



## Pres. Pentrack takes reins for 2023-2024 year



**TOP:** Incoming president Donna Pentrack accepts Presidency and comments

**RIGHT:** Outgoing president Sue Carson and PDG Jocelyn Chapman congratulate Pres. Donna

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March – June 2023

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



**Sue Carson, President**

Thanks to everyone for the great Rotary year 2022-2023!! Some of the things we did this year were holding a Boating Family activity at Sunset Beach in July. Lots of children attended from the Boys & Girls Club, Cops N Kids and Union Academy as well from some other local groups.

In August we collected lightly used suitcases for Hope Villages of America who support our neighbors facing hunger, homelessness, domestic violence or a lack of basic needs.

Sept. was our 37th Triathlon. This successful fund raising event requires help from all members and also the community. Thank you to Celia Dubey for coordinating this fun event! Our next one is being held Sept. 30.

October was our second Boating Family event to Caladesi Island, taking kids out in boats and learning educational information about the island and the surrounding area.

We had a social at Blackbeard's in November where we raised money for Polio Plus. This event was re-scheduled from Sept. 28 which is when Hurricane Ian hit heavily south of us. Our district and club responded by sending supplies down immediately. We were one of the first to get much needed supplies to Fort Meyers. Several weeks later we sent workers down to help out.

Tom, Rich Lundahl and I went down to assist. Due to this close call, our District is re-evaluating our Area's Disaster Needs and will be moving forward with a plan. Our club is donating \$1000 to this effort.

Our District Grant was Building Beds with Sleep in Heavenly Peace which we did in November at the Boys & Girls Club.

There is a list of children in our county waiting for beds. That day we built 20 beds.

Thanks to Ernie Colquette for suggesting this partnership.

December was busy with many of our members ringing bells for the Salvation Army. We participated in the Christmas Boat parade, proudly displaying

## President recounts excellent year

our large Rotary blow up, so it was great advertising. Our club had been doing the set up for the Chamber for the Christmas Parade for the last several years as a fundraiser for the club.

We also participated in the parade with a float and handed out candy to those watching the parade. The month and the year ended with a fun Social at Rusty Bellies right before New Year's Eve.

The New Year started with our club participating in the MLK Parade and breakfast in January.

February came with our third Boating Family event which was a Fishing trip and tour of Pelican Point Seafood followed by lunch at Rusty Bellies. Julie Russell coordinated this event. The children attending this event received their own fishing poles.

Our club sponsored a First Responders breakfast and we also participated in the First

Responders Car Show in downtown Tarpon.

In March we held our Picnic in the Park at Craig Park where we collected books for literacy. Perry Bean brought his drone and made a video. The books and some cash to purchase books were donated to Union Academy who was happy to receive them.

Later in the month, a group went to Dimitiri's on the Water for a social.

April was our 3rd Annual Cornhole & BBQ fundraising event. The next Cornhole event will be held on March 23..

In May, the club was asked to help honor Nurses and Hospital Workers at Advent Health North Pinellas by hosting a breakfast.

June saw the 170 volunteers participating in Rise against Hunger meal packing event. These meals help those in need around the world.

Our last Social for the Rotary year was June 29 at The Stockyard.

We also had some great lunch meeting speakers. Thank you to Joan Stolz.

We updated our clubs Strategic Plan which is done every three years. Thank you to Tom Trask for chairing this.

Tom & I represented our club at the district conference at Saddlebrook in May and the Rotary International Convention in Melbourne Australia in June.

Our club donated \$17,000 to scholarships, over \$20,000 to local projects and over \$13,000 to international projects

Success requires leadership to help make it happen. I would like to thank Tekoa Bean, Past President, Robin Wickle, Vice President, Donna Pentrack, President Elect and Milton Smith, President Elect Nominee. I want to thank each of them for their support this year. It was an honor to be your president and I welcome Donna Pentrack as the 97th President of the Rotary club of Tarpon Springs.

## Board finishes busy spring schedule

### June 15, 2023

The BOD met June 15 and approved a revised budget for Pres. Sue Carson's year. A report was given that the bylaws committee has met and will follow up with a report in July.

A final report was given by the membership committee: 2 transfers, 14 new members, 1 resignation, 3 honorary members, 1 end of service.

We are getting lots of inquiries thru our website. Then incoming Pres. Donna Pentrack took over the meeting and the budget for the 2023-2024 year was approved.

