





Rotary International President **Gordon R. McInally**



District 6960 Governor Alfred Current III



Area 7 Governor **Dennis Guzik**



Venice-Nokomis President **Casey Riley**

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2023-2024 - The Year of Imagine Rotary



Greeter/Invocation: Our greeter(s) today started with David Butler and then Colleen Carver took over. David delivered the invocation and then he led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: The tables were full!!! Scott DeArmey introduced visiting Rotarians Bill and Becky Bolander from Greenfield Indiana....we also had a two time past District Governor from Troy, Michigan Don Riddell joining us today. Don is ending his three weeks stay in Venice. He does come down annually, so he will be returning.

Announcements: Tom Fitch asked Steve Boone, Bruce Bench, Jeff Bench, Steve Wirth, and Dr. Mike Austin to please come forward. Today our club was blessed with two new members, and both have had experience with Rotary!

The first new inductee is Jeff Bench, Bruce Bench's brother and Bruce is his sponsor. Jeff was the grand prize winner of the Duck Pluck Cruise for two!!! Steve shared that we are pleased to have another Bench in our club..." we are building our Bench strength!!!! Jeff was a career Coast Guard member (Steve called him a CoastGuardian) and we thank Jeff for his service to our country. Jeff's classification is "Coast Guard, Veteran". Jeff has also owned his own limousine service and carpentry company. He has also been a chef locally at Pops Sunset Grill and Marker 4.

The second new member is Dr. Mike Austin. His sponsor is Steve Wirth. Dr. Mike's classification is "Orthopedic Surgeon, Retired". Dr.

Mike was a previous Rotarian in Michigan, but stepped back from Rotary once CoVid raised its ugly head. (Steve stated he is a "Michigeezer"). He winters in Venice and is joining our club to help contribute to the fun and to help give back to the community. Dr. Mike likes to travel, fish and hunt. He was wearing a beautiful shirt that was from the Venice Historical Society with pictures of different landmarks in Venice!

The Venice Nokomis Rotary Club is so happy to have Jeff and Dr. Mike join us! We welcome them both and look forward to spending time with each.

Cart Talk

Jane shared an interesting article that Nanci shared with her. Students at Rutgers University have made a significant discovery according to the University. A group of undergraduate students have found that a drug called "Yoda 1" may help cure Alzheimer's by helping the brain "drain out" waste that causes dementia!

One of the hottest research areas at this time for Alzheimer's Disease is the lymphatic system in the brain since it is vital to a healthy brain. The students supplied Yoda 1 to mice whose brains were unable to filter neurotoxins out. They found that after this drug was administered the mice were found to have significant improvement in the lymphatic systems ability to drain out those neurotoxins. Yoda 1 has yet to undergo human trials. Fingers crossed that we are closer to a cure!

Program

President Casey called President Elect JJ (aka...Judy Jankowski) to please run the meeting today. Rumor has it Casey attended a "get together" and got sick, went back to work and shared his illness with everyone at work....so Casey is now holding down the office while his co-workers recover!!!! We wish Casey and his office staff good health.

JJ started the meeting off "confused"...could 2024-25 be another fun Rotary Year of Confusion??? That will keep the club laughing and engaged! JJ did a GREAT job of running the meeting with no prepared agenda.

The program was made up of announcements. Tom Fitch, Membership chair started off with inducting two new Venice Nokomis Rotarians, Jeff Bench and Dr. Mike Austin. After the inductions Tom shared that if we are traveling, we should take a Venice Nokomis Rotary Banner with us. When you visit another Rotary Club, you can then do a Banner Exchange! Our club is trying to recruit new members. The membership committee is working on getting "Rotary Members at Work" shirts. This way when we are out delivering flags for example...if we all wear the shirts we advertise our club and Rotary. We want the people in the community to see us and all the positive things we do for ourcommunity. To keep the membership engaged we are trying to have at least one social a quarter. The social coming up will be the NCAA March Madness kickoff on 3/19/2024 at Chaz 51. Members

are urged to wear the "college stuff" for the team they support. David Butler, a newer Venice Rotarian from the Franklin, TN area has a lot of membership experience and will be helping with recruitment and trying to come up with a strategy to help our club grow. We do know that we want more positive visibility in our community. There were index cards and pens at each table. We were asked to put on one side of the card a statement of why we joined Rotary and on the other side to list three ways that we think would help our club in retaining membership and also ideas on how to grow our membership.

