



January 2012

Rotary International District 6960 Rotarian Review



Dear District 6960 Rotarians,
Hopefully your New Year has started with peace and new opportunities to serve, and looking forward to the "wrap up" of Rotary Year 2011-12. I am so very proud of this group of dedicated Rotarians that each and every day "step up to the plate" to deliver for those in need in so many ways.

During the month of January, we accomplished some great projects with dramatic results to our respective communities. In this letter we will cover the following topics:

- >Mid-Year Meeting: a brief outline of the topics we covered.
- >Honor Flight (the Governor's project)
- >District Conference Cruise "Cruisin' to Embrace Humanity"

Also, reaching out for information from the "field"

MID-YEAR MEETINGS

Attendees: Assistant Governors, and their respective Presidents
Breakout of District Clubs: Broken into Regions (geographically) (4)

Venue of Meetings: Set up by AG's working together (in contact with their Presidents)

- Topics:
- 1) TRF Goals
 - 2) Club's Fund Raising Activities
 - 3) Community Service Projects
 - 4) Governor's Project – Honor Flight
 - 5) Club Issues/Items to Address
 - 6) Going Forward

Some of these meeting were evening meetings, while we did have a morning meeting for Areas 4, 5, and 6 (for the convenience of the attendees to meet their schedules).

The meetings were productive in that we shared ideas (see the above list of Topics). Everyone came prepared to share their Club's experiences. Some asked for feedback on some of their Club's issues. One of the positive outcomes of meeting like this is not only the sharing of information, but the opportunity meet/share with those in like Rotary positions.

A huge thank you for all of you that participated in such a quality way. The District is better for individuals like you working together.

The HONOR FLIGHT District Project is really "taking wings." We have already received 100+ applications from over 100 veterans. Of course,



we cannot take that many; however, we are still taking applications because between now and June, we will lose more of these aging heroes. However, if you are aware of a WWII Veteran who was a POW or a Rotarian member of one of our Clubs, we will be able to accommodate him/her. For those Veterans who will exceed our carrier list, we will send their names to Southwest Honor Flight to be placed on a future flight.

It appears that our flight will be 50 Veterans and 50 Guardians. We are still short a few guardians, but are receiving applications daily. The cost of the flight to the Guardian is \$500 (total expenses) (of, course the Veterans are being covered by Rotarians in District 6960 and some other generous friends of Rotary). We are approaching the Veteran financial needs (50 @ \$500 per Veteran = \$25,000). The Governor's goal at the beginning of the year was to receive a contribution from each Club of \$500 minimum.

If the funds keep coming in, we may be able to send more heroes.

If your Club has not seen the 25 minute video, please let me know and we can make that happen as a program for one of your Club meetings.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE UPDATE

Our Conference Cruise, "Cruisin To Embrace Humanity" is filling up fast. We currently have approximately 250 reservations and number of contracted cabins at the published brochure rate are almost gone. If you want to join in the fun on this Rotary Cruise, call Steve Briggs at VIP Travel, 941-377-0017 and check out the availability and style of staterooms available. (Of course, if the brochure rate is not available, you can still join in the fun).



Many surprises and prizes will be available on the Cruise. BUT WE ARE ASKING FOR YOUR HELP --- The committee is putting together "Goodie Bags" with "significant" take-aways – this includes such things containing your company's logo as key chains, pens, writing

pads, tape measures, card holders, small calculators, tooth brushes/holders, etc. You get the idea ---PLEASE ! NO PAPER COUPONS OR ADVERTISING (we have found these end up in the trash and only cost your company money that will not be recognized.) WE NEED 250 OF EACH ITEM FOR EACH "GOODIE BAG".

IF YOU CAN PROVIDE ANY ITEMS THAT FALL WITHIN THE ABOVE GUIDELINES, PLEASE CONTACT JERRY HEARN, AT 941-907-8013 OR AT HEARN11011@AOL.COM

CLUB'S FUND RAISERS:

What is the fund raiser activity? What is your target audience? Do you have a financial objective? How the funds are dispensed? We found that this was a very interesting and stimulating part of our Mid-Year Meetings. Please share with us your experience with fund raisers.

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION: We will be sending (under a separate email) status of our District's position on our 2011-12 Goals.