### May 18, 2023

Membership has increased, and we will induct new members by the end of June.

The next Cornhole Tournament will be March 23, 2024.

The Harold Haftel project is getting close to starting at the Boys & Girls Club.

We passed our strategic plan, and it will be sent to all of the members. We will discuss it at the next board meeting

The board also considered possible donations we will

make.

### April 20, 2023

Roger Sellow's memorial service was May 5. He was a member of the club since 1999.

Michael Bilirakis sent a thank you note that he was honored to be selected for honorary membership in the club. He also donated \$100.

The BOD approved funds for:

- Bali Environmental Project \$1000
- Lunch funds for Sunset Hills Elementary School \$1000
- Peace 4 Tarpon presentations for middle school kids and their parents, \$800
- Advent Health Hospital Breakfast for Healthcare Workers & Nurses Week, \$500

### March 16, 2023

We decided to use the same group we have used previously for the meal packing.

It will be in mid June this year.

District Training was April

29th. We sent several of our members to this training.

Cornhole funds came along well, significantly above last year's level.

We are sending two students to S4TL this summer.

The strategic plan was presented to the club with several minor corrections. It will be revised and reviewed again at another board meeting.

## Club takes award



With a whole new outlook on awards, District 6950 met to recognize clubs' successes for this Rotary Year.

RCTS received the best Facebook Streamed Live Award, a first for the club and for the District.

March – June 2023

## Installation memories will last forever after gala



**ABOVE:** Rtn. Tom explains Tommy Awards to incoming president Pres. Donna. The Tommy Awards are a staple of the club's installation process each year.

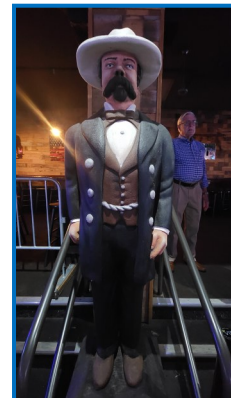
**LEFT:** PDG Perry accepts recognition for hard work from Pres. Sue  
**FAR LEFT:** PDG and 6950 Foundation Chair Charlie is incredulous at club antics

**BELOW:** Rtn. Julie has measured conversation with another hardworking Rotarian, Rtn. Robin. Both are recognized for their contributions to club activities this year.



March – June 2023

## Rotarians line up for dancing, laughter, fun, dancing



March – June 2023

## Pres. Sue ends successful year cowboy stomping



**ABOVB:** Pres. Sue and Tex enjoy night of line dancing  
**ABOVE RIGHT:** Pres. Sue and cowgirl Joan get cowboys right  
**RIGHT:** Longtime Rotarian Bill keeps eye on dance floor and Rtn. Ron  
**PREVIOUS PAGE:**  
**TOP:** Dancers enjoy stomping it out at yearend social  
**LOWER LEFT:** Slim and Annie Oakley ready to cut the rug  
**MIDDLE RIGHT:** Stockyard welcomes Rotarians ready to party  
**MIDDLE BOTTOM:** Rtns. Nick and Bob look on while Pres. Sue monitors  
**BOTTOM RIGHT:** Stockyard mascot supervises Rotary guests

March – June 2023

# New members bring club back to pre-pandemic



**Gee Thompson** (Milton Smith): Retired from the federal government with over 27 years' service and top-secret clearance. He is currently serving as a

pastor and vows to use his time, expertise and ethnicity to advance the Four-Way Test. **Raymond Ruble** (Chris Dufala): Serves as current treasurer of The JiuJitsu Project. He received the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award for volunteering. He is employed at the Environmental Rescue Alliance. Ray wants to serve as an effective volunteer and donor.

**Robbin Redd** (Donna Pen-track): for membership in the Tarpon Springs Rotary Club. I want to reiterate that my personal style of working prioritizes teamwork, collaboration and partnerships. Time and time again, I have experienced the greater good that can take place when people put their

resources together creating a bigger and deeper impact. I am also looking forward to learning about what is important to each member: what is their professional mission and personal

gifts that I can learn from, enjoy and also support them.

**Membership chair Rtn. Robbin initiates new members**

## Chapman awarded for service

PDG and RCTS member Mike Chapman has been recognized with a distinguished service award by the Rotary Foundation.

