



# The Rotary Reader

Presidential Citation Award Winner for 20 years

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Jerry Chalker & Roger Peadro

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Matt Turpin

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**Bulletin**

Spencer Barnes

**Executive Secretary**

Lorrageia Jackson

## The Rotary Club of Fort Walton Beach

[www.fortwaltonrotary.org](http://www.fortwaltonrotary.org)

John Bishop

Tough Love; Growing up with Polio in Fort Walton Beach  
and at Florida State University.



John Bishop was born 10/27/1941 in Columbus Georgia. There was no doctor in Fort Walton so John's mother went to Columbus to stay with relatives till he was born. John got sick with polio in 1951 at the age of nine. He spent about month in the hospital in Montgomery, Alabama. When an opening became available John was transferred to Warm Springs, Georgia for rehabilitation. After graduating from Choctawhatchee High School in 1960 John Bishop attended Florida State University receiving Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry.

John returned to Fort Walton Beach and taught at the Okaloosa Applied Technology Center for 31 years.

John Bishop served two terms on the Fort Walton Beach City Council. He served eight years on City Board of Adjustment and Municipal Planning Board.

Post Office Box 892 Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549

# MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

When Gabriela Vessani was 12 years old, her mother took her to stay with friends in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA, for the summer.

"I loved it, so when I heard about Rotary Youth Exchange, I knew that was something I wanted to do," says Vessani, who is an Interactor from São Paulo.

This year, Vessani participated in the program. Hosted by the Rotary Club of Waterdown, Ontario, Canada, she stayed with four families, one of which included adopted children from different parts of the world. "They had seven children, and it was crazy for me. But I loved it," she says. "It was such a unique experience getting to know all of my host brothers and sisters, and learning about so many cultures."

## CHANGING LIVES

Vessani and 104 other Rotary Youth Exchange students visited Rotary World Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, in July as part of a 31-day Discover America cross-country bus trip that was a finale to the exchange experience.

"This is the best program Rotary can be involved with, because Rotary is all about changing lives," says Vessani.

Rotary Youth Exchange has been providing intercultural exchange opportunities for secondary school students ages 15-19 since the 1920s. Students become cultural ambassadors for up to a full academic year, and the host families can help build peace and international understanding, serving one of Rotary's six areas of focus.

## BUILDING SELF-CONFIDENCE

Varda Shah's family was asked by a friend to host an exchange student two years ago in Mumbai. At first, family members were reluctant.

"We were like, he's a boy, he's German, I don't know how this is going to work," says Shah. "But we decided to take a chance, and I never would have thought I could grow so close to someone in three months. We still Skype and connect through social media constantly and are always in touch."

Shah decided she wanted her own exchange experience. She stayed with three host families in New York, learning about camping, tailgating at sports events, and ice hockey. But the biggest change was to her self-confidence.

"Before, I would never be able to make a conversation with a person I didn't know," she says. "Now, I can proudly say it isn't like that anymore. I can go up to people. I have become more open, more mature."

## ACCEPTING OTHERS

Juliana Kinnl of Vienna decided to follow in her older sister's footsteps and take part in a Rotary Youth Exchange. She was hosted by two families from the Rotary Club of Newtown, Pennsylvania, and says she learned to be more accepting of other people and their differences.

"Meeting exchange students from all over the world, I have grown to accept people for who they are and not to judge them because they are different," says Kinnl. "I've also grown more confident in my own abilities and who I am."

Read more experiences of Rotary Youth Exchange students

By Arnold R. Grahl  
Rotary News

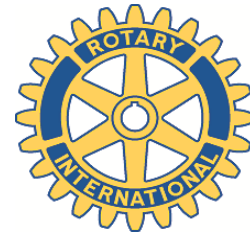
## THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

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 ROTARY FOUR WAY TEST

- 1) Is it the truth?
- 2) Is it fair to all concerned?
- 3) Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- 4) Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



## Upcoming Speakers

Sept. 9th: Forrest Townsend

September 16th: George vonHilsheimer

## ROTARIANS WITH BIRTHDAYS

**Frank Brutt, September 2nd**  
**James Stokes, September 2nd**  
**Mary Plummer, September 6th**

## Today in History

**1945** - Japan surrendered to the [U.S.](#) aboard the *USS Missouri*, ending World War II. The war ended six years and one day after it began

**1961** - The U.S.S.R. resumed nuclear weapons testing. Test ban treaty negotiations had failed with the U.S. and Britain when the three nations could not agree upon the nature and frequency of on-site inspections.

**1963** - The integration of Tuskegee High School was prevented by state troopers assigned by [Alabama](#) Gov. George Wallace. Wallace had the building surrounded by state troopers.

