

San-Captions

4-21-17

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
2019
E. J. Neafsey 2018
Rodger Triftshauser 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

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:

APRIL Coordinators – Rachel Tritaik and Dick Salerno

21 Bill Rahe: Vocational Service

28 Al Kinkle: Chairman of Barbara's Friends

MAY Coordinators - Chet Sadler and Charlie Emerson

5 Maggi Feiner, President and CEO of FISH

12 Al Hanser Charitable Foundation of the Islands

19 TBD

26 TBD

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ---

APRIL 23rd...THIS SUNDAY

COMMUNITY HOUSE...MINI GOLF...10am-7pm

CONTACT: LEE ALMAS, IF YOU CAN HELP.

SATURDAY...APRIL 29th...Road Kill

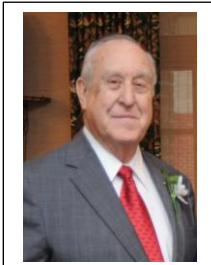
CONTACT: E.J. NEAFSEY



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



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



Rotary College Scholarship applications now available on-line...deadline May 1

Each year, the Rotary Club of Sanibel & Captiva Florida awards several college scholarships to eligible students, one of the scholarships offered this year is dedicated specifically for further education at FGCU 2017/18 school year. Preference is given to students who are attending a Lee County public or private High School and who reside or work on Sanibel or Captiva Island. A student living in Lee County whose parent(s), or close relative is employed fulltime on either island may also be given preference for a scholarship awards. Scholarship information and applications can be found on our club website...sanibelrotary.org. or by calling Dan Cohn at 239 470-1342. Scholarship deadline is May 1, 2017

**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)**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

APRIL 22ND...DISTRICT ASSEMBLY...CULTURAL CT - CHARLOTTE COUNTY
FEE TBA...SOME MEMBERS ARE GOING...FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT...HOLLI MARTIN

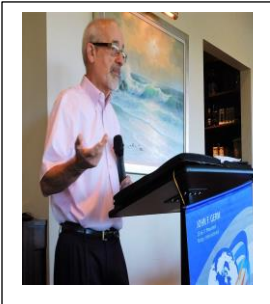
MAY 18TH-21ST...DISTRICT CONFERENCE...HYATT REGENCY, SARASOTA...ANY
INTEREST IN ATTENDING THE FRIDAY MORNING BREAKFAST MEETING & OPENING
CERAMONIES PLEASE CONTACT CHARLIE EMERSON OR HOLLI MARTIN. WE WILL
NOT HAVE A REGULAR MEETING THAT DAY.

JUNE 10TH-14TH...ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION...ATLANTA, GA...SOME
MEMBERS ARE GOING...CHECK RI WEB-SITE FOR INFORMATION **If you have
interest in attending, contact HOLLI MARTIN.** SO FAR, THOSE GOING...HOLLI
MARTIN, SHIRLEY JEWELL, & FAY AND JOHN CARNEY.



Bill Gates will be the keynote speaker at Rotary International's 108th International Convention this summer in Atlanta. Atlanta is preparing to host Rotary's international convention from June 10 to 14. Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, will be one among a lineup of world-class speakers. The Gates Foundation and Rotary International have an ongoing match of 2:1 to support polio eradication efforts up to \$35 million a year.

SPEAKER NOTES FOR 4-14-17 JOHN DANNER – SPRINGTIME TRADITIONS AROUND THE WORLD



The arrival of spring is a time of renewal, rebirth, reawakening. A time for sowing of seeds and a season of hope. Many countries around the globe celebrate this season with festivals and religious holidays rejoicing new beginnings.

Our own Sanibel-Captiva Rotarian, United Congregational Church of Christ - Pastor, John Danner has made a study of cultural spring festivities throughout the globe and found that many of these traditional celebrations, whether religious or secular, have shared common elements. An understanding of each other's country's mores and religious traditions can bring about connections of commonalities between individuals and countries leading to a purposeful and peaceful influence around the globe.

John highlighted two lesser known celebrations of spring – Nowruz...Persian and Holi...India. He focused on their traditions and the similarities to two familiar Spring Celebrations Easter...Christian and Passover...Jewish.

Nowruz - "The New Day" - Iranian New Year. The vernal equinox ushers in Nowruz, a celebration of nature's rebirth that lasts for two weeks. This celebration dates to 3,500 BCD. Leading up to Nowruz, families thoroughly clean their homes. A complete deep cleaning; this is known as "Shaking the House". A spiritual cleaning. "People spend the last Wednesday before Nowruz addressing their spiritual cleanliness, jumping over fire pits, and reciting a variation of the following rhyme: "Give me your beautiful red color; And take back my sickly pallor." Sharif tells us this is a gesture of purification ahead of the new year". – information on Internet by Sara Couglin.

They buy new clothes representing a fresh start. Set their feast table with the seven S's -traditional symbols of the season: Subzeh - tulips and hyacinths, greenery, wheat, lentil sprouts for rebirth. Samanu-sweet pudding for strength, abundance and fertility. Seer-garlic for health. Senjed-dried fruit for love and passion. Serkeh-vinegar for wisdom, old age, patience. Seeb-apple for beauty. Somaq-sumac berries to represent purple and the colors of dawn. They decorate eggs for good luck and fertility. They may have gold fish on a mirrored table for new beginnings and a book of Rumi poetry or religious writings. A celebration where visiting with friends and family are meaningful for a resurrection of life.

Holi – "Festival of Colour" – India - an arrival of spring and farewell to winter - a festival of love, color, and fun symbolized by a visual explosion of bright and bold colors. The awaken of a spirit and renewal of life. It is a day to end and rid oneself of past errors, to end conflicts by meeting others, a day to forget and forgive. People pay or forgive debts, as well as deal anew with those in their lives. A renewal of spirit. Holi also marks the start of spring, for many the start of the New Year. Holi celebrations start on the night before Holi with a Holika Dahan where people gather, perform religious rituals in front of the bonfire, and pray that evil be destroyed. The next morning is celebrated with a free-for-all festival of colours, a new year, a new season, a new day, where people smear each other with colours and drench each other. Water guns and water-filled balloons are also used to play and colour each other. Everyone is fair game, friend or stranger, rich or poor, man or woman, children and elders till everyone is covered with colour. The frolic and fight with colours occurs in the open streets. Groups carry drums from place to place, singing and dancing. People visit family, friends and foes to throw coloured powders on each other, laugh and gossip, then share Holi delicacies, food and drinks – colorful, sweet and spiced food served with a herbal intoxication beverage. The celebration with people of love and inclusion. A time to smile and love. A time of changing of the mood, the renewal of life.

John didn't have time at the podium to go into absolute detail about either of these spring celebrations and their comparisons to the meaningful celebrations of Easter and Passover. Assessments of commonalities between peoples across borders and boundaries and their faith and hope for the future and the goodness within all of us, first must come with an opening up to the possibilities of spring eternal, remembrance of the past and hope for the future.

The challenge to readers of this column is do some reading of your own on the rituals of spring throughout the world, and make your own comparisons. Understanding different cultures and religions will help us all have faith that we can come together in certain areas and help with world peace a definite focus for Rotary International.