

*Merry
Christmas
and Happy
Holidays!*

**Next Four Peaks
Rotary meeting:**
December 19, 6:45 am
Fountain View Village

DECEMBER 2019 <http://fourpeaksrotary.org/> Rotary District 5495

*Greetings of the Season
and Best Wishes for the New Year*

Four Peaks Rotary Club
of Fountain Hills



Four Peaks Rotary holiday card designed by Club President Jeff Poynter

Featured Four Peaks Rotarian

ROBIN BRAND

Why Did I Join Rotary?



*Each month a featured Four Peaks Rotary Club member gets up close and personal by answering the question: **Why Did I Join Rotary?***

*For December, please welcome **Robin Brand** as she recounts her path to Fountain Hills and Four Peaks Rotary, and the benefits of giving back.*

When I was notified last month that I had been selected to be featured as the Four Peaks Rotarian of the Month for December, I was thrilled and honored to be able to tell my story as to how I found my way to joining Four Peaks Rotary.

My story begins back when I was still an undergraduate doing Field Work to earn my Bachelors Degree at the State University of New York at Plattsburgh and one of my last projects was a position at one of the first Cable TV channels in Albany, New York. My job was to develop, produce and execute a Morning Program similar to what we have here in Arizona such as Arizona Morning or Capital District Living, as my show was called.

One of my first guests on the show was a woman who was an executive with Price Chopper Grocery Stores in the Albany area. She was also a member of the Albany City Council and was a member of the Women's Auxillary to a local service club as well. As a young person on the brink of graduating from college with my adult life about to begin, I was so impressed and fascinated with what she had done with her life and career as well as to be able to contribute her skills and talents to help others realize theirs.

A year later, I found myself in Jackson, Tennessee, where I had landed a position with Holiday Inn, Inc. as the Banquet/Catering Manager for that particular property. Every Civic Club in town met at this particular facility, including, Rotary, Civitan, Lion's Club, Elks Club, etc.

What I noticed and found interesting at this particular time, was that these clubs were exclusive to business men only with no female members at all. Here, in Jackson, TN, women had their own clubs, but if there were Women's Auxillaries to any of the local men's service clubs, that's where they were.. The chuckle to me now is that over time, rules have changed and many of these clubs are now open to women and we all work together to pool our experience, talents and resources to serve others and help better their lives with opportunities to grow and flourish.

Fast forward more than 30 years later and I found myself in Fountain Hills, AZ, where I have been a town resident for most of that time. Many of my friends and colleagues have been active in and with the Town for various projects and service opportunities, but I was never able to participate to the degree that I wanted, due to the nature of my business and circumstances surrounding.

Enter Art Tolis. I've known Art Tolis since he arrived in Fountain Hills in 2002 and opened his first mortgage business, Saguaro Blossom Mortgage. Art and I are both affiliates of the Real Estate community and he and I have participated and contributed to that field locally and became good friends as well. In May 2017, I ran in to Art at Safeway and he was in dress pants, a white shirt and was carrying a rose. I asked him where he was going and he said that he was going to the In-and-Out Party for the Four Peaks Rotary. We visited for a while and he suggested that I think about joining. I thought, Why Not? I should join. There was no reason why I shouldn't!

I've now been a member for just over two (2) years and I am thrilled to be part of such a dynamic group! Since joining, I've volunteered to pick up trash at the Art Fairs, I've worked on the float for the Thanksgiving Day Parade, I've worked with the Social Committee to help plan various events and Holiday Parties and have been able to give back to the community and help others less fortunate. It feels GOOD to give back and live up to our motto, Service Above Self.

Past featured Four Peaks Rotarians on **Why I Joined Rotary**

Patrick Benkowski, Jerry Berna, Pam Carlson, Dick Carney, Rob Clausen, John Colucci, Linda Dasher, Sandy Davis, Dave DeLucia, Pete Donzelli, Tony Finocchio, Steve Fox, John Gianotti, Lady Sue Hendershott, Bill Pape, Paul Perreault, Alex Ross, Roger Riggert, Gary Shuey, Pam Stivers, Tim Taylor, and Pat Tuttle.