**1985** - It was announced that the *Titanic* had been found on September 1 by a [U.S.](#) and French expedition 560 miles off Newfoundland. The luxury liner had been missing for 73 years.

**1992** - The [U.S.](#) and Russia agreed to a joint venture to build a space station.

**1** days until college football season.

# Rotary Roster

**Bill Alexson**

Military Operations Commander

**Robert Anderson, SM**

CPA

**Jack Arthur, PHF SM**

Insurance

**Spencer Barnes, SM**

Employee Benefits

**James Bass, SM**

Funeral Director

**Neal Bern SM**

Insurance

**Debbie Bodenstine, PHF SM Roty**

Economic Development

**Ann Boynton SM**

Property Management

**Joseph Brewster, PHF SM**

Cable Television

**Frank Brutt, PHF SM**

County Planning

**Mack Busbee**

County Government

**Tom Butcher**

Honorary Member

**Kevin Cagle, SM**

Office Machines

**Gerry Chalker, (8) PHF SM \***

Pension Administration

**Andy Corbin, PHF SM RotY \***

Electronics Mfg.

**George Dorris, PHF SM**

Dentistry

**Jeff Dunford**

Banker

**JT Edwards, PHF SM RotY**

Landscaping Owner

**Dan Empson**

Honorary

**Cliff Ennis**

Business IT Management

**Ralph Fallin, (34) PHF SM RotY**

Dairy Products

**Bob Fowner, PHF SM**

Association Manager

**Tony Gilligan, PHF SM**

Government Contractor

**Ben Gordon**

Attorney

**Ron Grissom, SM**

Utilities

**Haydon Grubbs, PHF SM**

Education

**Chad Hamilton, PHF SM**

CPA

**Ross Hamilton**

Education- College

**Sallie Hardy, PHF SM**

Commercial Properties

**Tom Hayes, PHF SM**

Financial Services

**Jody Henderson, PHF SM \***

Accounting/Auditing

**Mitzi Henley, SM**

Retail Shopping Center

**Ken Hinrichs**

Non-Profit Administration

**Jeff Hooton, PHF SM**

Commercial Lending

**Stephanie Jones SM**

Banking

**Laura Kirby (2)**

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 SM**

Architect

**David Macdonald PHF SM \*\***

Shopping Center Manager

**Julie McNabb, SM**

Developmental Disabilities

**Joe Meyer, SM**

Retail/Computers

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

Developmental Disabilities

**John Morgan, PHF SM\***

Computer Engineer

**Matthew Morgan, SM**

Electrical Engineer

**Dan Nelson, PHF SM**

Restaurant/Fast Food

**Michelle Nicholson, SM**

Communications

**Susan Page, SM**

Professional Counseling

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

Pastor

**Mary Plummer, PHF SM**

Real Estate Sales

**Lyndon Poff, PHF SM RotY**

Paint & Body Shop

**Diane Poff**

Paint & Body Shop

**Jan Pooley, (9) PHF SM RotY\***

Department Store

**Charlie Potts, PHF SM\***

Jeweler

**Kathy Pritchard, PHF SM**

Commercial Banking

**Fred Pryor, PHF SM RotY\***

Utility Service-Gas

**Dusty Ricketts, SM**

News Media

**Eulice Shelley, PHF SM\***

Moving & Storage

**Scott Smitt, PHF SM\***

Chiropractor

**Whitney Smith, SM**

Attorney

**Allan Stearns, PHF SM\***

Travel Agent

**Rick Stevens, PHF SM RotY\***

Surge Suppression Systems

**Randy Stokes, PHF SM\***

Architecture

**Kent Tinsley, SM**

Commercial Banking

**Herb Tinsley, PHF SM RotY\***

Savings & Loan Mgmt.

**Forrest Townsend, PHF SM RotY\***

Veterinarian

**Alex Trum, PHF SM**

Orthodontist Retired

**Matt Turpin, SM**

Certified Public Accountant

**Aaron Webber, SM**

Condo Management

**Charles West, PHF SM**

Investment Broker

**Ken Williamson, PHF SM \***

Retired

**Jean Woo, PHF SM**

Dentist

**Jack Yeiser, PHF SM**

Mortgage Broker

**Russ Youngblood PHF SM\*\***

Psychologist

## PROPOSED NEW MEMBER: Cindy Frakes

### 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.

Don't forget that you can make up missed meetings at neighboring clubs. They include: Crestview: 12 p.m. Wednesday at Ryan's  
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 Bluewater Bay Golf Club  
Navarre: 12 p.m. Thursday at Tuscan Grill at Hidden Creek  
Niceville: 12 p.m. Thursday at Northwest Florida State College Building K  
South Walton: 7:30 a.m. Thursday at Embassy Suites