



The Rotary Reader



December 13, 2017
Volume 2018 Issue 22
Club # 4234
Club Charter Date
1/13/1954

**Rotary Club of Fort Walton Beach
Presidential Citation Award Winner for 20 Years**

**December is
Disease Prevention and
Treatment Month**

Board of Directors

- President:** Aaron Webber
- President Elect:** Ron Grissom
- Secretary:** Ross LeBlanc
- Treasurer:** Dusty Ricketts
- Past President:** Katie Sharon
- At Large:** Forrest Townsend and Chuck Landers
- Senior Member:** Bob Fowner
- Sergeant at Arms:** Rick Owen and John Roper

Committee Chairs

- Club Admin:** Joe Meyer
- **Programs:** Your Name Could be Here
- **Socials:** JT Edwards
- **Bulletin:** Jan Pooley
- Public Relations:** Matt Simpson
- Membership:** Lisa Williams, Andy Corbin
- Rotary Foundation:** Katie Sharon
- Service Projects:** Rick Owen
- Youth Services:** Ross Hamilton and Charles West
- Scholarship Inc:** Matt Turpin
- Scholarship Drawdown:** Ross LeBlanc, Dusty Ricketts
- Executive Secretary:** Lorrageia Jackson
executivesecretary@fortwaltonrotary.org

Today's Speaker: Laurie Hood Founder/President Alaqua Animal Refuge



Laurie Hood is the visionary behind Alaqua Animal Refuge, one of the largest no-kill animal shelters and sanctuaries in the country. A passionate animal lover since she was a child, Hood founded Alaqua Animal Refuge 10 years ago upon discovering that countless animals were being euthanized in five nearby counties, including her own, at a rate of nearly 100%, due to a lack of any animal shelter of any kind. Laurie Hood is the visionary behind Alaqua Animal Refuge, one of the largest no-kill animal shelters and sanctuaries in the country. A passionate animal lover since she was a child, Hood founded Alaqua Animal Refuge 10 years ago upon discovering that countless animals were being euthanized in five nearby counties, including her own, at a rate of nearly 100%, due to a lack of any animal shelter of any kind.

Located in Northwest Florida, Alaqua is the premier animal refuge and a recognized leader in animal welfare issues and animal cruelty prevention. As founder and president of Alaqua, Hood advocates daily for the general welfare and humane treatment of animals by providing shelter, adoption services, and lobbying on local and national levels.

Under Hood's leadership, Alaqua Animal Refuge has established a multitude of programs to help both animals and humans alike. Alaqua's Unconditional Love Program which utilizes inmate labor to train and socialize dogs to be better suited for adoption, as well as provide companion dogs for individuals who cannot afford them. The Equine Interactions Program promotes personal growth and development for autistic and special needs individuals by partnering them with rescue horses and using Alaqua facilities as a sensory classroom. Educational outreach programs include teaching youth the basics of proper animal care to training law enforcement and prosecutors on how to work animal cruelty cases.

Alaqua has been consistently honored with awards for best non-profit in Destin, on the Emerald Coast, and in South Walton. It has also been recognized as "one of the best overall organizations in the U.S." by The Humane Society of the United States, and as a "prime example of what a sanctuary should be" from the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries.

Currently, with Hood at the helm, Alaqua is undertaking a bold endeavor with its relocation and expansion campaign to build a one-of-kind facility and sanctuary—the first of its kind in the U.S.—on 100 acres of donated land in Freeport, Florida. The current facility will be relocated to this location, which will expand the refuge programs and serve as a teaching facility for individuals and organizations in the animal welfare field. The facility, designed like a small town and to be self-sustaining, will include a welcome center, medical clinic, covered arena,

**www.fortwaltonrotary.org
PO Box 0892; Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549
Follow us on Facebook: Rotary Club of Fort Walton Beach
District website: www.rotary690.org**



RI Convention Toronto June 23-27, 2018

Registration is Open!

June 15-December 15
\$335 per person

December 16-March 31
\$410 per person

April 1—June 27
\$495 per person

Toronto is Canada's largest city, fourth largest in North America, and home to a diverse population of 2.8 million people. It's a global centre for business, finance, arts and culture and is consistently ranked one of the world's most livable cities.

Join Rotarians from around the world to learn, be inspired and share fellowship.

From the House of Friendship to the General Sessions to Breakouts to Special Ticketed Events, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Consider making the commitment to attend. You will be a better Rotarian!

For More Information:
www.riconvention.org

Laurie Hood (con't)

Born and raised in Louisiana, Hood graduated from Louisiana State University with a degree in Marketing. Her prior professional experience includes operating an international magazine in south Florida and serving as marketing director for the Gorlin Companies, a firm that launched medical and drug companies, including several that have become successful publicly traded ventures. Hood has drawn on her strong business background to create a non-profit in Alaqua that functions for success.

