



# Rotary District 6940

## Official Newsletter

*Serving Northwest Florida and the World*

Feb./March 2016



Volume 102, Issue 4



**Are you ready  
for The Tams?**  
see page 2

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# District 6940 Newsletter

## Message from DG Leon Hirsh



### TREAT YOURSELF TO THE TAMS

Welcome to the 2016 District Conference. We will be stationed at the San Destin Resort on May 6-8. Registration is up on the district database ([www.rotary6940.org](http://www.rotary6940.org)) and ready to roll.

Who are The Tams? The Tams are one of the all-time great show bands of the South. You all know me well enough by now to know that I like to weave a story or two along the way. Well, I have a short story about The Tams.

The original Tams played my graduation ball from the Kentucky Military Institute. I usually drove my children to school in the mornings during the early-mid '80s, and we would listen to cassettes of The Tams and sing some of their songs.

Every once in a while, when we would stop for a red light, I would turn around to the kids and say, "Ya know, one of these days, The Tams are going to play a wedding reception for someone sitting in this back seat." Erin and Adam would just roll their eyes and give me the usual "Yeah...Right, Dad." Well, forty years later, to the very day from my graduation ball, The Tams played for Erin's

wedding reception at the Officers' Club at NAS Pensacola.

The Tams are from Atlanta, but their domain runs from Virginia Beach to Myrtle Beach to Jacksonville and several hundred miles inland. Many of our Rotarians, who attended college in the South, are quite familiar with The Tams from the thousands of gigs they played from Ole' Miss to Old Dominion and everywhere in between.

The Pensacola Club's Terry Scruggs, an Auburn graduate, has a couple of crazy stories to tell about The Tams playing gigs at his fraternity house in the early '60s.

Today's Tams are the second generation, and direct family members run the show. A third generation already is being trained. A couple of those youngsters actually might perform for us on Saturday night. The Tams travel with a group called The 14 Carat Gold Band. These musicians comprise a stand-alone show band in their own right but have always traveled and backed up The Tams for as long as The Tams have been together. They're a busy bunch, usually playing 10-12 gigs a month between April and October.

**Please see page 3**



# District 6940 Newsletter

## Message from DG Leon Hirsh

### MESSAGE - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

You all know that I am bringing in Rotary's #1 fan, John T. Capps, for our conference. You all know that John has quite a soft spot for the Boys and Girls Clubs in North Carolina. Well...when Rotary would help kick off the fund-raisers for those Boys and Girls clubs, The Tams would come in and take over the show. So John T. and The Tams have been

friends for years as well.

Sunday, May 9, is Mother's Day. Take a MOM to see The Tams and enjoy the amenities of the Destin area for the weekend. I promise you a vibrant performance.

Yours in Rotary Service,  
District Governor Leon



# District 6940 'News for You'

## Celebrate the Family of Rotary at the District 6940 Conference

**2016 Rotary International  
District 6940 Conference**

**May 6 - 7, 2016**

Village of Baytowne Wharf at  
Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort

Come celebrate the Family of Rotary!  
Kids under 18 are free

**Conference Registration: \$150**

*(Price increases to \$175 after March 15)*

To register, visit the district  
database at [www.rotary6940.org](http://www.rotary6940.org)

If paying Conference fees by check,  
mail payment to:

