



SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Dates to Remember

July 9-12. DISTRICT 6960 CONFERENCE in Punta Gorda.

July 22. Board Planning Meeting. Nancy Johnson will facilitate a planning meeting for the upcoming year for officers and team leaders from 4-6 PM at the TEAM office in Punta Gorda.

July 30. Ribbon cutting by the Punta Gorda Chamber for Rotarian Doug Joyce's [Joyce Vein & Aesthetic Institute](#), 25092 Olympia Ave, Punta Gorda. Time 5:30 PM.

August 17. Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI), Parts I, II, and III. Woodland Middle School, 2700 Panacea Blvd, North Port. Fee of \$100 will be reimbursed by the Club.

August 27. Wine and Tapas Social from 5-8 PM at the **Unwined Wine Bar**, 320 Sullivan Street, Punta Gorda. Sign up and pay ahead at a lunch meeting. Estimated cost is \$25+ pp. Space is limited.

September 5. Club Noon Lunch Meeting at **FM Don's**, 201 West Marion, Punta Gorda. Sign up and pay ahead. Estimated cost is \$20 pp. Space is limited.

October 19. Save the Date for RLI, Parts I, II, and III, plus Graduate courses. Woodland Middle School, 2700 Panacea Blvd, North Port.

Thank you to Rotary Club sponsors













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Club Meeting Place & Time

Punta Gorda
Meets at ISLES YACHT CLUB, 1780 W Marion Ave, Punta Gorda, FL 33950
Time: Thursday at 12:00 PM

Club Officers

-  **Alyson Burch**
Treasurer - Assistant
-  **Stephen J. Goettler**
Treasurer - Assistant
-  **James C. Williams**
President
-  **Peter R. Wilkins**
Secretary
iPast
President
-  **Theresa Brackett**
Bulletin
Editor
Public Relations
Chair
-  **Nancy A. Johnson**
Training
Officer
-  **Alicia Christine Oates**
Public Relations
Chair
Webmaster
-  **Joey M. Alonso**
Sergeant-at-Arms
-  **Darcy Hanley**
Community Service
Chair
Membership
Chair
-  **Charles F. Marlowe**
Treasurer
Club Learning
Facilitator
Rotary
Foundation
Chair
-  **Andrea Anens**
Club Service
Chair
-  **Richard D. Sell**
Club Programs

Save the Date! Healing Field of Honor



Save the date for Punta Gorda Rotary's annual Healing Field of Honor, Veterans Day Weekend, November 10-12, at Laisley Park. To help work on this great fundraising project, contact Alicia Oates, aoates@cityofpuntagordafl.com.

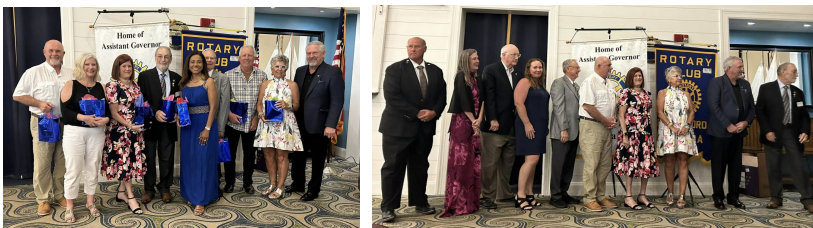


Change of Watch for Club Leadership

On June 29, the club held its Change of Watch dinner at the Isles Yacht Club. District Governor Alfred Current officiated the induction of the new officers and board members, as the baton was passed from outgoing president Peter Wilkins to incoming president James Williams.



Honored guests included Governor Alfred, his wife Karen, and District Governor Nominee Dennis Wallace and his wife, Katie Wallace, who is also the 2024-25 Assistant District Governor for Area Six. Chuck Marlowe, outgoing Area Six ADG, passed (literally) his flag of office to Katie.



Navigating DACdb

DACdb is the Membership Database software designed by Rotarians for Rotary Organizations -- Clubs, Districts, Zones, Rotaract, Rotary Action Groups (RAGS) Fellowships, RYLA, RLI, and more. Every member of Punta Gorda Rotary should log in and learn to navigate at least the basics: finding club members, getting phone numbers and email addresses, checking the club calendar and the district calendar for events and activities, etc.