The Foundation Distinguished Service Award honors up to 50 Rotarians and Rotaractors who have demonstrated exemplary service to the Foundation and who have received the Citation for Meritorious Service at least four years earlier.

Nominations can be made by any Rotarian or Rotaractor and must be endorsed by the current governor of the nominee's district.

The nominee must also be endorsed by a Rotarian or Rotaractor outside the nominee's district. District governors can endorse only one nomination for their district.

Current and incoming trus-

tees are not eligible to nominate or endorse candidates for this award. Nominations can be made by completing the online nomination form and including detailed information about the specific Foundation activities and responsibilities of the nominee since they received the Citation for Meritorious Service.

You can't nominate yourself for the award, and a person can receive the award only once. Financial contributions to the Foundation, however notable, are not relevant considerations for this award.

The nominee's eligible service must be on a broad basis, over an extended period of time, including at least six of the following Only 24 Rotarians worldwide received the DSA from the Rotary Foundation Trustees this year!!



March – June 2023

## May/June events reflect busy club, fun activities

RCTS is always active, but this spring has been particularly busy with club activities supported by a high percentage of club members. This club has operated for many years with a combination of service and fun.

Members raise money for scholarships, support local youth activities and give generously to The Rotary Foundation.

**May 4, 2023**

**Ryan Quattlebaum, CEO Advent Health North Pinellas**

The CEO of the hospital gave the club an update on what is happening there. We sponsored a hospital workers and nurses breakfast. The club donated \$500

**May 10, 2023**

Several members served breakfast at the hospital

**May 11, 2023**

**Robbin Redd, Executive Director of Tarpon Springs Housing Authority**

Robbin informed us of all of the progress they have made in Tarpon Springs with housing. Robbin to join the club in the near future.

**May 18, 2023**

**Board Meeting (See Board page for details)**

**May 18, 2023**

**Joanne Reich, Community Engagement Advocate, Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County**

Joanne talked about how our county is doing with helping children. She talked about the new programs they have.

**May 19-20, 2023**

**District Conference Saddlebrook**

Rtn. Tom and Pres. Sue Carson attended. Our club won the best Facebook Live club

**Saturday, June 3, 2023**

**Rise Against Hunger**

Tarpon Springs United Methodist Church

**June 8, 2023**

**Noon**

Fellowship time

**June 15, 2023**

**7:30 am**

Board Meeting

**Noon**

Anna Marie Fiallos, Investigator and Outreach Coordinator, Pinellas County Consumer Protection

**Saturday, June 17, 2023**

**Cypress Run Golf Club**

Banquet

**June 22, 2023**

**No meeting**

**June 29, 2023**

**7 p.m. Social**

The Stockyard. The last event for the club this Rotary year.

Rtn. Bob Alderman was recognized at the annual installation banquet for his many years of membership and service to the club.

For 50 years, Rtn. Bob has been key. He is a past president and led the effort through "Doorways" to the creation of the "Take Stock in Children" Program.

**Rtn. Bob Alderman has a long history of service to the club**



## Groups rise against hunger

The Rise Against Hunger meal packaging event June 3rd was a tremendous success. Packaging thousands of meals for hungry people all over the country

More than 170 volunteers from surrounding Rotary Clubs, churches, corporations, civic groups, Boy Scouts, Sheriff's Youth Guild and more, joined in packaging 22,600 meals in 1½ hours. The volunteers in-

cluded past Rotary District Governors and committee chairs.

Financial donations in support of the event came from St. Luke's Cataract Institute, St. Timothy's Church, Advent Health Hospital, five Rotary clubs and individual Rotarians. Within the next month we will be told which overseas location the meals have been sent.



Our mission is and hunger in our lifetime remains the same, and we are committed to achieving even greater impact toward this goal.

**Meal Packaging Event**

Saturday, June 3, 2023

**Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Tarpon Springs**

Join the movement to end hunger in our lifetime! Help us reach our goal to package 22,248 meals on June 3rd. Working together we can create a world without hunger.

