

Rotary
District 6990



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

OCTOBER 2023



**END
POLIO
NOW**



**WORLD
POLIO DAY**
24 OCTOBER

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WORLD POLIO DAY 24 OCTOBER



Share your club's pictures, projects and fundraisers with us! We'll post in our monthly newsletter and on our social media accounts.

Email the details and a picture to rotary6990communications@gmail.com

Cover Photo

World Polio Day is October 24th. Check out the activities happening district wide to support the efforts to eradicate Polio!





Rotary

District 6990

Family Picnic

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

11am - 4pm

Tropical Park

7900 SW 40th St.

Miami, FL 33155

**Bring your family and
enjoy a day of FOOD, FUN,
and GAMES with your
Rotary Family!**

**CHILI
COOK OFF**

FOOD!

GAMES!

**\$10 PER
PERSON**

***\$15 Per Person
after 10/15**

**REGISTER
NOW!**

DACDB





Rotary
District 6990



Family

CRUISE

A District Conference that unites our Rotary Family!

May 3-6, 2024

Join your Rotary Family for our District Conference aboard Celebrity Reflection while we enjoy a little bit of Rotary, and a whole lot of FUN!

- Informative Rotary Sessions to help you Grow Rotary!
- Hands-On Service projects in Nassau, Bahamas
- Day of fun at Coco Cay!

SAVE THE DATE!
RESERVATION DETAILS
COMING SOON!



GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

From: District Governor Barbara Gobbi

Rotary District 6990: Uniting for a Polio-Free World and Spreading Peace

As we wrap up our first quarter of the Rotary year, there are numerous exciting developments and initiatives happening in Rotary District 6990 that we'd like to share with you in this month's newsletter.

World Polio Day: Making the Final Push

First and foremost, mark your calendars because World Polio Day is right around the corner on October 24th! Clubs in our District are gearing up for a series of incredible activities that will not only raise awareness but also funds for Rotary's Polio Plus campaign.

We are proud to announce that we are getting closer and closer to fulfilling the promise we made to the world: the complete eradication of polio. So far this year, there have been only six confirmed cases worldwide. Our continued efforts are making a real difference, and with your support, we can achieve this historic milestone.

Promoting Peace through Rotary

In a world that yearns for peace, Rotarians are uniquely positioned to contribute to its realization. We recently organized our first peacebuilding workshop in Grand Bahama, and it was a tremendous success. This event underscored that if anyone can help accomplish peace, it's us, Rotarians, working together, fostering understanding, and spreading goodwill.

Strengthening Our Rotary Family

We understand the importance of staying connected, and we've been working hard to bring our Rotary family even closer together. Our monthly socials have been a resounding success, fostering camaraderie among our members. Moreover, we're excited to announce our upcoming Rotary Family Picnic on November 18th, a perfect opportunity to share good times and strengthen our bonds.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE CONT.

From: District Governor Barbara Gobbi

Looking ahead, mark your calendars for an unforgettable experience – the Rotary Family Cruise scheduled for May 3-6, 2024. It's a chance for us to relax, unwind, and create lifelong memories while also supporting Rotary's global initiatives.

Membership Growth and Recognition

We're thrilled to share that our district has experienced remarkable membership growth this year, with a 5% increase in just three months. This incredible achievement has propelled us to rank #2 in our Zone for membership growth. Let's celebrate this achievement together and continue to welcome new members with open arms.

In closing, let's continue with efforts as we approach World Polio Day, working tirelessly to fulfill our promise to the world. Let's also keep the flame of peace alive through our peacebuilding efforts and, most importantly, let's cherish our Rotary family with upcoming socials, the Family Picnic, and the Rotary Family Cruise.

Thank you for your dedication, passion, and hard work. Together, we can make a meaningful impact and continue to be a force for good in our communities and around the world.

Yours in Rotary,

Barbara Gobbi
District Governor
Rotary District 6990
2023-24





BROWARD, MIAMI-DADE, MONROE & GRAND BAHAMA ISLAND

WE ARE 6990

MEET YOUR AREA GOVERNORS!

Area 1: Toby Smith / Toby@Smithb.com / (954)242-046

Area 2: Pete Pecci / peter.pecci@yahoo.com / 954-882-9061

Area 3: Tony Abbate / anthonyabbate@me.com / (954)328-0973

Area 4: Manohar Mahajan / prams@pramsmia.com / (305) 519-6083

Area 5: Sparkie Folkers / sparkiefolkers@gmail.com / (850) 232-3187

Area 6: Edgar Cruz / edcruz88@gmail.com / (305) 458-3063

Area 7: Jeff McNabb / jeffmcnabb@yahoo.com / (786)972-0868

Area 8: Lisa Feliciano / Felicianolisa1@aol.com / (305)766-0643

Area 9: Othyneil Pinder / pinderothyneil@hotmail.com / (242) 646-9165

Area 10: Alton Weekley / alton@faustos.com / 305-797-0837

Feel free to reach out to these individuals for help and support with your club!

MEMBERSHIP

From: District Membership Chair Joe Roth

Rotary International Leads Program

- A non-Rotarian goes to the RI website and expresses interest in learning more about Rotary and what Rotary opportunities may be available.
- That generates a lead that is distributed by Rotary, based on geography, to the District Membership Chair of the local district.
- The DMC contacts the prospective member and based on preferences and interests, matches them with the local club that best fits.
- A Rotary or Rotaract club member will contact them by e-mail or phone to discuss their interest in Rotary. They'll get invited to get to know the club better by attending a meeting, social or service project.
- Once they show interest in the club, by spending some time with the club and it's determined that they are a good fit for the club, they'll be invited to join.
- A dignified induction ceremony will be scheduled and they are a member!
- The club will engage them by encouraging them to join a committee, lead a service project or organize a social event...in other words they will be fully involved as their personal expectations and needs are met.

Fact: Over 71,000 Rotary International leads were generated last year... nearly 70% were never referred to a club! That will not happen in this District!

District Membership Committee ask: When/if a lead is distributed to your club, work the system and follow through with the prospect...create a new Rotarian!

