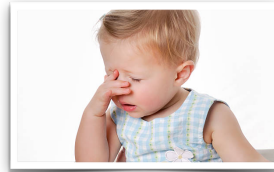


Cheese & Quackers

**LUNCHTIME MEETING
LEADS TO EXCITING
UPDATES ON RUBBER
DUCKY REGATTA**



**TALKING ABOUT
VACCINATION FEARS**



**TMI:
ROTARY ACRONYMS
EXPLAINED**



**IN-PERSON
MEETINGS RESUME!**
DETAILS IN MEETING RECAP
ARTICLE BELOW

THE.32081. ROTARIAN



Aerial view of race course for this year's Rubber Ducky Regatta, culminating outside Palm Valley Outdoors Bar & Grill. (Win Everett)

Rubber Ducky Regatta Fundraising Setting Record Pace

In 2019, we helped raise about \$8000 in the Rubber Ducky Regatta. This year, we've already raised more than \$14,000.

A lunchtime meeting for planning organizers at Palm Valley Outdoors Bar & Grill this past week led to some exciting updates for our Rubber Ducky Regatta this year. They include:

- In 2019, the Rubber Ducky Regatta (held at the Nocatee Lazy River) included only one sponsor and raised about \$8000. This year — with another few weeks left to the event — we've already sold more than 1000 ducks & raised \$9000 in sponsorships for a total of \$14,380 in fundraising. The latest sponsorship came from our very own Gary Smith, who put \$500 in for the cause!
- Our own Rotary Club founding member, Jeremiah Blocker, will be in attendance to help us kick off this year's race in his official capacity as a St. Johns County Commissioner.
- Rotarian Karen Everett's husband, Win, has successfully worked out the race course and logistics so no ducky will be left behind in the Intracoastal. Thanks, Win!



• Jacksonville Magazine listed the Regatta as one of "Five Things We Love Right Now" in its latest edition.

• Bartram Trail, Creekside and Nease High School students are all selling duck adoptions this year through their

National Honor Societies. Early returns are fantastic with 12 students at Nease alone selling almost 150 duckies for the event. Many of these students will also join us on race day as event volunteers

Event committee chairman, Gary Smith, says we have our approvals from the SJSO to close one lane of the 210 bridge & from the Coast Guard so we can drop the ducks into the waterway beneath the bridge. But, he says, the work is far from over.

"We'll need volunteers to help retrieving ducks, and just making sure the event runs smoothly, so **please consider lending an hour**

Celebrations!



Our own Karen Everett presided over a recent panel discussion on lending at TPC Sawgrass. Way to go, Karen!



Rotarian Bob Wiltfong's wife, Jill, celebrates her birthday on April 25th. Happy birthday, Jill!



Rotarian Denny Baldwin's wife, Gail, celebrates her birthday on April 29th. Happy birthday, Gail!

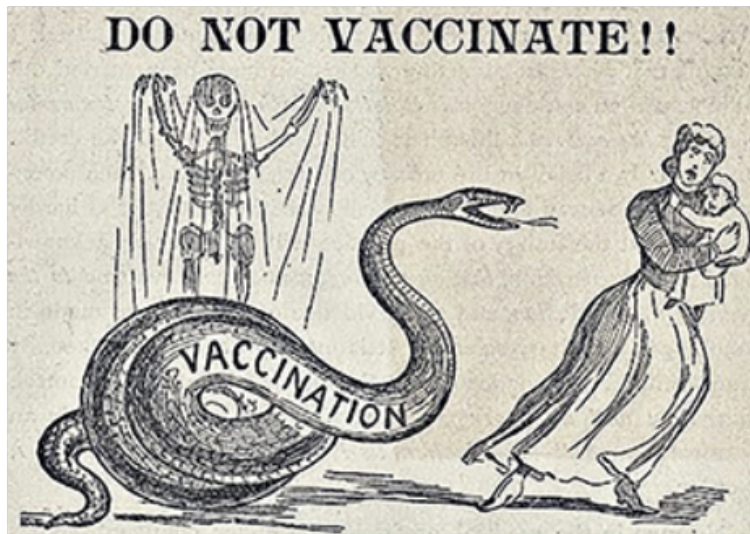
of your time as a volunteer by contacting me at gary_smith1@ml.com.” In addition, Smith says, “If you own a company or know someone who does, **please consider being a corporate sponsor for the event.**”