Craig Riley came forward to talk about our clubs Fellowship and Friendship initiative. He asked the club members to take a moment to get to know one another. Members started standing up and sharing the meetings with members they have had. Jane Mendola shared she herself has met with Elaine Ellison, Bob Johnson, Evan Lebson and Bruce Bench. A lot of members have met with Kevin McCarthy! There are so many meetings happening between members, they see each other at the restaurants they are meeting at!

Wendy had great news to share about Josh the Otter. Wendy asked for help on Saturday morning 3/16/2024 ...the Venice YMCA is hosting a water safety day from 9am -1pm. Josh the Otter has been asked to meet the children. Wendy said Josh needs some helpers for about 1-2 hours to hand out coloring material and stickers to the children. She held up a car magnet you might receive if you are a helper!!! For those that don't know, Josh the Otter is a program named after a young child Josh Collingsworth who drowned in his family pool. A few years ago our club decided to share Josh the Otter with local children. We have the Josh the Otter costume and go into the schools and also the YMCA to teach young children water safety. Josh teaches the kids through books and coloring materials that you never go to the water without an adult, you always have a buddy with you when swimming and they teach young children how to float on their back...like otters do! For more information you can go to JoshtheOtter.org

Wendy also shared that the YMCA Black Tie Gala, which typically happens in February has been moved to December 7, 2024. This is the YMCA's biggest fund raiser....save the date! The YMCA helps many local youth (and families).

Mark Murray was happy to share that our Venice Nokomis Rotary Fund-Raising Raffle is coming up. We will have 6 weeks to sell our tickets. Mark had volunteers pass out little sheets of paper for you to write down 5 names of people you can approach to sell your tickets. Our club is again working with Matthews-Currie Ford and the Grand Prize will be a car or \$25,000 cash. There will be 2nd and 3rd place prizes also. Tickets will be \$50 each. Jane asked how many tickets will be available because people want to know what their chances are...Mark said they are working on the statistics and more information will follow. We are hoping to make this a successful fund raiser to replace the Toast to Venice which has struggled since CoVid times.

John Marshall had VHS Interact Follies Tickets for sale - BOGO for \$7 for sale. The Follies are on Tuesday (3/5) and Wednesday (3/6) at Venice High School Performing Arts Center at 6pm....program will be about 1:15 minutes in

length and President Casey will perform!!! Please come out and support our Interact Club!

Joe Pokorney came forward and shared that Friday, March 1st is the Fox Lea Farm social event. At 5pm on Friday there is a competition between 5 local charities....the E-Spray editor caught three of the charity names Sertoma, The Twig and Venice Nokomis Rotary.....President Casey will be the navigator and Joe, with his many years of golf cart driving experience will drive!!! LET'S GO ROTARY!!!! Following the charity competition is the real competition in Horse Jumping with the grand prize for the professionals of \$25,000!!!!

Speaking of golf carts......Chuck Snyder was asked to come forward and explain his recent experience. Chuck said he could do so, but headed to the Women's Bathroom to start (the Women's Restroom was a joke from a few meetings ago, when Chuck had to answer a phone call and went to the restroom to talk without interrupting the meeting and he accidently walked into the Women's restroom to take the call-lucky for Chuck no one was in there...but we will never let him forget).

