

AREA CLUBS FOR MAKE-UPS

MONDAY	Largo, Noon at Alfonso's Restaurant
TUESDAY	Countryside, 7:30 am at the Countryside Country Club
WEDNESDAY	Dunedin North, 7:30 am at the Dunedin Country Club Palm Harbor, 12:15 at Presbyterian Church of Palm Harbor Clearwater, 12:15 at the Belleair Country Club
THURSDAY	Clearwater Beach, 12:15 at the Holiday Inn Oldsmar/East Lake, 12:15 at Alberto's Italian Grille Tarpon Springs, at the Tarpon Springs Yacht Club Belleair, 12:00 at the Belleair Country Club
FRIDAY	Safety Harbor, 7:30 am at the Safety Harbor spa Clearwater East, 12:00 at Cove Cay Country Club
ANYTIME	The E-club, www.rotaryclub34.org

CALENDAR

January is "Rotary Awareness" Month

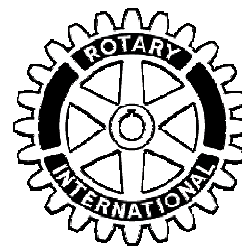
- February 21 - Rotary Leadership Institute - Clearwater Classes
- April 16 - Interact Club Breakfast, Dunedin High School
- May 15-19 - 2009 District Conference
- June 21-24 - 2009 International Convention, Birmingham, England

Make the new Rotary year a great one for
"Making Dreams Real"



Our **district website** address is www.rotary6950.org,
Our **Club website** address is: <http://dunedinrotaryclub.com>
Past newsletters: <http://dunedinrotaryclub.com/dunedin-rotary-club-newsletters.htm>

THE ROTARY CLUB OF DUNEDIN



Service Above Self

GULF BREEZE



TODAY

JANUARY 27, 2009

INVOCATION: Melissa McCormick
JOKE: Earl Tapley
SPEAKER: Jeni Coticchio,
"Caregivers Under Age 18"

Last Week's Guests

Cheryl Moore, Rosewood House
Monique Knapp, guest of Kevin Donoghue
John Mueller, Monroe, MI
Bob Landman, Newark, OH
Greg Dulmage, Cobourg, Ontario
Susie Blanco, guest of Diane Nelson

Happy Bucks

Pete Krulder, for the owls sitting on their eggs and the hope of the eagles doing it soon
Kevin Donoghue, for his new granddaughter, Hadley, who was born 1-19, weighing in at 9 lbs. 2 oz. Everyone is doing fine.
Ray Kingsbury, for fun playing with tools

Lynn Wargo, for the Steelers coming to Tampa for the Super Bowl
Joan Gutierrez, for enjoyed her Super 60's Class Reunion with 1,500 classmates
Charlie Harris, for history being made with the inauguration of President Obama
Sallie Parks, for her friend Judge Nelly Khouzam, known since their campaign trails in '92
Lynn Smeraldo, invited us to Interact's Breakfast, Thursday, April 16, 8 or 8:30 a.m. Our invitations are coming.

50-50 Drawing

Dick Pritts had the winning number and drew a 4 of Spades. The pot was \$466.

Announcements

President Jonathan asked Club members to keep Dave Eggers and his family in their thoughts and prayers on the passing of his uncle.

District Gov. Russ passed along the announcement that the Nominating Committee selected Carl Trelever from the Rotary Club of St. Pete as the Gov. Elect for 2011-12, following Linda Vinson.

Last Week's Program –

Judge Nelly Khouzam was appointed by Gov. Charlie Crist as an appellate judge of the 2nd District Court of Appeals in August, 2008.

Florida has four levels of the judiciary:

1. County Court (small claims, misdemeanors)
2. Circuit Court (criminal, felony and civil cases)
3. Appellate Court – 5 appellate courts in Florida to hear appeals of the Circuit Court
4. Florida Supreme Court

There are 14 counties in the 2nd District, including Pinellas, ranging from Dade City to Naples.

For most of us, it's the last court of appeal for review of a case we could be involved in. Three appellate judges review hear each case, the collective wisdom helping to ensure fairness, interpretations and decisions. Cases or arguments are presented by the attorneys

only. All opinions are reviewed by all other judges in the 2nd District, and take 6 months to a year for a decision. They take more time than lower level courts and are more sensitive to their clarity and conciseness of their written decisions because their opinions set precedent and are used by attorneys, mostly in part, to argue future cases.

Judge Khouzam talked about the seamless transition of our government, and the beauty of the checks and balances of our court system. She and her husband, Judge Morris Silberman, are the only husband/wife team on the court in the US. Because of his seniority and service in Tampa, and hers in Lakeland, they actually have less interaction than they would have had in her former role as Circuit Court judge since he no longer would have an opportunity to review any of her cases.



To run for County or Circuit judge, you must be an attorney in Florida for 5 years. The process to be appointed by the Governor is a more strenuous review of a potential judge's qualifications. When names are submitted for consideration for appointment by the Governor, the qualifications are reviewed in much more detail by a committee of 9 before the selected names are floated to the Governor for consideration.

Judge Khouzam stressed the power of a circuit court judge, who has the ability to take away your home, children or sentence you to death. The appointment process described earlier puts candidates through a tougher review process than judicial election candidates. She wished that more of a qualification review existed for election candidates.