This year’s Rubber Ducky Regatta will be held Sunday, May 16th, at noon at Palm Valley Outdoors Bar & Grill. All Rotarians are asked to attend as live music and delicious food will make this a very family-friendly event. If you haven’t done so already, **purchase your ducks for the race by going to the adoption page here: <https://learntoreadstjohns.org/product/rubber-ducky-regatta-adoption/>.**

All proceeds from this event raise money for Learn to Read of St. Johns County (<https://learntoreadstjohns.org/>) and the Rotary Club of Ponte Vedra (<https://pontevedrarotary.org/>).



World Immunization Week is April 24-30: Tips to Have That Talk



As COVID-19 vaccinations are administered around the globe, you’ve probably seen your social media feeds fill up with joyful vaccine selfies and excited appointment updates. Chances are, you also have someone in your life who’s skeptical. Most of us do — and that has public health officials concerned.

Vaccine hesitancy is often fuel for heated public debate, but conversations about vaccines don’t have to be contentious. In fact, being willing to have them is one of the most impactful

ways we can influence global health. As with many emotionally-charged topics, knowing how to start the conversation can be the hardest part. These tips may help you open up a dialogue and get your loved ones thinking differently about being vaccinated.

- **Find shared values.** We all want similar things — healthy families, thriving communities, and a sense of control over our health. Demonizing vaccine-hesitant individuals only creates further division and exacerbates an “us vs. them” mentality. Try explaining why you choose vaccinations. Is it to protect the most vulnerable members of your community? To shield your children from preventable disease? Relatable motivations like these can help forge a human connection and get to the emotional heart of the issue.
- **Seek to understand.** Just as there are many reasons to be vaccinated, there are many reasons a person might feel dubious. A prevalent one is misinformation, which is more contagious than ever in our digital age. Others are more complicated and riddled with an ugly history. Marginalized communities have spent centuries being mistreated by the medical establishment. Expecting these communities to immediately trust the same institution to have their best interest at heart is unfair and dismissive of historic trauma.
- **Know your “C’s.”** The World Health Organization (WHO) has outlined three “C’s” that contribute to vaccine hesitancy: complacency, convenience, and confidence. We could also add a fourth: culture. Rates of vaccine hesitancy, as well as contributing factors, vary widely based on a person’s location, background, and community. Being cognizant of these differences can prevent us from making incorrect assumptions. If someone is skipping recommended vaccines due to religious beliefs, opening a conversation with safety statistics may not be helpful or relevant to them.
- **Lead with facts.** Myth-busting can be tempting, but did you know that repeating misinformation can actually give it more weight? Instead of focusing on why that meme or blog post is incorrect, stick to simple statements of fact. For example: “large-scale scientific studies find no link between the HPV vaccine and auto-immune symptoms.”
- **Be the voice of the majority.** Social norms are an incredibly powerful force, but the key is to keep it positive. If you try to convince someone that not enough people are receiving vaccines, they may feel that their hesitancy has been validated by others. A more effective approach is to focus on how many people are choosing to vaccinate and why. Remind them that large-scale inoculation is a group effort and we want them on the team.
- **Identify the problem and the solution.** If you’ve ever stood at the edge of a diving board, unable to move, you know that fear can be paralyzing. Fear of severe illness can have similar effects. When we talk about vaccine-preventable disease, simply scaring someone is likely to backfire. Instead, it’s important to acknowledge two facts simultaneously: these diseases are serious and being vaccinated is a simple and effective countermeasure. Help put power back into their hands by identifying an action they can take — being vaccinated!