POLIO PLUS: An update of our District status and an overview of the Rotary World will follow in a prmail to the District in a couple of weeks.

Please note: We will be sending out via p-mail specific details of the status of our Honor Flight Program and the District Conference Cruise via p-mail. We want to bring to you the most recent information and some of the next steps to make these two events a success.

Looking to the future, March, April, May and June will prove to be an extremely busy time of our Rotary year.

- March 1-3, 2012 PETS
- March 31, 2012 DISTRICT ASSEMBLY
- April 12 – 16, 2012 DISTRICT CONFERENCE CRUISE
- May 6 – 9, 2012 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
- June, 2012 ROTARY DISTRICT HONOR FLIGHT

We have many opportunities for fellowship, building goodwill, and sharing with others what Rotarians do best –GIVING BACK! And District 6960 does it among the very best.

Thank you for your service,
YIR,

Denise Hearn
District 6960 Governor 2011-2012

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Starting as the brainchild of one Rotarian with the support of his Rotary club in year 2000 – ShelterBox has grown to become the largest Rotary Club project in the 100 year history of the organization.

Rotarian support currently contributes an estimated 50% of ShelterBox donations. Around 5,000 rotary clubs worldwide have supported ShelterBox since it was launched.

Recognizing this worldwide support from the Rotary community, ShelterBox was designated as a Global Rotary Club Project in 2009. Logos with this designation will now appear on all ShelterBoxes, tents, blankets and ancillary materials.

Rotary supporting ShelterBox Rotarians underpin many of the essential activities of ShelterBox including:

- * Donations - vital to funding ShelterBox disaster relief efforts
- * Support in promoting the work of ShelterBox by speaking to clubs, schools & community groups
- * Volunteering in all fields from packing boxes, to administrative support and fundraising assistance
- * Participation in volunteer ShelterBox Response Teams (SRTs) deployed to disasters worldwide to deliver aid
- * Extensive support to SRTs arriving in disaster affected countries. Help often encompasses customs clearance, logistics, transport, accommodation and essential local knowledge and connections



* Staff, management and leadership of the organisation as employees or volunteer trustees and directors

ShelterBox supporting Rotary The Rotary International Strategic Plan encourages all Rotarians to:

- * Advance the recognition and public image of RI and Rotary
- * Expand membership globally in both numbers and quality
- * Increase Rotary's capacity to provide service

ShelterBox is ideally placed to support the above with regular events, news, stories and imagery of Rotary and Rotarians engaged in 'Service above Self'. Many Rotary clubs have reported that club support activities for ShelterBox have been very successful in attracting strong interest in Rotary and increased membership.

Request a ShelterBox Presentation for your Club

ShelterBox USA is fortunate to have many volunteers across the

USA who visit Rotary clubs and other civic meetings to give presentations about ShelterBox. Request a speaker today by emailing emailing

amonroe@shelterboxusa.org.

Every year, hundreds of thousands of families across the world lose everything when disasters strike. Through no fault of their own and often with no warning, families lose their homes, their possessions and their livelihoods. Every day they are faced with a battle for survival and our mission is to help them.

ShelterBox is the premier international aid organization that provides emergency shelter and life-saving equipment following disasters such as earthquake, volcano, flood, hurricane, cyclone, tsunami or conflict.

More than 11 years ago, ShelterBox founder, Tom Henderson asked himself what his family would need to survive if they lost their home. His question became a quest to provide a compact, universal tool kit to families displaced by disasters. ShelterBox would afford dignity, self-sufficiency and most importantly, human survival in the chaotic weeks following an earthquake, tsunami, landslide, flood or other disaster.

The top priority of many aid organizations is to provide food, water and medical care to help people survive the immediate aftermath of a disaster. Without protection from the elements, survivors are at a higher risk as they await nourishment or medical attention. We recognized that little or no assis-

tance was given in terms of proper shelter to help them through the first few days, weeks and months as they tried to rebuild their lives. In response, ShelterBox developed a solution to help disaster survivors during the critical period following a disaster but preceding reconstruction.

Each box supplies an extended family with a tent and life-saving equipment to use while they are displaced or homeless.

The contents are tailored depending on the nature and location of the disaster, with great care taken sourcing every item to ensure it is robust enough to be of lasting value.

