



# The Rotary Reader



January 25, 2017  
Volume 2017 Issue 23  
Club # 4234  
Club Charter Date  
1/13/1954

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

**January is  
Vocational Service  
Month**

\*\*\*\*\*

## Board of Directors

- President:** Katie Sharon
- President Elect:** Aaron Webber
- Secretary:** Ron Grissom
- Treasurer:** Ross LeBlanc
- Past President:** Charles West
- At Large:** Dusty Ricketts and Chuck Landers
- Senior Member:** Eulice Shelley
- Sergeant at Arms:** Mack Busbee, JT Edwards, Jeff Hooton, Jean Woo

## Committee Chairs

- Club Admin:** Joe Meyer
- Programs:** Dusty Ricketts
- Socials:** Neal Bern, Lyndon Poff
- Bulletin:** Jan Pooley
- Public Relations:** Lisa Williams
- Membership:** Laura Kirby, Andy Corbin
- Rotary Foundation:** Joe Brewster
- Service Projects:** Rick Owen
- Youth Services:** Ross Hamilton
- Scholarship Inc:** Matt Turpin
- Scholarship Drawdown:** Ron Grissom, Ross LeBlanc
- Executive Secretary:** Lorrageia Jackson  
executivesecretary@fortwaltonrotary.org

## Today's Speaker: Tracy Stage, A.A.E. Okaloosa County Airports Director



Tracy A. Stage, A.A.E. is the Okaloosa County Airports Director with oversight and management of the Counties three Airports: Destin-Fort Walton Beach Airport (VPS), Bob Sikes Airport (CEW) and Destin Executive Airport (DTS).

Stage is an Accredited Airport Executive by the American Association of Airport Executives with more than 23 years of experience in general aviation, commercial aviation and military aviation management including the aerospace defense industry. He has served in a number of capacities for the County Airport System since October 2006.

Prior to his employment with Okaloosa County, Stage was the Projects Administrator for The Boeing Company, Integrated Defense Systems, Special Operations Forces Division. Stage held a variety of civil engineering positions with the United States Air Force from 1994 to 2003. He earned his Bachelors of Science Degree in Management from University of Phoenix.

Stage served as the Chairman of the Northwest Chapter of the Continuing Florida Aviation System Planning Process from 2012 to 2015. Additionally, Mr. Stage is an active member of the Florida Airports Council and serves on the Board of Directors for the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce.

**2017 we are the CHAMPIONS**  
**6940 DISTRICT CONFERENCE**  
Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort, Destin, FL April 7-9  
*The Rotary Foundation, 100 Years Doing Good in the World!*

Register Now for \$150. Registration increases to \$175 February 1.  
Register on DaCDB.  
For more conference information go to [www.rotary6940.org](http://www.rotary6940.org).

**[www.fortwaltonrotary.org](http://www.fortwaltonrotary.org)**  
**PO Box 0892; Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549**  
**Follow us on Facebook: Rotary Club of Fort Walton Beach**  
**District 6940 website: [www.rotary6940.org](http://www.rotary6940.org)**



**Celebrate The  
Rotary  
Foundation's  
Centennial  
at the  
RI Convention  
Atlanta, GA  
June 10-14, 2017**

**Current Reg \$415  
April 1—\$490**

**Registration covers:**

- Inspiring and entertaining speakers, including top leaders of our organization
- Informative breakout sessions to help you build your communication, leadership and project management skills
- Opportunities to network and exchange ideas while browsing the fellowship and project booths in the House of Friendship
- Entertainment provided by local artists and musicians in the House of Friendship and at the General Sessions

**FWB Rotarians who have registered: Katie Sharon, Jean Woo, Debbie Bodenshtine, Joe Meyer, Lyndon & Diane Poff, Jan Pooley**

**Plan now to  
Attend!**

**For more information visit:  
[www.riconvention.org](http://www.riconvention.org)**

## Billy Bowlegs Scholarship Drawdown



The 2017 Billy Bowlegs Scholarship Drawdown will be held Friday, May 19 at the Northwest Florida Fairgrounds. The event begins at 6:00pm.

The club has netted \$25,000 each of the last two years at this event, with the proceeds going to the Fort Walton Beach Rotary Club Scholarship, Inc. We want to exceed \$30,000 this year and can do it with each member's participation.

