

# Rotary Club of Cocoa Beach

District 6930 • July 2025

SERVICE ABOVE SELF — One profits most who serves best



## Highlights from the Rotary International Conference in Calgary:

Kimberly, Guy, and Ellen attended the 2025 Rotary International (RI) Convention in Calgary, Canada, held from June 21-25, along with 15,000 Rotarians from 140 countries. The convention included inspiring general sessions with thousands in attendance, small group talks on service projects, and a House of Friendship with hundreds of booths displaying Rotary's humanitarian projects, partner organizations, and fellowship opportunities. We connected with the Ak'Tenamit school in Guatemala, joined

Rotary Action Groups, and got a lot of great ideas for new service projects, including working with schools to reduce food waste, a lithium-ion battery recycling event, a "purple pinky" project to raise funds for polio eradication, and tree-planting projects. Attending a Rotary convention allows one to see the big picture and makes one proud to be part of it. The 2026 convention is in Taipei, Taiwan from June 13-17.

**Plastic Free July:** The Environment is one of the Rotary Areas of Focus highlighted at the Calgary Conference. The "Plastic Free July" project teaches us that we can reuse items instead of taking things that will be used once and thrown away. Many of these items cannot be recycled and take 20-300 years to break down in the environment. Can

"Everything you can imagine is real." — Pablo Picasso

## CLUB RAFFLE RESULTS

*Still no Raffles this time.*

## Recent Club Highlights:

you start a new habit that creates less plastic waste? Please consider saying "no thank you" to straws, plastic bags, plastic cutlery, cups and water bottles. Carrying reusable cups, water bottles, cutlery, shopping bags and leftover containers are healthy habits that produce fewer microplastics and promote healthy living.

### A Big Thank you to the Pig and Whistle!

Mick Graham was kind enough to make our club the beneficiary of their "Giving Tuesday" event on July 1. 14 of our members and their friends showed up throughout the day, and we did a great job of spreading the word. As a result, we will receive a check for \$3,500 that we will use towards our scholarships for Cocoa Beach High School students. Please thank Mick whenever you can with a high five or by enjoying a delicious breakfast, lunch or dinner at his restaurant.

### Save the Date!

July 11 Cocoa Beach Centennial Volunteer Opportunities- see email  
July 30 Chamber Rubber Duck Regatta, Beachside Hotel 5:30-7:30  
August 7 Happy Hour at Destination Downtown Food Hall in Cocoa Beach, 5:00-7:00  
RLI Rotary Leadership Institute: August 9 at Parrish Institute in Titusville and October 11 at Port St. Lucie  
Off-site lunch meeting October 6 (Azteca closed)

### Rotary Anniversaries

Leonard, L. George  
5 years

Lauren Loftis  
5 years

### Wedding Anniversaries

Ron Usher to Melissa  
11 years

## Happy Birthday

|                |      |
|----------------|------|
| Lauren Loftis  | 7/27 |
| Liz Norwood    | 7/29 |
| James Szczybor | 7/31 |

### Recent and Upcoming Speakers:

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 7/2  | Ellen Cruse passes the torch to Jeremy Grubb  |
| 7/9  | Carmen Baez and Lance Parker, Space Coast Area Transit (321Transit)   |
| 7/16 | Cocoa Beach Chief of Police, Wes Mullins, Admin Rachel Tate, Executive Assistant to the Chief of Police               |
| 7/23 | Tim Bobanic, Supervisor of Elections, Brevard County  |
| 7/30 | Stephanie A. Parsons, Esq, Alimony and equitable distribution and things you can do to protect yourself in a marriage |