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**The Four-Way Test  
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?**

**On-Line Makeup • [www.rotarydistrict6920.net](http://www.rotarydistrict6920.net)  
Financial Administrator: [treasurer@ssirotary.org](mailto:treasurer@ssirotary.org)**

Rotary Club of St. Simons • Founded in 1950 – [www.ssirotary.org](http://www.ssirotary.org)  
Meets Tuesday 1 P.M. - Sea Palms Golf & Tennis Resort  
Rotary Club of St. Simons • P.O. Box 21887 • St. Simons Island, GA 31522  
[www.rotarydistrict6920.net](http://www.rotarydistrict6920.net) • [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) for Rotary International

**Rotary Spray**  
**Today's Program - March 15, 2011**

**Morris Bendit**, Holocaust Survivor and  
**Witness, Dr. Adam Bronstone**, Community En-  
gagement Director, Jewish Federation of Jacksonville

**Program - March 8, 2011**

**Maestro Luis Haza**

**World Renowned Violinist, Conductor**

For Maestro Luis Haza, his is a language of music. At age 2 he knew he wanted to play the violin and believes music chose him.

The story of how he came to America and succeeded beyond his wildest dreams is heart wrenching. His family was always associated with the political structure of Cuba. He is the great-great grandson of the first President of Cuba. Luis' father was a career police officer and a Baptist. He was against communism and made a conscious decision to remain in his office to effect change for Cuba. He wanted freedom of choice and free elections for the citizens of Cuba. He was instrumental in the revolution that allowed Fidel Castro to come down from the mountains to lead Cuba.

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**Area Rotary Clubs**

Club	Venue	Day & Time
Brunswick	Brunswick Country Club	Thu. 12:45 PM
Glynn County	Brunswick Hospital	Wed. 7:30 AM
Jekyll Island	Jekyll Island Club Hotel	Wed. 7:30 AM
St. Simons Island	Sea Palms (Call before)	Tue. 1:00 PM
SSI Marshes of Glynn	Epworth – Jinks Dining Room	Thu. 7:30 AM

### Club Guests

Troy Hull, Dana Haza, Elizabeth Roberts  
Nancy Matthews - John Mathews

### Greeters

3/15 - Bill Snyder, Robert Spouse  
3/22 - Becky Stephenson, Pasquale Storino

### Visiting Rotarians

Alanna Kirt - Manitowac WI

### Attendance

88 Members = 71%  
6 Guests = 94

### Rotobucks

Tuffy Adams \$45

### Birthdays 03/15 - 03/21

Sue Taylor 3/16  
James Szwast 3/20



### March 8 Program Speaker Maestro Luis Haza

The story of how he came to America and succeeded beyond his wildest dreams is heart wrenching.

### Club News

**District Conference**—Register online for the District Conference to be held in Augusta, May 13-15.

**Bert Flexer** received his red badge and will be presented with his blue badge after attending the Red Badge Bootcamp on 3/15.

**Baby Steps** - Readers are still needed for this program. Contact Linda Muir or Paige Faulk to sign up.

### Upcoming Programs

**March, 22, 2011**, Dr. John E. Shaner, MD., “Palliative Care and Incapacity Planning: Important Steps Toward Peace of Mind”.

**March 29, 2011**, Dr. William Rawlings, “The decline of small town Georgia and the rise of big city Georgia in the Twentieth Century”.

**April 5, 2011**, Jay M. Self, Film Services Director “Acquiring the Filming of Hollywood Movies”, City of Savannah.

### Maestro Luis Haza, Continued

On inauguration day, Luis' father was standing by Castro's side and was touted for his efforts in the revolution. Castro stated in his speech that he (Castro) had no political ambition, was a Christian and would be guided by God. Four days later Luis' father was abducted from his home in the dead of night and was executed four days later. Luis was 8 years old. He and his family including 5 children, his mother, an uncle and an aunt quickly moved to another town. Unbeknownst to Luis' family, his uncle was communist and knew what was about to happen to his father but did nothing to stop it. As a child musical prodigy, the government tried to use his talents as an example that the revolution was a success for at age 11 he made his debut and at age 12 conducted his first orchestra.

During this time, boys were not allowed to leave Cuba because they had to serve in the military. Luis' family was able to leave Cuba due to his uncle's wife's relationship with Castro's number 1 mistress. Luis' grandmother went to her son and told him he needed to get them out of Cuba. His uncle's wife made the arrangements through the mistress. His family spent six months in Spain waiting for permission to immigrate to the US. In 1964, a Baptist organization sponsored the family and loaned them the money for the trip to the US. He came to live in Washington DC. When he was getting off of the plane, a gentleman handed him his violin which he thought had been left behind. He still has it to this day. Within a year his family repaid the loan. Immediately Americans reached out to help him and his family. Due to a recommendation by a music teacher, he auditioned for a scholarship based solely on merit for the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. After spending time there, he was recommended for the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. He went on to become a world renowned violinist and maestro. He married a successful woman in her own right from St. Simons Island and when he decided to retire, the Island was the obvious choice. Luis' last words were “America is exceptional for all of its virtues and what it does for the world” and that “if your dream is big enough and you work hard enough, the sky is the limit in America”. His dreams were made possible beyond his wildest imagination because of the kindness of the Americans he came into contact with on his journey.



### First Tuesday at the House

Photo from the March 1 gathering. Pictured (L-R) are Mary Beth Wester, Susan Hardwick, Mike Muldowney, Randy Wester, Nancy Muldowney and Barbara Bruce.