**When:** Saturday, June 3rd  
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Where:** First United Methodist Church  
501 E. Tarpon Avenue  
Tarpon Springs, FL

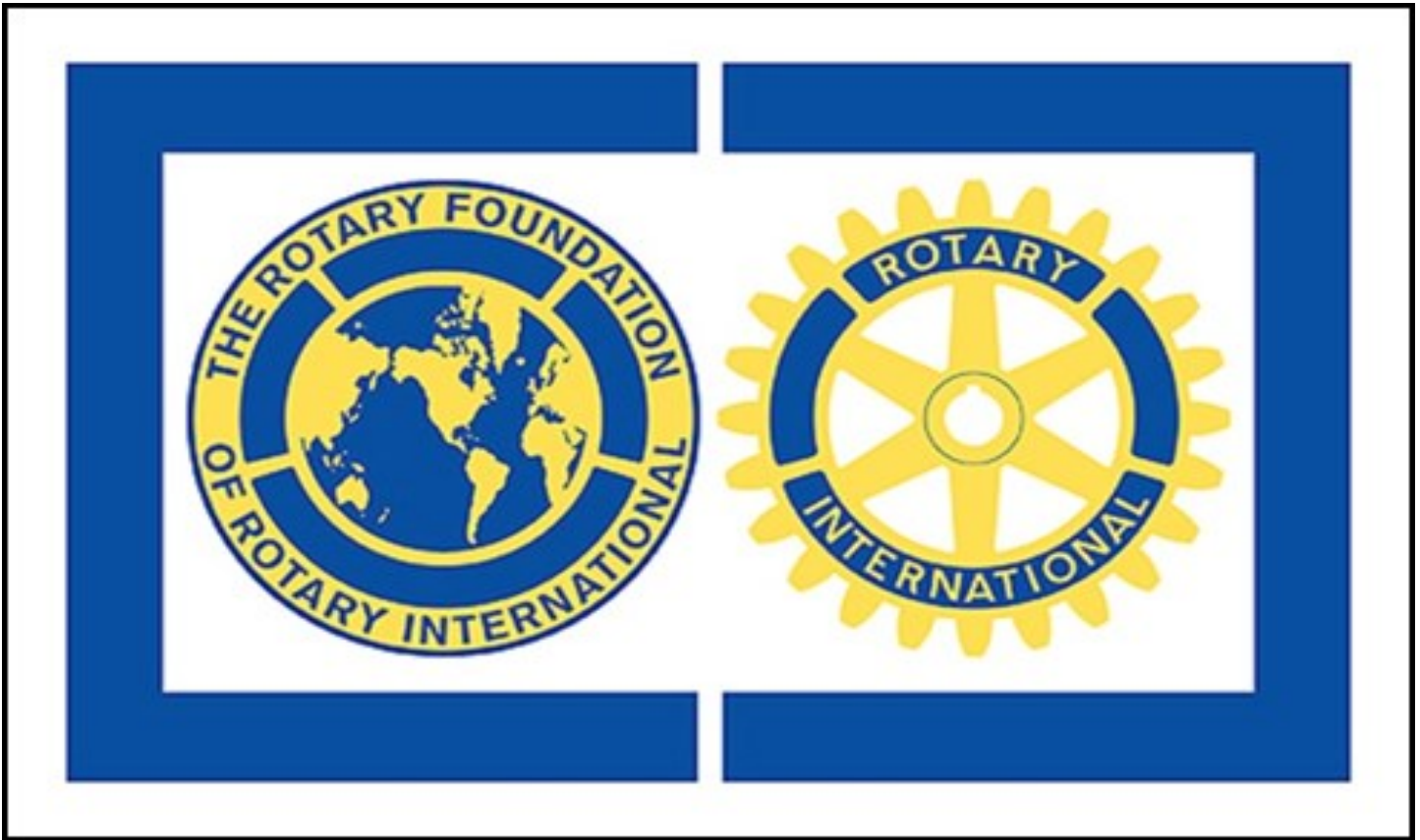
Rise Against Hunger meal packaging events are a fun, hands-on and rewarding experiences for anyone of any age. Every dehydrated rice/soy meal is fortified with 21 essential vitamins and nutrients. We need volunteers. Please join us for 2 hours on June 3rd.

Register at:  
<https://rah.secure.force.com/events/homepage?id=7013Z000002L66iQAC>  
or just show up.

