

the HELICOPTER



The Rotary Club of Pensacola District 6940 Club 4248

WEEK IN REVIEW 5/13/2025

With the promise of summer in the air, Rotarians gathered at PYC for a little fellowship and nourishment. Manning the raffle bowl were ex-President Charles Beall and Bobby Bear. President Henry kicked off our day and invited Charles, fresh from managing the raffle, to lead us all in the P&P (Prayer and Pledge to our Republic). A special treat followed as Leslie Mickle then motivated everyone with a spirited rendition of "America the Beautiful."

The Club welcomed eight special guests: hosted in Pensacola for the week by the local Gulf Coast Diplomacy Council. They were invited to introduce themselves and share where they were from.

President Henry then called Susan O'Connor to the podium for an attempt at some "Sunshine," but more importantly, she skillfully recognized our visitors as well as the birthday boys and girls.

Randall announced the 15 Community Grants selectees, who will each receive \$2,000 toward their operations. Congratulations to all!

President Elect Allison Hill encouraged members to please submit ideas and speaker names for next year's programs, noting that more ideas are always welcome.

The raffle pot rolls over once again, as Innes Richards only drew a 5 card, much to the happiness of those holding non-winning tickets.

The Program: Olivia introduced the Commanding Officer of NAS

Pensacola, Captain Chandra "Mamasan" Newman, USN. "Mamasan," her call sign for those familiar with Topgun, assumed command in November 2024. Directly responsible for 126 tenant commands, she considers herself a local, having graduated from Troy State University. Captain Newman expressed immense pride in NAS Pensacola and its training mission, highlighting that 60% of the Navy's Force Generation personnel, often referred to as "warfighters," pass through Pensacola. Impressively, 20,000 active duty students, both officers and enlisted, are trained annually, contributing a \$4 billion annual economic impact to the Pensacola area. NAS Pensacola will celebrate its 200th anniversary, coinciding with the Navy's 250th anniversary. Notably, NAS Pensacola is one of only four bases nationwide with both a port and an airport. It also serves as the "on-call" landside recovery base for all SpaceX flights landing in the Gulf of Mexico. Her goals include fostering a stronger "sense of community" to encourage active duty personnel to engage off base and make a difference. Additionally, she aims to ramp up STEM development by hosting schools for a special hands-on experience during the November Airshow on base. Finally, Captain Newman acknowledged that base access remains an ongoing issue and assured the club that she is actively working with her superiors to find a permanent solution.

President Henry adjourned the meeting after acknowledging Martha Saunders and her announcement of her resignation as the President of UWF.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ROTARY

TODAY, TUESDAY, May 20, we will meet at Pensacola Yacht Club.

Please note the change of venue for the May 27th meeting. PYC will not be available and we will be meeting at Morris L. Eaddy Activity Center at Lifeview, 1110 West Lakeview Ave.

RSVP now for the Change of Command Installation Banquet. This year our banquet will take place on Tuesday, June 17th at Heritage Hall located at 130 E. Government Street. Doors open at 5:30, and the program starts at 6:15.

It is time to submit your nominations for the 2025 Grover III and Sandra Robinson Award. These awards were first presented in June 2000 to recognize an outstanding Rotarian from our Club and a community leader who exemplify "Service Above Self". Both Grover and Sandra Robinson exhibited the highest examples of this service to Rotary and concomitant community concern and action. Please honor their memory and legacy with your nomination. June 8th will be the last day to except nominations.

Welcome New Member Carmen Cuneo. Carmen is a native of Northbrook, IL. She is an MBA graduate from the University of Central Arkansas. She is a CPA. Carmen is a third generation Rotarian with over 20 years of service, coming here from the Rotary Club of Houston International. She has served as Club Treasurer, Foundation Chair, Youth Exchange Chair and most recently District Governor 2018-19. Her sponsor is President Henry Roberts.

Welcome New Member John Clancy. John is a native of Pensacola. He is a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy receiving his BS in Foreign Affairs and a graduate of the University of West Florida where he received his MBA. He is VP/Wealth Advisor for Regions Bank. His sponsor is President Henry Roberts.

Welcome New Member Soyna Nash. Sonya is a native of Fort Payne, AL. She is a graduate from the University of Alabama in Huntsville where she studied Management Information Systems. Sonya is an administrator for the Panhandle Anesthesiology Associates. Her sponsor is Madison Currin.

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 cbidwell@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
E-Mail: cbbridwell@pensacolarotaryclub.org
Chris Bridwell, Executive Secretary
13 Palafox Place, Suite 200
P.O. Box 528 • Pensacola, FL 32591-0528
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

Meeting Schedule

May

- 20 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Yacht Club and MicroSoft Teams
1:00 Board of Directors Meeting
27 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Morris L. Eaddy Activity Center at Lifeview and MicroSoft Teams

June

- 3 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Yacht Club and MicroSoft Teams
10 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Yacht Club and MicroSoft Teams
1:00 Board of Directors Meeting
17 - Change of Command Banquet at Heritage Hall at Seville Quarters
24 - Noon Regular Weekly Meeting at Pensacola Yacht Club and MicroSoft Teams

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthdays for the week of
May 20 thru May 26

Casey Capps – May 20 - born in Houston, TX in Rotary less than one year

Donn Scott – May 23 – born in Brewton, AL, in Rotary 29 years, Paul Harris Fellow

Art Hufford – May 23 – born in Pensacola, FL, in Rotary 24 years, Paul Harris Fellow +1

Asher Kelly – May 23 – born in Pensacola, FL, in Rotary one year, Paul Harris Fellow

Greeters and Ticket Sales

May 20

Greeters: Dennis Barnes

Ticket Sales: Laura Piovesana and George Biggs

May 27

Greeters: Steve Black and Alexis Bolin

Ticket Sales: Ted Brown and Meredith Bush

Prayer/Pledge And Sunshine

May 20

Prayer/Pledge: Olevia McNally

Sunshine: Leslie Mickles

May 27

Prayer/Pledge: Bruce Partington

Sunshine: Rob Overton

Program Schedule

May

- 20 - David Hoffenberg, Chief Operating Officer - HCA - West Florida
27 - David Brinkley, WUWF

June

- 3 - Sue Straughn, WEAR-TV
10 - Ed Wonders, RYLA
17 - Change of Command
24 - Jerry Maygarden, Rotary International Foundation Orientation