

The eSpray

The bulletin of the Venice-Nokomis Rotary Club

May 2, 2024

2023 - 2024
District 6960 | Club 4347



Rotary International
President
Gordon R. McNally



District 6960
Governor
Alfred Current III



Area 7
Governor
Dennis Guzik



Venice-Nokomis
President
Casey Riley

Greeter/Invocation: Greeter was Casey's "uncle" Craig Riley. He also led us in the invocation and pledge.

Attendance: Summer crowd. No visitors or guests to introduce.

Announcements: Please don't forget to collect the "Soap for Hope". This year's collections will be delivered to Family Promise.

- Casey has reached out to the SSO and VPD to let them know about our Scholarship and Investment in Youth programs.
- The ongoing raffle was discussed at length. We need a huge push in sales to make sure we are successful in meeting our profit goal. Casey and Matt Cary provided many sales opportunities. A call for a hand raise for members who are willing to buy tickets was made. Help was provided to those who could buy online on the spot. This discussion went on for about 15 minutes. No conclusion was made as to whether to extend the drawing or not. The final call was to sell, sell, sell.

NEW MEMBER: Jackson Boone filled in for his Dad and inducted our newest member, Lisa Toppin. Her classification is Banker. Jane Mendola is her sponsor. She has lived in the area since 1995 and is working for Liberty Savings Bank.

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2023-2024 - The Year of
Imagine Rotary



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Program

Tim made brownie points right off the bat by saying that we are a better-looking club than Sertoma and he can also tell we are much smarter too. He believes he was born to be a teacher. His parents were teachers and coaches. He has always wanted to be a teacher and a coach. He worked 16 years for Sarasota County schools. Fifteen of those years were at VHS. He wanted a new challenge and he thought God was speaking to him to move to an environment like SLA to share his talents with a different age group. SLA is a charter school that opened in 2004. It is an A rated school and has been for most of the years it has been in operation. It is located in an old nursing home on Field Avenue. It provides a welcoming environment to over 330 middle school students. There are 92 students on the wait list. Mr. Weidlein believes in what this school is about. SLA mandates community service. They are in a place and at an age where the kids can be molded into great adults and community-oriented individuals. Charter schools get most of their funding from the state and then a percentage is paid over to the County. They rely heavily on donations, community support and parent support. Right now, fundraising is being concentrated on a covered area for PE and sports events. SLA has never hosted a home sporting event. The goal is \$250k for this project. They are about ½ way there. He wants us to know and to share the news that we have a great middle school on the island with great teachers and great kids. He and another teacher are "leadership fit" teachers. They are working with students to help them make good decisions and be good citizens. Next year the 8th graders will invite preschoolers to their campus to have a carnival where the children will be entertained by the older kids. He opened the floor for questions from members. What is the annual budget? He didn't know. Casey looked it up and said it is \$3.2m for 2022-2023. The student to teacher ratio is currently 17 to 1. The teachers are dedicated and passionate about teaching and caring for the students. The decisions for SLA are made locally by the administration which reports to a local school board. They do not report to the Sarasota County School Board. Overall, Mr. Weidlein feels this position has given him the opportunity to make a difference wearing many different hats.

In addition, he enjoys coaching Venice High Football and attributes much of that program's success on the parent and community support as well as the expert coaching. This community is unique and very special. There is none like it!

Pay The Lawyer

Chris Gray paid \$33 happy dollars to celebrate his 33rd anniversary as a member of VNR.

Marion Spark paid happy/sad \$\$ to say that she is leaving for the summer after this meeting.

Joe Pokorney paid happy \$5 that he is now a great grandfather.

Ken paid happy \$2 that he was finally able to stop by for a meeting.

Wendy paid a happy \$10 that her son Sam is graduating from FSU over the weekend.

Doug paid happy \$\$ that his son, Cole was honored at Cornell

Matt Cary paid happy \$\$ that his son is at SLA and was glad to hear good things today

Casey paid happy \$ for his SLA experience, a fun weekend coming up, and that tax season is over.

Don Lazzaro paid late \$\$.

The meeting ended with the 4-Way Test!

Weekly Meeting Zoom information

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89738731829?pwd=a0RWNndOU0RLdjRnWGxmZGhZNUxEQT09>

Meeting ID: 897 3873 1829

Passcode: VNRotary23

50/50

\$792 to win. Blue ticket drawn. Tony McNair had the winning ticket and drew the King of diamonds so the pot grows.