The donation amount to sponsor each box is \$1,000, which includes delivery direct to those who need it. Each box bears its own unique number so as a donor, you can track your box all the way to its recipient country via the web site.

Highly trained ShelterBox Response Teams distribute boxes on the ground, working closely with local organizations, international aid agencies and a global network of volunteers.

Since its inception in 2000, ShelterBox has firmly established itself at the forefront of international disaster relief, providing emergency shelter for people who need it most following more than 150 disasters in over 70 countries.

We rely on public donations and could not operate without the generosity of people the world over. Our supporters constantly go the extra mile to help make a difference to the lives of families who survive disasters. We have had fundraisers climb Mount Kilimanjaro, row the Atlantic, cross India in a Tuk Tuk and even cycle 10,000 miles on a tandem.





Public Relations & Rotary

NEWS, HOT OFF THE PRESSES....

The District Nominating Committee met in the Port Charlotte area to select our next DGND (for Rotary Year 2014-2015).

The Role of District Governor is a challenging position, but probably, especially for District 6960, one of the most rewarding and memorable experience.

ANNOUNCING DISTRICT GOVERNOR FOR ROTARY YEAR 2014-15: PETE DORAGH, Real Estate Law, Charter Member RC of Fort Myers South, Graduate of RLI. Pete (and his wife Cindi) have been involved in the District Youth Exchange program for many years.

I know we wish Pete much success in his journey toward his year as OUR DISTRICT GOVERNOR, 2014-2015.

Drop him a line of congratulations, knowing he has our support,

Yours in Rotary Service,
Denise A. Hearn

The Theme for Rotary Year 2012-13 is PEACE THROUGH SERVICE. Our RI President-elect, Sakuji Tanaka, has selected this theme because it describes the "highest form of service". "It is a path that anyone can walk -- a path that Rotarians have built, and that the whole world can follow. . . . When we can embrace Peace Through Service, we strive for a greater peace for ourselves, and for our world."

Going onto the Rotary website www.Rotary.org will provide you with much more information regarding not only the theme, but what is going on in San Diego for our DGE's this week at their International Assembly.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Steve Schlueter, DGE
District 6960
Email: steve@affprod.com
HPhone: 941-746-7517



Did you know that Rotary founder Paul Harris wasn't the first president of a Rotary club?

That distinction is actually held by Harris's friend Silvester Schiele, who served as the first president of the Rotary Club of Chicago. Harris deferred his club leadership duties until February 1907, when he was elected the third president of the Chicago club.

In honor of Rotary Awareness Month in January, here's a collection of facts and firsts to expand your knowledge of Rotary. Get the new year off to a good start by sharing a few of these at your next club meeting:
Club firsts

On 23 February 1905, Paul P. Harris, Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele, and Hiram E. Shorey gathered in Chicago for what would become known as the first Rotary club meeting. A second club was formed in San Francisco in 1908, and soon after, clubs began to pop up across North America.

It's that time again! Yes! Time to make your New Year's Resolutions! Be sure to include our District 6960's last Rotary Leadership Institute session of the 2011-12 Rotary Year. It will be on Saturday, February 25, 2012, at the Charlotte Cultural Center. The cost is still only \$95.00, which includes breakfast, lunch and course materials. All Sessions, I, II & III will be offered. Most clubs will pay for your attending. Please access Registration and payment information, at www.rlitraining.org. I will be happy to help you, if you have any questions.

Please contact me at any of the numbers & addresses shown below.

Yours in Rotary Service
Above Self,

F. Gerald "Jerry" Zwiers
District 6960 RLI Promotions Chair
PO Box 1600
Venice, FL 34284-1600
jmz13@comcast.net
(C) 941-468-1178
(H) 941-474-1681

PODS
3rd Annual

Englewood



In conjunction with
The Rotary Club of Englewood



A Gray Matter Enterprises Production

Music Festival

I-75 Exit 191 - South River Road - Englewood, Florida 34223

EnglewoodMusicFestival.com

Friday March 9th, & Saturday March 10th, 2012

**Paul Morris Park
1401 South River Road
Englewood, Florida 34223**



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Glenn Leonard
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"Hitsville Live I"

Non-Stop Live Music for two days featuring **Glenn Leonard**
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INAUGURAL

NAPLES CRAFT BEER FEST

BAYFRONT - NAPLES, FL

MARCH 10, 2012

12pm-4pm • \$50 per person

☆☆ For more information & to purchase tickets go to www.naplesnorthrotary.com ☆☆

*"Sample over 60 craft
beers along with food
paired from your favorite
local restaurants!"*



PRESENTED BY THE NAPLES NORTH ROTARY CLUB FOUNDATION

*Venice Interact Club
"Trains a Student, Trans-
forms a Village"*

The Venice Interact Club has taken on the challenge to combat chronic child malnutrition in Guatemala.