Let's "GROW ROTARY" together!!



FOUNDATION

From: District Foundation Chair Manohar Mahajan

GANESHOTSAV - An Indian festival for promoting Peace and Harmony – Celebrated in South Florida every year.

Ganesh Chaturthi is the birthday of Lord Ganesha, (an Indian deity). This year it fell on 18 September 2023. People in India bring idols of Lord Ganesha (also known as Elephant Head Deity) to their communities, worship for about 10 days and then immerse the idol in the ocean, river, or pond. During these 10 days, people get together and celebrate, with various entertainment programs such as music, dance, drama etc. Ganeshotsav became a public event during 1890s when an Indian freedom fighter Lokmanya Balgangadhar Tilak organized such public gatherings in every community to discuss about the need for freedom from the British Rule, which was finally attained in 1947. Since 1890s this festival has been used for peaceful gatherings.

I started this festival in South Florida in 1995. Since we do not get large idols here, I started making idols out of paper, such as newspapers and magazines etc, so that immersion in water would not cause any pollution. It usually takes me about a month to make this idol. Since I use paper for building this idol, I insert pages from my company brochure in it. The page with my picture goes on His chest, with my picture strategically placed on His heart. Gives me a kick indeed!



FOUNDATION CONT.

From: District Foundation Chair Manohar Mahajan

The idol is made in my patio, a full human size, and then taken to our Temple in Perine area, where celebrations take place for 11 evenings before immersing the idol in the ocean. Every evening there are 30 minutes devoted to children and adults to showcase their talent in music, classical dance, drama, and a lot more. One of the evenings during celebrations in the Temple, I dedicate to the presentation of Rotary Club Miami Airport, to inform about Rotary in general and the Rotary Grants. I have been doing this since 2017. As a result, the majority of my Club members I have found during this program every year.

My first Global Grant, Gift of Sight, also came from a member of the Temple who heard about our Healthy Tiny Feet District Grant that my Club members presented in 2019, and he donated the required \$10,000 for a Global Grant. When we go to the beach for the final immersion of the idol, a good part of Indian Community gathers there at one of the shelters. We have had a crowd of over 300 people at times, before Covid -19. We also display Rotary banners at the beach while we are having music and Indian dances to attract the attention of beach goers. This provides a good exposure of Rotary.

Ganeshotsav every year helps us, at Rotary Club Miami Airport, to build our membership, promote peace and harmony (one of the seven areas of focus in Rotary Service) and provides resources for our Global Grants and District Grants. The same model can be tried in other places of worship where people congregate weekly. If any club would like to do so, I will be happy to assist.





Our goal is to unite households, clubs, and districts in support of Polio Day.

On 24 October, we will all have dinner at 6 p.m. in our respective countries and cities.

We'll all be having dinner to support a cause on the 24th, so any form of participation is welcome, whether it's clubs meeting in restaurants or even from your own homes.



NOW: DISTRICTS AND CLUBS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE EVENT SHOULD REGISTER. ONCE COMPLETED, YOU WILL RECEIVE MATERIALS AND MORE INFORMATION.

ANY TIME: DONATE DIRECTLY TO THE [ROTARY FOUNDATION](#) TO THE POLIO FUND.

AT THE DAY: CAPTURE PHOTOS OF PARTICIPANTS AND THEIR DINNERS AND SHARE YOUR PHOTOS ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITES USING #POLIODAYDINNER24

POLIO PLUS

■ ROTARY NEWS

ROTARY CLUB OF WESTON'S COMMITMENT TO GLOBAL POLIO ERADICATION IS STRONGER THAN EVER!

Rotary
Club of Weston



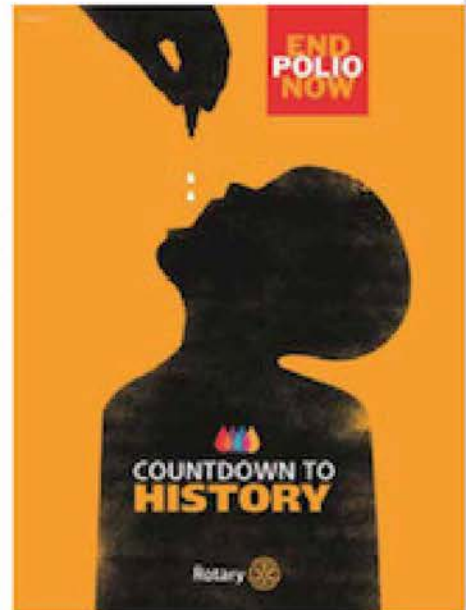
In the 35 years since Rotary International made a promise of "A Polio Free World," more than one million Rotary members have helped advocate and raise funds for Polio vaccines, including going to the most remote places to administer the vaccine. Polio eradication is currently the signature cause for Rotary International due to the magnitude of the challenge and the historic importance of eradicating this debilitating and sometimes fatal disease.

This crusade started in 1985 when Rotary International decided to start this fight and partner with governments and international organizations. At the time, the world was facing more than 350,000 Polio cases per year, affecting primarily children under 5 years of age, and the disease was present in more than 122 countries. Now, after years of worldwide initiatives and millions of hours of volunteer service, more than 2.5 billion children have received the Polio vaccine. As a result, more than 16 million people can live normal healthy lives because they were protected from Polio and its potential

to cause significant disability, paralysis, or even death.

Though the world is currently 99.9% Polio free, Polio is still present in 2 countries: Afghanistan & Pakistan. These countries continue to remain endemic and unable to eradicate the virus, facing pockets of infection and circulating wild Poliovirus. The total number of wild polio virus cases in these two countries is small, however, with fewer than 10 cases during 2023. The strategy is to reach the most remote places with a goal of reaching the "zero-dose children" – children who have never received a dose of the Polio vaccine and are therefore at a higher risk of contracting the virus.

