

## TVBP May 2, 2018 LUNCH MEETING

Tierra Verde Business Partnership president Hunter Grose called the lunch meeting to order at noon at Tony & Nello's. In attendance were 22, including special guest Island Law Enforcer Deputy Glenn Jones, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office.

In member introductions, Kathy Rader of Bayway Travel Services said it was national travel agent day (yeah!) and Laurie Laurenty of Solutions Insurance said it was her 10th year running a business on Tierra Verde (also yeah!).

Oktoberfest plans are underway for the Saturday, Oct. 20, event, benefiting Heaven on Earth for Vets. This non-profit has supplied nine homes in south Pinellas County for homeless vets who eventually turn their lives around. Several TVBP members are familiar with its work and laud the leader Lt. Col. Carol Barkalow and the organization overall. Grose said Oktoberfest meetings are held on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. at the TV fire station – dates TBA.

Gaye Wurzbacher reported the Saturday, Dec. 1, Tree Lighting is reaching its 8<sup>th</sup> year. This event helps the Lealman (and TV) fire stations in their holiday goodwill efforts. Those who bring an unwrapped toy to the tree festival will receive a raffle ticket – this is new this year.

With an enthusiastic response to the 125-vehicle CAR SHOW held March 31, chairman Jim Swayne of Safer Home Services stated for the record, "I'll do the car show," again committing to leading the big volunteer project.

This brings TVBP to its \$2,500 car show proceeds check for the Pinellas Sheriff's Police Athletic League (PAL). Representing PAL were Sarah Crouse, business manager, and Daniel Mineo, grants specialist manager. They followed their check photo-op with a short video on what all the Lealman branch of PAL does for 200 to 300 kids each year.

The video featured testimonials from kids, parents and PAL staffers. It showed the range of services from sports to field trips. But Mineo said helping with homework is a priority plus providing dinner during the after school program.

Before concluding the meeting, Grose talked about having six (6) socials and five (5) lunches yearly for TVBP, eliminating breakfasts. Membership seemed to embrace the idea. He noted there will be a cost such as \$8 to \$10 per person for socials but that was also well received.

Grose also asked for anyone to step up who wants to serve on the TVBP board. Next TVBP meeting is a social at Donnie B's at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. TVBP adjourned at 1 p.m.