Chuck explained that a few weeks ago he was a guest at the Oaks Golf Course to play a round of golf. He said he will most likely never be invited back again....he and his golf cart decided to add some excitement to the Oaks Golf Course. Chuck said he hit a really great drive down the middle of the fairway. His second shot was awful....so he and his golf cart went to rescue a ball and accidently went into an 8 ft deep bunker. It took ½ the employees at the course, 3 EMT's, all the neighbors on that part of the course and a "picker" to pick up the cart to help poor Chuck. After a trip to the hospital his is 100% not playing golf for at least 8 weeks. Check ended up with 3 broken ribs and a separated shoulder... We wish a speedy recovery to Chuck!

Pay The Lawyer

Steve Picazio Jr on short notice took the reign for PTL. He started out with fining Stuart for being late. He fined Colleen a "how happy are you to be back" fine... Colleen has been so busy at work she hasn't been here for a long while. Steve asked Cole McHarque to please bring up the envelopes at the table. Steve had the Super Bowl Square winnings for Chuck - \$125 for winning the first quarter score (maybe this will help pay the damage to the golf cart?) Steve also had an envelope with a check for \$375 that went to Jesse Lazarus for winning the 2nd and 3rd quarter scores. Then Steve moved on to President Elect Judy...who had NO TIME to prepare for today's meeting.....Judy had to open her wallet and maybe possibly make a trip to the bank for today's PTL fines.....saying she drove in special today for this meeting-Steve wanted to know what made it so special? The reply was she usually comes from her house, today she came from Sarasota 1hours 10minutes down I75. Instead of Happy Dollars, Judy called Steve up to do Happy Fines....have we renamed it(LOL)? She didn't know the greeter (there were 2

of them to her surprise)....she tried to introduce the visitors before we did the invocation and the pledge, She tried to call the CART talk the Coins for Alzheimer talk...she shut off the microphone by accident....Ed Benson shouted out that we need to start a "GO FUND ME" account for Judy's fines!!!!! Casey will owe Judy for all these fines! (Come prepared next week Casey)!!! Chuck was fined for his phone ringing in the middle of PTL....David Butler was fined for doing the invocation as he urged us all to look outside...Jane for talking about YODA-1 drug, but not doing a YODA impression...Steve tried to play YODA on YouTube over the PA, but as typical fashion... the technology was not working! Steve Boone was fined for calling Dr. Mike a Michigeezer - Dr Mike reminded the club who won the Football Championship this year!!!! Happy Fine (happy dollar) was paid by Tom Fitch for Bob Johnson's shirt he had Bob stand up....it has a HUGE Rotary Wheel on it... Chuck paid Happy Fine for being at the meeting today, Bruch Bench followed with a happy \$4 for Chuck being here and making us all laugh through his pain. Tony McNair happy fine of \$2 for telling Judy most of the people in attendance today either have been Presidents of this club or another club... Keep up the good work Judy!!! Jesse Lazarus a happy \$20 for winning the 2nd & 3rd guarters of the Super Bowl Pool... George Lewis a happy fine because Nancy Weaver just handed him \$100 for the Cleft Palate Program, Chuck paid a happy fine for receiving a painting from George for his new puppy Casey! Mark Murray had a happy fine asking Chuck to meet with his wife for lunch..she broke her wrist in a pickleball mishap...they can share their misery together! Matt Britton had a happy fine for the Fox Lea Farm event...he will be driving for the Twig, since Nicole his wife is the Director of Development. Ed Benson paid a late fine...Mike Sundaram paid a happy \$6 because he has been traveling since October..he visited Dubai, India, Cambodia, Malaysia and Singapore! He was only able to visit one Rotary Club during that time and that was in Malaysia!

Judy ended the meeting with saying to be President of this club you have to be able to laugh at yourself!!!! (Judy, you did a FANTASTIC job!!!!) She then said OK and someone from the crowd said let's end the meeting with the 4-Way Test!!!!

50/50

There were 50 cards remaining including the joker and the jackpot is at \$333. The winning ticket was blue and ended in "6492"...Craig Riley held the winning ticket and he pulled the Jack of Clubs....the jackpot continues to grow.