Attention Johnathan Taylor  
Pensacola North Rotary  
P.O. Box 30066

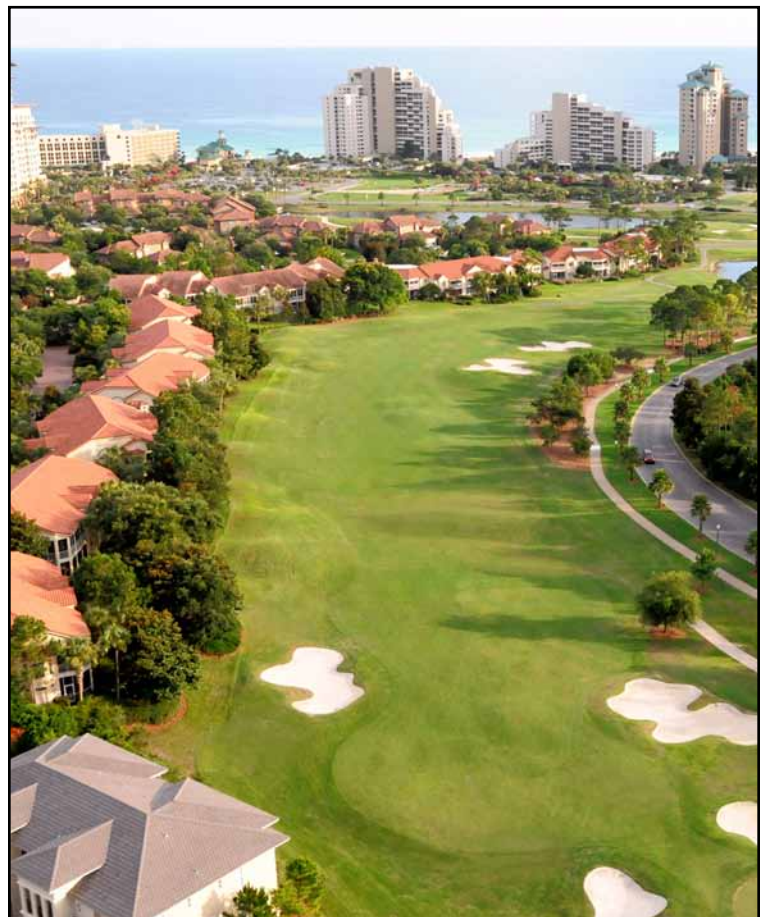
Pensacola, FL 32503-1066

*(Make checks payable to  
Rotary District 6940 Conference)*

Book your room at the group rate of  
**\$159** through Group Reservations at  
1-800-320-8115 Group Code 23J1AP



**Be a gift to the world**



# District 6940 'News for You'

## Tentative itinerary announced for 2015-16 District 6940 Conference

### Friday

**8:00 A.M.**

Buffet breakfast for Rotarians who arrived Thursday night.

**10:00 A.M.**

DGE Roger Champion's District Assembly for his incoming AGs, officers and committee chairs.

**12:00 P.M.**

Council of Governors luncheon.

**12:00 P.M.**

Share committee meeting to approve 2016-17 grants.

**2:00 P.M.**

Official Kick-Off of our conference. Videos, programs, and speakers will take us to 5:30 p.m. John T. Capps, Costa Rica's Ruth Clowater, and our new RI President's Representative will be featured alongside our district Rotarians in the spotlight.

**6:30 P.M.**

Social hour before dinner.

**7:30 P.M.**

District Governor's dinner with our featured speakers. Presidential Citations awarded.

**9:00 P.M.**

Adjourn to hospitality suite.

### Saturday

**7:00 A.M.**

Working buffet breakfast with John T. Capps.

**8:00 to 11:30 A.M.**

Speakers and the District Governor Awards along with the Club of the Year awards

**12:30 P.M.**

A sit-down lunch in the main ballroom

**2:00 to 4:00 P.M.**

Backpack stuffing community service project to benefit homeless students

**4:30 to 5:30 P.M.**

Kentucky Derby Party and the Ladies Best Derby Hat contest.

**6:30 to 7:30 P.M.**

Buffet supper in the main ballroom

**8:00 to 10:30 P.M.**

Performance by The Tams from Atlanta, Ga.

**10:30 P.M. until**

Adjournment to the Hospitality Suite

The 2016 District  
Conference  
comes to a close.



# District 6940 'News for You'

## Two sessions of Rotary Leadership Institute left to attend in the district

The Rotary Leadership Institute was designed to help Rotarians become well informed about all aspects of Rotary. Whether you are planning to move up the ladder in Rotary or not, the Rotary Institute will help you become a more knowledgeable and better Rotarian. You will also make new friends and share ideas that will benefit your club.

Our District, 6940, has already held one such session, but there are two remaining. Organizers will be conducting RLI 1, 2, and 3 in the following locations, listed below:

- **Feb. 27, 2016:** (Closes 2-16) Tallahassee Community College, Tallahassee

- **April 23, 2016:** (Closes 4-12) Pensacola State College, Pensacola

Registration closes 10 days before the scheduled event. There are no exceptions.

Breakfast and lunch will be served, and classes start at 8 am. Registration cost is \$95. Many clubs cover this cost for their members, so be sure to ask.

Classes fill up fast, so please register soon by going to [www.rlittraining.org](http://www.rlittraining.org) or clicking the link on the District Calendar. For questions, contact: PDG Gene Sherron, Registrar, [gene@sherron.us](mailto:gene@sherron.us), 850-893-6051; or Innes Richards, District Director, [innesrichards@gmail.com](mailto:innesrichards@gmail.com), 850-380-5454.