Polio is a distant memory for many people given that it was eradicated in the United States in the 70s and in many other countries in the 80s. However, Rotary International has kept Polio's history relevant by making it a priority as one of our most important humanitarian causes. The strategy is very clear, and a group of affected and neighboring countries are following a successful model. Rotary has formed a successful partnership with The World Health Organization, Unicef, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the



local governments that covers everything from vaccine production and distribution, surveillance, and geographical data analysis to the last step, a trustable vaccine carrier. This is where an "accepted" member of the local society, local women, and health workers work together to handle cultural barriers. Volunteers have climbed mountains and traveled in boats and on animals in their efforts to reach all children!

Every year Rotary International commits \$150 million to the Polio Eradication effort, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation matches \$2 for every \$1 that is raised. It is estimated that at least one million Rotary Members directly contribute toward funding the Polio eradication effort. Locally, Rotary Club of Weston has remained highly supportive of the Polio eradication cause, raising thousands of dollars for this effort every year. Last year alone we raised more than \$19,000 for Polio, which, after factoring in the matching contribution from the Gates Foundation, resulted in the creation of over 95,000 Polio vaccines.

Our work as Rotary members will continue until Polio is completely eradicated. Rotary Club of Weston will stay committed to these efforts until we are a Polio Free World!



WORLD POLIO DAY EVENTS IN THE DISTRICT

On October 25, 2023, the Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale will host a special fundraiser for one of our most important causes: the eradication of polio. We are hosting a family-friendly movie night at the Fort Lauderdale Savor Cinema with a special viewing of the movie, "Singin' in the Rain", a spectacular Musical with Debbie Reynolds and Gene Kelly.

The event will include an eco-friendly food truck, mixed drinks, sodas, popcorn and other movie treats, all for purchase. There will be time to socialize before the show, and the grand finale will feature a pick-a-prize raffle with lots of great prizes. Our goal is to fill 200 seats and raise thousands of dollars for the cause. In fact, \$10 of every \$12 admission ticket and all raffle proceeds will go directly to the End Polio Now fund.

Rotary
Club of Fort Lauderdale 

On behalf of our club, we are excited to invite you and your club members to join in the powerful way that only a Rotary community can. Please come and bring your friends and family. Advance admission tickets may be purchased directly on our website www.rotaryfortlauderdale.org through PayPal. Tickets will be sold at the door if seats are still available.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF FORT LAUDERDALE POLIO FUNDRAISER

FORT LAUDERDALE SAVOR CINEMA
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2023
5:30 P.M.

**END
POLIO
NOW**



TICKETS

\$12 (\$10 goes to Polio)

Buy with PayPal at
rotaryfortlauderdale.org

Tickets sold at door, if
available.

5:30 Doors open
6:15 Begin seating
6:30 Movie begins
8:30 Raffle

FOOD & DRINKS

No host taco truck
Special cocktails \$5
(plus full bar)
Outdoor Patio



SAVOR CINEMA
503 SE Sixth Street
Fort Lauderdale

PARKING

Free parking in Courthouse garage
west of theater (tell 'em you're
going to the movies)

RAFFLE
Fun prizes
(all proceeds
for Polio fund)



Scan with phone
camera to buy tickets.

WORLD POLIO DAY EVENTS IN THE DISTRICT

The Rotary Club of Key West Presents An END POLIO NOW Event

Featuring the award winning documentary, Extra Innings - The Linn Hendershot Story

TICKETS: <https://keystix.com/allevents/#polio>

Location: The San Carlos Institute
516 Duval Street, Key West, Florida
<https://www.institutosancarlos.org>

Net proceeds for this event benefit The Rotary Foundation 501(c)(3) End Polio Now campaign.

About the Film

Have you ever been told “no”?
Have you ever been told “you can’t?”
Have you ever been told, “that’s not possible?”
Linn Hendershot heard it ... repeatedly.
And he proved them wrong every time.

This documentary is about Linn Hendershot, a Polio survivor—who defied the odds again and again to effect change and make a difference.

At a time when disabled populations were considered “crippled” and doomed to a life of inertia, Linn used the powers of perseverance and persuasion to destroy those perceptions to break into sports and racing—industries that would normally shut him out.

He served a lead role on the 1996 Atlanta Olympics Committee on Disability Access—going up against the Goliath of money and power—and coming out a winner with many improvements made to ensure the venues were more accessible. He not only defied the odds of survival, recovering in a hospital from severe pneumonia, but he spearhead the creation of a computer lab and a therapeutic garden while he was there so he and his fellow patients could connect with the outside world.

Linn made it known that he wasn’t here to make a career, he was here to make a difference...and with the help of family and friends...he did.

More Information about Extra Innings - The Linn Hendershot Story
<https://www.LinnHendershot.com>

THE ROTARY CLUB OF KEY WEST PRESENTS
AN **ENDPOLIONOW** **EVENT**

FEATURING EXTRA INNINGS *The Linn Hendershot Story*

A triumph over polio.

WINNER
BEST DOCUMENTARY
Maryland
International
Film Festival
2023



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2023 6-10 PM
THE SAN CARLOS INSTITUTE
516 DUVAL STREET, KEY WEST, FLORIDA WWW.INSTITUTOSANCARLOS.ORG
Champagne Reception and Hors d'oeuvres
TICKETS & INFORMATION WWW.LINNHENDERSHOT.COM

STARRING LINN HENDERSHOT, MARION HARDIN, TOM HENDERSHOT, HERB HARDIN EXECUTIVE PRODUCER WALK THE WALK 501 (C)(3)

EDITOR/PRODUCER DIRECTOR TERI HITT DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY CINEMATOGRAPHER WILL FURMAN ORIGINAL THEME MUSIC JIM WHELAN, JUNE KATO, BRIAN D. HARDIN

Rotary  **END POLIO NOW**

WWW.ROTARY.ORG WWW.ENDPOLIO.ORG



YOUTH SERVICES

From: District Youth Services Chair Pascale Roberts

Our community's children are our future.

The district's Youth Services Committee provides ways to serve, involve and empower our kids to live their best lives and realize their true potential at each stage in their development. We encourage you to sponsor an Earlyact or Interact Club in your local Elementary, High School or local Youth Organization.

