency called “Bitcoin.” Unlike government-issued currencies, Bitcoin is operated by a decentralized

authority (no banks or governments issue to back it), and it offers the promise of lower transaction fees than traditional online payment mechanisms. There are no physical Bitcoins, only balances kept on a public ledger in the cloud, that—along with all Bitcoin transactions—is verified by a massive amount of computing power (which was also introduced and defined in this same white paper as “blockchain”).

Ever since being introduced to the world, Bitcoin has received a fair amount of media attention from supporters and critics alike. In December 2012, Foreign Policy magazine said, “Bitcoin...is either the future of global commerce or a high-tech form of money laundering—depending on whom you ask.” And, in 2014, the business section of the Sunday Independent (Ireland) newspaper reported, “Bitcoin is not really a currency, it's a commodity. It has no value other than what people are willing to pay for it.”

Regardless, one thing is certain about Bitcoin: whoever Nakamoto is, he/she/they have potentially made a lot of money off it. Experts estimate that those who were in on Bitcoin at the beginning (in 2009), could easily be billionaires by now. In addition, the value of Bitcoin on the stock market has skyrocketed in recent months as more and more companies are investing in its future. Tesla, for example, made headlines in February of this year by buying \$1.5B worth of Bitcoin for its business portfolio.

# Upcoming Meetings & Speakers

**\* Tuesday, April 20 at 7:30am**

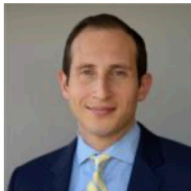
Speakers: Jill Wiltfong, CMO of Korn Ferry

Zoom: ID - 388 019 0662 ; Password - 263 227

**\* Tuesday, May 4 at 7:30am**

Speakers: Rory Diamond, CEO of K9s for Warriors

Zoom: ID - 388 019 0662 ; Password - 263 227



**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