Hood is a founding board member of The E.O. Wilson Biophilia Center and Nokuse Education, Inc.; she currently serves as the District Leader in Northwest Florida for the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS); and serves on the Advisory Board for The Restore Act (BP Funds) for Walton County, Florida. In 2014, Hood received George W. Bush's "Point of Light Award," which recognizes the power of the individual to spark change and improve the world and received a key to the City of Destin, Florida for her work.

Hood is married and has two boys, ages 11 and 13. Her family is a big part of all activities at the Refuge. When not knee deep in animals, they all enjoy outdoor activities, such as paddle boarding, boating, horseback riding, and family time.

District 6940 Conference

Friday is the last day to **Register** for \$150. December 16 registration goes to \$175.

The conference will be held at the Baytowne Conference Center at the Village of Baytowne Wharf April 6-8, 2018. This year will kick off with breakout sessions on Friday afternoon followed by a BBQ and games & music on the lawn. Saturday morning will feature Rotary updates and inspirational speakers followed by a luncheon with speaker and awards. Saturday evening features the Governor's Banquet. Sunday morning begins with a memorial service to honor our members who have passed away. The service will be followed by more great speakers. Plan now to attend. It's a great time to learn more and meet Rotarians from around the district.

Hotel room options include: studio for \$159/night; 2 BR for \$279/night; 3BR for \$359/night. See www.rotary6940.org for instructions for booking rooms and details about the conference.

Our club usually has great representation at the conference.

Register now to represent your club!

Record your Volunteer Hours

RI President Ian Riseley has asked all clubs to report club member volunteer hours. The purpose is to be able to, at the end of the year, quantify the amount of time Rotarians have spent carrying out their local and global projects. When you spend time on one of our club projects, please turn in the following to Lorrageia:

- Name
- Date(s)
- Time spent (In minutes or hours)
- The project you worked on

The club will also be reporting dollars donated to local and global projects/charities.

Christmas Party

RSVP by Friday, December 15

- Wednesday, December 20, 6pm-9pm
- Wyndham Garden Inn on Okaloosa Island (573 Santa Rosa Blvd)
- Dinner, Entertainment and Cash Bar; Holiday Casual
- \$25 per person
- RSVP to Lorrageia (executivesecretary@fortwaltonrotary.org) by 12/15
Come share some Christmas Cheer with your fellow Rotarians!

Initial Plans for Scholarship Drawdown

Co-Chairs—Ross LeBlanc & Dusty Ricketts

Date/Location—Friday, May 25 at the Fairgrounds

Committee Chairs

Set Up and Décor— Diane Poff, Richard Kunkel

Libations—JT Edwards, Neal Bern

Registration—Debbie Bodestine, Jean Woo (?)

Ticket Sales—Tony Gilligan (?)

Sponsors—Gerry Chalker, Matt Simpson

“Loser” Prizes—Mary Plummer, Sally Hardy

Signage—Aaron Webber, Rick Stevens

Start making your lists of contacts for possible sponsors and ticket purchasers



The Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service

SECOND High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian’s occupation as an opportunity to serve society

THIRD The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian’s personal, business and community life

FOURTH The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Upcoming Programs and Activities December is Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

12/20	No Regular Meeting	Club Christmas Party at Wyndham Garden Inn
12/27	No Meeting	Christmas/New Year
1/03	Regular Meeting	Forrest Townsend—Impact of BP Oil Spill
1/10	Regular Meeting	TBD
1/17	Regular Meeting	Patrick Berry—Gulfarium C.A.R.E. Program
1/24	Regular Meeting	Maj Jason Williams—Military Working Dogs
1/27	Rotary Leadership Inst	Pensacola
2/17	Rotary Leadership Inst	Panama City Beach
3/10	Rotary Leadership Inst	Tallahassee
4/6-8	District Conference	Baytowne Conference Center, Sandestin

Birthdays and Anniversaries

December Birthdays

- 12/12 Rick Stevens
- 12/14 Dusty Ricketts
- 12/14 Mack Busbee
- 12/15 Jody Henderson
- 12/17 John Linn

December Anniversaries

- 12/04 Lyndon & Diane Poff (30)
- 12/07 George & Paula Dorris (49)
- 12/08 Charles & Lynn West (27)
- 12/17 Charlie & Cindy Potts (40)

December Club Anniversaries

- 12/02 Joe Meyer (30)
- 12/13 Chuck Landers (11)
- 12/17 Chad Hamilton (14)



Today the countries most vulnerable to poliovirus outbreaks are those where the barriers to effective immunization are most acute. In high-risk countries populations are hard to access and persuading communities of the need to vaccinate can be difficult. For polio workers in these countries it is important to reduce outbreak risk through strategies that involve local people, and which are receptive to the surroundings and culture.

