

San-Captions

Board of Director Officers:

President: Charlie Emerson
 President Elect: Holli Martin
 Vice President: John Danner
 Secretary: Chet Sadler
 Treasurer: Jack Alexander
 Sergeant-at-Arms: Don Russell

Board Directors:

Eldon Bohrofen 2017
 Cindy DeCosta 2017
 Dorrie Hipschman 2018
 Angela Larson 2019
 Trent Peake 2018
 Rodger Triftshauer 2019
 Immediate PP...Chris DeCosta

Trust Fund Board

Lee Almas 2017
 Dan Cohn 2018
 John Carney 2019
 John Grey 2017
 Scott Congress-Treasurer 2018
 Bill Rahe - President 2019
 Imed. PP...Chris DeCosta – Sec.

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

Get all our club news on these

Social Media Platforms view or join us on:

Web-site: www.sanibelrotary.org
 FACEBOOK: Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club
 Twitter: [#sancaprotary](https://twitter.com/sancaprotary)

FRIDAY MORNING SPEAKER SERIES 2017:

FEBRUARY Coordinators: Ed Wheeler and Roger Triftshauer

- 3 John Boland: Lee County Director of Economic Development
- 10 Community Blueprint/Mission United
- 17 Arts and Crafts Fair Setup Breakfast at Community House
- 24 Club Assembly

MARCH Coordinators EJ Neafsey and John Danner

- 3 Rabbi Jim Rudin: The Civil War
- 10 Maggi Feiner President and CEO of FISH
- 17 Chet Sadler: Rotary Trip to Haiti and Ecuador
- 24 Dave MacGregor: Lee Memorial Arts in Healthcare and Arts for disabled
- 31 Chris Davis: Island Inn

SPEAKER COORINDINATORS NEEDED FOR:

MAY, JUNE, & JULY

IF YOU CAN HELP CONTACT RICHARD MATTERN rich5u@yahoo.com



ATTENTION ALL ROTARIANS & GUESTS:

The Dunes management has asked us to please use the parking spaces on the side of the building near the pool area or parking spots near the tennis courts during season.

**ARTS & CRAFTS SILENT AUCTION
 ON-ISLAND VACATION STAYS IN AUCTION
 BID HIGH BID OFTEN**

**THESE AUCTION
 SELECTIONS ARE JUST
 THE TIP OF THE
 ICEBERG!**

- JENSEN'S RESORT & MARINA
- ROYAL SHELL
- SANIBEL ARMS WEST 4 DAYS/3NIGHT STAY
- SOUTH SEAS ISLAND RESORT 3 DAYS/2 NIGHT STAY
- SUNDIAL BEACH & RESORT 3 DAYS/2 NIGHT STAY
- TWEEN WATERS INN RESORT STAY 3 DAYS/2 NIGHT STAY
- VIP VACATION 7 NIGHT STAY FOR 5

**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)**



**ROTARY DISTRICT
 #6960
 GOVERNOR,
 2016-2017
 Ladd Waldo,
 Lakewood Ranch**



**ROTARY
 INTERNATIONAL
 PRESIDENT
 2016-2017
 John Germ,
 Chattanooga, TN USA**

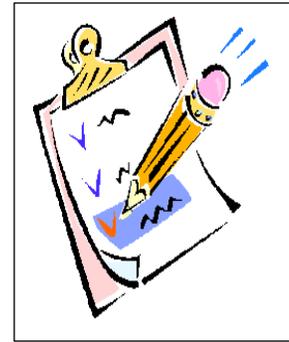


SAVE THE DATE: Installation Dinner scheduled for Monday, April 3rd. More details to follow.

SILENT AUCTION COMMITTEE NOW HAS THE FOLLOWING **AUCTION ITEM DETAILS**

FOR VIEWING AT CONGRESS JEWELERS:

- ✓ 7 Day British Virgin Islands Sailing Cruise for 4 (2018)
- ✓ Stowe Vermont Von Trapp Lodge Ski Vacation for 6
- ✓ Congress Jewelry...Necklace and Earrings...on display viewing
- ✓ Elkhart Lake Wisconsin Resort Condo Stay
- ✓ VIP Vacation Condo 7 Night Stay
- ✓ "Indy 500" 2 Box Seats...May 28th, 2017
- ✓ Sanctuary Golf with Carts for 4
- ✓ Ohio State vs Indiana 50 Yard Line Tickets...September 7, 2017 for 2
- ✓ Disney Theme Park Tickets for 4
- ✓ Opus 1 Wine