SCHEDULE A COMMITTEE MEMBER TO SPEAK AT YOUR CLUB
Please text/call Pascale Roberts at 954-492-7733 to schedule.

INTERACT

Building our next generation of Leaders.

- Identify Service Projects for Interactors - The Committee is looking to compile a comprehensive list of all District and Club events to provide service opportunities for all our district's Interact Clubs. Please send your events calendar to Gordon Thompson.
- Sponsor/Establish an Interact Clubs in each of your area's High Schools. School is back in session shortly, now is a great time for your club plan to sponsor an Interact Club in your area.

What is INTERACT? -

With almost 15,000 clubs worldwide, Interact clubs bring together young people ages 12-18 to develop leadership skills while discovering the power of Service Above Self. Serious leadership can be seriously fun.

Need more INTERACT info? - Contact Gordon Thompson at gordonthompsonrotary@gmail.com



YOUTH SERVICES

From: District Youth Services Chair Pascale Roberts

EARLYACT

Community Service for Kids – 8yrs – 12yrs.

- We encourage all clubs to work with local elementary schools and Youth organizations to create Rotary sponsored Earlyact clubs.
- Download the EarlyAct Student handbook in PDF format, [click here.](#)
- Watch a 7 minute video about EarlyAct, [click here.](#)

What is EARLYACT? -

The purpose of EarlyAct™ is to provide young students with opportunities to participate in active citizenship in a culturally diverse democratic society within an interdependent world.

Need more EARLYACT info? - Contact Terrance (Brother Mac) McElroy at mambo048@yahoo.com

Here are some photos from last year’s Hollywood Cardboard Boat Race 2022. We are preparing for 2023 on October 14th.



YOUTH SERVICES

From: District Youth Services Chair Pascale Roberts

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

- **Bringing Back Rotary Youth Exchange Southeast - Following a full stop due to COVID restrictions, David Mountford is leading the charge to bring back this unforgettable opportunity to the students of our district in the '24/'25 school year.**
- **Very Early Stages, Need Committee Volunteers- Rotarians interested in providing assistance to David are asked to contact him - This is a very heavy lift and we need all interested parties to raise their hands to help out!**
- **Looking for Volunteers - Please reach out to David for the Job Descriptions.**

What is Rotary Youth Exchange?

Study Abroad Programs (both inbound and Outbound) are open to students ages 15-17 years. Applicants should be above-average students who have demonstrated leadership in their community. Candidates should possess qualities such as flexibility and a willingness to try new things that will enable them to fully experience life in another country and become excellent cultural ambassadors.

We have several positions open to bring Youth Exchange back:

- Inbound Coordinator
- Outbound Coordinator
- Compliance Officer
- Youth Protection Officer
- Host Family Coordinator
- Host Club Coordinator
- YEO (Youth Exchange Officer)
- Club Counselors
- Volunteer Coordinator

rotary
youth
exchange

Rotary 

Outbound applications are due NOW! Talk to your Interact Clubs and high school students about applying for Rotary Youth Exchange!

Need more YOUTH EXCHANGE info? - Contact David Mountford at davidw@ryese.org

YOUTH SERVICES

From: District Youth Services Chair Pascale Roberts

Providing life changing experiences for our District's Youth

The RYLA, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, conference will be held January 26-28, 2024 in Islamorada, Florida Keys. This year we will host 120 high school sophomores.

RYLA is a weekend experience for high school sophomores who are ready to discover and enhance their leadership and communication skills. Students participate in three days of interactive activities that include thought provoking, challenging and fun activities where they learn communication skills and teamwork.

Now is the time for your Club to:

- 1) Assign a Rotarian to serve as your RYLA Representative who will serve as the liaison between your RYLA students and the RYLA Registrar
- 2) Reserve the number of slots for RYLA students that your Club plans to sponsor – Deadline Oct 15 Club Reservation Form Cost is \$350 per student.
- 3) Recruit students to apply to participate in RYLA. Recruit more students than you have slots as you will need alternates to fill changes and cancelations. RYLA Student Application Deadline is Nov 15 and to finalize selections Dec 15.
- 4) Senior Counselors are Rotarians who are paired with Junior Counselors at the RYLA Conference. Deadline to apply is Oct 15 Senior Counselor Application

For more RYLA information or forms contact: District6990RYLA@gmail.com



EMPOWERING THE GIRLS

From Co-Chairs: Claudia Valderamma and Georgia Winfield

Spotlight on Leading with Love, Inc.

Founded in 2018, Leading with Love, Inc. is a non-profit organization founded by Dwanita L. Fields. Leading with Love is a cultural leadership program designed to develop the leadership skills of young girls empowering them to become change agents inside and outside of their communities by providing mentorship, leadership development, and cultural immersion experiences.

Leading with Love's Cultural Leadership Program targets female high school students from under-resourced backgrounds who are academically motivated, vested in the community, and have demonstrated act(s) of leadership in their family, school, and/or community. With the support of a mentor, leadership training, and cross-cultural experiences, young leaders will be empowered to shape their own futures.

Last year, On July 25th 2022, Leading With Love sponsored 6 Global Love Leaders (who are high school girls from Miami Dade County) to leave the country for the first time for an entire week in the beautiful island of St. Croix! Thanks to The Rotary Club of Mid-Isle, Rotarians Nadia and Liz met with Christian Hernandez (Club Director for the Rotary Club of Coconut Grove) to elevate their experience on the island. On Tuesday, July 26, our girls assisted Rotarians in preparing meals for the homeless partnered with Lighthouse Mission. We then met with Cleansweep Fredricksted to preserve murals curated for an education complex to inspire students on the island for generations to come. On Wednesday, July 27, Christian was a guest speaker at their Rotary meeting and represented The Rotary Club of Coconut Grove.



EMPOWERING THE GIRLS CONT.