A Message from Bill Beamish

Wanted: A New Chair for Four Peaks Rotary 'New Generations' Program

The most rewarding club position I have ever held during my years in Four Peaks Rotary has been the Youth Services (or "New Generations Service") Chair. This volunteer position can include working with any of the fantastic Rotary programs such as Interact, Rotaract, RYLA and Youth Exchange.

I would like to pass the New Generations Chair torch this year and train up a younger club member, who may have their own children who would benefit from some of these fantastic Rotary programs.

I would be happy to have a phone conversation with any club member who may be interested in being the club point person for one or more of these programs.

There are other wonderful youth-focused Rotarians in our district whom you would get to know. You can develop strong bonds with exceptional youth and adults in our community, our state, and around the world!

First, learn a little about these Rotary programs yourself by going to:

<https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/youth-programs>

Then, text me at 480-390-4130 if you want to try out this rewarding Rotary challenge.

Bill Beamish



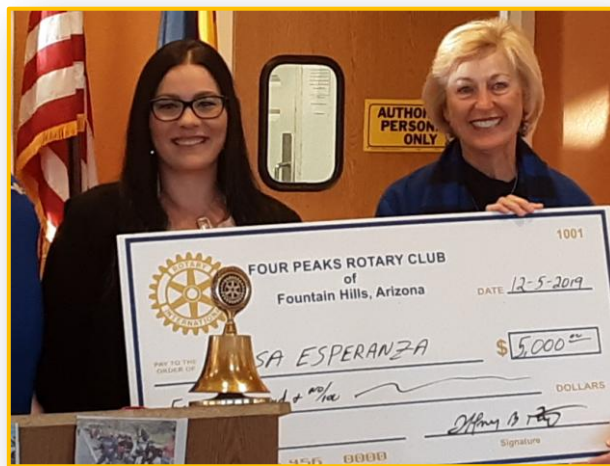
“New Generations refers to the youngest generation in the family of Rotary. Many are participants in Rotary's youth and young adult programs: Interact, Rotaract, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), and Rotary Youth Exchange. ... The New Generations are our investment in the future.”

Annual Four Peaks Pilgrimage to Casa Esperanza Set for January 10

In an annual event that goes back more than several years, Four Peaks member Pam Carlson has once again organized the Club's pilgrimage to Hermosillo, Mexico to work a weekend at Casa Esperanza.

Travel dates are scheduled for Friday, January 10 through Sunday, January 12. After talking to Paul Plumb, Executive Director of Casa Esperanza, Pam has received assurance that travel to Hermosillo is safe at this point.

Pam Carlson presents Tayler Perez from Casa Hermosillo a \$5,000 check from Four Peaks Rotary at the Club's December 5 meeting.



A growing list of eight Club members have already signed up for the event with plenty of room still available. The weekend starts with a 9 am liftoff from Fountain Hills with a quick stop for lunch before crossing the border, as well as a currency exchange encounter. Arrival time in Hermosillo will be 3 pm, followed by the Holiday Inn Hotel check-in and the initial visit to the orphanage. Dinner will be at a local favorite. To make your hotel reservation, visit:

<https://www.holidayinn.com/hotels/us/en/hermosillo/hermx/hoteldetail>

On Saturday work starts early at Casa Esperanza with Four Peaks Rotary providing lunch which is always a special treat for the children who live there. Work continues until early evening when Rotarians will gather at another local restaurant for a well deserved fiesta.

The trip back to Fountain Hills begins Sunday morning with arrival time back home approximately 3 pm.

Pam encourages all who want to be part of this great adventure to contact her at pam.carlson@cox.net or Dick Bauer at bauerrdb@gmail.com.

Finally, Pam reminds all who make the trek to make sure that they bring their Passport.



Largest Club Fundraiser **‘Golf For Giving’ Charity Event set For March 2**

The 22nd Annual Four Peaks Rotary Golf outing is fast approaching and the Club is moving into full swing in preparation for what is hoped to be the most successful fundraiser in Club history.

Golf chair Bob Jacobius promises

Brochure Design by Debbie Clason

a full slate of activities to bolster the event’s status.

