



Wednesday, July 1, 2020

## Happy New Year!

By Barbara Jeanne Gobbi on Wednesday, July 1, 2020



**Welcome to the new Rotary year! Garth Friesen and his team did an amazing job! Here's a look back at 2019-2020:**

The club's Service Co-Chairs, Elizabeth Edwards and Ally Halperin, helped our club complete some of our favorite service projects including LifeNet4Families, Sallah Foundation Children's Hospital, Pack a Sack, Rise Against Hunger, The Giving Tree, and The Dictionary Project. We had a record year with Bikes for Humanity and worked with even more clubs thanks to the strategy implemented by Jeff Kostick. And our newest project, Pitch Night, allowed us to learn about and partner with new organizations. The winner was Liberty Elementary School Literacy Night, and although we weren't able to complete the project due to COVID-19, we look forward to completing it soon.

When Hurricane Dorian ravaged Grand Bahama Island devastating the island and 5 of our Rotary clubs in District 6990, the Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale Cypress Creek stepped up and helped collect essential supplies and contributed to the district's efforts as well to send items to the hardest-hit areas.

As we were all quarantined with COVID-19 our meetings moved online and continued to be held via Zoom. We had record attendance, many guests, and even inducted a new member all online. Our club also went into action to deliver pizzas to healthcare workers at Broward Health and PPE to LifeNet4Families.

We had some unforgettable guest speakers. One of the club favorites was Pam Wall who told the story of how she and her family sailed around the world, and plenty of soccer presentations, thanks to the enthusiasm of our speaker chair, Randy Friedlander.

The online raffle fundraiser was also a huge success raising over \$20,000, led by Fundraising Chair, Steve Breitbart and his team. This money will help our club to continue to do service projects and help make a difference in our community and throughout the world.

2019-2020 was certainly an unprecedented year for our planet, but we are looking forward to a successful year led by Club President, Mike Ritter. The Rotary International theme is **Rotary Opens Opportunities** and I think that as Rotarians we see the opportunity in every challenge.

[Read More](#)

## Help tell our Club's story!

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Each year our club tries to do one more thing than the year before to help tell our club's story. After all, when people know the good work we do in our communities and around the world, they want to be a part of it. This helps us attract more members, more donations, and allows us to do more service projects. It's a WIN-WIN!

To help us tell the story of the Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale/Cypress Creek, we will be improving communications with our members via this new DACdb newsletter format. When we enter Club Stories or Club Events in DACdb, they will automatically be added to the monthly club newsletter. We also have our club website at [www.rotarycypresscreek.org](http://www.rotarycypresscreek.org) and our Facebook and Instagram

### Club Meeting

Fort Lauderdale/Cypress Creek  
Meets at The Westin Hotel - Fort  
Lauderdale  
400 Corporate Dr.  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33334  
Time: Tuesday at 12:00 PM

### Events

July 7th  
[Fort Lauderdale/Cypress  
Creek Weekly Club Meeting](#)  
Speaker: PDG Drew Monaghan  
Subject: Rotary Update

July 14th  
[Fort Lauderdale/Cypress  
Creek Board Installation](#)

July 21st  
[Club Assembly](#)  
Speaker: No Speaker  
Subject: This is a club  
assembly

July 28th  
[Fort Lauderdale/Cypress  
Creek Weekly Club Meeting](#)  
Speaker: David Barkey  
Subject: ADL presentation on  
Hate

### Birthdays

Volkmar Dirksen  
July 8th  
Jeaqueline Aquino  
July 31st

### Club Leaders



[Michael Ritter](#)  
President



[Barbara Jeanne  
Gobbi](#)  
President - Elect  
Public Relations Chair  
Webmaster



[Elizabeth Edwards](#)  
Secretary  
Club Director

page as well.

If you would like to promote your committee's events, programs and initiatives, let us know! We can show you how to manage your page on the website, post to social media, or enter the information in DACdb so that it appears in this newsletter. And if you need us to promote it for you, we can do that too!

Let's all work together to tell our story!

## Did you miss the District Training Assembly and the Annual RI Convention?

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District 6990 recently had their annual District Training Assembly to prepare club Presidents, Treasurers and Secretaries for the coming year. Due to COVID-19, this year's assembly was held completely online via Zoom.

Thanks to the easier online format, our district was able to have amazing guest speakers, including incoming Rotary International President Holger Knaack. If you missed the sessions, you can watch the replay of most of them by clicking [HERE](#).

In addition, the annual Rotary International Convention, which was scheduled to be held in Hawaii, moved to an online format. You can watch the general sessions on their YouTube channel [HERE](#).



[Adonna Thayer](#)  
Club Director  
Treasurer



[Allyson R. Halperin](#)  
Club Director



[Violet Nikolici-Lowrey](#)  
Club Director  
Membership Chair



[Elihu F. Phares](#)  
Bulletin Editor



[Lauren K. Cohn](#)  
Service Projects Chair



[Randy S. Friedlander](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Garth Friesen](#)  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair  
iPast President



[Terry Breitbord](#)  
Club Service Chair



[Jeffrey Scott Kostick](#)  
Past President  
Youth Services Chair



[Robert Todd Slatoff](#)  
Club Programs Chair



[Jeffrey Scott Kostick](#)  
Assistant Governor