

## ROTARY CLUB OF ST. PETERSBURG CLUB ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2021-2022

SCOTT RUSSELL, PRESIDENT  
LIZ HEINKEL, IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT  
DOUG PHARES, PRESIDENT ELECT  
BOND THOMAS, SECRETARY  
JILL VANMIDDLESWORTH-BANKS, TREASURER  
ERIC WALLEY, SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

### **BOARD MEMBERS:**

Sherri Crouse  
Jill Doyle  
Jim Fitton

Jeff Hearn  
Susan Mittermayr  
Valarie Nussbaum-  
Harris

Anne Ricke  
Devika Srivastava  
Brett Szematowicz

## **AVENUES OF SERVICE**

### **1. CLUB SERVICE**

New Members – The goal set at the beginning of the year was to have 115 club members by July 2022. With 17 new individual members, and 6 new corporate members inducted, the Club now has 120 members, with several more pending. The Club also received District's Large Club Platinum Award for Membership.

8th Year as a member of the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce

Presidential Citation – We will receive this prestigious award for our work as a club in 2021-2022.

Programs: During the past Rotary year, we were fortunate to have some outstanding programs and speakers visit the club including:

- Dave Sillman, Ready For 100% Pinellas Coordinator
- Dr. Steve Murawski, Marine Ecosystem Analysis
- Capt. Matthew Thompson, Commander, Coast Guard
- Matt Lettelleir, Chamber of Commerce Vice President of Advocacy

- Ashley Behrens, Special Olympics
- Neil Brown, President - Poynter Institute
- Chris Burke, St. Pete Charter Commission
- Yvonne Marullier, The Dali
- Carla Bristol, St. Pete Youth Farm
- Betsy Walch, Museum of American Arts and Crafts
- Ryan Dilkey, Director - Eckerd College Search and Rescue
- Mark Hunt, Career, Technical & Adult Education - Pinellas Schools
- Ellen McDonald, CEO, Florida Resurrection House
- Dr. Martin Tadlock, Chancellor, USFSP
- Gary Gilchrist, Honor Flight
- Conan Gallaty, CEO, Tampa Bay Times Organization
- Bill Edwards, Mahaffey/Bill Edwards Foundation for the Arts
- Christina Chilbert, Seaside Seabird Sanctuary
- Martha Boden, Tampa Bay SPCA
- Rotary District 6950 Governor Jocelyn Chapman
- Chris Minner EVP, Tampa International Airport
- Dr. Cynthia Johnson, Pinellas Economic Development Director
- Tony Armer, Film Commissioner, Visit St Pete/Clearwater
- Vice-Mayor Stephanie Owens, City of St. Petersburg
- Jason Mathis, Downtown St Petersburg Partnership
- Ryan Kasley, The James Museum
- Barry Poppel, Rotary Club of Trinity - Pure Water for the World
- Alicia Schulhof, Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital
- Mark Sprague, St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport

## 2. VOCATIONAL SERVICE

- ❖ NED MARCH-BUD PURDY AWARD – The Club hosted the Ned March/Bud Purdy Award ceremony in-person, after last year's virtual ceremony, on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Plaques and a cash award were given to two officers selected by the St. Petersburg Police Department. Additionally, the recipients received watches provided by Rotarian Jim Watters and the Shops at 200 Beach Drive.
- ❖ MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP/SOCIAL EVENT – With life returning a little more to normal, Family of Rotary hosted many socials including gatherings at VX Virtual Reality Arcade, Barkett Realty, Sea Salt, Urban Brew & BBQ, Three Birds Tavern, Nicko's Pizzas and Subs, and the Mahaffey Theater for Abba Mania. Our Rotary year will end with the installation of our new officers at Lala's on Central Ave.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE AND SUPPORT

- ❖ FINES AND HAPPY DOLLARS - The club raised over \$9,000 through Fines and Happy Dollars for the year. Distributions were made to the following organizations and causes:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter:
    - Bahamas Hurricane Relief: \$ 2,775.00
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter:
    - Christmas Toy Shop: \$ 2,849.00
    - SPYC Staff: \$ 443.00
    - Thompson Scholarship: \$ 131.00
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Total: \$ 3,423.00
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter:
    - Bahamas Relief & Sallie House \$1,340.06
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter:
    - Brookwood Florida: \$1,835.00
  
- ❖ TRUST PROJECTS AND DISTRIBUTIONS: The Projects and Distributions Committee administrated disbursements of \$22,500 from the proceeds of the trust investment accounts. The following charities will benefit from the donations made:
 

