



The Rotary Reader

Post Office Box 892

Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549

Presidential Citation Award Winner – 18th Consecutive Year

The Rotary Club of Fort Walton Beach

Board of Directors

President:

Jan Pooley

Vice-President:

Roger Peadro

Secretary:

Kathy Pritchard

Treasurer:

Debbie Bodensine

Past President:

Scott Smith

Committee Chair

Membership:

Julie Orr

Services Projects:

Aaron Webber

Rotary Foundation:

Jody Henderson

Public Relations:

Michele Nicholson

Club Administration:

Chuck Landers

New Generations:

Debbie Bodensine

Sergeant at Arms:

Ted Litschauer/Jack Yeiser

Bulletin

Aaron Webber

Scholarship, Inc.:

Natalie Simpson

Executive Secretary

Lorrageia Jackson

executivesecretary@fortwaltonrotary.org



Todd Torgersen

Todd Torgersen is President of Combined Insurance Services, an employee benefits brokerage and consulting firm located in Pensacola; they are also the group benefits brokerage for Landrum Professional Employer Services. The focus of the firm is to provide

strategy, solutions and an excellent service experience for employer groups and individuals. The markets they serve include benefit programs such as health, dental, life, disability, and vision.

Todd began his career in the employee benefits business in 1981. Prior to founding Combined Insurance Services, he served as Marketing & Sales Director for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida.

Todd has a Bachelor of Science degree from the Florida State University College of Business. He also completed The Graduate School of Sales Management and Marketing at Syracuse University and earned his Certified Health Consultant designation at Purdue University.

He is Past President of Five Flags Rotary of Pensacola and Past President of the ARC Gateway Foundation Board. He supports United Way and through Rotary has served as a cook for Loaves & Fishes soup kitchen. Todd lives in Gulf Breeze with his wife Gayle and two college age children.....when they need money and come home.

Please stop by and see Lorrageia today or next week to verify your directory information as accurate.

RYLA veteran gets with the program

By Susie Ma

The Rotarian - September 2012

Steve Melton has been going to Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) events for almost two decades. A major in the U.S. Army Reserve, Melton has volunteered at the RYLA camp held by District 5810 (Texas) almost every summer since his own time as a RYLA participant. He's served as everything from counselor to deputy director to construction team member.



THE ROTARIAN: What led you to RYLA?

MELTON: My high school counselor had me fill out an application. I had no idea what RYLA was. I was not going to go. I was a football player looking for a scholarship, worried about missing a week of working out. One of my friends had gone and she came up to me and said, "I heard you got picked for RYLA. You have to go – it's the greatest thing ever." It is one of the top three decisions I have ever made.

TR: What did you learn?

MELTON: That everyone has something to bring to the table, and you only have to figure out what that is. One of the secrets to my success is putting the right people in the right position. I've used that in the military. Last year was my final year of command in the Army Reserve, and when I took over the group, the brigade commander pulled me out and said, "You're getting the worst we have." I applied the lessons from RYLA, and when I was done with my three-year command, the brigade sergeant major told me, "This is the best company in the brigade."

TR: How does RYLA work?

MELTON: RYLA, in our district, is a weeklong leadership seminar. It's complete immersion training. Every day is full of activities and speakers, and every day we have a theme related to different facets of leadership, such as ethics and community service. We do team-building exercises, including a challenge course with a 6-foot wall that everyone has to help each other over. We want to make the participants better leaders so that when they go back and become team captains and student council presidents, they can be examples for the groups they're leading.

TR: What do you love about being a camp counselor?

MELTON: It's the most direct contact you have with the campers, and that's what camp is all about. After dinner and after the night's activities, when they're back in the cabin and they're just talking, that's when they get their epiphanies and you can watch them come together as a group. It's inspiring to see.

TR: What sort of epiphanies?

MELTON: Normally they come in thinking that leadership means being the boss, as opposed to being the person who does the small thing that goes unnoticed but allows the group to accomplish a goal.

TR: Why is the RYLA experience unique?

MELTON: It's one of the few, maybe only, times in my life and most of the campers' lives when there's a completely safe environment. You are free to be yourself.

UPCOMING SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

- October 10 William Kline - Morgan Stanley
- October 17 Carita Smith - Guardian ad litem
- October 24 General Fiel - United States Air Force
- October 31 Coach Owens & Coach Thomas - FWB and Choctaw Football

Service Opportunities

- ◆ Can Tabs - Don't forget to bring in your can tabs and give them to Rick Stevens. The tabs are given to Ronald McDonald House to help support their great cause.
- ◆ Back Packs - We'll stuff out first back packs on **October 17th at 1:30 PM** at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.
- ◆ Please consider becoming a mentor to a young person at one of our local schools. We have 3 Rotarians from our club involved in this great program. Let's get to 10! Call 833-7614 for details on signing up.
- ◆ Volunteers are needed at Longwood Elementary on October 26th to read to the kids.

**Membership Proposal
First Notice**

Michael Beedie
Government Management

**Rotarians with Birthdays
this Week**

Eulice Shelly Jack Arthur

This Day in History

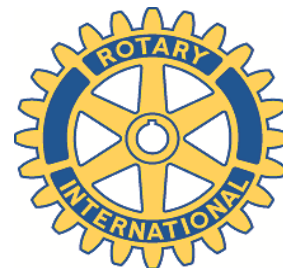
On this day in 1990, Less than one year after the destruction of the Berlin Wall, East and West Germany come together on what is known as "Unity Day."

On this day in 1995, At the end of a sensational trial, former football star O.J. Simpson is acquitted of the brutal 1994 double murder of his estranged wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ronald Goldman.