Vaccines bring us closer to a world where everyone thrives, but it’s a team effort. By having conversations, you can bring your friends and family along on global health journey. - [Elizabeth Schroeder \(from Rotary International News\)](#)



Wellcome Collection

1796

In rural England, after investigating a folk belief that milkmaids never got smallpox, Edward Jenner, a London-trained doctor, inoculates eight-year-old James Phipps with liquid drawn from the lesions of Sarah Nelms, a milkmaid who had contracted cowpox, a significantly milder ailment than smallpox. After the boy's relatively quick recovery from cowpox, Jenner variolates James with smallpox, yet no symptoms appear. The boy's exposure to cowpox, Jenner concludes, had made him immune to smallpox. He dubs his discovery "vaccination," from the Latin word vacca, meaning cow.



Meeting Recap from April 20th

It was a pretty gloomy day outdoors, but that didn't dampen the spirits of about 17 souls who joined us for our regular Zoom meeting on Tuesday, April 20 at 7:30 AM. President Ian Aguilar called us to order shortly after the appointed hour, led us in the Pledge and celebrated some "member milestones" including his wife, Nikki's recent birthday, the 9th wedding anniversary of Eddie and Jamie Sarnowski and the upcoming birthday of PP Kelly Altosino-Sastre. Congrats to all!

With a figurative drum roll, Ian announced that **we will resume in-person meetings on Tuesday, May 4, 7:30 AM on the patio at Treylor Park Restaurant.** Woohoo! **We'll still have a Zoom**

component (ID: 388 019 0662; Password: 263 227) for those who aren't quite ready to do "in-person", but Ian urged all members who feel comfortable to come out on May 4 to help celebrate our return to nearly normal. **Rory Diamond, CEO of K9s for Warriors, will be our speaker.**

Chairperson for the 7th Annual Rubber Ducky Regatta, Gary Smith, urged club members to "adopt" at least a Handful of Quacks—that's 6 duckies for \$25—by filling out the official adoption card or going online at www.learntoreadstjohns.org and following the prompts.

Gary said that all adopted duckies will vie for many great prizes including multiple gift cards, several rounds of golf, theater tickets and 4 one way flights on Southwest Airlines.

Denny Baldwin introduced our speaker, Jill Wiltfong, CMO of Korn Ferry, title sponsor of the developmental Korn Ferry Tour on The PGA Tour. Jill pointed out that Korn Ferry has nothing to do with "corn and fairies," but rather is a \$2 Billion global organizational consulting firm very much involved in helping people become "more than...." Her other takeaways included:



Jill Wiltfong, Korn Ferry

- Korn Ferry's interests in entering into a 10-year sponsorship deal with The PGA Tour included building brand awareness for Korn Ferry while helping golfers advance their careers
- Korn Ferry now offers services not only for businesses but for individuals. You can sign up for personal career coaching and professional development at kfadvance.com
- Anyone interested in getting their resume in front of Korn Ferry recruiters can post their CV to the candidate portal at <https://www.kornferry.com/careers/candidates>

Before we adjourned, Ian took the opportunity to warmly welcome our visitors, Jim Huster of Morgan Stanley — and soon to be a member of PV Rotary — and third time visitor, Becky Richmond, Operations Director for the Nocatee YMCA. It was good to have them with us.

Our meeting closed with the recitation of Rotary's iconic Four Way Test, along with a repeated invitation by Ian to join us for our first in-person meeting in many months on Tuesday morning May 4, 7:30 at Treylor Park Restaurant!



Rory Diamond, K9s for Warriors





And Now...

A Word from Our President

Dear Rotarians,

As my time as Rotary president is coming to an end, I am really excited that we are starting to get to a place where people are becoming more comfortable to allow for some in person styled events/meetings. Hard to believe that it has already been over a year since COVID shut us down. In the meantime, plenty of us have been kept busy by a plethora of other things (i.e. kids, grandkids, work, etc.) myself included. For reference here are my two “little” ones Emilia & Luke.



