



# San-Captions

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](http://www.sanibelrotary.org)

FACEBOOK: Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Club

Twitter: [@sancaprotary](https://twitter.com/sancaprotary)

### Board of Director Officers:

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

### Board Directors:

- Jack Alexander 2018
- Eldon Bohrofen 2017
- Cindy DeCosta 2017
- Dorrie Hipschman 2018
- John Mason 2016
- Alex Werner 2016
- Immediate PP...Bill Rahe

### Trust Fund Board

- Chairman, John Grey 2017
- Secretary, Mike Raab 2016
- Foundation, Chet Sadler 2016
- Lee Almas 2017
- Dan Cohn 2018
- Treasurer, Scott Congress 2018
- Bill Rahe (Immediate PP) 2016

### SPEAKER SCHEDULE 2016:

- APRIL** Coordinators: Trent Peake
  - 15 Susan Rice Habitat for Humanity
  - 22 Steve Agius from Rotary International
  - 29 Tom Mueller Covanta Energy Converting Trash into Energy
- MAY** Coordinators: Alex Werner and Don Russell
  - 6 Sheriff Mike Scott (Don Russell)
  - 13 District Rotary Conference at Sanibel Harbor Resort
  - 20 Belinda Smith and Judge Andrew Swett Veterans Court and Mental Health Court



It has been proposed that Jonathan Dean be considered for membership in our Rotary Club. If you have any objections or questions concerning this person's membership, you must submit them in writing to the Club President or Secretary within 7 days of this newsletter, or it will be deemed that there are no objections.

Club Sponsor ... John Mason.

Jonathan is now a resident of Sanibel and formerly lived and practiced law in the State of Maine.

### CLUB CALENDER

**TODAY APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup> ROTARY TEAM NEEDED FOR "RELAY FOR LIFE" 3PM TO 9PM AT THE DUNES...TAKE A TURN ON THE TRACK!**

**MAY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 14<sup>TH</sup>, & 15<sup>TH</sup> ROTARY DISTRICT #6960 CONFERENCE**  
Information on District Web-site.

ROTARY DISTRICT 6960 CONFERENCE ....

### "Fellowship of the Wheel"

**OUR CLUB IS HOSTING THE FRIDAY MAY 13<sup>TH</sup> OPENING BREAKFAST MEETING at Sanibel Harbor Marriot Hotel.** (This will take the place of our regular Dunes breakfast....reservations needed).

JOHN CARNEY WILL HAVE CONFERENCE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION PROCEDURE.

### 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)

**District #6960  
Gov. 2015-2016  
Cyndi Doragh**



**RI PRESIDENT  
2015-2016  
K.R. Ravindran**



**Trust Board will meet every third Wednesday each month.** For information contact John Grey 239-472-0590



EVERYBODY'S NEW BEST FRIEND,  
LEE ALMAS WINS \$210  
JACKPOT LAST WEEK.

## SPEAKER NOTES...APRIL 8, 2016

Every once in a while, our Friday morning speaker has to cancel out. But someone in the club always steps up and can talk extemporaneously on what is going on in their work-a-day world. That someone this last Friday was Trent Peake, Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce, Member Services Manager who immediately referenced some of the Chamber's impressive statistics... 160,000 visitors a year stop at the Chamber's Visitor Center seeking information about where to stay, where to eat, what to do, and where to shop on the Islands. Their web site alone receives 1.3 million hits a year, exploring information about the Islands – accommodations, types of activities, entertainment, and event happenings available on the Islands. Questions explored can range from the feasibility of accommodations for destination weddings, family reunions, outdoor activities, cultural and historical venues, or just a chance to relax and unwind. Finding answers to these questions is easy because the Chamber's Web Site presents Chamber member information geared toward these Island activities.



Promoting island business is surely represented in all communications with Island visitors or potential visitors but another avenue of communication is with Chamber members themselves exploring ideas regarding how to improve visitor experiences and concerns. Some of those ideas are brought out during monthly Chamber luncheons and Chamber after hour events; this is the time member socialize and ideas can incubate. Trent told us, "2015 was the best ever season on record for businesses on the Islands". Expectations for a great 2016 season were high and projections were estimated for the possibility of a 10% increase over last year. Lee County numbers tell us day-tripper figures are down about 2 ½ % for January and February. But projections are only that...at this point in the year, that high percentage increase hasn't materialized but summer season may pull the actual figures up somewhat.

A number of factors this year attributed to the lower number of visitors than projected to the Islands...a warmer winter season up North, early season rains, water quality issues, traffic log-jams, and even the fear of Ziki Virus; but that being said, the Islands are looking fantastic, new retail and restaurant businesses are opening and accommodation entities are updating providing amenities now expected by travelers. The traffic concerns are being addressed and the new traffic cams are alerting visitors to the traffic conditions on Island before crossing the causeway. A question came up regarding the new traffic studies by the Lee County Department of Transportation regarding feasibility of 18 traffic roundabouts throughout Lee County...one being on Sanibel at the entrance to the Islands at Periwinkle and Lindgren. According to Rotarian, Ty Symroski, who is following Lee County's action on this topic the roundabout studies have not been finalized and are ongoing in the areas of safety issues, traffic flow, and pedestrian and bike usage. The studies also include line drawings and animation projections of how these roundabouts would work in the various locations under consideration. A budget of \$510,000 has been approved for the Sanibel roundabout but the study has not been completed. Many Rotarians voiced their opinion on this topic and possibly we will be inviting someone from the Lee County Department of Transportation Department to come to the Island and discuss the practicality of a roundabout on Sanibel. Standby on this one, you might want to attend that Rotary meeting.

Discussion then followed on bike traffic and the proposed Civic Core. Businesses on Island are affected by all of these ideas and it is an exciting time to see the positive energy projected towards improving our visitors' experiences and retaining the focus of the Islands on the environmental beauty that surrounds us every day.