SPEAKER NOTES 1-27-17

...Amazingly Rotary finds the most interesting speakers every week for our regular Friday morning meetings. Some are more serious than others and some are funnier than others and this week's speaker sort of falls into both categories. Retired LtC, Jim Graham Navy Pilot on active duty for 8 years in the 1950 including being a night fighter pilot flying the then newly designed angled deck runway of a Naval Aircraft Carrier and continuing his Naval Career with the Navy Indiana National Guard for an additional 20 years. Graham's topic for the morning, "THE SHORTEST PILOT IN THE NAVY". Jim Graham, almost missed having his dream of becoming a Naval Officer come true... because of a slight problem...his height. Knowing after graduating from high school he would be drafted into the Army, Jim decided he would voluntarily join the Navy and discussed the possibility of becoming a Naval Officer and Pilot with a Navy recruiter. Jim had been flying since he was young teenager and was sure of his skills as a pilot and basically just plane crazy. The recruiter asked him to take a scholastic test for eligibility for college scholarships being offered by the government to potential military officers. Graham passed the scholastic test with flying colors but there was one additional requirement to pass. A height requirement...at the time, military officers had to be 5 ft. 6 in. ...problem Jim only measured 5 ft. 5 ½ inches. Jim was not going to give up his dream...he asked the doctor, if he could be measured again in two weeks, when the military doctor was in town again. I think the doctor was being kind...the kid was hoping for a growth spurt in two weeks, so let's humor him.



Jim didn't wait for a growth spurt, he took his own action to speed up the height increase. No, he didn't follow his grandfather's advice...rap yourself with a hammer on the top middle portion of your head, just before being measured again...the knot on top will give you that ½ in. Nope, Jim had his own plan. He built a stretch rack in his bed. He put a stretched towel under his chin attached it to the top of the bed, attached 35 lb. sash weights to his overshoes, hung his legs over the footboard of the bed, and stayed that way for two weeks; only getting up to go to the bathroom. Did it work?

The day had come to be measured. His father carried him to the military doctor's office, placed him on the height measuring table, and Walla!...Jim was measured at 5 ft. 6 in. He was officially accepted in the Navy officer training program. He was awarded a scholarship to Purdue University. After graduating from Purdue, Jim received his Navy commission. Now on to flight-training school. But now another problem arose, when sitting in the cockpit of his SSMJ plane, Graham's height became an issue again. He couldn't be seen or see out of the cockpit. Solution good or bad, he needed three cushions under him and two cushions behind him to fly the aircraft. Guess it worked, he was flying. However, as part of his flight maneuver training, he had to demonstrate an acrobatic slow roll. Not so easy, if you can't reach the floor pedals for this maneuver. Oh, he could reach them by lowering the seat but then he couldn't see out of the plane even with his cushions. Now what? Well, who needs to see out the window; you just should be able to do it by reading your instruments. Guess that worked...he became a Navy Pilot with the highest grades in his class.

Navy Pilot Graham had many stories to tell about his adventures as a naval pilot. One of his earliest experiences was as a night fighter pilot on a Navy Carrier and trying to land during heavy seas with a very low gas reading and a 161 per hour landing speed. First attempt to trip the wire...FAIL, second...FAIL, third-FAIL, on fourth attempt finally caught the wire...plane gas gauge reading empty. Many heroic flight missions took place in many parts of the world for Jim. Aircraft Carrier duty is stressful. Lots of things can and sometimes do go wrong. Men and now women can get hurt...accidents happen and not only do pilots get hurt but those on deck. I story was told of a plane about to take off getting the flag signal to go and not aware that a crew member was under the plane adjusting the wing flap. Another crew member saw what was happening and stepped in front of the plane to stop take off, plane did stop, but not in time to save the crew member's hand from being cut off by the descending wing.

Jim wanted to show off his favorite planes and presented a slide show of some of them. He told funny stories off the early planes...planes that flew even though they had some obvious design flaws. A propeller plane used in combat during wartime, where the machine guns were supposedly synced to avoid hitting their propellers, good luck with that one. F-2H Banshees whose engines were known to catch on fire. Planes that serviced their country and helped our nation stay safe; flown by brave pilots always keeping their missions first, ahead of their own safety. How you measure a man or woman's worth is not by how tall they are or how rich they are but what they do with their life. Jim Graham has had a life of service in business, community, the military and in international service. Jim and his wife Roberta are Rotarians and have served Rotary in many ways. They have traveled to Damascus, Syria, Jordan, S. Africa and Afghanistan in pursuit of Rotary's goal of eradication of polio in the world. There is so much more to tell about these two remarkable individuals. They exemplify what a Rotarian really is. That's pretty much the long and short of the story Jim told last week but there are other stories they still have to tell about their adventures in life.