## *What is Rotary Leadership Institute?*

### **Part One: The Rotarian**

Your introduction to the RLI experience. Begin your day by meeting fellow Rotarians and your Rotarian Discussion Leaders. Emphasis is placed on providing an overview of Rotary programs and helping develop ideas that participants can take back to their Rotary Clubs. Courses include Object of Rotary, Rotary Beyond the Club, Membership Retention, Rotary Opportunities, Ethics & Vocational Service, and Rotary Foundation I.

### **Part Two: The Rotary Club**

The RLI journey continues, the depth of subject matter increases and focus is placed on fostering the qualities of a knowledgeable Rotarian by building on the basics learned in Part I. The day includes an individual analysis of your Rotary Club

and its effectiveness. Courses include Analyzing Your Rotary Club, Leadership – Team Building, Strategic Planning, Service Projects, Membership Attraction, and Public Relations.

### **Part Three: The Rotary Journey**

The final phase of RLI, courses become much more in-depth and detailed. Learn about opportunities available to you and your club through RI and how to best utilize them. Understand what it means to be a Rotarian and how you can use your RLI knowledge to better your club. Courses include Rotary History, International Service, Leadership: Effective Strategies, Rotary Foundation II, Communication Techniques, and Making a Difference.

To register visit [www.rlittraining.org](http://www.rlittraining.org).

# District 6940 in Action

## Tallahassee Sunrise

Meets Tuesday at 7:30 a.m.  
Four Points by Sheraton Downtown  
316 West Tennessee Street, Tallahassee



Tallahassee Sunrise's Brewfest featured almost 30 breweries and more than 20 different beers. Photos courtesy for the Tallahassee Democrat.

## Since its inception, Brewfest has resulted in \$364,000 in donations

The Tallahassee Sunrise Rotary Club held its ninth annual Brewfest Tallahassee on Sept. 19, 2015.

This festival of beer, food, and music was held at the Tallahassee Automobile Museum and it was just as great as previous ones.

Sunrise Rotary was able to secure 30,000 square feet of festival space and had almost 30 breweries and 200+ different beers.

Craft beer was the focus, with many beer styles

represented, including pale ales, IPAs, porters, stouts, wheats, ambers and lagers. Participants were able to sample various beers, buy cool Brewfest apparel, and indulge in some delicious eateries provided by Sonny's BBQ.

Brewfest is presented by Sunrise Rotary as its major fund-raiser for the year, and as a result of this almost sold out event and the work of our dedicated

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# District 6940 in Action

## Tallahassee Sunrise

Meets Tuesday at 7:30 a.m.  
Four Points by Sheraton Downtown  
316 West Tennessee Street, Tallahassee



### MESSAGE - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Rotarians, the following entities were able to benefit from its proceeds:

- 2-1-1 Big Bend
- Ability 1st
- Alzheimer's Project
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Big Bend
- Big Bend Crime Stoppers
- Brehon Institute
- Capital City Youth Service
- Domi Station
- Early Childhood Learning
- Homeless Coalition
- Honor Flight Tallahassee
- Junior Achievement Big Bend
- Lee's Place
- Lutheran Tech
- Parkinson's Outreach Association
- Peace Jam
- Red Cross
- Rethink Energy
- Rotary Youth Exchange
- Sail Future

- St Jude Children's Hospital
- Tallahassee Christian College & Training Center
- Teen Challenge
- Turn About Inc. of Tallahassee

Since its inception to today, Tallahassee Sunrise Rotary Club has donated \$364,962.59 from the Brewfest proceeds.





# District 6940 in Action

## Tallahassee Sunrise

Meets Tuesday at 7:30 a.m.  
Four Points by Sheraton Downtown  
316 West Tennessee Street, Tallahassee



## Tallahassee Sunrise helps build ramp

One of their partners and recipient of the Tallahassee Sunrise's Brewfest Fund is Ability 1st.

Ability 1st, the Center for Independent Living of North Florida, is a community-based non-profit organization that provides services to persons with varying disabilities.

Every year, Tallahassee Sunrise Rotary Club and

friends participate in an annual ramp build for those that may have difficulties entering and exiting their homes.

On Oct. 3, Sunrise help to build a ramp for a retired fire fighter who hadn't taken his wheelchair out of the house in seven years. It was truly a day of service and fun.



