

# FL P.E.T.S. GAZETTE

## Rotary Florida Presidents Elect Training Seminar

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# Chair's Chat

## TRAINING ROTARY CLUB LEADERS FROM THE GREAT STATE OF FLORIDA, USA AND THE MAGNIFICENT GRAND BAHAMA ISLAND, BAHAMAS

Greetings PETS Participant -

I hope you're as excited as we are as we're just a few days away from Rotary Florida PETS! This is the 7th installment of your eight emails that will help you get ready for PETS and Training Matters enabling you to be the best President your club has ever seen!

If you are a newly appointed Club President-Elect and this is your first PETS update, please visit the Rotary Florida PETS website, [www.rotaryfloridapets.org](http://www.rotaryfloridapets.org), click on "Resource Library" and you can review all of the past updates and Training Matters. Training Matters have self-study assignments that will be important for you to complete prior to arriving in Orlando. If you have any questions, please reach out to your District Governor-Elect or Trainer.



The Rotary Florida PETS 2017 Committee, under the direction of the Board of Directors (the 8 District Governor Elects in Florida), the Executive and Operating Committees and the Training Discussion Leaders have worked very hard over the past twelve months to make this the very best Rotary Florida PETS ever!

Just like you – all of the individuals involved in making this event happen – are volunteers. We do it because we believe the most important job in the Rotary world is yours – Rotary Club President. It is our privilege to support your efforts, vision, and plans. We encourage you to make the most of Rotary Florida PETS.

If you have any questions as we draw closer, don't hesitate to reach out and ask.

See you in Orlando!!

*Art*

PDG Art MacQueen, Chair  
Rotary Florida PETS 2017

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### The Palace Guards

The Palace Guards are Rotary Florida PETS' version of Sergeants-at-Arms. The newly selected District Governors Designate (who will be District Governors in 2019-20) will be posted throughout the hotel and meeting space to help you get to where you need to go.

They will be wearing highly visible vests signifying their willingness and ability to help all attendees at Rotary Florida PETS 2017 with friendly assistance and directions within the BVP along with any other issues attendees may have.

They will be "personing" the doors at all meals – so be sure and bring your name badge. They've been instructed not to allow anyone at a meal without a badge– remember, they're just doing their job! However, the ice cream social does not require a name badge and we encourage you to bring your family! During the social, the purpose of a name badge will be to help you get to know your newest friends.

### Keynote Speaker Saturday Lunch Plenary

#### John Smarge

**Past Rotary International Director for Zones 33-34 Rotary Club of Naples (Florida)**

John Smarge has been a Rotarian and resident of Naples, Florida since 1982. His classification is Moving and Storage. John and his wife Cindy are Major Donors and Bequest Society Members. John served as President of The Rotary Club of Naples in 1992-93 and as District 6960 Governor in 1995-96. He was a member of the Rotary International Board of Directors in 2010-2012 and Chairman of the Executive Committee, 2011-2012.

John has twice been a Delegate to the Council on Legislation and has served as a Rotary International Membership Coordinator, Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator and Rotary Coordinator Training Leader.

John considers the most rewarding aspects of his many years in Rotary to be the opportunity to participate in the Polio-Plus National Immunization Days in India and his medical missions to Ternopil, Ukraine. In recent years he has traveled numerous times to Haiti and other Caribbean islands providing humanitarian assistance.

John has received numerous awards for his Rotary Service including the Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service, the Distinguished Service Award the Rotary International Service above Self Award and was recognized in 1999 as the District 6960 Rotarian of The Decade.

John is a past Board Chairman of the Naples YMCA and served as Director on the board of the Boy Scouts of America, Shelter for Abused Women, Naples Girls Sports Foundation and Southern Community Bank. John and Cindy have three daughters.



### Rotary Florida PETS Goes Mobile

Rotary Florida PETS has gone mobile. Schedule, maps, alerts and more on your iPhone/Android. Get the Guidebook at <http://www.rotaryfloridapets.org/pets-2017/seminar->

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### FINAL REMINDERS!!

- ◆ **Registration opens** Thursday from 12-5 pm at the Registration Booth in the Convention Center lobby. You will pick up your credentials (name badge, tent card and other attendee materials), receive your breakout assignments for the weekend, and have the opportunity to register for Rotary Club Central tutoring. Should you arrive late for any reason, please go to the Rotary Florida PETS office, lobby level. Ask the Palace Guards to show you the way.
- ◆ **Thursday** – Five great topics to assist you in your year as President and an opportunity for hands-on experience with Rotary Club Central.
- ◆ **House of Friendship** Come check it out! Interested in sharing a club project in the House of Friendship? Visit the HOF tab on the RotaryFloridaPETS.org website or contact HOF Chair, Pete Doragh, [pete.doragh@doraghlawfirm.com](mailto:pete.doragh@doraghlawfirm.com) But hurry, time is very short.
- ◆ **Network** at the ice cream (& cash bar) social Thursday evening., 8:00PM
- ◆ **Five great plenary speakers Friday-Saturday**– RI President Elect Ian Risely; RI Vice President and Zone Director Jennifer Jones; RI Director Joe Mulkerrin; RI Director Brad Howard and Past RI Director John Smarge.
- ◆ **Rotary casual attire, please.** No t-shirts, shorts, flip-flops. Friday evening is business attire.
- ◆ **Bring your Rotary cards** (if you have them) and come prepared to meet and greet over 600+ new friends who are committed to making their communities great – just like you! No Rotary card yet, bring your business cards!
- ◆ **There will be no onsite sale of meal admission tickets.**
- ◆ **Register your partner/spouse** for 2 days of great sessions as they learn more about Rotary and how to support your year as President. But you're really late, hurry!
- ◆ **No club promotional items or raffle tickets.** One could be overwhelmed if every club representative brought their fundraising efforts to this event. Thanks for your consideration.



**The Board of Governors, the Executive Committee and Operating Committee are very excited about this upcoming weekend. We look forward to meeting you and hope this is one of the best weekends of your Rotary life!**

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### OUR ANNUAL SERVICE PROJECT

**Every Year, PETS Helps Address a Local Need  
This Year is No Exception**

#### *Socks of LOVE*

What? Socks? Love? “What the heck are we talking about,” you say!

Maybe some of you are like me: I grab the hotel room sundries after a stay. Yep, those little bottles of shampoo, conditioner, lotion and soap that we get on every stay. I take them home, have an assortment available for guests, but deliver the balance of them to a local homeless shelter or shelter for abused mothers and their kids. Please bring those personal size items you’ve gathered over time, or those you will be gathering between now and PETS, to this years event.



So where do the socks come in? Please head to your local big-box store and pick up an eight or ten pack of simple athletic socks. We’ve got inexpensive socks and free sundries—now what?

During PETS, our spouses/partners will be packing one of each sundry into one of the socks and the other sock will act as a cork, keeping them in place. Following our event, ALL these packed up personal care items will be delivered to a local charity in need.

At practically no expense, we’ll provide a clean pair of socks and some personal care items to someone less fortunate. Please help us help others. Bring socks and freebie personal care items to PETS.

***TIP: Relax! Although there is much to learn, ROTARY FLORIDA PETS is a great opportunity to make new friends and be inspired.***