

Rotary

Club of Marco Island Sunrise

PRESS RELEASE

Sunrise Rotary 2017 – 2018 Installation & Awards Banquet

The Rotary Club of Marco Island Sunrise recently held its installation and awards banquet at Hideaway Beach Club. The evening was a celebration installing Natalia Armstrong as President and recognizing those contributing to the Club's accomplishments under President Neil Snyder. Incoming Rotary District Governor Bobbi Bird installed President Armstrong along with her incoming board and officers consisting of President Elect Tom Wagor, President Elect nominee Tom Mann, Secretary Tina Nash, Treasurer Erik Condee, Directors Kathleen Beaufait, Bill Morris, Stan Niemczyk, Alexis Lessard, Kevin O'Fee and Bob Thomas. Before looking to the future of the new board, the Club shared accomplishments and recognized some of the Rotarians who made significant contributions during the past year.

In addition to being installed as President Natalia Armstrong was awarded Rotarian of the Year by Past Club President Eugenio Cardenas and Bob Thomas. Natalia Armstrong was selected for this recognition for numerous accomplishments during the year that include leading a partnership with Baby Basics of Collier County for the opening of a diaper distribution center on Marco Island for low income family's, co-leading a Veterans Resource and Job Fair, serving as Club Secretary and newsletter editor along with numerous volunteer hours contributed to Meals of Hope, the annual Seafood Festival, and other club community service projects. Stan Niemczyk individual received a Paul Harris Fellow, and Stan and his wife Donna presented two of their children Christopher and Amanda with Paul Harris Fellow recognition. The Paul Harris Fellow recognition acknowledges contribution of \$1,000.00 to the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. It is honorary recognition and is often bestowed upon non-

Rotarians by contribution of funds to the Rotary Foundation so the recipient can be recognized for good work.

President Snyder addressed many of the Clubs accomplishments during the past year. Those included, playing a leadership role in Meals of Hope packaging 256,000 meals, awarding \$35,000 in college scholarships to local students and the 9th Annual Seafood Festival. President Snyder was specifically spoke to club contributions to support to the Gift of Life that delivered 24 heart surgeries to children from Haiti, over \$4,000 contribution to the American Cancer Society, the highly successful first time fund raiser "Not So Newlywed Game" and the sending of over 500 holiday cards to the men and women serving overseas in a Holiday Card Drive.

Closing highlight of the evening was the address by incoming President Natalia Armstrong. Armstrong thank the members of the club for their confidence in her to assume this challenging role and the faith placed in her ability to lead the club. She echoed the words provided by District Governor Elect Bobbie Bird in that service in Rotary is fills the spirit. Armstrong said she looked to expand on the numerous accomplishments of the club and emphasized that the Sunrise Club members exemplify the foundation of Rotary as community leaders making a difference locally and internationally through service.

The Rotary Club of Marco Island Sunrise meets at Stonewall's American Bistro on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 A.M. For more information about the Club and its activities please contact Bill Morris at 239-642-6020 or via email at wgm@wgmorrislaw.com or visit the Rotary Club of Marco Island Sunrise website at www.marcosunriserotary.com.