To achieve its goal, Interact students plan to alleviate hunger by supporting a scholarship in sustainable agriculture. In the remote indigenous villages in Guatemala, little opportunity exists to gain an education past 6th grade. First, the scholarship will put a Mayan student in an accelerated program, enabling him to complete three years of schooling in just two. A diploma opens doors to university studies, professional training, or management of a small business. Second, the scholarship, by providing specialized training in sustainable food production, will benefit hundreds of indigenous children with nutritious food, thus stemming the severe malnutrition in the region.



Jane Mendola, Lead Interact Advisor and Rotarian of the Venice/Nokomis Rotary Club, says, "By training one student, our Interact Club is clearly helping to combat malnutrition of Guatemalan children. The country suffers from the worst level of chronic child malnutrition in Latin America and the fourth highest level in the world. Chronic malnutrition limits physical growth with the result that children's bodies are stunted and highly vulnerable to disease and illness. It causes irreversible brain damage—leaving them unable to function well in school or in later life".

Center of Education is required to share his/her training in how to produce "super foods" (for instance, vegetables with the highest nutritional values). From "growing" soil (using green composting methods)—to using special planting techniques, to harvesting seeds for the next year's crops—parents can change the health of their children for the better.

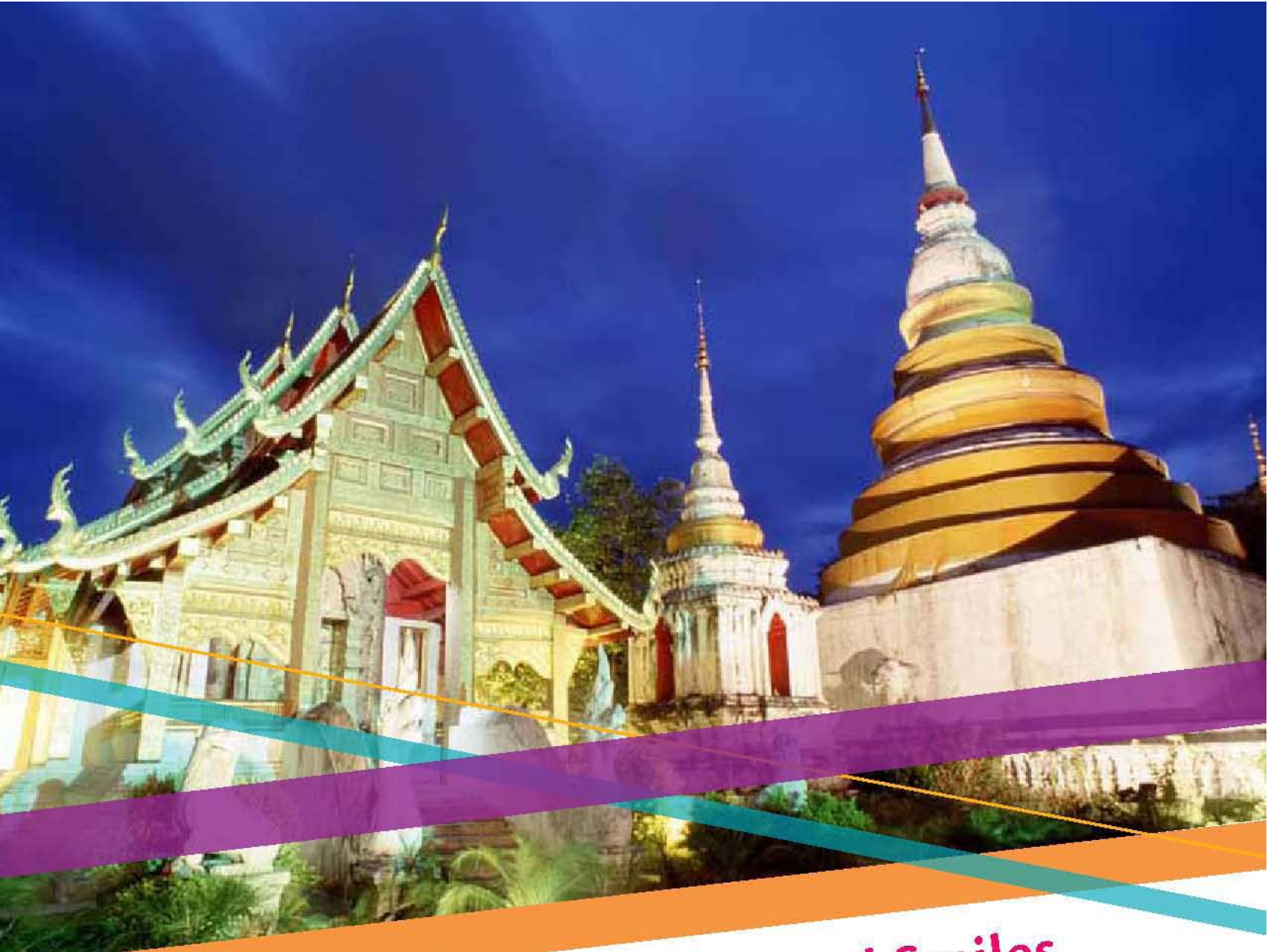
The motto "Train a student, transform a village," is being marched out to the Venice and Nokomis communities where Interactors are selling hundreds of hand crafted Guatemalan key chains to raise funds. Their one-of-a-kind international project just hit its midway funding mark last month, thanks to the enthusiastic participation of club members. Their final goal, raise \$2,000 for the annual scholar-