Alicia Oates, our club webmaster, has created a simple instructional video on the basics of logging in and navigating DACdb. Find it on YouTube at the Rotary Club of Punta Gorda Channel. Or click: <https://youtu.be/DRNQNX2NOHM>.

Foundation Grants Activity

In January, our Punta Gorda Rotary Charity and Education Foundation gave a grant to the Punta Gorda Garden Club to help create a butterfly garden at the new public library on Shreve Street. Work is moving along with Rotary Club and Garden Club members providing labor. Pictured here is Chuck Marlowe pulling weeds and roots from the garden space. If you would like to volunteer to help on this project, please contact Elain LaWell at elainel111@comcast.net.





During the last quarter of Rotary Year 2023-24, the Foundation made several additional grants, and the recipients of the grants will be receiving their grants at club meetings in July.


July 11: **Cathy's Place**, \$1,000 for a 5k Remembrance Walk
TEAM Punta Gorda, \$1,000 for maintenance of the Punta Gorda Community Garden
Gulf Eagle Division of the US Navy Sea Cadets, \$1,000 for the program's scholarship fund
Peace River Wildlife Center, \$1,000 for youth programs
Peace River Botanical Gardens, \$1,000 for youth education


July 18: **Hope Crossroads Academy**, \$2,000 for the program's educational fund
Punta Gorda Historical Society, \$2,000 for youth education
YMCA of Southwest Florida, \$2,000 for their low-income youth scholarship fund


Programs Chair

 **Chrisanna K Wright**
Club Service Chair

 **Arnie Eastburn**
International Service Chair

 **Ed Davis**
Vocational Service Chair

 **Paul F. Blaine**
Youth Services Chair

 **Charles D. Marsee**
Youth Services Project Chair

Events

- July 11th
Punta Gorda Weekly Club Meeting
Speaker: Darcy Hanley
Subject: Punta Gorda Rotary Foundation Annual Report
- July 16th
Punta Gorda Club Public Image Meeting
- July 18th
Punta Gorda Weekly Club Meeting
Speaker: Pat Courtney-Strong
Subject: Introduction of Ukraine Global Grant Project
- July 23rd
Punta Gorda Club Public Image Meeting
- July 24th
Punta Gorda Rotary Foundation Board Meeting

- July 25th
Punta Gorda Weekly Club Meeting
Speaker: Ashley Duckett, Duckett Insurance
Subject: Hurricane/Flood Preparedness insurance issues

- July 30th
Punta Gorda Club Public Image Meeting

- August 1st
Punta Gorda Weekly Club Meeting
Speaker: Lisa Bramlage
Subject: Kaden's Cause (Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood)

- August 6th
Punta Gorda Club Public Image Meeting

- August 8th
Punta Gorda Weekly Club Meeting
Speaker: Rotarian Joey Alonso
Subject: US Naval Sea Cadets Program

- August 13th
Punta Gorda Club Public Image Meeting

- August 14th
Punta Gorda Rotary Club Board Meeting

- August 15th
Punta Gorda Weekly Club Meeting
Speaker: Paul Blaine

TMCA of Southwest Florida, \$2,000 for their low-income youth scholarship fund

July 25: **Gulfshore Sailing (aka, Learn to Sail)**, \$500 for the youth sailing program
Punta Gorda Fire Department, \$500 for fire safety education

Grant proposals for the first quarter of 2024-25 will be accepted during August and September.

Subject: Introduction Inbound & Outbound Rotary Exchange Students

August 20th
Punta Gorda Club Public Image Meeting

August 20th
Punta Gorda Rotary New Member Orientation
Speaker: Darcy Hanley

Subject: New Member Orientation

August 22nd
Punta Gorda Weekly Club Meeting
Speaker: Pamela Smith, Punta Gorda Chief of Police

Subject: Updates on community law enforcement

August 27th
Punta Gorda Club Public Image Meeting

August 27th
Punta Gorda Rotary Club Social

August 28th
Punta Gorda Rotary Foundation Board Meeting

September 3rd
Punta Gorda Club Public Image Meeting

September 11th
Punta Gorda Rotary Club Board Meeting

September 16th
Punta Gorda Service Project

Speaker: International Coastal Clean-up Day

September 17th
Punta Gorda Rotary Public Image Meeting
Speaker: Public Image Team meeting