For more information contact: Ron Haddad, [rjhaddad@gte.net](mailto:rjhaddad@gte.net)

March – June 2023

# Club fetes first responders for outstanding job



**MOORE COUNTY, NC**

Please join us for our monthly First Responders  
*Free First Friday Breakfast*

**FEBRUARY | 3RD | 8:00-10:00 2023**



**Robbins Fire Department**  
 301 Branson Cir  
 Robbins, NC 27325

Sponsored by:  
Robbins PD & FD

Active duty &  
 Retired  
 Fire  
 EMS  
 LEO  
 Dispatch




March –June 2023

# April calendar filled with significant plans, events

**Saturday, April 1, 2023**

Barbeque and Cornhole Spring Fling,  
Boys & Girls Club

**April 6, 2023**

**Barry Poppel, Honduras, Water for the World**

Barry Poppel works with Rotary and Pure Water for the World to bring clean water to Honduras. This year's project is in honor of Herb Brown who is celebrating his 100th birthday. Our club donated \$500

**April 13, 2023**

**Charlotte Israel, Helping Babies Breathe**

Charlotte Israel is helping newborn babies survive in Sri Leone, but educating the healthcare workers Our club donated \$500

**April 20, 2023**

**Rotary Youth Trust Fund Board**

A very informative talk was given by members of the Rotary Youth Trust Fund Board.

**April 29, 2023**

**District Leadership Training**

Five of our members attended, Donna Pentrack, Jacqui Turner, Abby Holland, George Koulianos, Milton Smith



**Ryan Quattlebaum, CEO Advent Health North Pinellas, outlines work and progress at the hospital at May 4 meeting**



**District leadership training April 29**



**Charlotte Israel, Helping Babies**

March –June 2023

## March events

### March 2, 2023

Paula Wikle, Diplomat US State Department was our speaker. She is the sister in law of Robin Wikle and aunt of Will Wikle.

### March 9, 2023

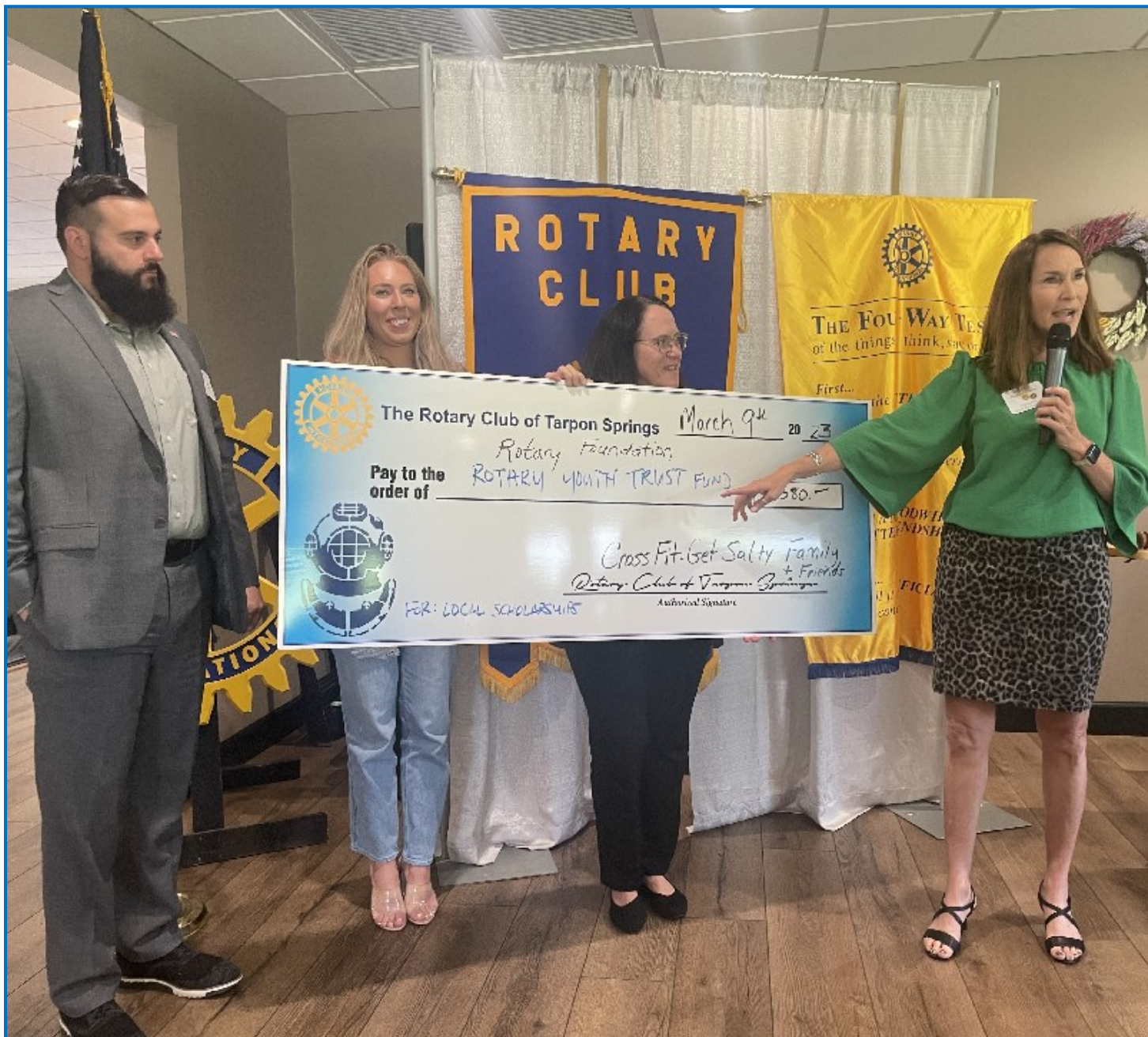
We had a Fellowship meeting with Paul Donovan doing March Trivia. Robin Wikle donated \$1380 to the Rotary Youth Trust Fund and Rotary Foundation in honor of her birthday.