# District 6940 in Action

## Tallahassee Sunrise

Meets Tuesday at 7:30 a.m.  
Four Points by Sheraton Downtown  
316 West Tennessee Street, Tallahassee



## Sunrise hosts annual holiday party

Every year the Tallahassee Sunrise Rotarians look forward to their annual holiday party, and on Dec. 8, they were definitely in for a treat.

After a great inspiration and Happy Dollars, their very own members, Allen Dewolf, Dennis Fiorini, and Bill Jones gave a riveting performance with their rendition of the dueling banjos and songs by Tom T. Hall.

Sunrise special Holiday Angels, Fred Addonizio and Meg Moneyham, were back again and raised a substantial amount to benefit Big Bend Cares, an agency that provides education and comprehensive support to people infected with or affected by HIV/AIDS. And last, but not least, Tyler Huston, President-Elect, introduced his board for next year.

What a great way to bring in the holidays.



# District 6940 in Action

Mid-Bay Bridge Rotary

Meets Wednesday at 7 a.m.  
Superior Residences of Bluewater Bay  
4595 Hwy. 20, Niceville, FL 32578

## Mid-Bay Rotary donates to Air Force Enlisted Village



Mid-Bay Rotary President Bob Hoffman (right) presented Tom Rice (left) a check to go towards the Air Force Enlisted Village. Future plans, according to Tom, are expansions to the Village to include a new/updated central meeting area.

# District 6940 in Action

Mid-Bay Bridge Rotary

Meets Wednesday at 7 a.m.  
Superior Residences of Bluewater Bay  
4595 Hwy. 20, Niceville, FL 32578

## Mid-Bay, Niceville-Valparaiso partner for \$7,500 project benefiting Pavilion



As part of a Rotary District 6940 grant, Mid-Bay and Niceville-Valparaiso Rotary Clubs donated to the Pavilion, a non-profit elder care facility. A Rotary District 6940 grant provided \$3,500. In addition, both the Mid-Bay Rotary Club and the Niceville-Valparaiso Rotary Club donated \$2,000 to the Pavilion for a total of \$7,500. Pictured are Mid-Bay Rotary President Bob Hoffman (left) and Niceville/ Val P Rotarian Peter Loffler (right).



# District 6940 in Action

## Pensacola-Cordova

Meets Thursday at 7 a.m.  
Gulf Coast Kid's House  
3401 N 12th Ave., Pensacola, FL



## Tree of Remembrance raises \$9,000

The Rotary Tree of Remembrance is a Rotary International community-service project provided by Rotary E-Club of South East USA and the Caribbean, The Pensacola-Cordova Rotary Club and the Combined Rotary Clubs of Pensacola.

During the holiday season, the public is able to remember a loved one with a gold ribbon placed on the Tree of Remembrance while making an optional donation to six local charities. The Tree is placed in the Cordova Mall in Pensacola. Members of the involved clubs, Rotaract and Interact, as well as representatives of the charities volunteered their time through the holidays to collect donations.

The opening ceremony is timed to include an

observance Pearl Harbor Day with recognition of local Pearl Harbor survivors.

After the holidays, a non-denominational service is held; the ribbons are retired at the Boy Scouts annual U.S. Flag Retirement Ceremony at Barrancas National Cemetery.

The project raised a total of \$9,004 for the charities involved:

- The Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart
- Gulf Coast Kid's House
- Covenant Hospice
- Reading is Fundamental
- Simon Youth Foundation
- Rotary's Camp Florida

# District 6940 in Action

## R.C. of Panama City

Meets Tuesday at 12 noon  
St. Andrews Bay Yacht Club  
218 Bunkers Cove Road, Panama City, FL



Shown above are: seated left to right, Tami Valdez, Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle; Victoria Williams, Jr. Achievement; Susan Bravo, Family Service Agency of Bay County. Standing, left to right: Will Cramer, Community Grants Chair; Niki Kelly, Girls, Inc; Richard Musgrave, Alexandra Murphy, Tom P. Haney Foundation; Irene Fields, Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle; Margaret Tidmore, New Horizons Learning Center; Hank Hill, Boys & Girls Clubs of Bay County; Claire Sherman, Rotary President; Bryan Taylor, United Way of NWFL.)

## 8 agencies receive donations

The Rotary Club of Panama City, aka Downtown Rotary, awarded \$4,000 to eight community agencies Tuesday, Feb. 2, at its weekly meeting held at St. Andrews Bay Yacht Club.