ship.

Mendola says, "our Venice Interact Club is not just helping one student, it is helping entire villages—they are doing something vitally important that is improving the lives of many. The Interact Club has really taken this project to heart and our facilitators at Rotary and Faculty Advisor at the Venice high school are very proud of them."

The program "Train a student, transform a village" is run by Rotarian Frances Dixon of the Palmetto Rotary Club. For more information, see the Adopt-a-Village in Guatemala website at adoptavillage.com or contact her directly at guatvillage@aol.com. To contact Jane Mendola, call 941-441-8555 or write to jrmendola@aol.com





The Land of a Thousand Smiles



Bangkok
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL THAILAND
CONVENTION 6-9 MAY 2012



In Honor of our Veterans.
HONOR FLIGHT Network is our way of paying a small tribute to those who gave so much—a memorable, safe, and rewarding TOUR of HONOR!!!

MISSION STATEMENT:

Transport America's veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit those memorials dedicated to honor their service and sacrifices.

GOAL:

Helping every single veteran in America, willing and able of getting on a plane or a bus, visit THEIR memorial.

PRIORITY:

Top priority is given to America's most senior heroes — survivors of World War II and any veteran with a terminal illness who wishes to visit THEIR memorial. The program will naturally transition to Korean War, Vietnam War and all other veterans who served, on a chronological basis.

ELIGIBILITY:

All men and women serving stateside or overseas.

PHILOSOPHY:

Since America felt it was important to build a memorial to the service and the ultimate sacrifice of her veterans, the Honor Flight Network believes it's equally important that they actually get to visit and experience THEIR memorial.

MOTTO:

"We can't all be heroes. Some of us have to stand on the curb and clap as they go by." - Will Rogers

ROTARY DISTRICT 6960 EVENTS

February - World Understanding Month

Wed Feb 08, 12 06:30P Charlotte Harbor Charity Quiz Challenge
Laisley Crab House, Punta Gorda

Sat Feb 11, 12 08:00A Pre-PETS Training AM / Area Leadership Training PM
(click to view a list of registrants) (Pre-PETS (9:00 - 12:00) 12:15 - 1:00 lunch Area Leadership
Training (1:00 - 3:30) Saturday, February 11, 2011 Cultural Center of Port Charlotte
2280 Aaron Street, Port Charlotte Registration: \$25.00