Weekly Meeting Zoom information

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89738731829?pwd=a0RWNndO U0RLdjRnWGxmZGhZNUxEQT09

> Meeting ID: 897 3873 1829 Passcode: VNRotary23

Paul Harris

Paul Harris Society members pledge to donate at least \$1,000 of their own money each year to the Rotary Foundation. That works out to about \$84 per month or \$2.74 per day. Donations can be made via credit card, bank charge, or with dues payments, and can be made annually, semi-annually, quarterly or monthly. We invite you to become a member. *Please see Susan Hanks for more information*.

Paul Harris Fellows have made a total donation of at least \$1,000 (sometimes over month or years) to the Rotary Foundation. The 2nd \$1,000 donation level earns a Paul Harris Plus 1. The same for each \$1,000 up to \$9,000 which would be a Paul Harris Plus 8. At \$10,000 or more the recognition becomes a Major Donor. Please see *Susan Hanks for more information*.

Bequest Society members commit a legacy in their will to the Rotary Foundation. Recognition starts at \$10,000. *Please see Susan Hanks for more information.*

Benefactors pledge to leave at least \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation.



The Rotary Foundation Donor Recognition Program

The Rotary Foundation, a 501(c)3 charity, needs your support to continue their excellent work in the United States and throughout the world. The foundation accepts, checks, credit cards, bank account charges, IRA distributions, and tangible assets such as stock transfers.

You can also donate with your dues payments. The Rotary Foundation enjoys an outstanding reputation and the highest ratings from companies that rate non-profit organizations, such as: www.charitynavigator.org

Below is some information about donor recognition awarded to donors to the Rotary Foundation.

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Barbara Freeman - 1 Jane Mendola - 1 Mark Murray - 1 Wendy North - 1 David Pankiw - 4 Diane Pick - 6 Jeffrey Pick - 6

Benefactors

Barbara Freeman George Lewis Jane Mendola Mark Murray Wendy North David Pankiw Diane Pick Jeffrey Pick Steve Wirth

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Doc Matson Awards

he Venice-Nokomis Rotary Club honors the memory of Rotarian Charles "Doc" Matson and his ideals by awarding two annual awards in his name. 'Doc Matson served the Venice-Nokomis Rotary selflessly for almost 20 years and he held the world record for continuous perfect attendance of 67 years, 3 months, 3 weeks. The recipients of these awards should exemplify the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self" and be the best possible example of living by the fundamentals of the 4-Way test.

ROTARIANS **HAZEN STEVENS** CLIF WHITE **DAN BOONE** JACK MEYERHOFF **BOB BOWLIN BILL VAN COTT GRADY HOUGH BOB MILES** FRANK WHITING TERRY LITTRELL JIM HILL **JACK OGLE BUD MILLER GEORGE PICKHARDT DICK DODDERIDGE** JEFF BOONE JOE MONROE **BILL WILSON** HANK MIKAELIAN DAN O'HARA **ROBERT WALDRON** JIM WOODS JEFF PICK **NANCI KORMAN** JACK STARKS **DAVID YARZAB** JOE POKORNEY RICHARD BEEBE

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STEVE BOONE

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Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOOD WILL and better FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Venice-Nokomis Rotary Club Past Presidents

Thank you to all of our past presidents who have fearlessly led the Venice-Nokomis Rotary Club to greatness!

