

## September 11, 2022 Imaginarian

The World is watching as the United Kingdom pays tribute to the life of Queen Elizabeth II. We were privy to a seven-decade reign, not likely to be repeated in our lifetimes. Did you know that the Royal Family has a very recent connection to Rotary? In recognition of King Charles III's "longstanding focus on nature-based solutions to address the climate crisis", Rotary presented him with its highest honor, The Rotary Award of Honour, on June 24 of this year. In a private ceremony in Rwanda, RI 2021-2022 President Shekhar Mehta bestowed the award, expressing appreciation and noted "Rotary's shared commitment to protecting the environment". Indeed, we are part of a global network of People of Action!

Here is a sampling of UPCOMING EVENTS from across District 6890 in which you may want to participate! Opportunities for fellowship and service abound!

October 8: Tampa Carrollwood Rotary with Ronnie Setser's Customs and the Carrollwood Park Conservancy presents the first Carrollwood Rotary Car and Truck Show! The Show will take place in Carrollwood Village Park from 10 am to 4 pm and will include the world's largest jukebox, food trucks, raffles, giveaways, and games for children. The cost to register a car is \$20, and there is a recommended \$5 donation per person to attend. Donations will benefit the Club and the Carrollwood Park Conservancy. Contact Jack Crutchfield, Club Secretary, for more information: jack@crutchfields.net

October 14: The Ybor Club is holding The Bourbon Ball at Grand Cathedral Cigars from 7 to 10 pm! Enjoy bourbon tastings, food, friends & cigars! These Rotarians are raising funds for Think Big for Kids, a local non-profit. You can find more information on DACdb Calendar and purchase tickets there, too.

October 21: The Lakeland Rotary Club is hosting its 5th Annual Golf Championship that will take place on at the beautiful Club at Eaglebrooke, with a shotgun start at 1 pm. Proceeds will provide support for the Know and Grow Initiative for Polk County Public Schools. The Club has partnered with three Title 1 elementary schools in its community to help bridge the technology gap and improve literacy rates. Visit www.lakelandrotarygolf.com to see sponsorship opportunities and to register your team!

October 22: Tampa Midtown Rotary is holding its 11th Annual Cycling For Autism event! on the beautiful Courtney Campbell Causeway Trail, with the start and end points at Whiskey Joes. Registration, lunch, and activities will take place on their beach. Rides will be 36, 18, 12, and 6 miles. Rider registration fee of \$50.00 and includes pre-race snack, water, shirt, buffet lunch, raffle ticket and complimentary parking with shuttle service. Beneficiaries of this year's event are the Center for Autism & Related Disabilities, Applied Behavior Analysis master's and PhD programs, and the Tampa Midtown Rotary Foundation.

Whew! In the next weeks, the Imaginarians will feature any special events and programs highlighting World Polio Day, which is October 24th, and Veterans Day, November 11th. Let your Assistant Governor know what you have planned by your Club so we can spread the news!

And looking beyond October, keep these dates in mind (information to follow):

- November 15: District Rotary Foundation Gala, Lakeland
- November 24: The New Tampa Club's 10th Annual Wiregrass Turkey Trot
- February 3: Four Lakeland-area Clubs are hosting the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K Run for Common Ground
- March 27: District 6890 Imagination Cruise!

And, thinking about the collective service we do, I am reminded of a "work" quote by Mahatma Gandhi: "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." What a delightful way to grow and learn – a value that we certainly share.

Make it a good week!

On behalf of your District  
Leadership Team  
We are yours in Rotary  
Service

*Debbie Meegan*  
District Governor  
2022-2023

