



ROTARY CLUB OF PARADISE RIDGE NEWSLETTER

Serving the Ridge since 1946: WE ARE PEOPLE OF ACTION

Our Club Presidents: Kelli Gordon & Co-Pres. Sonny Ventimiglio

Web Page: paradiserotary.org

On Facebook: Rotary Club of Paradise

NOT Our July 9, 2026 Weekly Club Meeting, Instead

Volume 4, Issue 1

IT'S THE 2026 DEMOTION DINNER EDITION

President Kelli Gordon & Co-Pres. Sonny Ventimiglio conducted this meeting.

Guests in Attendance: Many. Club Members escorted their spouses, children, grand children and friends. There are lots of photos to examine to see who attended.

HIGHLIGHTS:

First, credit should be given to an organized staff for a fun and well executed Demotion Dinner Party. They were Erika E., PDG Pam G., Dana G., PP Brian G., Casey T., Ryan M., Heidi L. and Tom B. as MC.

Following our dinner catered by Italian Guy Catering, the festivities began. Ryan M. read from a prepared text that was somewhere between a toast and a mild roast. The text included a little insight about how the year of a Club President and Co-President unfolded.

Next, Erika E. presided over a little challenge question game for Kelli and Sonny titled "Have You Ever." Our guests of honor were given a two sided "answer card." The "Yes" side was colored green, the "No" side was colored red. With each question, our celebrities held up their card signifying a response to the question. The questions pertained to everyday occurrences or situations. For example, "Have you ever gone to the ATM in your pajamas?" They both answered "Yes!" (Green Card)

Following the frivolity, Kelli and Sonny took the floor for recognition of Board of Directors members and others in the club. First, recognition for Donn T., the Lunch Guy, who received a gorgeous commute mug/tumbler with Paradise embossed on one side and the Rotary Logo on the other side. It was a huge surprise and so appreciated. Then they read a "tag-team" poetic chronicle of their years sharing the Club Leadership role. It was tastefully done.

BOD Member recognition is a well founded tradition considering their responsibilities. The Board guides the Club, as described in the By-Laws, in all policy and financial matters. The successful functioning of the Club is a direct result of decisions by the Board. It should be noted that Co-President Sonny stated, regarding His and Kelli's position, "We felt all along that we were in place to serve you, not the other way around."

To cap the formality portion of the program, PP Brian G. stepped forward the *most cherished* reward for any Rotary Club President: The *Past President's Plaque* with a gavel attached to the front.

Here's the remainder of that long list of activities and events that PDG Pam compiled.

Thursday, July 16 - Lunch Meeting. Come hear Melissa's Rotary International Convention Report and celebrate a New Rotary year.

Thursday, July 23 - Lunch Meeting

Thursday, July 30 - 5th Thursday, normally dark. Instead, come to the Grand Re-Opening of *Paradise Elementary School*, 1 p.m. (Wear your Rotary Shirt)

Rotarians the World over subscribe to
THE ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST
of all we think, say, and do.

1. Is it the TRUTH? 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOOD WILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

FUTURE PROGRAM SPEAKERS:

7/16/26 - Pres. Mellissa C. Reports on the Rotary International Convention

7/23/26 - 4H Club, Bill Taylor and 2 Members Describe Paradise 4H And How Rotary Can Help

8/13/26 - Lacey Witten - Member Bio + An Update On The Latest From NCB

8/20/26 - PDG Pam Gray - Important RI Information We All Need

8/27/26 - Nicole LaJeunesse, Regenerating Paradise and PATCH Updates

LIGHTEN UP :

WYMI—The all philosophy radio station.—*Mike Dugan*

THE PICTURE PAGE

There are 3 events to cover in pictures. July 4th Parade of Flags Response, The Demotion Dinner Meeting, and the District Awards & Installation Dinner.

The support for posting the Flags on July 4th was outstanding: 5 Rotarians and a bunch of friends. A smaller group turned out for retrieving the flags. The 3 folks on the left of the pic came from across the street to help us since they had completed their route! Real Rotary spirit.



Included here are few meaningful Demotion Dinner pics. As far as the podium oriented activity goes, you really had to be there. It was everything a Demotion Dinner should be.





And now for the District Awards and Installation Dinner, which is really just another excuse to have a great dinner with very active, enthusiastic Rotarians. Yes, there is an installation ceremony, of sorts. PDG George Chaffee, the perennial conductor of the installation ceremony keeps it light with some humor laced advice for the assembled PE's as they assume their new roles.

This is also the occasion when a new District Governor begins a year of Rotary leadership service. Being a Rotary District Governor is a challenging but rewarding position to assume. Since each Club in the District is independent, with a distinct personality, the Governor's task is a little like herding cats. Fortunately for Governors, all Clubs are expected to function under Rotary International guidelines. Overall, Governorship is a happy challenge. Just ask PDG Pam.



Woody Fridae, DG 2026-2027



PDG George Chaffee



MELISSA

