



The Spoke

“Making A Difference”

“Interactors Help Rebuild PreSchool”



Editor’s Note: Rotary regularly publishes its “New Generations” newsletter, detailing the activities of Interact, Rotaract and RYLA. It’s an inspiring and fun “read,” emphasizing the spirit and commitment that is Rotary. Here is one such story told by Zaahidali Nathu, (pictured above) a member of the Interact Club of Hugh Boyd Secondary School, Richmond, British Columbia, Canada.

“This past summer, I got to go on a trip of a lifetime to an orphanage in South Africa called Refilwe. The orphanage is in a settlement just outside of Johannesburg, South Africa. Joining me on the amazing trip were seven other Interact members from Hugh Boyd Secondary School in Richmond, British Columbia, Canada, two teachers, and four Richmond firefighters. Our biggest accomplishment was rebuilding a preschool, or crèche as they would call it in South Africa. The first day we got there we knew we had to do something to help them. Their school was built out of makeshift materials and didn’t even have toilets. We started our work as soon as we could and in about a week we had completely rebuilt the school. **These kids were so happy. The smiles on their faces made all of us feel a huge sense of accomplishment, knowing we had been able to help. No matter who you are, where you live, or how insignificant you may feel in comparison to the world’s problems, you have an opportunity to truly make a difference through Interact and Rotary.**”

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LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Bobbi presided. **Susan Schmitt** delivered the invocation; **Dick Fredrickson** led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Brian Olitsky** the 4 Way Test. **Ron Anderson** led a rousing version of "Vive Le Rotary."



Jack Powers introduced us to this month's Estero High School Awards of Excellence winners. Congratulations to Gina Sheehay (Faculty); Ruthy

Cepeda (Staff); Nicole Patel (Academic student); and Caitlyn Nicholson (Service student) for your commitment and contribution.

Gift of Life...Special thanks go out to **Mark and Karen McCaw** for agreeing to host our Gift of Life Child Anna Weins. If your schedule will permit you to offer some "logistical" assistance to Mark and Karen, during Anna's stay please so advise **Ron Anderson**.

Jon McLeod offered us an update of the preparations underway



in support of his Gift of Life bicycle journey which will commence later this year. One of the important ways we can support Jon right now is by signing up for the bos2kw blog.

Not only will the blog keep you fully informed as "launch day" approaches, it helps tell the Gift of Life story to individuals who are not involved

with Rotary and provides evidence of the commitment, support and interest helpful in garnering funding assistance. Signing up for the blog can be completed in a matter of seconds. If you have not already done so, please see Jon for assistance.

Having Heart...**Julie Pedretti** reported that last week we collected 191 pounds of food for the Bonita Assistance Office in support of our Rotary Has Heart initiative. Next week our suggested donation items are baby formula (especially formula for lactose intolerant babies) and toothpaste. Thanks for your continuing support.



Our Speaker...last week we met Roger Desjarlais, Lee County Manager and Betsy Clayton, Lee County Communications Director.



Roger has more than 35 years in local government. Prior to assuming his current position with Lee County, he served as Broward County Manager,

overseeing a \$2.5 billion dollar budget and 6,500 employees. Roger's presentation focused on 2014 and the challenges and perspective he encountered during his first six months as our County Manager. Roger's presentation considered a number of interesting public policy strategies and approaches. Thanks for visiting Roger. We look forward to an update at some point in the future.

“A Wonderful 70 Minutes”

Editor’s Note: “It’s A Wonderful Life—A Live Radio Play” recently appeared Off-Broadway to critical acclaim. Here’s what Roma Torre, Theatre critic for NY1, had to say about the production.

“New York has certainly seen its share of film-to-stage adaptations, and it seems everyone’s getting into the act, even that off-Broadway stalwart, the Irish Rep. But instead of trying to reproduce “It’s A Wonderful Life” on stage, the company turned the film classic into a radio play, and no matter how many times you’ve seen the movie, you’re bound to get a renewed jolt of nostalgia for those quaintly endearing residents of Bedford Falls, N.Y.

