

the HELICOPTER



The Rotary Club of Pensacola District 6940 Club 4248

WEEK IN REVIEW 4/1/2025

President Roberts welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 12:14 pm. Verdell Hawkins led the meeting with the prayer and pledge.

Announcements:

- Bradley Vinson was recognized as a new Paul Harris Fellow
- The new Board of Directors was announced and will assume their new role on July 1: President Allison Hill, President Elect Judy Bense, Secretary Jane White and Treasurer Lori NeSmith. Other board members are Laura Piovesana, Andrea Kreiger, Craig Hindsman, Mike Steltenkamp, Randall Richardson, Joe Vinson, and Brian Wyer.
- Judy Bense shared some information on the Save UWF Campaign and shared opportunities for support.
- Randall Richardson, Grants Chairperson presented \$12,500 to Bruce Watson with Early Learning Coalition of Escambia County; Five Flags Rotary Club contributed also by buying books. Bruce shared that the program serves 1600-1700 children annually and 900+ children will receive backpacks with 12 books and 400 will be given to teachers to issue to students also. Readers are needed on April 9th for the Buzzing in to Spring event.

Sunshine Report: Collier Merrill provided the Sunshine Report and Rotarians for their **Birthdays for the week of April 1-7: Laura Gilliam (2nd) and Charles Sherrill (4th)**. He also shared that American Magic is back and the teams are training and preparing for the America's Cup. **Verdell Hawkins won \$7 from the weekly raffle.**

Guests in Attendance: Fellow Rotarian Emily Echevarria with Five Flags Rotary Club and others.

The program for today's meeting was Chris Martin and Ron Overton – UWF's Physical Footprint (Facilities) and Historic Trust. Both gentlemen shared opportunities and updates connected to the University of West Florida.

On nine acres downtown, are thirty buildings that make up the trust with 17 FY employees and about twenty student volunteers and a core group of thirty. 15,000 children from Baldwin, Walton, Santa Rosa, and Escambia visit the museums annually, as well as 180,000 visitors. There are different buildings across the grounds that can be rented for parties, meetings, events, etc. and approximately two hundred events take place every year. People can visit the archaeological site in Milton and the Pensacola Museum of Art. The Train Restoration project was completed and reopened last September.

12,000 work orders are placed monthly and Chris shared that the University of West Florida celebrated the grand opening of the Sandy Sansing Sports Medicine Center at the Darrell Gooden Center, a \$6 million state-of-the-art facility dedicated to enhancing the quality of care for UWF student-athletes.

Some Capital Projects that are in planning/predesign are: Building 4 Science and Engineering Research Wing Addition and a Satellite Utilities Plant - Critical Infrastructure

President Roberts thanked greeters David Stafford and Britt Landrum for greeting, Collier Merrill for Sunshine and Verdell Hawkins for the prayer and pledge.

The April 8th program will be Thomas Shepp Coggin with Port of Pensacola.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:00 Minutes submitted by Terri Jenkins

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ROTARY

TODAY, TUESDAY, April 8, we will meet at Pensacola Yacht Club.

The next Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) session will be held on April 12, 2025, in Pensacola. All three parts along with the Graduate Foundation class will be included. [CLICK HERE](#) to Register. Onsite Registration and Breakfast will start at 7am (CST) with classes starting at 8am and will be finished by 3:30. The cost is \$100 for each participant. Our club has budgeted to reimburse your cost, which covers breakfast, lunch, and all training materials. Here are the details: Pensacola State College, 1000 College Blvd, Pensacola, FL 32504, Student Library.

We will continue to stream our meeting using Microsoft Teams; however, changes will be made due to poor wi-fi reception at PYC. You will no longer receive visual video of the meetings but will be able to listen to the announcements and hear the speaker. The link to join will be sent out in the same manner as before. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these changes, please let me know. 850-434-0684.

To increase the membership of our club, we will continue to offer three free lunches for potential new members.

Promote your business by placing an ad in the Helicopter. Your ad will run for a full month each week. Business card-sized ads are \$25.00, a 1/4 page is \$50.00, and a 1/2-page ad is \$75.00. To place your ad, send the prepared document to cbridwell@pensacolarotaryclub.org stating the size of the ad you wish to place. **Proceeds benefit the Rotary Club of Pensacola Foundation.**

To pay your quarterly Rotary Club dues with a credit card/debit card go to <http://www.pensacolarotaryclub.org/payment>. Please note a service charge will be applied to your payment.

2024-2025 Club Officers

•President	Henry Roberts
•Past President	Charles Beall
•President Elect	Allison Hill
•Secretary	Randall Richardson
•Treasurer	Lori Nesmith
•Communications Officer	Betty Roberts

Bulletin Information

Web Site: Pensacolarotaryclub.org
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Phone: 850-434-0684

Clubs Available for Makeup

Five Flags	Pensacola Bay Center	Mon.	12:00 pm
Gulf Breeze	Legends at Andrews Institute	Tues.	7:00 am
Milton	The Hangar Restaurant	Tues.	12:00 pm
Seville	Seville Quarter	Tues.	5:15 pm
	meets every other Tuesday		
Cantonment	St. Luke's United Methodist Church	Wed.	12:15 pm
Perdido	The Point Church	Wed.	7:30 am
Pace	Stonebrook Village Country Club	Thur.	7:00 am
Cordova	Gulf Coast Kid's House	Thur.	7:00 am
Suburban West	Pensacola Yacht Club	Thur.	12:00 pm
Navarre	Broussard's Cajun Restaurant	Fri.	12:00 pm
Pensacola North	Hancock Bank, Creighton Rd.	Fri.	12:00 pm

District Governor

Mike Tatem
<http://www.rotary6940.org>

Assistant District Governor

Cliff Schornak

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthdays for the week of
April 8 thru April 14

Chris Kelly – April 8 – born in Landstuhl, Germany, in Rotary 15 years, Paul Harris Fellow +4

Barry Cole – April 8 – born in Jackson, MS, in Rotary 17 years

Cedric Durre – April 10 – born in Pensacola, FL, in Rotary 9 years

Charles Thornton – April 11 – born in Dothan, AL in Rotary 5 year, Paul Harris Fellow

Clif Payne – April 12 – born in Pensacola, FL, in Rotary 32 years, Paul Harris Fellow +1

Ed Wonders – April 13 – born in Newton, KS, in Rotary 22 years, Paul Harris Fellow +1

Henry Roberts – April 14 – born in Selma, AL, in Rotary 18 years, Paul Harris Fellow +2

Greeters and Ticket Sales

April 8

Greeters: Margaret Stopp and Stephania Streit
Ticket Sales: Charles Thornton and John Tice

April 15

Greeters: Lynne Tobin and Paul Tobin
Ticket Sales: John Trawick and Hill Turner

Prayer/Pledge And Sunshine

April 8

Prayer/Pledge: Craig Hindsman Sunshine: Christina Doss

April 15

Prayer/Pledge: Art Hufford Sunshine: Benny Jeansonne

Program Schedule

April

8 - Thomas "Shep" Coggin - Port of Pensacola
15 - Kim Wilson - Habitat for Humanity
22 - Rick Outzen - Inweekly
29 - Capt. Sterling Gilliam - National Naval Museum

Meeting Schedule

April

8 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Yacht Club and MicroSoft Teams
15 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Yacht Club and MicroSoft Teams
1:00 Board of Directors Meeting
22 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Yacht Club and MicroSoft Teams
29 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Yacht Club and MicroSoft Teams