1947-48 1948-49 1949-50 1950-51 1951-52 1952-53 1953-54 1954-55 1955-56 1956-57 1957-58 1958-59 1959-60 1960-61 1961-62 1962-63 1962-63 1963-64 1964-65 1965-66 1966-67 1967-68 1968-69 1969-70 1970-71 1971-72 1972-73	James T. Blalock Robert S. Baynard, Esq. M.A. Braswell, Esq. George E. Youngberg, Sr. Chidester Johnson George T. Gibbs, Jr. Col. William R. Grove, Jr. Benjamin B. Dunn Robert S. Baynard, Esq. Wesley D. Buchannan Douglas R. Murphy, M.D. Lester Thompson, D.D.S. E.S. Raymond John Beatty John E. Davis Jay H. Lumley Lauriston Rutherford, D.D.S. (moved) George H. Wheeler, Jr. (completed year) John Elkins Fraser (passed away) J. Howard Vaughn (completed year) Leon D. Terry, D.D.S. Rev. Donis D. Patterson Charles R. Miles Ronald T. Hanson James H. Brandt, D.V.M. Omar Wilson, Jr. C. M. Chisolm Gerald H. Hollestelle (resigned) Charles C. Smith E.G. "Dan" Boone, Esq.	1983-84 1984-85 1985-86 1986-87 1987-88 1988-89 1989-90 1990-91 1991-92 1992-93 1993-94 1994-95 1995-96 1996-97 1997-98 1998-99 1999-00 2000-01 2001-02 2002-03 2003-04 2004-05 2005-06 2006-07 2007-08 2008-09 2009-10 2010-11 2011-12 2012-13 2013-14	Clifton F. White, Esq. Robert E. Bowlin Cavil Lee Linkous William M. Van Cott Robert K. Coulter Jeffery A. Boone, Esq. Robert L. Waldron Stephen J. Picazio, Sr. D. Grady Hough, Jr., C.P.A. George D. Pickhardt Farnsley "Pete" Peters W. Jack Ogle Terry E. Littrell Richard W. Dodderidge Jeffrey P. Johnson, D.C.M. Daniel O'Hara Mary Stanley Stephen J. Picazio, Jr. William D. Willson Eiaine M. Boyer Elliot D. Dibbs, D.D.S. John Ryan Mollie Hernandez Jerry Zwers Bob Mudge Joseph L. Pokorney Lat Farr Beth Harrison Doug Laudenslager Nevenka Kovcic Julie Stalnaker
1975-76 1976-77	Col. Joseph L. Tucker Robert I. Johnson	2014-15 2015-16	Jeff Pick Blair Post
1970-77	Hazen H. Stevens	2015-10	Penny Corell
1978-79	James C. Hill	2017-18	Matt Cary
1979-80	Richard R. Sutton	2018-19	Jane Mendola
1980-81	Paul A. Dent	2019-20	Wendy North
1981-82	Ronald W. Higel, D.D.S.	2020-21	Matt Britton
1982-83	James B. Powell	2021-22	Susan Hanks
. 702 00	James D. I Officii	2022-23	David Pankiw
		ZUZZ-Z3	David I diikiw



Interact Club

Meets Tuesdays at 5:30 pm - during the school year

2023-2024 Club, District & RI Calendar

July 27 - Club Assembly

Aug 3 - Kevin McCarthy classification talk

Aug 10 - DG Alfred Current club visit

Aug 17 - James Clinch, Venice Assistant City Manage

Aug 26 - Rotary Futures Dueling Pianos

Aug 26 - RLI - Woodland School

Aug 31 - Karen Rose, Sarasota County School Board

Sept 7 - Jay Kasmark classification talk

Sept 14 - Tom Knight, former Sheriff of Sarasota Co.

Sept 21 - Gina Taylor BBBS

Sept 28 - Chris Johnson, United Way

Nov 2 - Steve Young, CEO of HCA Florida

Nov 4 - District Luau at Englewood Rotary Club

Nov 9 - Interact Dinner

Jan 20-21 - Art Fest

Feb 17 - Foundation Banquet

July 12-13 - District Conference

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Bulletin Editor

Colleen Carver ccarverconsulting@gmail.com

Board Meetings

2nd Thurs. of each month | 5:00 PM Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 861 3315 6477 Passcode: 540184