On this day in 1951, third baseman Bobby Thomson hits a one-out, three-run home run in the bottom of the ninth inning to win the National League pennant for the New York Giants.

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?



Rotary Roster

Anderson, Robert SM

CPA

Arthur, Jack PHF SM

Insurance

Bass, James SM

Funeral Director

Bennett, Nitsi (19) PHF X *

Non-Profit Administration

Bodenstine, Debbie PHF SM X

Economic Development

Brewster, Joseph PHF SM

Cable Television

Brutt, Frank PHF SM

County Planning

Butcher, Tom

Honorary Member

Cagle, Kevin SM

Office Machines

Chalker, Gerry (5) PHF SM *

Pension Administration

Clark, Jason (2) SM

Insurance

Corbin, Andy PHF SM X *

Electronics Mfg.

Davis, James (33) PHF SM *

Public Utilities

Dorris, George PHF SM

Dentistry

Edwards, JT SM

Retail Owner

Ekedahl, Brian SM

Social Services

Empson, Dan

Honorary

Fallin, Ralph (31) PHF SM X *

Dairy Products

Foster, William PHF SM X *

Attorney

Fowler, Bob (2) PHF SM

Association Manager

Gilligan, Tony (17) PHF SM

Government Contractor

Grissom, Ron SM

Utilities

Grubbs, Haydon PHF SM

Education

Hamilton, Chad PHF SM

CPA

Hardy, Sallie PHF SM

Commercial Properties

Hayes, Tom PHF SM

Financial Services

Henderson, Jody PHF SM *

Accounting/Auditing

Henley, Mitzi (4) SM

Retail Shopping Center

Hooton, Jeff (5) SM

Commercial Lending

Howard, William PHF

Real Estate-General

Johnson, Chris PHF *

CPA Retired

Johnson, Johnny (40) PHF SM X *

Banking

Kedroski, Cristie SM

Foundation Development

Kunkel, Richard SM

Education

LaBlanc, Ross SM

CPA

Landers, Chuck PHF SM

CPA

Leonard, Tony PHF SM **

Retail/Musical Instruments

Linn, John PHF SM

Kitchens-Retail

Litschauer, Ted SM

Public Safety

Lowrey, Tom PHF *

Stockbroker

Mattern, Jamey PHF SM

Architect

Macdonald, David SM PHF **

Shopping Center Mgr

McDonald, J.R. SM

Aerospace Marketing

McNabb, Julie (1) SM

Developmental Disabilities

Meyer, Joe SM

Retail/Computers

Miller, David O. (10) PHF SM

Developmental Disabilities

Morgan, John PHF SM *

Computer Engineer

Morgan, Matthew SM

Electrical Engineer

Nelson, Dan PHF SM

Restaurant/Fast Food

Nicholson, Michele SM

Communications

Orr, Julie (1) SM

Personnel Staffing

Page, Brian SM

Tax Attorney

Page, Susan SM

Professional Counseling

Palmer, Charlie SM

Real Estate Development

Peadro, Roger PHF SM

Pastor

Plummer, Mary PHF SM

Real Estate Sales

Poff, Lyndon (3) PHF X SM

Paint & Body Shop

Pooley, Jan (6) PHF SM X

Department Store

Potts, Charlie PHF SM *

Jeweler

Pritchard, Kathy PHF SM

Commercial Banking

Pryor, Fred PHF SM *

Utility Service-Gas

Rahe, Ted (36) PHF SM *

Property Management

Ricketts, Dusty SM

News Media

Rollins, Joe SM

Compliance Services

Sharon, Katie SM

Commercial Banking

Shaw, Susan SM

Fund Raising

Shelley, Eulice PHF SM *

Moving & Storage

Simpson, Natalie SM

Legislative

Smith, Pete PHF SM *

Appraiser

Smith, Scott PHF SM *

Chiropractor

Smith, Whitney SM

Attorney

Stearns, Allan (21) PHF SM *

Travel Agent

Stevens, Rick (4) PHF SM X *

Surge Suppression Systems

Stokes, Randy PHF SM *

Architecture

Tibbetts, Alexis SM

Schools

Tinsley, Kent SM

Commercial Banking

Tinsley, Herb PHF SM X *

Savings & Loan Mgmt.

Townsend, Forrest PHF SM X *

Veterinarian

Trigg, Brian SM

Program Analyst

Trum, Alex PHF SM

Orthodontist Retired

Turpin, Matt SM

CPA

Vaughan, John PHF SM

Past Service

Watson, Yonge (1) PHF SM *

Real Estate

Webber, Aaron (2) SM

Condo Management

West, Charles PHF SM

Investment Broker

Williamson, Ken PHF SM *

Retired

Woo, Jean PHF SM

Dentist

WrightReynolds, Mike (1) PHF SM

Photography

Yeiser, Jack PHF SM

Mortgage Broker

Youngblood, Russ PHF SM **

Psychologist

PHF: Paul Harris Fellows
SM: PH Sustaining Members
* FWB Club Past Presidents
** Past President Other Clubs
X FWB Rotarian of the Year

Members in purple are recognized as achieving perfect attendance as of the end of the previous year (June 30th)

Members in blue font are on a leave of absence.

Don't forget that you can make up a missed meeting at a neighboring club. They include:

Crestview: Wednesday noon, Ryan's

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

DeFuniak Springs: Wednesday 12:00 p.m., McLain's Family Steakhouse

Mid-Bay: Wednesday 7 a.m., Bluewater Bay Golf Club

Navarre: Thursday noon, Tuscan Grill at Hidden Creek

Niceville: Thursday noon, OWC Bld. K

South Walton: Thursday 7:30 a.m., Embassy Suites