From Co-Chairs: Claudia Valderamma and Georgia Winfield

The Rotary Club of St. Croix Mid-Isle put together a female-empowered panel with our Global Love Leaders where their female rotarians spoke about finding your voice as a female, inspiration, professional development, education advice, and more! We even had Delegate Stacey Plaskett from the House of Representatives and First Lady of The Virgin Islands, Yolanda Bryan! On their final day, First Lady Yolanda Bryan visited the Global Love Leaders and inspired them with some words of wisdom and celebration. We are so grateful to the Rotary Club of St. Croix Mid-Isle for their collaboration with us to ensure wealth for our future female leaders.

We absolutely love partnering with Rotary and believe our collaboration is making positive change and Creating Hope In The World.



ENVIRONMENT

From Chair Robert Bull

Thank you to everyone who participated in International Coastal Cleanup Day!



Repair the Sea on Sept. 10th
Tikkun HaYam



FIU ROTARACT CLUB @ VIZCAYA MANGROVES





Weston Rotary Club & Weston Interact Club and Gov. Gobbi @ Dania Beach

LOWER KEYS ROTARY CLUB @ BAHIA HONDA BRIDGE



HOMESTEAD CLUB @ ELLIOTT KEY

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY MAYOR, DANIELLA LEVINE CAVA VISITING EFFORTS OF CORAL GABLES AND MIAMI AIRPORT CLUBS & FIU ROTARACT CLUB AT VISCAYA MANGROVE AREAS





Rotary Club of Miami Airport – Vizcaya Mangrove Area Cleanup



Rotary Clubs of Upper Keys, Key Largo Sunset & Key Largo



ROTARY CLUB OF KEY BISCAYNE



ROTARY CLUB OF MIAMI BRICKELL



ROTARY CLUB OF HOLLYWOOD



HIALEAH-MIAMI SPRINGS ROTARY CLUB W/LEONARD REAL ESTATE HELPING OUT WITH A PAELLA



Miami Kendall Rotary Club Cleared out invasive plants at Tropical Audubon Society



ROTARY CLUB OF DEERFIELD BEACH



ROTARY CLUBS OF LUCAYA, GRAND BAHAMA & ROTARACT CLUB OF EIGHT MILE ROCK @ WILLIAMS TOWN



WORLDWIDE PASSPORT CLUB @ DEERING ESTATE



Rotary Club of Coconut Grove

Cleanup at Kennedy Park



ROTARY CLUB OF FORT LAUDERDALE



ROTARY CLUB OF LOWER KEYS



DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

From Co-Chairs Julie Folkers and Karen Hollis

Rotary Embraces Fairness For All



Become part of the progress

JOIN OUR EFFORTS

Actions you and your Club can take:

1. Invite DEI Committee co-chair(s) to present to your club.
2. Join our committee.
3. Volunteer to be the "Inclusion Liaison" for your club.

Please email the DEI Co-Chairs to let us know what "next step" you're interested in taking with us.

Jules Folkers
(julesf.rotary@gmail.com)
&
Karen Hollis
(kehollis@miramarfl.gov)

Keep an eye out for webinar news!

DEFINING BUILDS UNDERSTANDING

Diversity ➤ **Who**

Rotary welcomes people of all backgrounds, cultures, experiences, and identities.

Equity ➤ **What**

Rotary strives for the fair treatment, opportunity, and advancement of all.

Inclusion ➤ **How**

Rotary is working to create experiences where all people feel welcomed, respected, and valued.

DGE MESSAGE

From: Dennis Caltagirone

We Are Family!

“We are family!” These words are from a very popular song that is decades old. It is a sentiment that drew me to Rotary nearly ten years ago. We realize just how important a family can be. There are those of us who are blessed with a large expanded and growing family, while some of us have a relatively small family circle. Lee and I are a life-long couple with a lovely daughter, and my terrific brother-in-law. That is our immediate family. When we both discovered the Rotary family, we knew our immediate family circle would grow and grow it did.

The Rotary family is worldwide. We do not have to know, in advance, the family members in more than two hundred countries, as all we need to do is locate a club just about any where we chose to travel the globe, and then introduce ourselves to the club members. We are always welcomed, and made to feel at home.

District Governor Barbara is bringing “family” back to District 6990. The Family Picnic on November 18th is a wonderful opportunity to see old friends, make new ones and create lasting memories. Be sure to go to DACdb and register the entire family. It is all about fun and togetherness. It is about family.

Another opportunity to be a part of our expanding family emphasis, is the District Family Cruise, May 3-6. Whether you join in as an individual, a couple or a family, you do not want to miss this fun-filled time on a great cruise ship. In addition to having a fantastic time, we will all have the opportunity to participate in a service project on our stop in Nassau. We are all about service above self and service to those in need. What better way to practice this commitment than to attend both the Family Picnic and the Family District Cruise.

Each Governor has a wonderful team that supports many initiatives at the club and District levels. What better place to experience family values and service to others than to participate in leadership at the club and District levels. There are many opportunities to engage in meaningful training sessions both in person and online. The Membership summit is fast approaching, but there is still time to go to DACdb and register. We encourage every Rotarian to explore all that this very special event offers on October 7th. Check it out on DACdb and sign up for a morning of valuable insights, suggestions, and discussions on how to improve the value of the service that every Rotarian takes an oath to support. I will be there and hope to see you at as many of these opportunities as possible. Thank you for being such an important part of our family. Lee and I are grateful that we have so many “brothers” and “sisters” in the world of Rotary.

Yours in service,

Den Caltagirone, DGE

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES - ROTARY RESPONDS

When disaster strikes, it's the unified strength and immediate response that make all the difference. Rotary has long been at the forefront of extending a helping hand during times of crisis. With an ethos steeped in service above self, Rotary District 6990 has exemplified this commitment time and again.

Our disaster response applies whether it's a natural disaster, such as a hurricane or earthquake, or a manmade disaster, such as war. While Rotary is not a political organization, Promoting Peace is one of our 7 Areas of Focus, and providing food, shelter, and medical supplies during times of conflict is something that we support.

For those moved by the spirit of giving and wanting to contribute to these relief efforts, Rotary District 6990 has established a dedicated Disaster fund. It serves as a conduit for funneling monetary support directly to those in need. Those interested can either donate for specific disaster situations, like the aftermath of Hurricane Idalia, or to the general District 6990 Disaster fund.

