

## RI President's Representative, Betsy Owen



Frances V. "Betsy" Owen was born in Pensacola, Florida and grew up in Miami. She attended Emory University majoring in English, and minoring in biology. She had a 40 plus year career teaching English and photojournalism mass/ media on a junior high, senior high and college level in GA, Texas, and FL, receiving over 300 awards on a local, state, and national level for the publications she advised until her retirement in July, 2003 . She retired to Rotary and traveling with her husband of 30 years, Michael W. "Mike" Owen, whom she met ocean racing. They lead a very active life traveling, sailing on their ocean racer, Penny Ante, fishing on their power boat, Bumaround; wind surfing; kayaking; water skiing; snow skiing; playing tennis and golf and traveling. Betsy loves taking pictures of all of their adventures. She supports her husband's profession, real estate, also having her license since 1983.

Betsy went through the chairs in her club and went on to serve as AG for two years, becoming Governor in 2008–2009. She is currently Membership Chair and RLI Director and Faculty Member. On the Zone level she served as Zone 34 Literacy Resource Coordinator. This year she is on the Executive Committee for the second time and will be District 6930 Advisor to RI Director Anne Matthews for the second year. She is a Paul Harris Society member, Double Sustainer, Major Donor, and Bequest Society member and Benefactor. She has received Rotarian of the Year of her club and the district and the district's Service Above Self Award. A year ago she received the Service Above Self Award from the Board of Directors of Rotary International and the International Award for a Polio free World from the Rotary International Foundation Board of Trustees.

She volunteers for the Women's Council of Realtors®, Realtors® Association of the Palm Beaches, Florida Realtors®, Impact 100, Kappa Alpha Theta, and sits on the Board of Directors of Children's Home Society, Executive Women of Palm Beaches, Bermuda High West Beach and Tennis Club, and Florida Realtors®. Betsy and Mike have had the privilege of traveling on behalf of their Realtor and Rotary organizations around the world to 38 countries, but especially Africa, India, and Thailand, all doing good in the world.