**March 16, 2023** Robyn Liska, Habitat for Humanity  
Robyn spoke about the history of Habitat in our area. Our club is

planning on partnering with them in the future on a house build.

**March 23, 2023** Picnic in the Park at Craig Park Celebration of our club's 96th birthday. Meat and Dessert were provided. Members brought food to share. It was a beautiful day and Perry Bean took Drone photos. We collected books for Literacy 2 photos sent

**Wednesday, March 29, 2023** Social at Dimitri's



Robin Wikle donated \$1380 to the Rotary Youth Trust Fund and Rotary Foundation in honor of her birthday

March – June 2023

# Pres. Sue, PEN Milton dedicate peace pole

## Feb 2, 2023 Club Assembly

Pres. Sue gave a presentation of what our club has accomplished this year. Also included were reports from membership and foundation.

## Friday, Feb 3, 2023

Pres. Sue Carson attended a First Responders Breakfast that our club sponsored.

## Saturday Feb 4, 2023

Boating Family Fishing out on boats to go fishing with a meal and visit to the fish market at Rusty Bellies after. Fishing poles given to children

## February 9, 2023

## Conrad Hall, "Getting Happy Series"

Our speaker asked if he could present remotely. He had an excellent topic but it was

hard to hear him, so maybe not such a good idea for our large group.

Also at this meeting Patricia Haddad was initiated as a new member.

## February 16, 2023 Board Meeting

The Board met and we discussed upcoming events. Directors interviewed Debbie Boucher for our Executive Secretary position.

We currently have 96 members.

Manuel Gombos was made an honorary member for his long years of service to the club.

Our scholarship committee met and selected high school scholarships. Seven were selected, one from SPCHS and six from TSHS.



All were awarded \$1,000 scholarships and invited to attend lunch with our club on July 21.

We are moving forward on the Harold Haftel Project with organizing parking and greenery at the Boys & Girls Club, including orange trees in honor of Harold who owned an orange grove.

## February 16, 2023 Cari Rupkavlis, Tarpon Springs Library

Cari was sick and sent refer-

ence assistant Denise Manning who updated the club on things going on at the library.

## Saturday, February 18, 2023 First Responders Car Show

RCTS was one of the sponsors and provided volunteers.

## February 22, 2023

Pres. Sue attended the First Anniversary of the Peace Pole in Dunedin. Our club is looking in to sponsoring a peace pole in Tarpon Springs.



## Boating Family day puts kids first

Boating Family Fishing out on boats to go fishing with a meal and visit to the fish market at Rusty Bellies after.

Fishing poles given to approximately 60 children who

participated. Rtn. Mike organizes several of these each year to benefit children in the club's service area.

Another is planned for later in the summer.



March – June 2023

Car show kicks off season

# Auto enthusiasts get chance to showcase cars



**FENDERS for 1st RESPONDERS**

**CAR SHOW SATURDAY**  
Car Shows for Charity

**FEBRUARY 18, 2023**

**PRIZES!**

Public: Free - No Entry Fee

When: Saturday February 18, 2023  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Where: The Streets of Tarpon Springs (DOWNTOWN)  
Tarpon Avenue from Pinellas Ave. to Sanford Ave.