Websites

www.venicenokomisrotary.org www.rotarydistrict6960.org www.rotary.org

Area Meetings

DAY	DIACE	TIME
DAT	PLACE	TIME
MON	Sarasota Southside: Libby's Restaurant Sarasota Gateway: Mulligan's- Bobby Jones Golf club	6:45 am 12:15 pm
TUE	Charlotte Harbor: Cultural Center Venice Sunset: Venice Moose Lodge Englewood: The Englewood Elks Lodge 401 (1st Tues. of every month is at 5:30pm) Sarasota Bay: Van Wezel Grand Foyer Sarasota Gulf Gate: Mattison's on 41	7:00am 7:15 pm 12 noon (5:30 pm) 12 noon 12 noon
WED	West Bradenton: Bradenton CC Placida: Rotunda Hills GCC Harbor Heights: Charlotte Harbor YC Sarasota: Marina Jacks North Port Central: Olde World Rest. Port Charlotte: So. Port Sq Gables 2nd fl	6:45am 7:00 am 7:00 am 12 noon 12 noon 12:15 pm
THU	Englewood/Lemon Bay: The Englewood Elks Lodge 401 Punta Gorda: Isles Yacht Club Lakewood Ranch: LWR Golf & CC Sarasota Keys: Hotel Indigo	7:00am 7:15am 12:00 pm 12:15pm
ANY	WWW.ROTARYCLUBONE.ORG	Ongoing

March Birthdays

Myers, John 03/05



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Bulletin (E-Spray): Colleen Carver,

Julie Stalnaker, JohnLeRoux, WendyNorth, Susan Hanks

Club Biographies - Jack Kurschner

Club Communications – Colleen Carver

Nominating – Joe Pokorney, Julia Stalnaker

Speakers/Greeters-Judy Jankowski

PTL- Jeff Boone, Steve Picazio Jr, Steve Boone, Doug

Laudenslager

Attendance - Colleen Carver

Sunshine Report - Barbara Freeman

Membership:

Membership - Tom Fitch, Charlie Mills

Interact - Kevin Hanley

Investment In Youth - Matt Cary

Rotary Leadership Institute -OPEN

Public Information:

Public Information Chair -Colleen Carver

Public Relations - OPEN

Doc Matson – Doug Laudenslager

Social Chair - Membership Committee

Facebook Coordinator - Colleen Carver, Samantha Hill

Webmaster - Colleen Carver

Service Projects:

Art Fest Co-Chairs - Joe Pokorney, Wendy North

Duck Pluck - John LeRoux, Bruce Bench

Toast To Venice Co-Chairs - Matt Britton

Ride For Rotary - David Pankiw, Matt Britton, Jerry Downs

Golf Tournament - Wendy North, Casey Riley

Alzheimer's Research CART - Jane Mendola

Venice Night at the Symphony -

Penny Corell, Christine Kasten

Venice Night at the Theatre - Penny Corell College Night at VHS - Doug Laudenslager

Interact – Kevin Hanley

Investment in Youth - Matt Cary

Soap for Hope - Steve Boone

Super Bowl Pool – Steve Picazio Jr.

Shelter Box Liaison—Penny Corell

Fly the Flag - Jay Kasmark , Jack Kurschner, Jim Romano

Teacher of the Year - Jessie Lazarus

Dictionary Project - Chris Gray

Josh The Otter - Wendy North

Rota Kids - Matt Cary

Rotary Foundation:

Rotary Foundation/Scholarships -Rich Cimo , Susan Hanks,

Doug Laudenslager

Paul Harris - Susan Hanks

Rotary Grants - Julia Stalnaker, Wendy North

Sergeant At Arms:

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Treasurer	John Bragg	207-944-9827	jwbragg49@gmail.com

AT LARGE MEMBERS

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Rich Cimo	2023	941-408-7776	rich.cimo@gmail.com
Tony McNair	2024	260-414-5669	eamcnair@frontier.com
Bruce Bench		425-765-6713	bruce.bench@comcast.net
Kim Randolph		423-716-0012	poppyrandolph6@gmail.com
Samantha Hill	2025	207-701-1952	samanthahill@synovus.com
Erica Downs		941-544-4754	ericatdowns@gmail.com

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To:

