



San-Captions

District 6960 Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club Organized 1979
* Chartered March 18, 1980

www.sanibelrotary.org

SANIBEL-CAPTIVA ROTARY CLUB

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DISTRICT #6960
GOVERNOR 2013-2014

Tim Milligan
"Make a World of Difference"

SAN-CAP ROTARY CLUB 2013-14 PRESIDENT SCOT CONGRESS



SERVICE ABOVE SELF VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ...GET INVOLVED!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH...BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS EVENT

As mentioned at last Friday's meeting, the Heights Foundation is having a Thanksgiving Outreach event ("Bountiful Blessings") on Sunday November 24. The event is designed to help those less fortunate have a full meal for Thanksgiving. The hall will be set up as a marketplace, with specific products set up in specific stations throughout the hall. The families will then walk around to the various stations picking items they want/have been allocated for their meal.

We can help the Heights meet its goal in two ways . . .
1) Volunteering. We think it would be a good idea for the Club to commit to a certain number of volunteers (8 - 10 - 12, whatever we can get) for two hour shifts, and, 2) Donations. If you are not able to volunteer, then the next best thing is making a small donation . . . \$10

worth of canned goods (green beans, corn, cranberries, etc.). Volunteers are great, but they also need to be able to have enough food on hand to provide for the families.

The Sanibel Captiva Club has a long and rich history with the Heights and we thought it would be a good idea to show our continued support to them by volunteering. The Heights hopes to help over 400 families have a Thanksgiving meal, and we want to help them succeed!

Please give this some thought between now and Friday. We will bring this up again at Friday's meeting. We want to be able to give the Heights a firm number by the end of the week.

Will it be beneficial to all concerned . . . you betcha!!
Chet Sadler. TRF Chair-



SPEAKER CORNER:

Welcome Today 11/15
Bob Kramm, Sundial Beach Resort GM

- 11/22 Charlie Emerson - You and Your Family's Thyroid Condition.
- 11/28 Heights Foundation Thanksgiving meal - volunteers wanted to serve and help clean up. - Chet
- 11/29 Dark
- 12/6 SWFL Museum of National History
- 12/13 Cecil Pendergrass
- 12/20 Bob Cacicoppo (Artistic Director of Florida Rep)
- 12/27 Dan Budd, Haiti Water Project

DECEMBER -- recruiters
Bill Rahe and Chris de Costa

Let's see how fast we can fill-up those blue buckets gracing your breakfast table. Change collected in these buckets will go to the District for research on Alzheimers.



Club Song

Giver of all things good, We Thank you for this food, With one accord Lead us we humbly pray, Onward in Rotary's way
Of service day by day, Most Gracious Lord
(Tune of My Country Tis of Thee)

SPEAKER NOTES:

Alligator Hunting, oh my! Justin McBride our speaker last week had been at our podium just a few months ago talking about his day job, project manager with the Lee County Division of Natural Resources Marine Program. He was a great speaker on this past visit talking about an essential county program that oversees the safety and well-being of our recreational activities on our Islands surrounding waters and beaches. This program has a myriad of responsibilities from channel marker positioning to derelict abandoned boat removal. But what does that have to do with alligator hunting, nothing! Alligator hunting is Justin's recreational hobby and he just slightly mentioned this when he was here in August. Before long, he was recruited to come back and present a program for us on alligator hunting.

Justin told us "since 1988, Florida's statewide alligator harvest has been nationally and internationally recognized as a model program for the sustainable use of a natural resource. Each year, alligator management units are established with appropriate harvest quotas to provide recreational opportunities for Floridians and non-residents who are at least 18 years old to take up to 2 alligators per permit. Applicants who are awarded a permit must submit payment for two CITES tags and Alligator Trapping License, or provide proof of possession of an Alligator Trapping License valid through the end of the alligator harvest season. A Florida hunting license is not required to participate in the statewide alligator hunt. Justin has been alligator hunting for fifteen years".

Alligator hunting season in Florida runs from mid-April till November 1 from 5pm to 10am. Notice the hours for hunting are during the evening, through the night, and early morning. I think mostly done from the semi-safety of an airboat. Justin's area of choice for alligator hunting is Lake Istokpoga near Sebring, Florida.

You can hunt with harpoons, bow and arrows, spear guns, and crossbows. Justin uses a harpoon fitted with a point, which is driven into the alligator upon release. The point has a cable attached to it and then attached to a rope and buoy. Now the squeamish part, when the alligator is brought to the side of the boat a bangstick is used. A bangstick is pretty much what it sounds like, a gun powdered loaded stick that is thrust into the gator just behind his skull and centered on the neck. There is a little more to this but you have enough of the details. Hunters usually take the alligators to a processor to remove the meat. They say the white meat tastes like chicken. Really hunting alligators is pretty much equal to



hunting deer. Rules are in place to protect the species and over-population is controlled by restricted hunting. Justin brought along with him a beautiful tanned alligator hide. It was incredible but after hearing how the gators were hunted, I'm glad that real alligator hide products are not in fashion.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR: DECEMBER 13, 2013

HOLIDAY PARTY
PLACE...COMMUNITY HOUSE, SANIBEL
TIME...6 TO 9 PM
GUEST \$50 MEMBERS NO CHARGE
Alex Werner & John Danner

Fundraising Events - **JOIN** the planning committee for Gift of Life Fundraiser - **Thursday, January 26th** at Harlem Heights Community Center, Fort Myers...
World Famous Classical Pianist, Francesco Attesti in Concert. - Chet Sadler

ON THE RIVER

They're back. Our amazing snowbirds have arrived and with them a high-octane increase in activity on the Island. In the last few weeks our club attendance has almost doubled in size and the morning introductions and club business activities have taken up more than the usual time, cutting into our speaker time. This will quiet down a little but there's a lot to catch up on for



everyone, so our apologies to last week's speaker, Mark "Bird" Westhall. Bird has been on the Island for over thirty years (in fact, he was our Mayor for a year) and with every passing year he becomes more enchanted with our surrounding unique environment and determined to protect it through educating the general public. The way he has chosen to do this is by running a series of canoe adventures on Island and exposing the hidden bountiful beauty of our natural surroundings. Bird cut back

his talk a little because of time restraints and just focused on the formation of the Sanibel River. As he does with his guided canoe tours of the area, he begins by setting his personal canoe as sort of a compass rose for the expeditions and explains the locations of the components contributing to the formation of the Sanibel River. Sanibel is one of the only barrier islands in the world that has interior surface freshwater wetlands. Island wetlands cover 1,200 acres and drain into the Sanibel River. But sorry folks, the Sanibel River is not really a river. It is slough, or low area between ridges on the Gulf of Mexico and Pine Island Sound. Originally, the slough was fed by water collected on a series of low-lying swales and ridges where water collected after extended periods of rain with only a couple of run out exits, one being Kinzie Island on the east end of the Sanibel. Two of the main ridges are the mid-island ridge and Gulf beach ridge. Bird told us that when Francis Bailey used to talk about being at the old Bailey homestead on the San Carlos Bay and being able to see the Gulf of Mexico, that absolutely was the truth...the low-lying slough existed between the Bay and Gulf and at times would flood but the locals only took that in stride. The mosquito population was bountiful and the over the years, the slough was dredged for mosquito control and to provide fill for development; channels were connected to create the "river" which now holds water all year...water levels are controlled by weirs at Tarpon Bay and Beach Road. As you paddle and glide down the Sanibel River's interior fresh water habitat and through its mangrove canopies Bird relates information about this very special environment and will help you identify the many species of birds and wildlife in the river and on its shores. This is the quiet nature of Sanibel and a morning or afternoon spent with Bird will give you respect and appreciation for this very special part of Sanibel. For a guided tour contact, Canoe Adventures with Mark "Bird" Westhall at bwestall678@msn.com or 239 472-5218. Rotarian Roger Olsen has taken this canoe trip and highly recommends it.



Current Club President, Scot Congress and Past Club President, John Grey Present Wheelchair Certificates last week to: Warner Byrum, Clair Beckman, Dick Waterhouse, Jim LaVelle, & Lee Schaft,

PP. JOHN GREY RECOGNIZED DICK WATERHOUSE LAST WEEK FOR OUTSTANDING DEDICATED SERVICE DURING THE 2013 ROTARY ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR BY PRESENTING HIM WITH A PAUL HARRIS AWARD.



Dick Waterhouse - PAUL HARRIS plus 4

ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR SILENT ACTION ITEMS NEEDED...LETTERS HAVE GONE OUT TO LAST YEAR'S DONORS BUT WE NEED HELP SOLICITING NEW DONATIONS...SEE ROGER TRIFTSHAUSER