Cost: Vehicle entry \$20.00 per vehicle (\$25.00 day of event)  
Event Registration 8:00 am - 10:00 am  
Register at Car Shows for Charities website [www.cs4c.com](http://www.cs4c.com)  
Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

**Food, Fun & Cool Cars for a GREAT CAUSE!**

A Service Event sponsored by the  
Rotary Club of Tarpon Springs

We are dedicated to Encourage and Inspire the brave men and women in Fire, EMS, Dispatchers, & Law Enforcement during their Career and Beyond!



March – June 2023

## Club supports healthcare workers during their week



**ABOVE:** Rtn. Nick is quick to find the croissants  
**BELOW:** Rtn. Bobbie mugs for camera as she keeps members in line  
**UPPER RIGHT:** Three past presidents, one present chief and Rtn. Bobbie pitch in make hospital event even better  
**MIDDLE RIGHT:** Nurses recognized for their hard work during Happy Nurses Week  
**LOWER RIGHT:** Members look as though they hope for left-





**For 96 years the Rotary Club of Tarpon Springs has served the community.**



**I'M  
A  
PROUD  
MEMBER**

[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

Every year RCTS members turn out to work hard to bring in funds for scholarships to local students. Over the

years the club and its foundation has assured 100s of students they will have the funds for college.

# Rotary International

EVANSTON, Ill. (January 24, 2023) — Stephanie Urchick, member of the Rotary Club of McMurray, PA, USA, will become the second woman to take office as president of Rotary International on 1 July 2024.

During her one-year term, Urchick will lead the global service organization in adapting its systems and structures to enable Rotary's 1.4 million members in 200 countries and regions to deliver impactful and lasting solutions to the continued challenges facing the world today in a more efficient and regionally effective manner.

To that end, Urchick will strive to foster an understanding of how regional differences affect the way Rotary members work together, and how to leverage and embrace different perspectives to create a strong foundation for innovation, sustainability, and growth.

"Rotary is not the same for everyone everywhere. Understanding how culture, religion, geography, language and so much more inform how Rotary members work together is critical to furthering Rotary's impact," said Urchick. "By acknowledging, respecting and responding to these differences, Rotary can increase cooperation and create and sustain meaningful change everywhere we live, work, and serve."

Urchick will also seek to bridge information and communication gaps and foster connections through technology.

"Rotary successfully pivoted to the digital world at the outset of the pandemic, and I want to continue to maximize the benefits," said Urchick. "Virtual platforms remain a great way for members to engage with Rotary and spread the word about its causes and work."

Rotary members throughout the world develop and implement sustainable, community-driven projects that fight disease, promote peace, provide clean water, support education, save mothers and children, grow local economies and protect the environment. Over US\$5.5 billion has been awarded through The Rotary Foundation – Rotary's charitable arm that helps clubs work together to perform meaningful, impactful service.

Urchick holds a doctorate in leadership studies from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. A Rotary member since 1991, Stephanie has served Rotary in many roles and capacities.

Her service includes building a primary school in Vietnam; installing water filters in the Dominican Republic; mentoring new Rotary members in Ukraine; and coordinating a Rotary Foundation grant project in Poland.



## Incng RI president offer long, distinguished service

**By Ryan Hyland**

Stephanie A. Urchick, of the Rotary Club of McMurray, Pennsylvania, USA, is the selection of the Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International for 2024-25, a decision that would make her only the second woman to hold that position.

She will be declared the president-nominee on 15 September if no challenging candidates have been suggested.

With the world facing incredible challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic, disasters driven by climate change, and

conflict in many regions, Urchick says Rotary's leaders can offer a vision and a plan for overcoming these challenges.

"Measures taken by Rotary leadership to survive and end critical challenges often make our organization stronger and more resilient for future events," Urchick says.

"This kind of essential leadership also creates new levels of cooperation, even among rivals, when Rotarians pull together as people of action to serve and solve a crisis."

Making regionalization a priority is crucial, says Urchick.

"Because Rotary operates in more than 200 countries and regions, it is vital to recognize that the organization has the potential to become more efficient and effective by understanding and reacting to how regional differences affect the way Rotarians work together to address providing service, promoting integrity, and advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace," Urchick says.

A Rotary member since 1991, she currently serves on the Election Review Committee and the Operations Review Committee.