

## History of Halloween

*Halloween's origins date back to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain (pronounced sow-in). The Celts, who lived 2,000 years ago in the area that is now Ireland, the United Kingdom and northern France, celebrated their new year on November 1. This day marked the end of summer and the harvest and the beginning of the dark, cold winter, a time of year that was often associated with human death. Celts believed that on the night before the new year, the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead became blurred. On the night of October 31 they celebrated Samhain, when it was believed that the ghosts of the dead returned to earth. In addition to causing trouble and damaging crops, Celts thought that the presence of the otherworldly spirits made it easier for the Druids, or Celtic priests, to make predictions about the future. For a people entirely dependent on the volatile natural world, these prophecies were an important source of comfort and direction during the long, dark winter.*

*To commemorate the event, Druids built huge sacred bonfires, where the people gathered to burn crops and animals as sacrifices to the Celtic deities. During the celebration, the Celts wore costumes, typically consisting of animal heads and skins, and attempted to tell each other's fortunes. When the celebration was over, they re-lit their hearth fires, which they had extinguished earlier that evening, from the sacred bonfire to help protect them during the coming winter.*

*By 43 A.D., the Roman Empire had conquered the majority of Celtic territory. In the course of the four hundred years that they ruled the Celtic lands, two festivals of Roman origin were combined with the traditional Celtic celebration of Samhain. The first was Feralia, a day in late October when the Romans traditionally commemorated the passing of the dead. The second was a day to honor Pomona, the Roman goddess of fruit and trees. The symbol of Pomona is the apple and the incorporation of this celebration into Samhain probably explains the tradition of "bobbing" for apples that is practiced today on Halloween.*

*On May 13, 609 A.D., Pope Boniface IV dedicated the Pantheon in Rome in honor of all Christian martyrs, and the Catholic feast of All Martyrs Day was established in the Western church. Pope Gregory III (731-741) later expanded the festival to include all saints as well as all martyrs, and moved the observance from May 13 to November 1. By the 9th century the influence of Christianity had spread into Celtic lands, where it gradually blended with and supplanted the older Celtic rites. In 1000 A.D., the church would make November 2 All Souls' Day, a day to honor the dead. It is widely believed today that the church was attempting to replace the Celtic festival of the dead with a related, but church-sanctioned holiday. All Souls Day was celebrated similarly to Samhain, with big bonfires, parades, and dressing up in costumes as saints, angels and devils. The All Saints Day celebration was also called All-hallows or All-hallowmas (from Middle English Alholowmesse meaning All Saints' Day) and the night before it, the traditional night of Samhain in the Celtic religion, began to be called All-hallows Eve and, eventually, Halloween.*

## Club Officers 2011-2012

President	Larry Masut
Vice President	Carl Flanagan
President Elect	Marc Shapot
President Elect-Elect	Keith Taylor
Secretary	Alison Markham
Treasurer	Grant Bryson
R.I. Foundation	Don Shook
Sgt. At Arms	Jim Farrior
C.R. Foundation Treasurer	Paul Cash

## Board of Directors 2011-2012

Wendy Hall	Billy Sasser
Bob Haines	Don Shook
Fancy Taylor	Patty Silvey
Carl Flanagan	Casey Jones
Keith Taylor	

## Committee Chairs

Membership	Fancy Taylor
Public Relations	Casey Jones
Club Service	Keith Taylor

Club Administration/Leadership	Patty Silvey
Fund Raising	Marc Shapot

## Interact

President:	Kristen Wilson
Vice Presidents	Claudia Whitmarsh Reece Sisto

## Rotary Club of Crystal River Club #4267 District #6950

P.O. Box 1207  
Crystal River, Florida 34423 USA  
<http://www.crystalriverrotary.com/>

## 2010-2011 Recipient Rotary International President's Citation



October 2011

## Please "Make Up"

We need 100% Attendance! Local Clubs welcome you for your "Make Up" meeting:

- Tuesday Inverness 12:00 PM Inverness Family Restaurant
- Tuesday Sugarmill 5:00 PM Sugarmill Woods Country Club
- Wednesday Central Citrus 7:30 AM Black Diamond Clubhouse
- Wednesday Kings Bay 12:15 PM Café on the Avenue
- Thursday Homosassa 7:00 AM Luigi's Restaurant

MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS ARE MAKE-UPS TOO!

<http://www.rotaryclub34.org/> or

<http://www.rotaryclubone.org/programs.htm>

### Birthdays

Keith Taylor 10/31



### Anniversaries

Cheryl and John Phillips 11/1

### Club Anniversaries

NONE



SERVICE Above Self

## Visitors and Visiting Rotarians

Guests:

This Week:

Mac Harris—Just Acting Out

Next Week:

Gene Beil—Foundation Month

## Rotary Calendar

- November 5—Stone Crab Jam 4pm to 11 pm West Citrus Avenue
- November 8 @ 6:00pm —Literacy Dinner Crystal River Primary
- November 17—TGIAF 5:30pm at Lollygaggers
- Call for Governor Nominees for Rotary Year 2014–2015—Contact DS Brenda Wendt at wendt3@gate.net by 11/30/2011
- December 3—Christmas Shopping and Crystal River Christmas Parade
- December 16—6pm—Christmas party at Julie and Keith Taylor's Home
- February 16—Travels with KC at Pecks (Travel photos and commentary by KC Nayfield)
- April 19–23 Annual Rotary District Cruise—Royal Caribbean's Jewel of the Seas



Of the things we think, say or do  
1. Is it the TRUTH?  
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?  
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?  
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

**Monday, October 31, 2011**

Mark your calendars for the

# The Fourth Annual Stone Crab Jam

Saturday, November 5th, 2011  
4pm-11pm • West Citrus Avenue

The Streets will be filled with

- Seven LIVE Bands!
- Vendors & Crafters
- Great Local Food
- Stone Crab Claws
- Wine & Beer

ADMISSION \$5 • V.I.P. \$50  
Money! \$2.00 is limited.

[www.stonecrabjam.com](http://www.stonecrabjam.com)

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