

# The Times

of Seminole County South Rotary Club



Founded 1969

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## TODAY'S MESSAGE

### President's Column



The new rotary year has literally started off with a bang...or boom I should say. By all estimations, Red Hot and Boom appears to have been an enormous success. I want to thank each and every one of you who contributed your time and effort this past weekend. Additionally, we all need to thank The Rotary Club of Altamonte Springs for allowing our Club the opportunity to participate in such an event. Last Friday, several Rotarians came together to enjoy great fellowship and a fireworks display that was second to none. As the public began to flow into the venue, a rain soaked **Jay Basinger** employed his auctioneering skills to

*("President's Message" cont. on pg. 3)*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

December 5 - The Holiday Hundred

April 18 - RAP 2010!

**Next Week's Program:**  
**A Gift for Teaching**  
**Jane Thompson**

## TODAY'S PROGRAM

**Metroplan Orlando**  
Cynthia Lambert

## WHO'S WHO

Greeter: **Barry Gainer**  
Invocation: **Jay Basinger**  
Guests: **Carl Riechers**  
Happy Dollars: **Mike Martone**

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*It's not whether you get knocked down. It's whether you get up again.*

*Vince Lombardi*

## HUMOR AND WIT

off the mark.com by Mark Parisi



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*Editor:* Paul Sills  
Phone 407-629-1688  
Fax 407-629-9192  
Email: psills@cflrr.com  
Deadline - Wed. noon

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 160306  
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web site:  
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*Our club meets every Friday at 7:30 a.m. - Rolling Hills Country Club*

## THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS



**Sam Weiss - 7/12**  
**Jerry Barrett - 7/13**  
**Bill Miller - 7/14**

## HAPPY DOLLARS

**Lori Martone** collected last week's happy dollars, starting things off with \$2 for each of the two things learned by her niece during her latest visit (swimming and a new joke about Tigger). **Errol** expressed thanks to **Joe Williams** for his work last Rotary year and shared a **WSJ** quote related to the housing crash and the requirements for down payments. He also expressed his opinion on an article in the Sentinel about declining property values. **Carl Riechers** had \$2 for his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and for a home inspection seminar that he recently attended which discussed about the Chinese drywall problem. **Dudley Bates** added one for Joe Williams and for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. **Bill Fahey** claimed to have never told a joke, but shared one anyway about a pretend home invasion in Sweetwater. **Frank Cashin** explained that Bill still hasn't told a joke. He also added the quick quip, "War is hell but today is its reward." **Dede** spoke about her recent Roman holiday, along with a trip to the Greek isles. **Russ** celebrated his 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a happy dollar. **Bob Levy** had one for "a great bio" (his own!) and spoke about his positive experience at the new restaurant which replaced Gina's on the Water. **Chris Sorensen** told us about his daughter Ashley's new drive to detail cars to raise money for a trip to Denmark and thanked the members who have already contacted her for their support. **Carole** mentioned a new exhibit at the UCF Library featuring nature photography (see article pg. 4) and added a "pleading" dollar to support keeping the Seminole County Library System staffed and run by County employees. **Rege** had one for Joe Williams and for his trip to see his grandson in Raleigh. **Mike Lane** was happy that, after 9 weeks in Arnold Palmer Hospital, his niece gave birth to THREE girls. **Jay Basinger** contributed for his wonderful vacation in Bithlow. Joe Williams spoke about his time spend in Washington D.C. and thanked everyone for their compliments on last Rotary year. He also commented that the Holiday Hundred looks promising, mentioned his impending birthday and told us all to "enjoy a 5<sup>th</sup> on the 4<sup>th</sup>." **Ed Bookbinder** gave one "just because he has a dollar." **Jim DeKleva** put in \$5 for Joe and wished everyone a happy July 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Wayne Bennett (contributed by Carole Hinshaw)

Wayne Bennett's nature photography depicts wildlife, ethereal landscapes and vibrant floral images from several countries, including the U.S. Bennett is a past president of the Orlando Camera Club. He is accomplished in his craft and, in fact, one of his images was in a submission, sponsored by Natures Best Magazine, that won the Windland Smith Rice Award as the best camera club portfolio. The portfolio was featured at the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of Natural History from November 2008 - May 2009. Wayne is a dentist who has been a professional photographer for the past 15 years. An exhibit featuring his work is on display through July 31 on the main (2nd) floor of the UCF Library. The Library is open to the public and the UCF community seven days a week, excepting major and university holidays. For more information, please call 407-823-5340 or e-mail [chinshaw@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:chinshaw@mail.ucf.edu)

