



# The Rotary Reader

October 26, 2016  
Volume 2017 Issue 14  
Club # 4234  
Club Charter Date  
1/13/1954

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

**October is  
Economic and Community  
Development Month**

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## 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  
executivesecreary@fortwaltonrotary.org

## Today's Speaker: Nathan Sparks Executive Director of EDC of Okaloosa Co.



Nathan Sparks began his career in economic development in 1998 as a Research Analyst with the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama. In this role, Nathan was heavily involved in the state's automotive-recruitment strategy.

In 2000, Nathan joined The St. Joe Company where his primary responsibility was the implementation of a comprehensive economic development branding and marketing strategy for the northwest Florida region.

Nathan was named Executive Director of the Brunswick and Glynn County (Georgia) Development Authority in February 2005. During his time at BGCDA, Nathan spearheaded the development of three new industrial parks, implemented an aggressive target marketing campaign and was responsible for generating tens of millions of dollars of new investment and hundreds of new jobs.

Nathan was invited to lead the Economic Development Council of Okaloosa County (Florida) in June 2013. As Executive Director of the EDC, Nathan is responsible for the day-to-day management and oversight of an organization dedicated to advancing the economic vitality of Okaloosa County, its businesses and communities.

Nathan graduated from Oglethorpe University in 1998 with a degree in International Business. He is a 2002 graduate of the University of Oklahoma's Economic Development Institute and was awarded the Certified Economic Developer (CEdD) designation by the International Economic Development Council in 2006.

Nathan currently serves as Vice Chair of the Enterprise Florida Stakeholders Council, a statewide network of Florida economic development organizations and partners. He also chairs the Tri-County Community Partnership (TCPI) and serves on the boards of Florida's Great Northwest, Career-Source Okaloosa Walton, United Way Okaloosa Walton and is a member of the Executive Board of the Gulf Coast Council of Boy Scouts of America.

Nathan's past honors and recognitions include:

- Named "Top 40 Under 40: Georgia's Best and Brightest" by *Georgia Trend* magazine (2009)
- Honorary Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> Special Operations Wing Mission Support Group, Hurlburt Field (2015)
- Nominated by Lt Gen Bradley Heithold, Commander, Air Force Special Operations Command, to attend 2015 National Security Forum at the United States Air Force Air War College, Maxwell AFB
- Awarded "Governor's Business Ambassador" award by Governor Rick Scott (2016)

Nathan, his wife Susan and son Jackson reside in Niceville, Florida.

**[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 \$340  
Dec 16—\$415  
April 1—\$490**

**“My grandfather attended the 1917 convention in Atlanta, and my father, brother and I continue his legacy as Rotarians. You know, attending a convention helps you truly appreciate the international family of Rotary. There's so much energy and excitement from Rotarians and guests coming from around the world, sharing ideas, experiences, and inspiration. I look forward to welcoming you in person.”**

**Blake McBurney  
Rotary Club of Atlanta  
Vice-Chair Host Organizing Committee**

**Plan now to  
Attend!  
For more information visit:  
[www.riconvention.org](http://www.riconvention.org)**

## Club Social at The Gulf



Thanks to Neal for planning a fun social at The Gulf. The venue is beautiful, the food and drink were good and the Rotarian fellowship was great. We had a good turnout Rotarians and guests and everyone who attended had a great time. Well done! We look forward to the next one.



## Little Free Libraries Update

The Little Free Libraries our club built in September are almost complete, needing only the decals recognizing the donation by the Rotary Club of Fort Walton Beach. These decals should be ready this week. As we near the time to place the libraries at the Fort Walton Beach Landing and in the Charlie Hill Terrace neighborhood adjacent to the Eleanor J Johnson Youth Center, we are asking for donations of books focused on the following genres:

- Children (early reader through middle school)
- Fiction novels
- Non-fiction biographies (specifically those who were instrumental in shaping the history fo the United States).
- Cookbooks
- Self-help books

If you have any books to donate, please contact Rick Owen, [rick@united-way.org](mailto:rick@united-way.org).

## Highlights of World Polio Day

As part of World Polio Day, October 24, 2016, Center for Disease Control Director Tom Frieden and Rotary International President John F. Germ announced major contributions to polio eradication. The Canadian government committed \$10 million, and Michael Bloomberg, businessman, philanthropist, and former mayor of New York City, donated \$25 million.