Sat Feb 18, 12 07:30A Rotary District 6950 Rotary Leadership Institute - D6950
Rotary Leadership Institute
Central Florida College
Lecanto Highway
Lecanto, FL (Citrus County)
Parts 1,2, and 3 to be offered. to register, go to www.rlitraining.org Registration deadline: February
8, 2012 One of your last chances to attend RLI before PETS! Questions?: Call district chair, Brenda
at 352-249-7302

Sat Feb 18, 12 11:00A Rotary District 6950 8th ANNUAL ROTARY GOES TO THE
DOGS FOR S4TL - Join us at DERBY LANE, GANDY BOULEVARD, ST. PETERSBURG
for the 8th annual Rotary Goes to the Dogs!... a fundraiser for Seminar for Tomorrow's Leaders
(S4TL), a week long training seminar for high school students to help them prepare to be the leaders
of their school in their senior year and beyond.THERE IS NO COST TO ATTEND....
FREE ADMITTANCE, FREE FOOD and FREE DRINK and all the FREE FUN you can handle!

Sat Feb 25, 12 07:30A Rotary Leadership Institute - D6960
The Cultural Center of Charlotte County 2280 Aaron Street Port Charlotte, FL 33952
Parts 1,2, and 3 to be offered. to register, go to www.rlitraining.org
Registration deadline: February 15, 2012 One of your last chances to attend RLI before PETS!
Questions?: Call district chair, Tim at 941-748-337

Sat Feb 25, 12 08:00A Charlotte Harbo
Area 7 Rotary Table at Punta Gorda Farmers Mkt Downtown Punta Gorda on Taylor and Olympia

Register now for 2012 RI Convention in Bangkok, Thailand for an unforget-
table experience in the Land of a Thousand Smiles! To attend the convention
and experience the fellowship of Rotary at an international level...

Register online now at <http://www.rotary.org>.



Sat Feb 25, 12 06:00P Anna Maria Island
Rotary Club of AMI Annual Casino Night ... Viva Las Vegas! St Bernard Catholic Church
248 South Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach, FL (941) 778-4769 ?

March - Literacy Month

Thu Mar 01, 12 thru Sat Mar 03, 12 03:37P RI Zone 34
Rotary Florida PETS 2012

March 1-3, 2012 Buena Vista Palace in Orlando, across from Disney Village

YOU MUST MAKE YOUR OWN ROOM RESERVATION WITH THE HOTEL

https://reservations.ihotelier.com/crs/g_reservation.cfm?groupID=455410&hotelID=6579

This link will take you directly to the group reservation for PETS and will enable the rates which have been negotiated. These rates will only be honored for reservations booked on or before February 1, 2012.

Fri Mar 9, and Sat Mar 10, 212 Englewood Music Festival
- 1401 South River Road Englewood, FL 34223

Live music on 2 stages featuring Glenn Leonard former lead singer of The Temptations on Saturday.
See www.EnglewoodMusicFestival.com for details and tickets

Sat Mar 10, 12 05:50P Bonita Springs Reverse Raffle

Sat Mar 10, 12 06:00P Venice Sunrise Rotary
Venice Community Center, Venice Florida

Wed Mar 14, 12 06:30P Charlotte Harbor Charity Quiz Challenge Lashley Crab
House, Punta Gorda

Sat Mar 24, 12 07:30A Rotary District 6990 Rotary Leadership Institute - Parts 1, 2, and 3
in Weston, FL American Intercontinental University 2250 N Commerce Pkwy Weston, FL
33326 "Having leadership skills does not alone assure good Rotary leadership. An effective Rotary
leader must ALSO have Rotary knowledge, perspective about where Rotary has been, where it is
now going, and a vision of what Rotary can be."

Sat Mar 24, 12 08:00A Charlotte Harbor
Area 7 Rotary Table at Punta Gorda Farmers Mkt Downtown Punta Gorda on Taylor and
Olympia

Sat Mar 31, 12 06:00A Bonita Springs
Gift of Life 5 K Depot Park/Riverside Park, Bonita Springs

Sat Mar 31, 12 07:30A Rotary District 6930
Rotary Leadership Institute Parts 1, 2, and 3 in Stuart, FL
8am-4pm breakfast and lunch included Course I, II, III at a cost of \$95 provided
Deadline March 20th