Recipients were:

- Boys & Girls Clubs of Bay County
- Family Services Agency of Bay County
- Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle
- Girls Incorporated of Bay County
- Junior Achievement of Northwest Florida
- New Horizons Learning Center
- Tom P. Haney Education Foundation
- United Way of Northwest Florida

Rotary's motto is "Service above self." The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise.

Each year the club seeks and identifies local service organizations to support by providing funds raised through club efforts.

The club is currently accepting new applications through April 30, 2016. Applicants may contact Club Service Chairman Will Cramer at [willcramer@gmail.com](mailto:willcramer@gmail.com) or at 850-785-5221.

Founded in 1937, The Rotary Club of Panama City meets each Tuesday at 12 noon at St. Andrews Bay Yacht Club. There are currently 124 members.



# District 6940 Club Directory

CLUB	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
Apalachicola Bay	Tues.	12 noon	Tapa's Bar 73 Avenue E, Apalachicola, FL
Blountstown	Wed.	12 noon	Calhoun Liberty Hospital Dining Room 20370 Burns Avenue, Blountstown, FL 32424
Branford	Tues.	12 noon	Sprinkles Hwy. 129 North, Branford, Branford, FL
Cantonment	Wed.	12 noon	Scenic Hills Country Club 8891 Burning Tree Road, Cantonment, FL
Chattahoochee	Mon.	12:30 p.m.	Captains Table 8110 Veteran's Memorial Hwy (US 90), Sneads, FL 32460
Chiefland	Wed.	12 noon	The Hudson Room 116 North Main Street, Chiefland, FL 32626
Crestview	Wed.	12 noon	Coach & Four Restaurant 114 John King Road, Crestview, FL
DeFuniak Springs	Wed.	12 noon	McClain Family Steak House 622 Hugh Adams Road, DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435
Destin	Tues.	7:15 a.m.	Rutherfords 465 @ Regatta Bay 465 Regatta Bay Boulevard, Destin, FL 32541
Dixie County	Wed.	12 noon	Cook House at the residence of Hayward Anderson 131 NE 256 Ave, Cross City, FL 32628
Emerald Coast	Mon.	5:30 p.m.	Triple Js' Restaurant Panama City Beach, FL 32408
Fort Walton Beach	Wed.	12 noon	Fort Walton Beach Yacht Club 180 NE Ferry Road, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548
Gulf Breeze	Tues.	7:00 a.m.	Andrews Institute-Athletes Performance Center 1040 Gulf Breeze Parkway , Gulf Breeze, FL 32561
Lake City	Thurs.	12 noon	First Baptist Church 182 NE Justice Street, Lake City, FL 32055
Lake City Downtown	Wed.	7:00 a.m.	Quail Heights Country Club 161 SW Quail Heights Terrace, Lake City, FL 32025
Live Oak	Mon.	12 noon	Farm Bureau Building 407 Dowling Ave., Live Oak, FL
Lynn Haven	Wed.	7:00 a.m.	Panama Country Club 100 Country Club Drive, Lynn Haven, FL
Madison	Wed.	12 noon	Villa Maria Hall, St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Church 301 NW Orange Avenue, Madison, FL 32340
Marianna	Wed.	12 noon	Jim's Buffet & Grill 241 W. Lafayette, Marianna, FL 32446
Mayo	Wed.	12 noon	Lafayette County Farm Bureau Building 874 E. Main St., Mayo, FL 32066