Every penny donated will be directed to Rotary Districts situated in the affected regions, the overarching Rotary International Disaster Relief, or to Rotary-approved organizations. One of our noteworthy partners in this mission is Shelter Box, a global entity that provides emergency shelter and tools for families robbed of their homes by disaster.

By joining forces, every individual's contribution, be it monetary or in the form of service, magnifies the overall impact.

In the wake of disasters, unity and prompt action can spell the difference between despair and hope. With Rotary District 6990 leading the way, communities can rest assured that they are not alone in their hour of need.



POSITIVE PEACE BUILDING

From: Chair PDG Drew Monaghan

Our recent Positive Peacebuilding workshop held in Grand Bahama was a big success! Rotary District 6990 continues to lead the way in promoting peace and understanding within our communities, and this event was no exception.

Partnering with Share Our America and Kokoro, we embarked on a journey to empower 15 dedicated Rotarians from our district to become true peacebuilders within their own communities. These individuals are now equipped with the tools and knowledge needed to make a lasting impact in promoting positive peace.

The workshop was an incredible success, with 40 Rotarians participating in various workshops and guided conversations. These sessions were designed to build a strong foundation of trust and understanding among our members, reinforcing the bonds that make Rotary such a powerful force for good.

Positive Peacebuilding is at the heart of Rotary's mission, and the Grand Bahama workshop was a shining example of our commitment to making the world a better place through peace and goodwill. We believe that by fostering these skills within our members, we can create a ripple effect of positive change that will extend far beyond our district's boundaries.

Special thank you to Beacon School for the use of their facilities. As we move forward, let us carry the lessons learned in Grand Bahama with us in our Rotary journey. Together, we can continue to build a more peaceful and compassionate world.

Thank you to all who participated, and to Share Our America and Kokoro for their invaluable partnership. Your dedication to the cause of peace is truly inspiring, and together, we are making a difference.



ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

RLI (Rotary Leadership Institute) has several opportunities, both in person and online, to enhance your leadership skills and learn more about Rotary.



The mission of the Rotary Leadership Institute's Sunshine Division is to provide an up-to-date, practical, and user friendly educational opportunity in convenient locations for Rotarians identified as potential leaders by their club officers. Courses are given to foster leadership skills and Rotary knowledge with the intent to motivate the participant to be enthusiastic, creative and dedicated Rotarians.

IN-PERSON SESSIONS IN THE KEYS!

Saturday, October 21, 2023 from 8:30am - 4:30am at Marathon High School, 350 Sombrero Beach Road, Marathon, FL 33050.

This will include Part 1 and Part 2.

To register, go to the calendar on DACdb.com, or on our website at rlitraining.org.

ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



Saturday, October 21st



Marathon High School



Register
Here!

DACDB



ROTARACT OF CORAL GABLES

Come learn about how you can get
involved with your community!



21 October 2023



12:00 pm

Bay 13 Brewery

65 Alhambra Plaza, Coral Gables, FL 33134

Instagram: coral_gables_rotaract

Email: rotaractofcoralgables@gmail.com



www.rotary.org

LVIV, UKRAINE ROTARY LEADERSHIP

PDG ROY GONAS, RCSM

What must be one of Rotary's greatest examples of leadership at the club level came from Lviv, Ukraine when Russia opened its second front for invading Ukraine. From the outset in late February 2022, the Rotary Club of Lviv International showed tremendous leadership in what may be called crisis management. Members called throughout the Rotary world asking for support. A network was established to receive supplies from throughout Europe and elsewhere. Truck convoys lined the highways leading to Ukraine. Warehousing in Lviv was provided for redistribution in Ukraine. Trucks entered war zones delivering principally medical supplies. Accounts were maintained in Germany and Poland to receive funds and immediately purchase supplies. Time was of essence. It still is.

Our District 6990 started giving from the beginning. Funds were sent to Lviv Rotary's German and Poland accounts for immediate use. The Rotary Foundation also received money for later distribution in Ukraine. Our district raised for TRF over \$27,000. Direct funding was larger. From the initial donations from the Rotary Clubs of South Miami and Marathon the Rotary Club of Weston soon gave an exceptional sum toward the purchase of a fire truck. Those clubs and others sent money directly to Europe. Today, the Rotary Club of Lviv International maintains a local account through an intermediary Austrian bank. Now, supplies using American dollars can make purchases in Ukraine at greater savings. By August 2023 RCLI announced having raised over \$5,000,000. Our District Governor Barbara Gobbi set up a website which includes means to donate toward the humanitarian effort in Ukraine.

In August it was an honor to host the immediate past president of RC Lviv International, Natalia Dolinska. With the excellent coordination provided by RC Marathon past president Keith Douglass and the welcoming by RCM's president Sam Williams and membership, Rotarian Dolinska was warmly received. Home hospitality was generosity provided by Keith and Diane Douglass. A near capacity audience of Rotarians and guests from Key Largo to Key West heard Natalia speak of Lviv Rotarians' ongoing work saving lives. At the end RCM presented its third donation. Recently, Keith mentioned club attendance is up and so is bringing in new members. Natalia left her mark.

LVIV, UKRAINE ROTARY LEADERSHIP CONT.

PDG ROY GONAS, RCSM

Deserved mentioning is while Natalia was here her son was in high school on a brief student exchange. She returned to Houston to address Rotary clubs in Texas and then to Lviv with son in September. At a recent virtual meeting of RCLI Keith and I heard the highest accolades by Texas Rotarians given Natalia. We concurred. Frankly, it is hard to imagine a finer ambassador for Rotary and Ukraine.

At the RCLI meeting we saw listed four RCLI current projects by the club. One is a relief effort in Germany-an exemplary example of SERVICE ABOVE SELF.



RIPE STEPHANIE URCHICK TO VISIT FLORIDA NOVEMBER 16TH

Join us for an extraordinary evening of history in the making! You're invited to "An Evening With Stephanie Urchick" on Thursday, November 16, 2023, at Saddlebrook Resort in Wesley Chapel, Florida.