- Ron Grissom and Ross LeBlanc chair the event.
- Each member is expected to sell 5 tickets or secure a \$500

sponsorship. A \$200 minimum will be charged to your account if no tickets are sold and money turned in.

- Tony Gilligan is the Sales Leader supported by team captains Charles West, Roger Peadro, Debbie Bodenshtine, Katie Sharon and Lyndon Poff. Each member will be assigned to a team.
- Sponsorship Deadline is 4/19/17.
- Ticket/money turn in deadline is 5/12/17.
- Other committee chairs include: Decorations—Lisa W, Laura K, Diane P and Rich K; Loser Prizes—Mary Plummer and Sallie Hardy; Signs—Aaron Webber
- The updated brochure will be available very soon.
- The next planning meeting is scheduled for February 1.

## Miscellaneous Notes

- RLI Pensacola—Our club will be well represented by President Katie (taking Level 2); Aaron Webber, Ron Grissom, Dusty Ricketts, and Laura Kirby (taking Level 1). Rick Stevens will be one of the Discussion Leaders and Jan Pooley will do her observation phase of DL training.
- Crestview Rotary Club is currently selling tickets for its annual Great Gun Give Away. Tickets are \$30. Their annual Wild Game Dinner is Friday, February 17. For tickets contact club president Larry Ward at [lward@sheriff-okaloosa.org](mailto:lward@sheriff-okaloosa.org).
- Mid-Bay Rotary Club is selling pork butts for Super Bowl...\$40 each. Contact club president Richard Gal at [richard.gal@cox.net](mailto:richard.gal@cox.net) for more info
- South Walton Rotary Club is hosting its first annual Grill & Chill Saturday, February 4 from noon-4pm at the entrance to Seascape Golf, Beach & Tennis Resort. Featuring Grilled Chicken and Boston Butts by Jim N' Nicks, Longest Drive and Longest Putt contests. Proceeds to support the South Walton Baseball League. For more information contact club president Collin McCall at [collin.a.mccall@ml.com](mailto:collin.a.mccall@ml.com).
- District 6940 is currently seeking Peace Fellow candidates. Through training, study and practice Rotary Peace Fellows become leaders and catalysts for peace and conflict resolution. Many go on to careers in national governments, NGO's, military, law enforcement and international organization like the United Nations and World Bank. Peace Fellow Scholarships, which do not require any funding from nominating clubs and districts, include all tuition fees, travel and living expenses during either a n 18-24 month master's degree from one of 5 designated Peace Center Universities or a 3 month certificate program. For more info contact Kathy Suerken, District Peace Fellow Chair, at [suerken@cox.net](mailto:suerken@cox.net) or 850-897-2616. [www.rotary.org/our-programs/peace-fellowships](http://www.rotary.org/our-programs/peace-fellowships)

## New Member Proposal—First Publishing

Katie Sharon has proposed Matt Zasada for membership. Matt is a CPA with Carr, Riggs & Ingram. The board approved his proposal at the 1/24/17 meeting.

## Welcome New Member John Roper



John Roper brings a diversified background to the CEO position of the ARC of the Emerald Coast. John served in various roles in Law Enforcement for 15 years. He then became a Field Director for the State of Alabama Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board. He was responsible for over 40 non-profit agencies, ran a mentoring program and appeared on numerous television and radio programs on behalf of the organization.

Later John worked for Volunteers of America Southeast as VP of Sales. He was heavily involved in all aspects of project management including: logistics manager for volunteer-run warehouses storing donations for Hurricane Katrina victims, sales manager for a steel housing plant, and director of development for new home construction and existing home rehab for many homes in GA, AL, and MS. During the last two years at VOASE, he served as a Project Manager for multiple municipalities within the State of Alabama.

John later served as the Executive Director of the United States Green Building Council for the State of Alabama. His most recent position has been the Executive Director of the Lighthouse Counseling Center in Montgomery, AL.

John has served on many boards such as the AL Assn of Non Profits, AL Coalition Against Rape, Mont. Homeless Coalition, River Region United Way and One Place Family Justice Ctr. John has an Associate's Degree in Business and a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Troy State University. He is a State of Alabama Licensed Real Estate Agent and also a Level III Teaching Professional in Golf. John has conducted over 150 fundraising events including celebrity golf tournaments with athletes from the NFL, MLBA, PGA, and NCAA.

