



The Spoke

“A Rotarian Tradition”

“We label, smile, and anticipate Dictionary Day”



We prepared for Dictionary Day this past Saturday by labeling textbooks at the Lee County Board of Education Building. It is a task that is fun, festive, and Rotarian. Thanks to all who participated and to Event Chair **Roger Brunswick** for his leadership and providing and hosting a much appreciated and delectable breakfast buffet.

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LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Sandy presided. **Chris Riesen** delivered the invocation; our speaker David M. Grossi, Sr. led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Steven Slachta** the 4 Way Test. Musical Director **Dale Timple** led us in an inspirational version of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

Mark Your Calendars

President Sandy reminded us all that our inaugural "Rotary-Rotaract Get Acquainted Picnic" will take place Saturday September 13 from 10 am - 2 pm at the Estero Bay Park Pavilion which is located inside Bonita Bay. The Picnic supports the newly introduced Rotary Resource initiative. If you have not already done so, please RSVP this morning.



A Paul Harris Moment



Paul Harris presentations always command a special place on our Club meeting agenda and last week we were especially pleased to celebrate **Martha Erickson's** receipt of next-level Paul Harris designation. Martha is a long time Rotarian, having joined the South Bend Club in 1985 and ours in 2006. Martha and her late husband Rick became Rotarians because of Rotary's world-wide fight to end polio.

Professionally, Martha is a dietitian, earning her Bachelors and Masters Degrees from Michigan State and Purdue Universities. She has lectured and written many articles on the subject of nutrition. Congratulations Martha for not only being a great Rotarian but for your compassion and generosity.

Our Speaker

Last week we heard from David M. Gross, Sr., a retired Police Lieutenant and Commander of Firearms/Force Training in upstate New York. He has held a number of law enforcement positions of responsibility including patrol officer, narcotic investigator, detective, sergeant, lieutenant, and training commander.

David holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Police Administration from the State University of New York and completed graduate work at the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. He has authored over 350



articles on issues relating to law enforcement and served as a consultant to the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office in the OJ Simpson case. His presentation focused on that case and Mr. Grossi offered a number of interesting insights. Thanks for a great and informative presentation.

This Summer's Golf Journey

Hard to believe but this summer's golf journey is nearing its end. As this happy group who had just finished conquering



Shadow Wood Preserve will attest, its been a summer of fun and great memories. There's still great golf yet to play—so watch your email and reserve a tee time. Thanks to **Mark McCaw** for making it all possible.

Around The Club

Shots for Tots: A Proud Rotarian Tradition

Last Tuesday evening Rotarians gathered at the First Presbyterian Church, as they had for the past 19 nineteen years, in support of “Shots for Tots,” a program that had provided free vaccinations to approximately 7,800 children. Last Tuesday was special because it marked the end of this noble and most Rotarian of programs.

A joint effort of our Club, the Lee County Health Department and First Presbyterian, ‘Shots for Tots’ began in January, 1995 and offered shots the first Tuesday of every month. A total of nearly 17,000 shots have been administered, including immunizations against polio, measles, chicken pox, and a dozen other ailments that threatened children’s health.

The program was begun at the request of the Children’s Services Council which asked the Rotary Club to help establish a clinic in the area because many families did not have access to local health providers. Shots for Tots is being discontinued because the Health Department will no longer have personnel available to provide these services outside their own facilities.

The guiding force behind Shots for Tots has always been **Ira Hawk**. Ira is an extraordinarily courageous and remarkable Rotarian. His compassionate, commitment to service embodies all it means to be Rotarian.

In 2006 Lee County celebrated “Ira Hawk Day.” Ira was honored during one of our Club meetings for his Shots for Tots service (shown left) and the Commissioner’s Resolution noted **“Ira’s keen understanding of the importance of childhood immunizations for all children has positively impacted the community of Bonita Springs and greater Lee County. The Rotary Club has made childhood immunizations a major focus, and Ira is on the front lines, spreading the word, helping to keep our community strong and healthy.”**



The Author challenged us so long ago to turn our eyes to “the distant soaring ranges.” Ira has certainly done that for over 7800 children and their families—for that they and we will always be most grateful.

Congratulations Stephanie



President Bobbi acknowledged **Stephanie Kissinger’s** membership recruitment efforts by presenting Stephanie with a membership pin, emblematic of a new

program Rotary has developed to recognize and thank those who contribute to the long term strength and vibrancy of our Organization. Thanks Stephanie for your vision and leadership.



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—\$1162**

Last week a delighted Susan Schmitt drew the Ten of Clubs to win \$500. As always,,we're all winners as the "fifty-fifty" helps keep our Club strong and ready to serve.



***It's A
Birthday
Celebration!***

None to Report



**This
Morning's
Speaker**

**Anna Rodriguez,
Human Trafficking**

**"Rotary Sings"
"Bye Bye Blackbird"**

Pack up all my care and woe
Here I go, singing low
Bye bye blackbird

Where somebody waits for
me
Sugar's sweet, so is he
Bye bye blackbird

No one here can love or
understand me
Oh, what hard luck stories
they all hand me
Make my bed and light the
light
I'll arrive late tonight
Blackbird, bye bye

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?

This Morning's Invocation

Eternal God, we acknowledge Your Gift of yet another day of life in which we can receive and implement Your Blessings. Having entered the month of September with its Rotary designation as New Generations Month, we give thanks for the hundreds of teenagers and young adults involved in Interact and Rotaract throughout the world, and for all youngsters involved in children's programs of various kinds.

As schools have opened in our own community we pray for students, teachers and administrators committed to imparting knowledge and moral values to our children. Protect our youngsters from physical harm and from evil influences. Indwell our presence now as we share food and fellowship. Help us to be always mindful of the Divine Source of all our blessings.

Amen.

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