

“A show of hands”, she said. “How many in this room have or had a family member or relative affected by Alzheimers?” Maybe, to our surprise, maybe not, about half the room raised their hands. Sad truth. And the numbers will grow exponentially and at least double by 2050. It is considered the Silver Tsunami of the 21st century. These facts, and so much more, were shared with us by Randy Nilsson, the District CART chair. So, what is CART? C.A.R.T. stands for Coins for Alzheimers Research Trust, and is a rotary affiliated non-profit that raises money to supply grant funds for cutting edge research to find a way to control or cure this devastating and deathly disease. Founded by Roger Ackerman of the Sumter, South Carolina Rotary Club in 1995, this unique non-profit operates totally through volunteers and 100% of the donations go toward the research grants. Roger developed the idea of raising funds by collecting the spare change that everyone carried with them in their pockets or purse. He hoped they would be inspired to drop their change into a blue bucket. Change that they would never miss. Change that would have an impact on our future. And here we are, almost 20 years later, still asking for coins to help us beat this disease. CART has already funded: the successful diagnostic procedure using MRI and PIB in vivo that is now adopted worldwide; an in vivo eye test diagnostic technique that is effective and inexpensive; the development of ways to administer medication passing through the blood brain barrier; and the identification of a human gene mutation LR11 which may be a cause that can be manipulated. All good clues and all bring a better understanding of what the disease does, as well as possible approaches to treatment. Progress, yes. Solution, no. The race is on, and we all need to help them get us to the finish line! (cartfund.org – all donations appreciated). Do we hear your Coins dropping????

#### Other News:

\*Vote for our Lamp Post – [bit.ly/lightupliberty](http://bit.ly/lightupliberty) – pole #6 – Deadline Dec 8. Or use QR code on the post.

\*Christmas Party – Saturday Dec 14 @ 5:30, Old Courthouse, deadline to RSVP Dec 8.

\*Feed Citrus – Dec 18 @7am, Citrus County Fairgrounds

\*Board Meeting – Dec 19@12 noon, 1st Presbyterian Church

\*Help the Homeless – Dec 21@ 8am – Lake Hernando Park

50/50- \$35.50 to Paul P.

Happy/sad - \$134