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## LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Last week, **John Davies** greeted us at the door and **Chris Sorensen** performed our invocation, starting out with a very interesting history of the Declaration of Independence signers. Chris also stood in for **Dennis Sobik** (claiming to be a better cook and promising not to tell any inappropriate jokes) and introduced our guests and visiting Rotarians. His guest question was a good one, "What was your most memorable 4<sup>th</sup> of July?" One answer included celebrating the bicentennial in Washington D.C., along with spending time with friends and family. **Errol Greene** started us off with a song, citing a WSJ article which claimed that "song" came to the human race before speech. Last week's meeting was the first of the new Rotary year and President **Jim** noted our new '09-'10 Rotary theme, "The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands." He harkened back to our Club's fund-raising project when he joined, the Rotary Bowl, and noted that RAP now defines our Club. However we are examining two new fund-raising ideas which will be run in addition to our RAP efforts. The first involved a "Wekiva Promise" program, modeled after the Lake City Rotary club's "Ichetucknee Promise", to promote protection of the Wekiva River basin. The second is being analyzed by a committee comprised of **Mike Martone**, **Brian Carroll**, **Lori Martone** and **Neil Solomon** (see article pg. 4). Following our presentation from Mike, we were happy to hear **Bob Levy's** "bio" (see article pg. 4). Following the "bio", Jim DeKleva gave a brief history of Rotary and the Paul Harris Fellowship, before awarding **Charlie Berg** his second, recognizing his work on behalf of the Club for the Rotary Foundation. He also called attention to the work **Carol Hawkins** is doing to get the Club involved in an international project. **Bill Stack**, as part of his new duties as Club Secretary, replaced **Shannon McCutcheon** and **Jay Basinger's** "newbie" red pins with their official replacement. Jay was excited enough, despite professing to prefer the red one, that he gave a hug and kiss to an unsuspecting Bill Stack. Bill confirmed that Jay needed a shave. Bill also spoke about our planned participation in Red, Hot and Boom. Jim DeKleva slipped in a quick joke about being "2-tents" and **Frank Casillo** spoke about the need to house some foreign exchange students for at least a portion of the school year. Our esteemed Past President "Joe Wilson" told us that extra Installation Banquet programs are available for those who may like one and **Karen Almond** gave us an update on RAP 2010, including some fantastic promotion in Lake Mary Lifestyle magazine (full page ad and article!). **Paul Crouch** took the small drawing at the end of the meeting, with the larger one having grown to \$446.00.

## "President's Message" (cont. from pg. 1)

market our product. Soon thereafter, we were taking orders, collecting money and dispensing beer at high rate of proficiency. A few of us took time to sample the product and determined that the Rotary Club of Seminole County South may be a small drinking club with a big community service problem. All kidding aside, at the end of the day many of us were exhausted, but everybody had a smile on their face having shared a truly fun experience and knowing that we raised good money to be placed back into the community. The success of our Club is due to the fact that we have enthusiastic members. Whether it is through community, international or club service, we always seem to have people ready to step up. No matter what we do, or how we choose to contribute, we will continue to enjoy the pride of knowing one another in our association.

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## Bob Levy

**Bob** grew up on Long Island and received his college degree in accounting, with a minor in electrical engineering. He was drafted as a medic but ended up spending time stateside treating burned and paralyzed veterans. Honeywell hired Bob for his engineering credentials but he left the company to open a direct mail firm. Bob also was proprietor of a video store chain (5 stores), including an adult title section (the rental list will be kept secret), with most adult titles being rented by women! After selling the video stores, he departed on an 8 week, 12,000 mile odyssey with his family. Upon returning, he set up a variety of businesses, including a business brokerage, a complimentary real estate brokerage, and a business valuation company. In 1995 he purchased a coating business which led to his introduction to **Carl Lueck** in 1997. Carl partnered with Bob in the coating business and subsequently retired. He is 37 years married to his wife, Lynn, who is a teacher at Teague. One member brought up Bob's negative experience owning a pillow factory which was wiped out following September 11<sup>th</sup>. Bob is also the proud father of an accomplished daughter and son. He claims to be still deciding what to do when he grows up, but he's certain that he won't do shirts for our Club again.

## Holiday Hundred

Last week, we heard from **Mike Martone** on a new, proposed fund-raiser for our Club. The goal of this fund-raiser will be to enhance awareness of Rotary and, of course, raising funds but focusing on funds from outside the Club. The idea is for a fitness based event; the Holiday Hundred, a cycling tour to be held December 5, 2009. Of course, there will be many volunteer responsibilities for getting this event moving, probably requiring help beyond our members (some 200 people may be needed on the day of the event), but it promises to be a highly visible project which is sustainable, benefiting not only the charitable bottom line but also fellowship and new member recruitment. The tour will be composed of three available lengths, 100 mile, 62 mile and 25 mile and will be family friendly. The event will generate funds to purchase 300 bicycles for needy children. Already, several companies have expressed an interest in sponsoring the event. Based upon the success other Rotary clubs have had with this tour format, it is a proven, profitable event (the idea was even featured recently in a *Rotarian Magazine* article). **Brian Carroll** spoke about charging an entry fee of \$30, typical for such an event, and generating funds from corporate sponsorships and a bike raffle. A similar event to benefit M.S. recently had 2,500 registered participants. No similar event is planned for early December and many cyclists are seeking a 100 mile ride in this time frame. Brian noted that he and Mike have participated in over 40 similar events and, as a result, could draw on a multitude of resources to help facilitate the event. He also explained that events such as these grow exponentially, with one event doubling in size by year three. Promotion of such an event is easy through enthusiast publications. The idea seemed very well received, with **Bill Fahey** inquiring as to the use of tricycles. **Avron** asked about the plan for distributing the bikes, and **Dede** chimed in that she might be able to lend a hand through the school system. **Karen** asked about the need to be an avid cyclist to participate. While there will surely be such a crew participating, it will be open to all skill levels. **Bob Levy** shared his negative experience riding in a bike tour (getting lost, wife broke wrist, etc.). **Dede** asked if we would continue to support the Boys & Girls Club bike ride, the answer being, certainly. **Bill Miller** had questions on liability (waivers are typical of such an event and we learned coverage is available through Rotary International from **Fred Poole**) and solicited comments from some of our older contingent, receiving positive responses. Chuck asked about the process of planning the route and **John Costello** raised a question about the format.

  
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LINDA D. SCHOONOVER  
Attorney at Law  
1301 S. International Parkway  
Suite 1041 Lake Mary, FL 32746  
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Fax (407) 771-2001  
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