John is married to Alicia. They have four children, Andy, Lakin, Lauren, and Dylan.

## Upcoming Programs and Activities January is Vocational Service Month

- 1/28 Rotary Leadership Inst Pensacola (Levels 1, 2, 3)
- 2/01 Regular Meeting Mel Ponder, Florida House of Representatives
- 2/08 Regular Meeting Terry Pilcher, Emerald Coast Association of Realtors
- 2/15 Regular Meeting Mack Busbee, Newly-Elected Property Appraiser
- 2/11 Rotary Leadership Inst Panama City (Levels 1, 2, 3)
- 2/22 Regular Meeting Allison McDowell, Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance
- 3/01 Regular Meeting Frank Dailey. Heroes on the Water
- 3/25 Rotary Leadership Inst Tallahassee (Levels 1, 2, 3)
- 3/30-4/2 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Adventures Unlimited
- 4/6-4/9/17 District Conference Baytowne Wharf

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### January Birthdays

- Andy Corbin 1/23
- Ben Gordon 1/25

### Anniversaries

- 1/17 Jack & Florence Arthur
- 1/20 John & Connie Morgan

### Membership Anniv

- |                |     |        |                   |      |        |
|----------------|-----|--------|-------------------|------|--------|
| John Morgan    | 1/1 | 37 yrs | Alex Trum         | 1/1  | 51 yrs |
| Ralph Fallin   | 1/1 | 51 yrs | John Linn         | 1/1  | 28 yrs |
| George Dorris  | 1/1 | 40 yrs | Debbie Bodestine  | 1/19 | 12 yrs |
| Eulice Shelley | 1/1 | 53 yrs | Jean Woo          | 1/24 | 21 yrs |
| Fred Pryor     | 1/1 | 45 yrs | Michele Nicholson | 1/25 | 11 yrs |
|                |     |        | Ben Gordon        | 1/18 | 2 yrs  |

## 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.



If we allow polio to spread again, it would cost upwards of \$35 billion

more in treatment expenses and economic losses so it's a no-brainer that we have to commit all our resources to finish the job once and for all.

John Hewko  
General Secretary  
Rotary International

# 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:

Laura Kirby

[LKirby@Landrumcompanies.com](mailto:LKirby@Landrumcompanies.com) or

Andy Corbin

[ajc@tslinc.com](mailto: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

**James Bass, SM**

Funeral Director

**Neal Bern SM**

Insurance

**Debbie Bodenshtine, PHF SM RotY**

Economic Development

**Ann Boynton SM**

Property Management

**Joseph Brewster, PHF SM**

Cable Television

**Frank Brutt, PHF SM**

County Planning

**Mack Busbee, SM \*\***

County Government

**Tom Butcher**

Honorary Member

**Kevin Cagle, SM**

Office Machines

**Gerry Chalker, (9) 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

**Ralph Fallin, (35) PHF SM RotY\***

Dairy Products

**Bob Fowner, PHF SM**

Association Manager

**Tony Gilligan, PHF SM**

Government Contractor

**Ben Gordon, SM**

Attorney

**Ron Grissom, 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

**Jeff Hooton, PHF SM**

Commercial Lending

**Laura Kirby (3) SM**

Business Development

**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, RotY PHF**

Retail/Computers

**David O. Miller, (13) 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**

Non-Profit Management

**Roger Peadro, PHF SM RotY\***

Pastor

**Mary Plummer, PHF**

Real Estate Sales

**Lyndon Poff, PHF SM RotY**

Paint & Body Shop

**Diane Poff, SM**

Paint & Body Shop

**Jan Pooley, (10) 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**

Developmental Disabilities

**Katie Sharon, SM**

Banking

**Eulice Shelley, PHF \***

Moving & Storage

**Scott Smith, PHF SM\***

Chiropractor

**Oxana Solovieva**

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, SM**

Condo Management

**Charles West, (1) PHF SM\***

Investment Broker

**Lisa Williams**

Utilities

**Jean Woo, PHF**

Dentist

**Jack Yeiser, PHF**

Mortgage Broker

**Russ Youngblood PHF \*\***

Psychologist