As many of you already know we are going to start having in-person meetings again. This time it will be more like the meeting styles that I think many of us are used to from the past, but I ask that many of us remain mindful that we still are in the midst of a pandemic. We still will have a limited food selection available to us for safety reasons, but it will grant us the ability to enjoy each other's presence once again. We will continue to maintain a virtual option for those who wish to participate in that capacity as well. The two meetings that will take place in this format in May will be May 4th & May 18th so please come and reunite with some familiar faces if you can.

I am also truly excited about our opportunity to go and have some family friendly fun at noon on Sunday May 16th at Palm Valley Outdoors at the 7th annual Rubber Ducky Regatta for the benefit of Learn to Read of St. John's and the Ponte Vedra Rotary Foundation. This is the type of event I hoped for us at the onset of the year and we finally get a chance to do one. This is an event for the whole family that can be enjoyed outdoors or indoors so let's take advantage of supporting what should be not only a fun time but a really cool first try at launching hundreds of rubber ducks over the Palm Valley Bridge, all for a very worthy cause. Something you will not want to miss.

Lastly, I know our past president's council is at work putting together an end of Rotary year event for all of us to put a bow on 2020-2021 and move on to hopefully some more normality in 2021-2022, so keep an eye out for an announcement on that soon.

Your in Service,

Ian Aguilar



Northeast Florida Rotary Clubs Launch Initiative to Grow the Organization



Rich Turnbull, Rotary International's District 6970 governor, has announced two new themes in the local area: "Rotary Opens Opportunities," and, going into 2022, "Serve to Change Lives."

Rotary District 6970 was established in 1915 and currently serves 63 clubs, 2 satellite clubs, 15 Rotaract clubs and 44 Interact clubs within Northeast Florida. The district encompasses 31 regional communities in 12 counties and has more than 3,300 men and women. The district's new themes are designed to help drive new member recruitment and current member retention as well as further service and leadership opportunities within Rotary.

Marie Turnbull, Rotary International District 6970 trainer, and Rich Turnbull, Rotary International District 6970 governor.

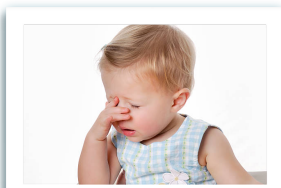
According to Turnbull, Rotary members serve to realize a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change in communities and around the world. The civic and social services each club provides to its specific community are determined by membership and needs in the local area.

“Our goals this year and into 2022 include inspiring and motivating Rotarians to expand the reach of the organization by increasing membership, diversity and our impact to serve millions who need help locally and around the world,” said Turnbull. “We believe in doing more and growing more with service projects and participation. This can be achieved by increasing membership and fellowship as we continue to grow our organization to more than 1.3 million members worldwide. Locally, we’ve embraced the opportunity with starting new clubs to attract a diverse group of students, younger adults and the older burgeoning demographics in areas throughout Northeast Florida.”

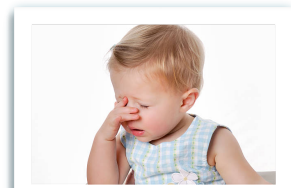
“Service is the rent I pay for the space I occupy on this earth,” said 2021-22 Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta of India in a worldwide presentation. “And I want to be a good tenant of this earth. I am sure each of you also has found your opportunity to serve. You, too, may have provided eyesight to the blind, food to the hungry, homes to the homeless and medicine for the sick. They may have been small opportunities for service or large projects. More than just the size, it is the attitude that defines service.”

To follow Mehta’s lead, Turnbull is asking each Rotarian in our district to bring at least one prospective member to Rotary in the next 17 months and to serve by illustration as a change-maker.

Those interested in local Rotary membership and service can contact Turnbull at 904-669-8777 or email rich.rotary6970@gmail.com or Katherine Batenhorst, Rotary District 6970 membership co-chair, at katherine.batenhorst@gmail.com.



TMI: Rotary Acronym Secrets Revealed!