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Baby Basics of Pinellas</li> <li>○ Goodwill Industries Suncoast</li> <li>○ Lawyers for Literacy</li> <li>○ The Kind Mouse</li> <li>○ The Gathering of Women Inc.</li> <li>○ Clothes to Kids, Inc.</li> <li>○ Tequilla's Twin Towers Mini-Camp</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ SOAR</li> <li>○ Bill Edwards Foundation for the Arts</li> <li>○ Pinellas County Sheriff's PAL</li> <li>○ The Salvation Army</li> <li>○ Children's Dream Fund</li> <li>○ St. Vincent de Paul CARES</li> </ul>
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- ❖ Salty Sands Rotary Run – April 30, 2022  
The club honored Earth Day by enjoying gorgeous Ft. Desoto Park during its second annual Rotary Run. Runners had their choice of a 1-mile fun run, 5K, or 10K. It was an awesome community event and raised over \$18,000 to benefit environmental causes in the Tampa Bay area.
  
- ❖ Rotary District 6950 Matching Grants  
The club applied for and was approved for a \$12,772.86 matching grant to increase Tampa Bay oyster habitat to mitigate the effects of future red tide blooms.

## SERVICE PROJECTS

- The Club participated in at least 15 service projects with members contributing over 1,000 service hours.
- St. Pete Youth Farm – (August) Rotarians contributed 28 volunteer hours working at the farm.
- Special Olympics – (October) Volunteers provided organizational support for the Special Olympics Golf Tournament.
- Rotary Camp Florida – (November) The club participated in a service day at Rotary Camp Florida.
- Salvation Army Bell Ringing – (December) Volunteers rang the bell for 48 hours!
- Sallie House Easter Event – (April) – a group of volunteers descended on Sallie house to provide the children living there an Easter-themed party complete with egg hunts, egg dyeing, and a delicious lunch.
- St. Petersburg Free Clinic – (December & April) The club provided volunteers for two food packing events to assist the SPFC's We Help FRESH food pantry, which will feed hundreds of local residents.
- Keep Pinellas Beautiful Trail – (September, February & June) Club members, Rojans, and Interact members provided close to 400 volunteer hours over three separate events to pick up hundreds of pounds of trash (and one car bumper!) along the Pinellas Trail.
- Blood Drives – (September, February & June) The Club coordinated three blood drives for One Blood.

## OTHER PROJECTS

- Ukraine – (April): Over \$5,700 was donated by club members and sent to Rotary International to support their special contributions to the Ukrainian relief effort.
- John Thompson Nursing Scholarship – (November/December) Sold special wildlife themed Rotary calendars created by Tom Bell to benefit the John Thompson Nursing Scholarship. The net proceeds of \$270 were donated to the SPC Foundation designated to the John Thompson Nursing Scholarship, which is now fully endowed and being awarded to qualified nursing students. An additional donation allowed us to donate \$1,500 more to the scholarship.

- Children's Books Literacy Project – A children's book was donated in honor of each of our guest speakers. These books were collected and delivered to Happy Worker's Children's Center (R'Club).
- Survey - A club-wide survey was conducted to determine members' interests and to gather ideas for future service projects and socials.
- Member Interest Clubs – Two special interest clubs were formed: a book club and a travel club. The Book Club launched with the Splendid and the Vile by Erik Larson. The Travel Club is putting together a trip to Kentucky.
- Training Workshops – Workshops were held to educate and inform members on our Diversity efforts and the Rotary International Foundation.
- Paul Harris
  - Paul Harris Fellows: 5
  - Multiple Paul Harris recipients: 10
  - Benefactors: 1

### 3. INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

- Polio Plus - Polio Donations: The club has collected over \$1,000 this year designated to the Polio Plus Campaign.
- Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY) - Club members donated over \$88,000 to the Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund. Our Club led the District and accounted for over 20% of total district giving this year.
  - International Service Trip -- Team of 5 traveled to the Bahamas in March to assist with hurricane recovery in the Abacos. Club members gave them a working science lab again, which hadn't been used since the storm in 2019. The volunteers refurbished cabinets, installed a ceiling, painted, and restored the floor. Teachers and students were excited to be able to use it again.

### 4. YOUTH SERVICES

- Interact & Rojans Clubs - Sponsored 2 (Interact & Rojans) Clubs at SPHS. Provide liaison and guidance to clubs including them in volunteer opportunities with the club's events. The Club is sponsoring one delegate from the Rojans Club and another delegate from another Rotary club.