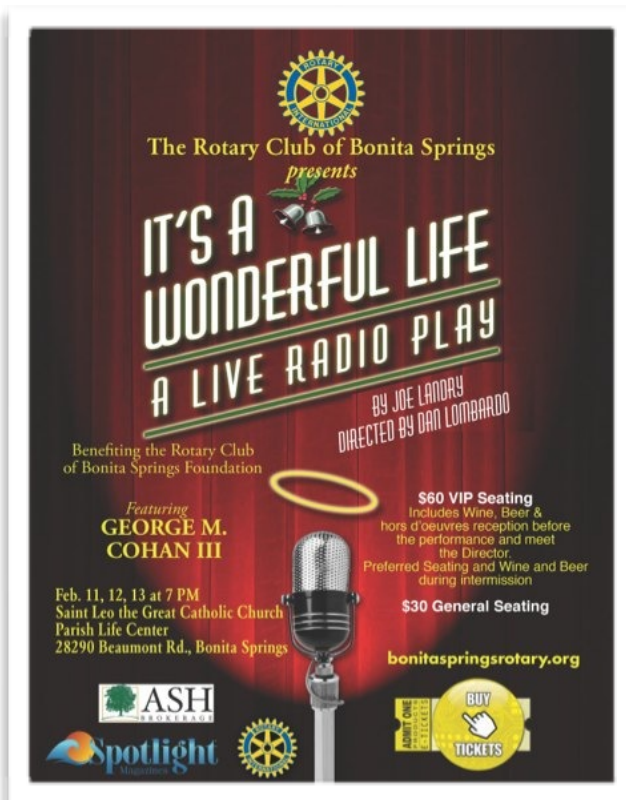
Faithfully adapted by Anthony E. Palermo under Charlotte Moore’s canny direction in the Rep’s tiny basement space, “It’s A Wonderful Life: The Live Radio Play” presents the story of George Bailey as a radio show in 1946. The actors carry scripts and play multiple roles distinguished by various hats and crude sound effects.

Affable George just can’t seem to get a break. Eager to go to college and see the world, he’s forced to stay home and run his father’s savings and loan business. And just as life finally seems to go George’s way with a marriage to his high school sweetheart, along with a big house and family, disaster strikes, and George decides to end it all. But then there’s Clarence, the bumbling but wise angel, to save the day.

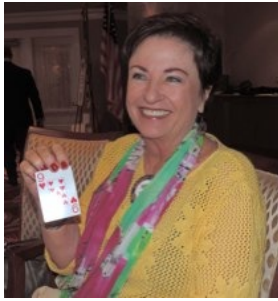
If it’s the holiday spirit you’re after and tired of all the hype this time of year, you can do no better than spending 70 wonderful minutes experiencing the delightful re-telling of Frank Capra’s classic movie”

Our team, under **Bob Lombardo’s** vision and leadership, is diligently working to produce for us their

own “wonderful 70 minutes.” And we can offer our support, assistance and enthusiasm for their efforts. Now is the time to buy (or sell) your tickets and heed Bob’s call for volunteer help. We deeply appreciate their efforts and look forward to celebrating “It’s A Wonderful Life” February 11-13.



Rotary Club of Bonita Springs, chartered November 3, 1978, meets every Wednesday at Bonita Bay Club. The Club may be contacted through its mailing address P.O. Box 474, Bonita Springs Florida 34133, or its websites www.bonitaspringsrotary.org. and www.facebook.com/myrotary. **The Spoke**, the Club’s official newsletter, is published weekly throughout the year (except when the Club is in recess.) You can reach the Spoke through its email riverchip12-spoke@yahoo.com



**“The Fifty-Fifty”
This Week’s Big Prize-~~€~~1,587.50**

Last week a delighted Susan Schmitt drew the Nine of Hearts to win ~~€~~500.

As always,,we’re all winners as the “fifty-fifty” helps keep our Club strong and ready to serve.

**“Rotary Sings”
“Are You Sleeping”**



Frère
Jacques,
frère
Jacques,
Dormez-
vous ?
Dormez-
vous ?

Sonnez les matines ! Sonnez
les matines !
Ding, daing, dong. Ding, daing,
dong.

Are you sleeping, are you
sleeping,
Brother John? Brother John?
Morning bells are ringing!
Morning bells are ringing!
Ding, dang, dong. Ding, dang,
dong.



***It’s A Birthday
Celebration!***

Jon McLeod, January 24



**Our
Upcoming
Speakers**

**This Morning,
Ben Nelson,
Mayor, City of Bonita
Springs**

This Morning’s Invocation

Dear God, whose existence we humbly and gratefully acknowledge, within whose providence we have been held since last we gathered here, and from whose beneficent hand we have received bounties unnumbered, bless now this gathering with Your Presence. Be with us at these tables that our fellowship will be wholesome and meaningful, and that the noble purposes of our club will receive our renewed commitment.

In all of life’s interactions, help us to cleave to everything true and fair, and to unselfishly seek to benefit others in the spirit of good will. We pray in the name and spirit of the Lord whose example we have been challenged to follow. Amen.

The 4-Way Test
Of the things we think, say or
do.

Is it the **TRUTH**?
Is its **FAIR** to all concerned?
Will it build **GOODWILL**
and **BETTER**
FRIENDSHIPS?
Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to
all concerned?