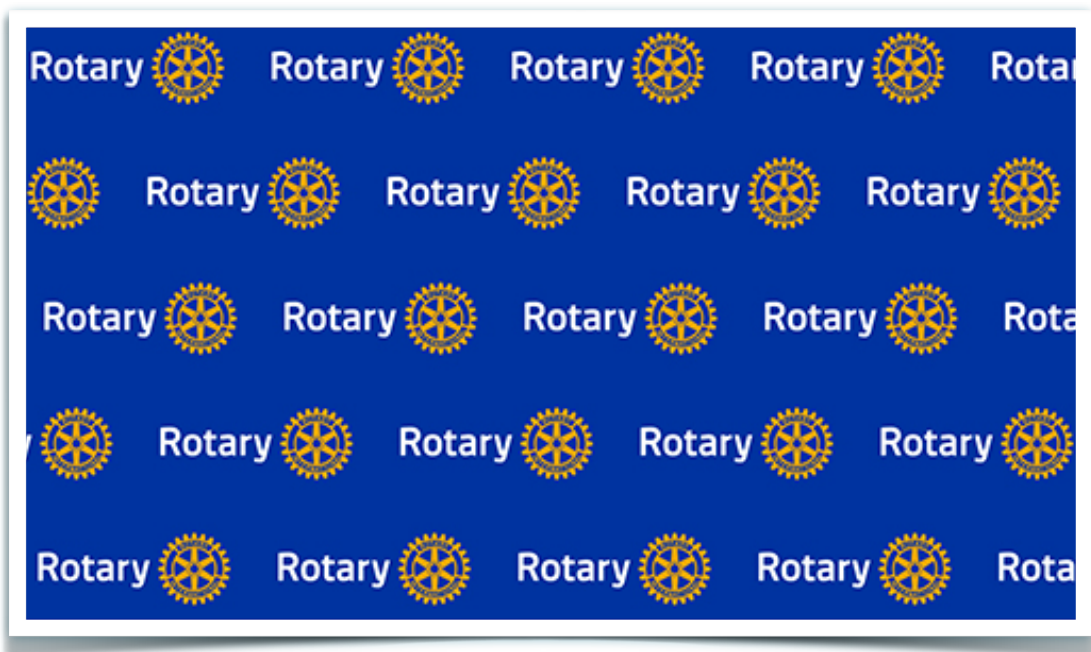


If there’s one thing I’ve noticed since joining Rotary in November, it’s that this organization loves ‘em some acronyms! PETS, RI, DG, PE, 4WT... The list of initials standing for something in Rotary is long and it often causes newbies like me to use another set of letters: WTF. So, in an effort to educate myself (and hopefully others), I found an online directory of Rotary abbreviations. What follows are some of the more common Rotary terms explained from that list:

- 4WT = 4 Way Test (the method by which Rotarians consider something appropriate)

- DG = District Governor
- DGE = District Governor Elect
- PDG = Past District Governor
- PE = President Elect
- PETS = President Elects Training Seminar
- PP = Past President
- RC = Rotary Club
- RI = Rotary International
- TRF = The Rotary Foundation (an endowment Rotary uses for beneficial activity funding)
- YIR = Yours In Rotary

- 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.



Upcoming Meetings & Speakers

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

In Person: The patio at Treylor Park Restaurant

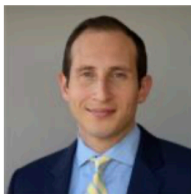
Virtual: Zoom: ID - 388 019 0662 ; Password - 263 227

Speaker: Rory Diamond, CEO of K9s for Warriors

*** Tuesday, May 18 at 7:30am**

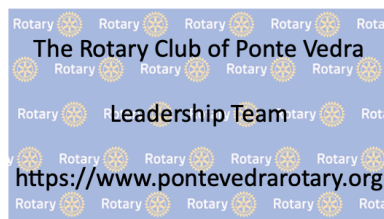
In Person: The patio at Treylor Park Restaurant

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



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Mary Beth Murray



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Kelly Altosino-Sastre



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Denny Baldwin



Speaker Chair

Karen Everett



General Counsel

Edward Sarnowski