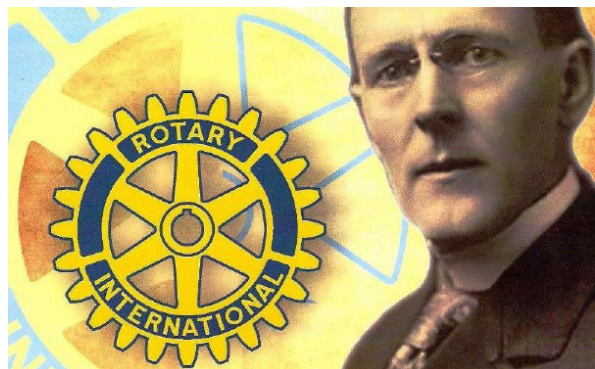
Paul Harris

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.

| Paul Harris Society | | Major Donors | Bequest Society | Benefactors |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| Penny Corell Tom Fitch Barbara Freeman Barry Gray Christopher Gray Susan Hanks Jay Kasmark Nanci Korman Jesse Lazarus Evan Lebson George Lewis Nancy Lewis Bill Mehserle | John Myers Wendy North Stephen Picazio Sr. Diane Pick Jeffrey Pick Joseph Pokorney Craig T. Riley Victoria Stultz Steven Wirth Sarah Young | Christopher Gray - 1 Susan Hanks - 1 Jay Kasmark - 1 Mark Murray-1 Wendy North - 1 Steve Picazio Sr. - 1 Joe Pokorney-1 Steve Wirth - 1 Evan Lebson - 2 George Lewis -3 Jeffrey Pick - 4 | Barbara Freeman - 1 Jane Mendola - 1 Mark Murray - 1 Wendy North - 1 David Pankiw - 4 Diane Pick - 6 Jeffrey Pick - 6 | Barbara Freeman George Lewis Jane Mendola Mark Murray Wendy North David Pankiw Diane Pick Jeffrey Pick Steve Wirth |

Paul Harris Fellows

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| Paige Balsinger Mark Beebe Richard Beebe Bruce Bench Edward Benson Richard Bond Annette Boone Jackson Boone Jeffery Boone Stephen Boone Stuart Boone John Bragg Matthew Brooker Roger Button Matthew Cary Richard Cimo | Penny Corell Jerry Downs Elaine Ellison Lat Farr Tom Fitch Barbara Freeman Barry Gray Christopher Gray Susan Hanks Thomas Hanks Samantha Hill Donald Hillerich Kate Hill-Moore Judy Jankowski Jeffrey Johnson Robert Johnson | George Kalbfleisch Jay Kasmark Nanci Korman Jack Kurschner Douglas Laudenslager Jesse Lazarus Donald Lazzaro Evan Lebson John LeRoux George Lewis Nancy Lewis John Marshall 11 Ken McBride Larry McCarthy Tony McNair Jane Mendola | Charles Mills Mark Murray John Myers Wendy North David Pankiw Stephen Picazio Jr. Stephen Picazio Sr. Diane Pick Jeffrey Pick Joseph Pokorney Kim Randolph Jim Renz Craig T. Riley Casey Riley James Romano Charles Snyder | Julia Stalnaker Victoria Stultz Mike Sundaram Lee Thacker Mirian Walters James Wefso Clifton White Randy Winkel Steven Wirth Sarah Young Richard Zwiebel |
|---|---|---|---|--|

Doc Matson Awards

The 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
JULIE STALNAKER
JOHN RYAN
STEVE BOONE
JACK KURSCHNER

NON-ROTARIANS

HARRY CASE
BILL HANCOCK
BRAD BAKER
STEVE HARNER
DAN PARISI
BOB VEDDER
CHUCK KOCH
CHUCK REITER
LAUREL O’CONNORS
MERLE GRASER
FRANCIS BOURNE
SANDRA TERRY
MARION OGLE
WENDY FISHMAN
FREDA BOONE
C.J. FISHMAN
GEORGE HUNT
JEAN TRAMMELL
DAVID FARLEY
LIZ HILL
DEAN CALAMARAS
BENNY WEAVER
NANCY DETERT
DON HAY
JUDY WILCOX
FRAN VALENCIC
RICH CARROLL
GINA TAYLOR
MIKE PACHOTA
TOM KNIGHT
CRAIG FAULKNER
KATHY LEHNER

Is it the **TRUTH**?