Rotary Roster

The Four-Way Test
Of the things we think,
 say or do:

- 1) Is it the TRUTH?
- 2) Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3) Will it build GOOD-WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Interested in joining Rotary?

Please contact our Membership

Chairs:

Lisa Williams at

lmwillia@southernco.com

or

Andy Corbin

ajc@tslinc.com

PH: Paul Harris Fellows

SM: PH Sustaining Members

* FWB Club Past Presidents

** Past President Other Clubs

RotY: FWB Rotarian of the Year

Members in purple have perfect attendance.

Area Make-Up Opportunities

Don't forget that you can make up missed meetings at neighboring clubs. They include:

Crestview: 12 p.m. Wednesday at Samuel's Restaurant

Destin: 7:15 a.m. Tuesday at Rutherford's at Regatta Bay

DeFuniak Springs: 12 p.m. Wednesday at McLain's Family Steakhouse

Mid-Bay: 7 a.m. Wednesday at Superior Residences at Bluewater Bay

Navarre: 12 p.m. Friday at Beach Community Bank—Navarre

Niceville- Valparaiso: 12 p.m. Thursday at Northwest Florida State College Student Services Building

South Walton: 7:30 a.m. Thursday at Somerby, Santa Rosa Beach

Robert Anderson, SM

CPA

Jack Arthur, PHF SM

Insurance

Neal Bern SM

Insurance

Debbie Bodenshtine, PHF SM RotY

Economic Development

Ann Boynton SM Property Management

Joseph Brewster, PHF SM Cable Television

Mack Busbee, SM **

County Government

Tom Butcher

Honorary Member

Gerry Chalker, (10) PHF SM *

Pension Administration

Andy Corbin, PHF SM RotY *

Electronics Mfg.

George Dorris, PHF SM

Dentistry

JT Edwards, PHF SM RotY

Landscaping Owner

Dan Empson

Honorary

Cliff Ennis

Business IT Management

Bob Fowner, PHF SM

Association Manager

Tony Gilligan, PHF SM RotY

Government Contractor

Ben Gordon, SM

Attorney

Ron Grissom, PHF SM

Utilities

Chad Hamilton, PHF SM

CPA

Ross Hamilton, SM

Education- College

Sallie Hardy, PHF

Commercial Properties

Tom Hayes, PHF SM

Financial Services

Jody Henderson, PHF SM *

Accounting/Auditing

Mitzi Henley, SM

Retail Shopping Center

Rudy Hill, SM

Office Products

Jeff Hooton, PHF SM

Commercial Lending

Richard Kunkel, PHF SM

Education

Chuck Landers, PHF SM

Certified Public Accountant

Ross LeBlanc, SM

Certified Public Accountant

Tony Leonard, PHF SM **

Retail/Musical Instruments

John Linn, PHF SM

Kitchens-Retail

David Macdonald PHF SM **

Shopping Center Manager

Joe Meyer, (1) RotY PHF

Retail/Computers

David O. Miller, (15) PHF SM

Developmental Disabilities

John Morgan, PHF SM*

Computer Engineer

Matthew Morgan,

Electrical Engineer

Dan Nelson, PHF SM

Restaurant/Fast Food

Michelle Nicholson, SM

Communications

Rick Owen (1)

Non-Profit Management

Mary Plummer, PHF

Real Estate Sales

Lyndon Poff, PHF SM RotY

Paint & Body Shop

Diane Poff, (1) SM

Paint & Body Shop

Jan Pooley, (11) PHF SM RotY*

Department Store

Charlie Potts, PHF SM*

Jeweler

Fred Pryor, PHF SM RotY*

Utility Service-Gas

Dusty Ricketts, SM

News Media

John Roper, PHF

Developmental Disabilities

Dick Rynearson

Honorary Member

Katie Sharon, (1) PHF SM *

Banking

Eulice Shelley, PHF *

Moving & Storage

Matt Simpson

Insurance and Bonding

Scott Smith, PHF SM*

Chiropractor

Oxana Solovieva (1)

Commercial Real Estate

Rick Stevens, PHF SM RotY*

Surge Suppression Systems

Steve Taylor

Management Consultant

Kent Tinsley

Commercial Banking

Herb Tinsley, PHF SM RotY*

Savings & Loan Mgmt.

Forrest Townsend, PHF SM RotY*

Veterinarian

Alex Trum, PHF

Orthodontist Retired

Matt Turpin, SM

Certified Public Accountant

Aaron Webber, (1) PHF SM

Condo Management

Charles West, (2) PHF SM*

Investment Broker

Jean Woo, PHF

Dentist

Jack Yeiser, PHF

Mortgage Broker

Russ Youngblood PHF **

Psychologist

Matt Zasada

CPA

Recent Meeting Attendance

Nov 1 57.9%

Nov 8 58.6%

Nov 15 61.8%

Nov 29 64.3%

Nov to date 60.6%