Friedan cited innovative tactics for reaching children in Pakistan who were often missed in the past. These include placing permanent vaccination sites at the entry points to the country, provinces and major cities. Rotary has funded the purchase of cell phones for vaccination teams so they can send data to health centers immediately.

“The virus is cornered, we just have to make sure to never let it out again” said Frieden.

Rotary has contributed more than \$1.6 billion to polio eradication since taking on the virus in 1979.

“We started this more than 30 years ago,” said Germ. “We’ve stuck with it all this time. And soon, we’re going to finish it.”

## Get Out The Vote



Early voting has begun in Florida and will be available through Saturday, November 5. Okaloosa County has 5 Early Voting locations: County Admin Building in Shalimar, Destin Community Center, Niceville City Hall, Crestview Community Center, and Supervisor of Elections Office in Crestview.

If you choose to vote on Election Day (Tuesday, November 8) you must vote in your precinct.

Hours for either of these options are 7am—7pm. Bring photo and signature ID.

For additional information about the election go to [www.govote-okaloosa.com](http://www.govote-okaloosa.com).

## Upcoming Programs and Activities

- 11/02 Regular Meeting Robert Strickland, Mgr of Donor Recruitment for OneBlood
- 11/09 Regular Meeting Col. Robert Kirila, Deputy Commander 7th Special Forces (**Meeting at Bob Hope Village—Gates Bldg**)
- 11/16 Regular Meeting Don Gaetz, State Senator
- 11/23 No Meeting Happy Thanksgiving
- 11/30 Regular Meeting Steve Duke, Florida Trail Association
- 1/27 Rotary Leadership Inst Pensacola (Levels 1, 2, 3)
- 2/18 Rotary Leadership Inst Panama City (Levels 1, 2, 3)
- 4/6-4/9/17 District Conference Baytowne Wharf

Did You Know? You can attend a club board meeting, committee meeting or project as a make-up.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

September Birthdays		Anniversaries		Membership Anniv		
Eulice Shelley	10/2	10/4	Tom & Denise Hays	Herb Tinsley	10/1	45 yrs
Jack Arthur	10/3	10/4	John & Sherrie Linn	Jan Pooley	10/12	21 yrs
Mitzi Henley	10/5	10/7	Katie & J.D. Sharon	Charles West	10/17	14 yrs
Tony Gilligan	10/22	10/10	Ross & Brianne			
Russ Youngblood	10/27		LeBlanc			
Ron Grissom	10/30	10/20	Neal & Maxine Bern			

## Club History Corner

**1993** — Brought back the true meaning of Rotary as we met at every restaurant that could accommodate us. The newsletter “Rotary Reader” was initiated. Hosted five Group Study Exchange professionals from France. Initiated the Rotary information line @ 864-9384.

**1994**—Effort to strengthen all avenues of service. Received the Presidential Citation for outstanding performance. Golf Committee raised most money for scholarships from the Bowlegs Golf Tournament with \$28,000 transferred to Scholarship, Inc. and 13 scholarships awarded to deserving students.

## 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.



The Polio vaccine has to be

administered at least 3 times to each child and up to 5 times in endemic areas. The fight against Polio will continue until it is eradicated.

# 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

**Bill Alexson**  
Military Operations Commander

**Robert Anderson, SM**  
CPA

**Jack Arthur, PHF SM**  
Insurance

**James Bass, SM**  
Funeral Director

**Neal Bern SM**  
Insurance

**Debbie Bodenshine, 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 Foster**  
Business Management

**Bob Fowner, PHF SM**  
Association Manager

**Tony Gilligan, PHF SM**  
Government Contractor

**Ben Gordon, SM**  
Attorney

**Ron Grissom, SM**  
Utilities

**Haydon Grubbs, PHF SM**  
Education

**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

**Ted Litschauer, PHF SM**  
Public Safety

**Jamey Mattern, PHF**  
Architect

**David Macdonald PHF SM \*\***  
Shopping Center Manager

**Julie McNabb, SM**  
Developmental Disabilities

**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

**Susan Page,**  
Professional Counseling

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

**Mary Plummer, PHF**  
Real Estate Sales

**Lyndon Poff, PHF SM RotY**

**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

**Katie Sharon, SM**  
Banking

**Eulice Shelley, PHF \***  
Moving & Storage

**Scott Smith, PHF SM\***  
Chiropractor

**Whitney Smith, SM**  
Attorney

**Oxana Solovieva**  
Commercial Real Estate

**Allan Stearns, PHF SM\***  
Travel Agent

**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