# District 6940 Club Directory

CLUB	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
Mid-Bay Bridge	Wed.	7:00 a.m.	Superior Residences of Bluewater Bay 4595 Hwy. 20, Niceville, FL 32578
Milton	Tues.	12 noon	Grover T's BBQ 5887 Hwy 90, Milton, FL 32570
Monticello	Fri.	12 noon	First Presbyterian Church 290 East Dogwood St, Monticello, FL
Navarre	Fri.	12 noon	Tuscan Grille at Hidden Creek Golf Course 3070 Pga Blvd (Hidden Creek Golf Club), Navarre, FL
Niceville-Valparaiso	Thurs.	12 noon	Student Services Center Northwest Florida State College Niceville Campus, Niceville, FL
Pace	Thurs.	7:00 a.m.	Stonebrook Village Country Club Pace, FL
Panama City	Tues.	12 noon	St. Andrews Bay Yacht Club 218 Bunkers Cove Road, Panama City, FL
Panama City (East Bay)	Mon.	12 noon	Rodeo's Steak House Tyndall Pkwy, Callaway-Parker, FL
Panama City Beach	Thurs.	12 noon	Fishale Taphouse 7715 Front Beach Road, Panama City Beach, FL
Panama City-Northside	Wed.	12 noon	Holiday Inn Select at the Mall 2001 N. Cove Blvd., Panama City, FL
Pensacola	Tues.	12 noon	New World Landing South Palafox St., Pensacola, FL
Pensacola - Seville	Tues.	5:30 p.m.	Seville Quarter / Rosie O'Grady's Room 130 East Government Street, Pensacola, FL 32502
Pensacola North	Fri.	12 noon	Asbury Place/Cokesbury United Methodist Church 9th Ave. at College Blvd., Pensacola, FL
Pensacola Suburban West	Thurs.	12:15 p.m.	Pensacola Yacht Club 1897 Cypress Street, Pensacola, FL
Pensacola-Cordova	Thurs.	7:00 a.m.	Gulf Coast Kid's House 3401 N 12th Ave., Pensacola, FL
Pensacola-Five Flags	Mon.	12 noon	New World Landing 600 S. Palafox Street, Pensacola, FL
Perdido Key	Wed.	7:30 a.m.	Triggers Restaurant 12700 Gulf Beach Highway, Pensacola, FL
Perry	Tues.	12 noon	Holiday Inn Express 601 Everett Way, Perry, FL 32348, Perry, FL
Port St. Joe	Thurs.	12 noon	Sunset Coastal Grill 602 Highway 98, Port St. Joe, FL
Quincy	Tues.	12 noon	Women's Historical Society Building 304 W King St. Quincy, FL 32351



# District 6940 Club Directory

CLUB	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
South Walton County	Thurs.	7:30 a.m.	Embassy Suites Hotel Old Hwy 98, Miramar Beach, Miramar Beach, FL
Suwannee Valley	Thurs.	12 noon	Haven Hospice in Chiefland 311 NE 9th Street, Chiefland, FL 32626
Tallahassee	Wed.	12:30 p.m.	FSU Alumni Center 1030 West Tennessee Street, Tallahassee, FL
Tallahassee (Capital)	Tues.	12 noon	Logan's Roadhouse 750 Apalachee Pkwy, Tallahassee, FL 32301
Tallahassee Northside	Thurs.	12:30 p.m.	Holiday Inn and Suites 2725 Graves Road, Tallahassee, FL 32303
Tallahassee Southside	Mon.	7:30 p.m.	Four Points by Sheraton Downtown (1st/2nd weeks) 316 West Tennessee Street, Tallahassee, FL
Tallahassee Sunrise	Tues.	7:30 a.m.	Four Points by Sheraton Downtown 316 West Tennessee Street, Tallahassee FL
Sunset	Tues.	6:30 p.m.	Hotel Duval (1st/3rd weeks--other weeks vary) 415 N Monroe St, Tallahassee, FL 32301
Trenton	Mon.	12 noon	Woman's Club 2107 SE CR 339, Trenton, FL 32693
Wakulla County	Thurs.	8:00 a.m.	Best Western Plus Wakulla Inn & Suites 3292 Coastal Highway, Crawfordville FL 32327
Williston	Tues.	11:45 a.m.	1st Presbyterian Church 247 NE 1st Street, Williston, FL

## Need a makeup? Have you tried an e-club?

### Rotary E-Club of Southeast USA & Caribbean

The Rotary E-Club of Southeast USA & Caribbean - Zone 33/34 (Club #67734) has a worldwide membership.

"Check us out at [www.rotaryclub34.org](http://www.rotaryclub34.org) and our Rotary Tree of Remembrance Pensacola Facebook page," President J.C. Robin Foley said.

"We are available for makeups 24/7 and can accommodate Rotarian's in transition due to Job/family travel requirements. While registered in District 6950, we live all over."

### What is an e-club?

Rotary e-clubs are a lot like other Rotary clubs: they meet weekly, carry out service projects, support The Rotary Foundation, and socialize with each other. So what's different about e-clubs? You join your meeting

online when it's convenient for you, day or night, any day of the week.

### How does an e-club operate?

E-club members use webinars, videoconferencing, message boards, instant messaging, or tools like Skype and Google Hangout to communicate. For example, a club member might post content online for that week's meeting, then other members join the discussion throughout the week. Some e-club members also meet in person at service projects, social activities or the RI Convention.

Any Rotarian can make up a missed meeting by participating in an e-club online meeting.

To find an e-club, visit online at:

[www.rotary.org/en/search/club-finder](http://www.rotary.org/en/search/club-finder)