Event Details:

- **Date:** Thursday, November 16, 2023
- **Time:** 5:00 PM (Exclusive Reception) | 6:00 PM (Cocktails and Dinner)
- **Location:** Saddlebrook Resort, 5700 Saddlebrook Way, Wesley Chapel, Florida 33543

We are thrilled to announce our special guest, Rotary International President-Elect Stephanie Urchick, who will make history as the first woman to lead Rotary International from the United States.

Exclusive Reception (By Invitation Only): The evening begins at 5:00 PM with an exclusive reception in the Lagoon Pavilion, reserved for Major Donors, Paul Harris Society Members, Arch Klumph, and Bequest Society Members. It's a chance to honor your unwavering support for our Rotary Foundation.

Cocktails, Dinner, and Fellowship: At 6:00 PM, the Grand Pavilion opens its doors to all paid guests. Enjoy delightful cocktails, a delectable dinner, and unforgettable fellowship. Meet Stephanie in person, capture cherished moments, and embrace the spirit of Rotary unity.

Sponsor New Members: Clubs are encouraged to sponsor their newest members for this momentous occasion. It's a unique opportunity for them to connect with Rotarians from across our Districts and meet our future Rotary International President, essential for engaging and retaining members.

Dress to Impress: Attire is semiformal, so dress your best and proudly wear your Paul Harris medallion or pin. Dinner includes rolls, a Caesar salad, your choice of entrée, and Cheesecake for dessert. A cash bar will be available.

Main Course Options:

- 12oz NY Strip with grilled and roasted vegetables
- Salmon with grilled and roasted vegetables
- Cheese Ravioli with Shitake Mushroom

Registration Details: Secure your spot for this extraordinary evening at just \$68 per person. Register now!

RIPE STEPHANIE URCHICK TO VISIT FLORIDA NOVEMBER 16TH

Register NOW for An Evening with Stephanie Urchick (6950 6960 6990 6930 ONLY)

Overnight Accommodations: For those staying overnight, various nearby hotels are available, including Saddlebrook Resort. Prices may vary, so explore options on popular hotel booking platforms like Booking.com, Kayak, Trivago, and more. Here are a few options:

- Saddlebrook Resort: 813-973-1111
- Hilton Garden Inn Wesley Chapel: 813-591-6900
- Hampton Inn & Suites Wesley Chapel: 813-973-2288
- Holiday Inn Express & Suites - Tampa North & Wesley Chapel: 813-803-7899
- Hyatt Place Tampa Wesley Chapel: 813-803-5600
- Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Tampa Wesley Chapel: 813-536-1818

**This night will make Rotary history,
and we can't wait to share it with you.
Mark your calendars, register now,
and let's celebrate Rotary's legacy
and future with Stephanie Urchick!**



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DISTRICT 6990!

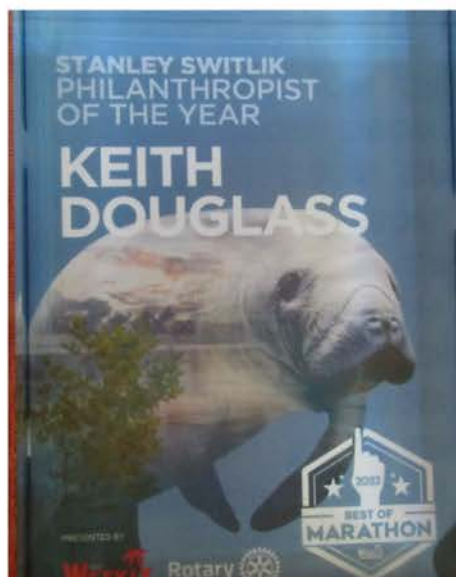
The Rotary Club of Marathon is growing with three new inductees!

Pictured from left to right:

John Kramer, Mike Puto*, President Sam Williams*, Jesus Parra, Lydia Westdickenberg*, Dawn Rodriguez, Dale Coburn, Tony Barrows, Charlotte Quinn*, Keith Douglass*, Donnie Barrios. Not pictured: Lynette Ramond. Asterisk notates new member sponsors and club officers.



The Stanley Switlik Philanthropist of the Year honors compassionate individuals who support community service organizations without fail or accolades. This year, the former county commissioner and Rotarian we've chosen to honor has pushed the boundaries of service beyond Marathon, and beyond even the United States, helping the Rotary Club of Marathon's efforts to support war-torn areas in Ukraine throughout the last year. Most recently, he spearheaded a visit from the past president of the Rotary Club of Lviv, who delivered a powerful presentation to Marathon's club of the realities of daily life in a city still under siege. He gives without thought of reward and is always a source of positivity and boundless energy, and so we are thrilled to announce that the 2023 Stanley Switlik Philanthropist of the Year is Keith Douglass.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DISTRICT 6990!

Over the past year, the Rotary Club of Doral has been dedicated to serving our community through numerous impactful actions, such as providing warm meals to the homeless at Camillus House, distributing warm clothes to those experiencing homelessness on cold nights, hosting Thanksgiving meals for individuals without family or a home, bringing the spirit of Christmas to the children at the Ronald McDonald House, and raising funds for disaster relief in Turkey and Syria, among others.

As we look ahead, the year 2023 holds special significance as we welcome our new President, Connie Palomo, who assumes her leadership role on July 1st. Under her guidance, we are excited to embark on new initiatives that will further our mission of making a positive difference in the lives of those we serve. President Connie Palomo's international expertise will enable us to expand our reach globally. Currently, we are working on exciting projects with Costa Rica and Ecuador, in addition to numerous local initiatives.

Stay tuned for updates on our outreach by following us on our social media pages:

Instagram: [@rotaryclubdoral](https://www.instagram.com/rotaryclubdoral)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofdoral>

Together, we will continue to build a brighter future for our community and beyond



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DISTRICT 6990!

The Rotary Club of Doral actively participated in serving food to the seniors of our City of Doral. This event was organized by our Rotarian Councilwoman of City of Doral Maureen Porras and Councilwoman Karina Pacheco from the sister City of Medley.

