

Monday with Mikey: August 1, 2016

I received an email last Monday morning from someone who had read Ernest Hooper's *Tampa Bay Times* column. The title was *Too bad Facebook posts don't follow Rotary's lead*, and Mr. Hooper extols the merits of our "Four Way Test of the Things We Think, Say, and Do." I was impressed that he, a self-professed non-Rotarian, would feel strongly enough about both the negative spin of some Facebook posts and the positive influence of the "FWT" that he would devote a portion of his column to it. I have personally invited Mr. Hooper to be my guest at RAYS DAY XVI next weekend. Who knows? Maybe he'll join us and decide he'd like to be a Rotarian! Herewith is a link to Ernest Hooper's column from July 25th:

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/humaninterest/hooper-too-bad-facebook-posts-dont-follow-rotarys-lead/2286677>

Today I begin visiting Rotary Clubs throughout the District. This week I will start with the Area 8 Rotary Clubs (Citrus County) midday today through Thursday morning, and then beginning Area 7 (Hernando County) having lunch on Thursday with the Rotary Club of Brooksville. I'm really looking forward to spending time with ALL STAR Rotarians!

This coming Saturday, I will be at Clearwater Beach, welcoming our "inbound" Rotary Youth Exchange Students and bidding a fond "bon voyage" to our "outbound" students. Thanks to RYE Chair Doug Lobel, his RYE team, and the many clubs and individuals (including RC of CB President Alex Everist) who make RYE a model program in our District. Thanks!

On Sunday, "First Mate" Jocelyn and I will be attending RAYS DAY XVI at Tropicana Field. Many Thanks to PDG Gene Beil for coordinating this event EVERY YEAR, and to Polio Plus Chair Mike Fitzgerald for putting together our pregame party. We expect to have over 450 Rotarians and guests at the game, including 100 kids who might not otherwise be able to even go to a ballgame – thanks to the Rotarians in Area 3 who put together this noble effort (they insisted on remaining unnamed publicly – but they know who they are!).

We received our District Grant funding from The Rotary Foundation last Friday morning. The TRF committee should be distributing initial checks to clubs in the very near future.

Until next Monday, keep **"Doing Good, Having Fun!"**
Your Friend in Rotary Service,

Mikey

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Rotary District 6950
Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties
Florida's Nature Coast / Suncoast

