

## ROTARY CLUB OF ST. PETERSBURG CLUB ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2020-2021

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

### **BOARD MEMBERS:**

Sherri Crouse  
Jeff Hearn  
Susan Mittermayr

Joe Ozbolt  
Doug Phares  
Anne Ricke

Devika Srivastava  
Brett Szematowicz  
Ken Williams

## **AVENUES OF SERVICE**

### **1. CLUB SERVICE**

New Members - Inducted 19 new members and awarded Top Club in the District for Membership, awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the District's 100 Day Membership Challenge.

Celebrated our 7th 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 2020-2021

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

- Richard Walker -- Pinellas County Emergency Management
- Wayne Atherholt -- Cultural Affairs Director of St. Pete
- Clete Belsom, Lt Col, retired USAF History of McDill Airforce Base
- Clay Hollis, Chief of Staff, Tampa Bay Port Authority

- Robin Miller, CEO, Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce
- Vincent Jackson, Former NFL Player, CEO CVT Capital, LLC
- Jarron Dillon, Chief Marketing and Revenue Officer, Vinik Sports Group
- Chief Anthony Holloway, St. Petersburg Chief of Police
- Kristin Clippard, Associate Arts Director, American Stage
- Laura Hine, Pinellas County School Board, Member
- Joe Hamilton, Publisher, The St. Pete Catalyst

## 2. VOCATIONAL SERVICE

- ❖ NED MARCH-BUD PURDY AWARD – The Club hosted the Ned March/Bud Purdy Award ceremony virtually on March 19<sup>th</sup> at the new Police Headquarters. Plaques and a cash award were given to two officers selected by the St. Petersburg Police Department. Additionally, the recipients received watches provided and presented by Rotarian Jim Watters and the Shops at 200 Beach Drive.
- ❖ MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP/SOCIAL EVENT – The Membership Committee in conjunction with the Vocational Service Committee continued a monthly basis, at first on Zoom, with virtual socials that focused on travel, cooking, trivia games and ice breaker games. During the second half of the year when people began to receive their vaccinations, we began to gather at restaurants and bars: Residence Inn on Tierra Verde, The Birchwood, Sea Salt, Sushi Rock Grill, and Social Roost. Our Rotary year ends with the installation of our new officers held at the yacht club as a social.

## 3. COMMUNITY SERVICE AND SUPPORT

- ❖ FINES AND HAPPY DOLLARS - The club raised \$16,731 through Fines and Happy Dollars for the year. Distributions were made to the following organizations:
  - Microfinance Empowerment \$3,838
  - Rotary's Camp Florida \$5,193
  - SOAR (Sing Out and Read) \$7,700
- ❖ CENTENNIAL

Completed the final Centennial project which was to have the William Straub monument refurbished and rededicated. The refurbishment was completed and was re-dedicated on May 7, 2021.

- ❖ **TRUST PROJECTS AND DISTRIBUTIONS:** The Projects and Distributions Committee administrated disbursements of \$17,500 from the proceeds of the trust investment accounts. The following charities benefited from the donations made:
  - Baby Basics of Pinellas
  - Goodwill Industries Suncoast
  - Lawyers for Literacy
  - The Kind Mouse
  - The Gathering of Women Inc.
  - Nomad Studio
  - PARC
  - Pinellas County Sheriff's PAL
  - R'Club
  - Salvation Army
  - Special Olympics
  - St. Vincent de Paul
  
- ❖ Rotary District 6950 Matching Grants were completed  
Last year our club applied for and was approved for three grants from District 6950, totaling over \$36,000. The District paperwork for the grants was completed which enabled us to more than complete our centennial pledge of \$100,000 for the St. Petersburg Free Clinic.
  
- ❖ Inaugural Rotary Run for the Roses -- May 1, 2021  
As the world began to emerge from the pandemic we held our first fundraiser in more than a year. It was a run, walk, stroller roll with a Kentucky Derby theme, entitled Rotary Run (Walk, Stroll) for the Roses. It was an awesome community event and raised over \$18,000 for the St. Petersburg Free Clinic. This will be an annual event.

## OTHER PROJECTS

- Hygiene Products Drive – May-June 2021: Collection of over 124 pounds of hygiene products for the St. Petersburg Free Clinic.
  
- 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 \$275 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 \$1,000 more to the scholarship.
  
- Salvation Army Bell Ringing – (December) Provided volunteers for Salvation Army Bell Ringing for two days in December 2020.
  
- Sallie House Easter Event – (April) – a large group of volunteers descended on Sallie house to provide the children housed there an Easter themed party complete with egg hunts, egg dying and a delicious fried chicken lunch. It was held the week after Easter, but the children still had a great time.

- 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). When it is safe to do so we will resume volunteer reading with the children of Happy Workers.
- St. Petersburg Free Clinic – The club provided volunteers for the Drive Thru Pantry on six separate occasions and participated in a car parade to drop off food pantry supplies.
- Keep Pinellas Beautiful Trail - Clean Up Service Projects, provided 59 volunteers over three separate events to pick up more than 500 pounds of trash along mile one of the Pinellas Trail.
- Blood Drive – The Club coordinated two blood drives for One Blood in January and in May 2021 to a fully subscribed group of donors of Rotarians and community citizens.
- Rotary Camp Florida – The club hosted a service day of cleaning and painting in April 2021.

#### 4. 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 \$8,000 to the Rotary Foundation as part of the "Every Rotarian Every Year" program, as Rotary Foundation Sustaining Members.
  - International Service Trip -- Team of 4 traveled to the Bahamas with SOL in May to assist with hurricane recovery in (area)
  - Christmas Gift Baskets – a team prepared 10 boxes of personal care items, chocolates, toys, etc. for the benefit of residents of the Bahamas.

#### 5. YOUTH SERVICES

- Interact & Rojan Clubs - Sponsored 2 (Interact & Rojans) Clubs at SPHS. Provide liaison and guidance to clubs including them in volunteer opportunities with the club's events.