The Club will receive an update report at the December 19 meeting featuring newly designed brochures by Debbie Clason and sponsorship selling opportunities by all Four Peaks members. As the major fundraising event of the year, expectations are high that each Club volunteer does their part in asking business owners, friends, family members, and others to participate in this year’s golf outing.

The goal for 2020 is to raise over \$50,000 which will require every Club member to sell sponsorships. Again, watch for more information at the December 19 meeting!

Rotary District Governor Presented with Major Check for Club’s Participation in Navajo Water Project

Members of Four Peaks Rotary gather around District Governor David Simmer at the Club’s November 21 meeting to present a \$10,000 check in support of Rotary International’s Navajo Water Project. Four Peaks Rotary has been designated as the lead club to host the aggressive effort to help the Navajo Nation in receiving fresh water for up to 90 households.



Club **NEWS** and **NOTES** for **DECEMBER**

New Club Members Invited to Attend 'Fireside Chat' Dinner and Presentation



All new members of Four Peaks Rotary within the past year are strongly urged to attend the upcoming annual "Fireside Chat" meeting, scheduled for January 15 at 5:30 pm

Once again, the dinner and presentation will be held at President-elect Scott Sommer's home.

The 'Fireside Chat' helps to create a Club atmosphere that's comfortable and inviting to all recent inductees. Current Club officers will attend to explain procedures and protocol as well as to answer questions regarding Club history and current events.

Pajama Program Set for December 13

Club Treasurer Patrick Benkowski is asking for volunteers to gather on December 13 at Mountain View Presbyterian Church (8050 Mountain View Road, Scottsdale) at 10 am for an annual Pajama Sorting event.

Four Peaks Rotary volunteers will assist other volunteer groups in sorting pajamas and books for various Valley charities.

QUIZ!

Wanna win a **free breakfast** at the next Club meeting? It's easy-deezy. Just answer the quiz on **page 9**.

The **first person** to answer correctly, wins!

Club Holiday Party Set for December 21

The Four Peaks Rotary Club's annual Holiday Party is scheduled for Saturday, December 21 at Ancala Country Club. Watch for news and updates coming seen from Social Chair Nicola Bird.



CELEBRATIONS

December Four Peaks Birthdays



John Colucci
December 1



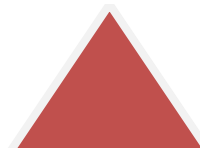
Larry Webster
December 13



Bill Beamish
December 22



Jack Reynolds
December 23



December Rotary Anniversaries



Sam Coffee
2016



Steve Fox
2016



Note: All birthday and Rotary anniversary dates are generated from the Four Peaks Rotary website and the Clubrunner platform

FOUR PEAKS ROTARY Officers Directors/Trustees Committees



<http://fourpeaksrotary.org/>

Board of Director Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month and are open to all Club members

Officers

President Jeff Poynter
President Elect Scott Sommer
Vice President Buzz Ponce

Board of Directors

John Colucci
Dave DeLucia
Michelle Webb

Secretary Nicola Bird
Treasurer Patrick Benkowski
Immediate Past President
Scott Schlossberg

Four Peaks Rotary Foundation

President Dick Bauer

Trustees

Bill Beamish
Sandy Davis
John Gianotti
Gil Miller

Secretary Art Tolis
Treasurer Tony Finocchio

Membership Chair

Greg Golucci

Sergeant at Arms

Jerry Berna

New Generations/Youth Services

Bill Beamish

Website/Social Media

Administrators

Amy Ashley
Cassie Johnson
Debbie Clason

Social Chair

Nicola Bird

Hospitality Chair

Pat Tuttle

Rotary District 5495

Assistant Governors

Michelle Holcomb
Fountain Hills Rotary Club
Jay Schlum
Four Peaks Rotary Club

DECEMBER FOUR PEAKS ROTARY QUIZ

Win a **FREE BREAKFAST** at the next Four Peaks Rotary Club meeting!
Be the first to answer:

What is a "Fireside Chat"?

Send answer to buzzponce@gmail.com

If you have been a quiz winner in the last two months, you are not eligible to win in December. Sorry 'bout that!



Four Peaks Club
 Fountain Hills, AZ

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