Serving 300 meals to seniors in an effort to support and care for the elderly members of the community. It was wonderful to see that the seniors enjoyed not only delicious food but also had a great time with raffles, music and entertainment at the event.



- **SENIOR DAY BETWEEN CITIES**
- **Doral Councilwoman Maureen Porras and Medley Councilwoman Karina Pacheco**
- **300 meals were served to Seniors in Doral**



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DISTRICT 6990!

“Breakfast with our Doral Police Department”

Serving breakfast to honor our local Police Department is a wonderful gesture of appreciation for their dedicated service to our community. Our members contribute their time and culinary skills to prepare empanadas, pastelitos, and fresh juice and that shows you a strong sense of community involvement and appreciative atmosphere for both the police officers and members involved.

It is so important to recognize the hard work and commitment of law enforcement officers who help keep our community safe.



- **Breakfast with Doral Police Department.**
- **Honoring our Police Dept for the service they do for**
- **our City.**
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Putting people at the center of care

By Imelda Mercedes Medina, MD, MPH, Founder and Chair of the Rotarian Public Health Fellowship and member of Rotary Club Miami Airport, United States

The Declaration of Alma-Ata made by the World Health Organization in 1978 called world leaders to come together to deliver better health for all. The vision of the Declaration of Alma-Ata was to change how we think about health, moving away from focusing on diseases and towards recognizing that health is not only about illness and services but more importantly about empowering individuals, caring for the person, and placing people at the center of care. However, forty years later, that vision has gone largely unfulfilled. Primary health care is in crisis, and half the world's population has no access to the most essential health services. According to the United Nations, unclean water and poor sanitation are the leading cause of child mortality; hunger and malnutrition are the number one health risk worldwide. One in ten people in developing regions still lives on less than US\$1.90 a day – the internationally agreed poverty line, and around 10 percent of the world population is living in extreme poverty and struggling to fulfill the most basic needs like health and education.

To respond to complex public health issues, the CDC provides valuable guidance through a multi-level model of factors affecting health. From macro to micro levels, the four strata of this model are: societal, community, relational and individual levels, with the individual placed at the center of everything. This broad approach to thinking of health, advanced in the 1947 Constitution of the World Health Organization, includes physical, mental and social well-being. Because of this, we decided to take action and form the Rotarian Public Health Fellowship to connect with our fellow members, because together we can make a difference.

For example, Rotary International, the World Health Organization, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation have been working together in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative through a people-centered public health initiative. By focusing on understanding people's needs and beliefs, and engaging community leaders, the Global Initiative has been able to work with communities to best administer vaccines. And through this way, we are reaching our goal of eradicating polio from the world.

According to the Health Innovation Network, person-centered care “is a way of thinking and doing things that sees the people using health and social services as equal partners in planning, developing and monitoring care to make sure it meets their needs. This means putting people and their families at the center of decisions and seeing them as experts, working alongside professionals to get the best outcome.” The International College of Person-Centered Medicine states: “Person-centered medicine is dedicated to the promotion of health as a state of physical, mental, socio-cultural and spiritual wellbeing as well as to the reduction of disease, and founded on mutual respect for the dignity and responsibility of each individual person.” And at a global level, one way WHO defines people-centered care is as “An approach to care that consciously adopts individuals', families', and communities' perspectives as participants in and beneficiaries of trusted health systems, that respond to their needs and preferences in humane and holistic ways. People-centered care also requires that people have the education and support they need to make decisions and participate in their own care. It is organized around the health needs and expectations of people rather than diseases.” Find more information about person-centered care [here](#).

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Come join us!

Together, we participate in conferences, and help address the root causes of problems by contributing to increase protective factors and decrease risk factors of public health issues.

The next conference we will be participating in is the 16th Geneva Conference on Person-Centered Care, in which we will be having a special poster presentation session by Rotaractors. The conference will be in April 2024. It's open to the public and held in hybrid mode. It's an amazing opportunity to share, learn, come together to help and have FUN. Everybody is invited! For more information please come join us at our next zoom meeting: Wednesday November 8th, 2023 at 6:30 pm EST. Click here to join <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4792843202>

To become involved in our Rotarian Public Health Fellowship, join our [discussion group](#) on My Rotary, read our [blog](#) for information about resources available, follow our [Facebook page](#) for updates and become a member today! Membership is free and just takes 3-5 minutes to complete the online application which is available [HERE](#). If you have any questions, please [email us](#) or send us a text message (we are also on Whatsapp) +17867280428

SELF-CARE IS FOR LIFE - FEEL GOOD 24/7

SELF-CARE

IS A SIMPLE BUT POWERFUL FORMULA:

Healthy habits + taking care of minor and long term conditions = Self-care

- Longer healthier lives
- Less Strain on health services

Can help you prevent many of the Non-Communicable Diseases, which are the greatest killers of the 21st Century:

80%

Heart diseases, stroke and type 2 diabetes

30%

Cancers

SEVEN PILLARS OF SELF-CARE

IT WORKS - YOU CAN START STEP BY STEP e.g.

A little goes far:

Just a little LESS...

decrease inactivity

Step...by...step

Moderately intense aerobic physical activity

to a HEALTHY MIND

in a HEALTHY BODY

SO...

Start Practicing self-care!

FEEL GOOD 24/7

PUBLIC IMAGE RESOURCES

<https://brandcenter.rotary.org/en-GB>

<https://my.rotary.org/en/learning-reference/learn-topic/public-relations>

<https://elevaterotary.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1595163847383932>

DISTRICT 6990 COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Communications Chair - Jay Almeida - Rotary Club of Miami

Public Image Chair - Adi Soozin - Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale

Social Media Chair - Andrea Viejo - Rotary Club of Miami Brickell

Technology Chair - Cristiano Nicolucci - Rotary Club of Weston

WebMaster - Lisa Carson - Rotary Club of South Miami

DACDB Administrator - Steven Gehalo - Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale/Cypress Creek

For newsletter questions or Public Image information, contact district6990communications@gmail.com

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 [Rotary International District 6990](#)

 <https://rotary6990.org>