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 | James T. Blalock | 1983-84 | Clifton F. White, Esq. |
| 1948-49 | Robert S. Baynard, Esq. M.A. | 1984-85 | Robert E. Bowlin |
| 1949-50 | Braswell, Esq. | 1985-86 | Cavil Lee Linkous |
| 1950-51 | George E. Youngberg, Sr. | 1986-87 | William M. Van Cott |
| 1951-52 | Chidester Johnson | 1987-88 | Robert K. Coulter |
| 1952-53 | George T. Gibbs, Jr. | 1988-89 | Jeffery A. Boone, Esq. |
| 1953-54 | Col. William R. Grove, Jr. | 1989-90 | Robert L. Waldron |
| 1954-55 | Benjamin B. Dunn | 1990-91 | Stephen J. Picazio, Sr. |
| 1955-56 | Robert S. Baynard, Esq. | 1991-92 | D. Grady Hough, Jr., C.P.A. |
| 1956-57 | Wesley D. Buchannan | 1992-93 | George D. Pickhardt |
| 1957-58 | Douglas R. Murphy, M.D. | 1993-94 | Farnsley "Pete" Peters |
| 1958-59 | Lester Thompson, D.D.S. | 1994-95 | W. Jack Ogle |
| 1959-60 | E.S. Raymond | 1995-96 | Terry E. Littrell |
| 1960-61 | John Beatty | 1996-97 | Richard W. Dodderidge |
| 1961-62 | John E. Davis | 1997-98 | Jeffrey P. Johnson, D.C.M. |
| 1962-63 | Jay H. Lumley | 1998-99 | Daniel O'Hara |
| 1963-64 | Lauriston Rutherford, D.D.S. (moved) | 1999-00 | Mary Stanley |
| | George H. Wheeler, Jr. (completed year) | 2000-01 | Stephen J. Picazio, Jr. |
| 1964-65 | John Elkins Fraser (passed away) | 2001-02 | William D. Willson |
| | J. Howard Vaughn (completed year) | 2002-03 | Eiaine M. Boyer |
| 1965-66 | Leon D. Terry, D.D.S. | 2003-04 | Elliot D. Dibbs, D.D.S. |
| 1966-67 | Rev. Donis D. Patterson | 2004-05 | John Ryan |
| 1967-68 | Charles R. Miles | 2005-06 | Mollie Hernandez |
| 1968-69 | Ronald T. Hanson | 2006-07 | Jerry Zwiers |
| 1969-70 | James H. Brandt, D.V.M. | 2007-08 | Bob Mudge |
| 1970-71 | Omar Wilson, Jr. | 2008-09 | Joseph L. Pokorney |
| 1971-72 | C. M. Chisolm | 2009-10 | Lat Farr |
| 1972-73 | Gerald H. Hollestelle (resigned) | 2010-11 | Beth Harrison |
| | Charles C. Smith (completed year) | 2011-12 | Doug Laudenslager |
| 1973-74 | Charles C. Smith | 2012-13 | Nevenka Kovcic |
| 1974-75 | E.G. "Dan" Boone, Esq. | 2013-14 | Julie Stalnaker |
| 1975-76 | Col. Joseph L. Tucker | 2014-15 | Jeff Pick |
| 1976-77 | Robert I. Johnson | 2015-16 | Blair Post |
| 1977-78 | Hazen H. Stevens | 2016-17 | 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 |
| | | 2022-23 | David Pankiw |



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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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 | 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 <i>(1st Tues. of every month is at 5:30pm)</i> Sarasota Bay: Van Wezel Grand Foyer Sarasota Gulf Gate: Mattison's on 41 | 7:00am 7:15 pm 12 noon <i>(5:30 pm)</i> 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 |

May Birthdays

| | | | |
|---------------------|------|-----------------|------|
| Boone, Jeff | 5/21 | Lewis, Nancy | 5/17 |
| Britton, Matt | 5/03 | Pankiw, Dave | 5/20 |
| Butler, David | 5/05 | Thomas, Julie | 5/12 |
| Gray, Barry | 5/07 | Walters, Marian | 5/27 |
| Hill, Liz | 5/15 | Wirth, Steve | 5/12 |
| Kalbfleisch, George | 5/11 | Zwiebel, Rick | 5/13 |



Support Our *Rotary Sponsors* Who Follow the Four Way Test



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