



Royal Palm Beach Rotary Club Newsletter

May 5, 2016

Contribute to the newsletter! Committee news, club news, member news, and photographs are welcome. Please send submissions to Taiye Sangoyomi (taiye@yahoo.com)

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Rotary International President Speaks—May 2016

Some years ago, in the Kano plains of Kenya, a well-meaning development agency took on the task of improving water availability to a rural community. Committees were formed, meetings were held, and the local people were consulted. The main need



K R Ravindran
President, Rotary International

the community identified was improved delivery of water for irrigation and livestock. A plan to meet this need was created, and the work was soon begun, exactly as the community representatives had requested.

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Josh the Otter Water Safety & Awareness Project

The Royal Palm Beach Rotary Club will be embarking on this noble project in the month of

May. The goal is to educate children with a fun and simple message:



TO STAY AWAY FROM WATER UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

“Josh the Baby Otter” was created to help children comprehend and remember this important message. Ultimately, we want children to imbibe a

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Future Speakers/Program

Date	Speaker
5-May-16	Roland Amateis, RPB Rotary Club member
12-May-2016	Fred Pinto, Mayor of Royal Palm Beach
19-May-2016	Sille Walbech, exchange student from Denmark
26-May-2016	Club Business Meeting

Recap from April 28, 2016 meeting by Bruce Elkind

1. Looking for Host Families for our incoming exchange student...need not be Rotarians
2. Looking forward to a RYLA candidate speaking to the club about their experiences at RYLA
3. Foundation giving should exceed \$6000 before year's end
4. Crystal Apple Award to be awarded to the teacher on May 4th at Crestwood Middle School
5. Josh the Otter arriving May 12,13,18,23,24
6. Upcoming District Assembly, Conference and Installation Banquet
7. Scholarship Committee...no applications yet...but as this newsletter goes to press...we have 9 applications!!!
8. Possibly Installing Interact Board at our Installation Banquet???
9. Pay your DUES...Delinquent or not

Josh the Otter Water Safety & Awareness Project (continued from page 1)

water safety behavior that will be passed on from generation to generation. We will be visiting seven elementary schools in Royal Palm Beach to distribute the Josh the Otter book, and capture their attention by wearing the costume. We believe our efforts in this program has, and will continue to save countless children's lives.

The schedule for these visits are as follows:

Date	Time	School
May-12-2016	8:30 AM	Cypress Trails Elementary
May-13-2016	9:45 AM	Royal Palm Beach Elementary
May-18-2016	8:15 AM	HI Johnson Elementary
May-20-2016	8:30 AM	Loxahatchee Groves Elementary
May-23-2016	8:30 AM	Golden Grove Elementary
May-24-2016	9:00 AM	Benoist Farms Elementary
May-27-2016	8:30 AM	Western Academy Elementary

Factoid:

Drowning is the second leading cause of death in children ages 1-14 in the United States.

May Birthdays and Anniversaries



Member Birthdays:

- Roy Siegel
- Scott Armand
- Scott Snyder

Partner Birthdays:

- Elizabeth Stockonski- Dan Splain's wife
- Rich Ivancic- Diane Smith's husband

Member Anniversaries:

- John Spillane - 25 years
- Marcia Berwick - 5 years
- Roy Siegel - 1 year
- Shelley Siegel - 1 year
- Jean Morris - 1 year
- Lynn Balch - 26 years
- Randall Dugal- 26 years
- Anthony Endler - 26 years
- Bruce Elkind - 26 years
- Joan Scherer - 26 years

Weddings Anniversaries:

- Michael and Claudia Fehribach - 16 years
- John and Linda Spillane - 47 years



Rotary International President Speaks—April 2016 (continued from page 1)

Yet once construction began, it was met by immediate protest from groups of community women, who came to the site and physically blocked workers from building diversion channels.

Upon further investigation, the agency realized that the water it was diverting for farming came from the only source, for dozens of families, of water for cooking, drinking, and washing. The entire project had to be scrapped. Clearly, this was far from the case. The women knew the needs of the

community, and its resources, far better – but their opinion was never sought.

Why? Because it had never occurred to a single member of the all-male team in charge to consult the local women. At every stage, it was assumed that the men knew the needs, spoke for the community, and were able to represent it.

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We have had women in Rotary for only the last quarter of our history, and it is no coincidence that those years have been by far our most productive. In 1995, only 1 in 20 Rotarians were women; today, that number has risen to 1 in 5. It is progress, but it is not enough. It is only common sense that if we want to represent our communities, we must reflect our communities, and if we want to serve our communities fully, we must be sure that our communities are fully represented in Rotary.

Rotary’s policy on gender equality is absolutely clear. Yet nearly one-fifth of our clubs still refuse to admit women, usually by claiming that they simply cannot find women who are qualified for membership. I would say that any Rotarian who makes this argument, or believes it, himself lacks the two most basic qualifications for Rotary membership: honesty and good sense.

A club that shuts out women shuts out much more than half the talent, half the ability, and half the connections it should have. It closes out the perspectives that are essential to serving families and communities effectively. It damages not only its own service but our entire organization, by reinforcing the stereotypes that limit us the most. It leads our partners to take us less seriously, and it makes all of Rotary less attractive to potential members, especially the young people who are so crucial to our future.

To tolerate discrimination against women is to doom our organization to irrelevance. We cannot pretend that we still live in Paul Harris’ time, nor would he ever want us to. For, as he said, “The story of Rotary will have to be written again and again.” Let us see to it that the story we write in Rotary is one of which he would be proud.

Royal Palm Beach Rotary Club Leaders

President	Elkind, Bruce Lee
President-Elect & Program Chair	Logan, Steven Mark
Vice President	Jordano, Keith
Secretary	Scherer, Joan
Sergeant-at-Arms	Sangoyomi, Taiye
Club RI Foundation Chair	Bhandary, Sharada Ram

Membership Chair	Snyder, Scott Bernard
Club Service Co-Chair	Balch, Lynn
Club Service Chair	Fehribach, Michael
Webmaster	Tomchin, Ronald E.
Youth Services Chair	Hmara, Jeff
iPast President	Smith, Diane

Meeting Information

Location:

Wild West Diner, 12041 Southern Blvd., Loxahatchee, FL 33470

Date & Time:

Thursdays, 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

Contact Information

Joan Scherer

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