September 19th
Punta Gorda Weekly Club Meeting

Speaker: Joshua Montgomery, D.I.S. Tech Services

Subject: Cybersecurity

September 25th
Punta Gorda Rotary Foundation Board Meeting

September 26th
Punta Gorda Weekly Club Meeting

Club Speaker Highlights

We always have great speakers at our club lunch meetings, and recently Tammy Garringer, Operations Manager at the Peace River Wildlife Center, brought Luna, the screech owl, as the PRWC ambassador, pictured below with Public Image Team leader Theresa Brackett and Tammy. PRWC is getting ready to break ground on its new wildlife center, near the Punta Gorda Public Library.



Punta Gorda Rotary is the proud sponsor of the Songbird Sanctuary at the new site, and we have long been supporters of this sterling community nonprofit. The environment is Rotary's latest "seven areas of focus," and PRWC certainly fits in here. We'll be looking forward to the new center, and Rotarians stand ready to help.

New Member Spotlight

As Punta Gorda Rotary enters the new 2024-2025 year, we welcome new member Judy Jankowski, who transferred in from the Venice-Nokomis Club and is the new development director for the Peace River Wildlife Center. We also welcome Barbara Boncompte, a Charlotte County real estate broker, and John Lang, who has transferred to us from Kerrville, Texas. John has a background in finance and manufacturing.



Judy Jankowski Barbara Boncompte (center) John Lang (left)

District Assembly/Leadership in Fort Myers

Incoming club leaders learned about their roles, developed leadership skills, and set goals for the 2024-25 Rotary Year. This was an opportunity to build a sense of community and collaboration among the clubs in our District 6960. The Assembly began with a business meeting, a highlight of which was the introduction of a legacy campaign and gala to be held in 2024. Joe Porkorney reported on the district's Disaster Relief Committee, Sharon Carter on addressing mental health in our communities, and Alfred Current gave a brief preview of the District Conference to be held on July 12-13 at the Charlotte Event and Conference Center in Punta Gorda.



Two breakout sessions followed, and participants chose from sessions on Membership, Global Grants & the Share Committee, Public Image, Treasurer's Training, District Grants & the Annual Fund, and Youth Services. A special PET's make-up session was held, which our incoming president, James, attended.

Recent Youth Scholarships and RYLA

High School Scholarship Recipients:

Braddock Marshall. This young man has served over 400 hours of community service. He is 20th in his graduating class of 441 with a 3.8 GPA; weighted 4.3.

Kaylee Zieglbauer. In addition to volunteering at a local animal shelter and library, this young lady is also a member of Key Club. With a GPA of 3.8, weighted at 4.4, she is 25th in her graduating class of 82 at Florida Southwestern Collegiate College.

Isaac Schaeffer. In addition to playing football and wrestling all of his four high school years at Charlotte High School, this young man completed his academic achievements at 3.4; weighted 3.9 GPA. He also managed to work three jobs, notably completing small jobs in his grandmother's neighborhood of the elder generation.

RYLA - Rotary Youth Leadership Academy

Each year, thousands of young people take part in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program worldwide. Young people are chosen for their leadership potential to attend an all-expenses-paid camp to discuss leadership skills and to learn those skills through practice. Rotary clubs and districts select participants and facilitate the event's curriculum.

RYLA aims to:

- Provide effective training experience for selected young people and potential leaders;
- Encourage leadership of youth by youth;
- Encourage young people to make a difference in their communities through volunteer work and social responsibility; and
- Demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth.

We listened to a snapshot of each of these recipients' experience at the leadership camp. They are certainly destined to be leaders of our future.

**Sam Thomas Emily Salley Chloe Below
Rian Twoggod Jorg Molina**

Club Social - Pizza Party

On April 22nd, we held a social event at Brooklyn Joe's Pizza for some 50 club members and their families.



Andrea Ciccone and Chrisanna Wright, our new Club Service team leaders, are working on more socials, beginning this summer with a wine tasting and tapas at Punta Gorda's Unwined Wine Bar in August. Be sure to sign up for the wine social at a club meeting.

