



The Spoke

“Avenues of Service”

Our Sheriff’s Office Travels Various Avenues to Serve and Protect



Last week we were pleased to hear from Major Kathy Rairden of the Lee County Sheriff’s Office. Major Rairden was promoted from captain to major last year, making her the first female in Lee County’s history to earn that rank. Major Rairden was born and raised in Naples, Florida where graduated from Naples High School and Edison State College. Major Rairden started her law enforcement career with the Lee County Sheriff’s Office in November of 1993.

While Major Rairden provided an excellent and comprehensive overview of the ways in which the Sheriff’s Office positively impacts the lives of all Lee County residents, she focused on the Office’s goal of providing a safe learning environment for our public school students. Currently the Lee County has a Deputy Sheriff in every middle school and high school in the County. They handle and manage all matters relating to safety. Consideration has been given to adding these School Resource Officers to elementary schools as it has been found that they can provide and offer an important mentoring function. Thanks Major for your leadership service and a great presentation. Visit again soon.

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 The Rotary Club of Bonita
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LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Bobbi presided. **Stephanie Kissinger** delivered the invocation; Major Kathy Rairden of the Lee County Sheriff's Office the Pledge of Allegiance; and **George Cohan** the 4 Way Test. **Ron Anderson** led a rousing version of the "Yellow Rose of Texas."



Bob Lombardo offered a report on our upcoming theatrical production. The committee is looking for members who have expertise in costuming. Please see Bob if you would like to help.

Shots for Tots

Shots for Tots is one of our Club's signature and most revered community service initiative.

Dick Fredrickson coordinated our most recent session and **Clara Anne Graham** reported this year the program has already served 164 children. Thanks to all for the devotion and commitment shown this program. If you would like to help, please see Clara for additional information.

Thanks to all who participated in last week's labeling efforts in anticipation of "Dictionary Day," which **Roger Brunswick** reports will be October 4. Our Club will be distributing dictionaries at four schools and a sign-up will be circulating. Please participate if you can--it is a most worthwhile way to spend a portion of your morning.



Stephanie Kissinger thanked everyone who participated in the "build" of our Community Garden last Saturday. She acknowledged **Dale Timple's** hard work and leadership



which made construction run smoothly and efficiently. Thanks once again to all who participated. Site enhancements are continuing with the actual ribbon cutting scheduled at the Garden Wednesday morning, October 2 at 9:30. Please attend if you can.

President Bobbi reported that the District Foundation and Membership Seminar is October 5 at the Cultural Center of Charlotte County. The seminar lasts a half day with the Luncheon speaker being Past District Governor Marcy Ullom. You can register online at the District website. The Club will reimburse you for the \$25 registration fee. While you are on the District website also consider registering for the Rotary Leadership Institute which will take place on October 12. The Club will also reimburse you for that registration fee.

And finally...our Club has a supply of banners with our new logo which you may use for presentation when you visit Rotary Clubs during your travels. There will be a few at the front desk--or contact **Sandy Scoggins** in the event the desk supply has run out.

RI Reports--Rotarian Action Group Helps Feed Our World Neighbors

Australian Bruce French has been eating locally for 35 years— long before it became a culinary trend. Now he’s working with Rotary members to help countries struggling with food security do the same.

French founded the not-for-profit Food Plants International, which maintains a database of 25,000 edible plants that includes descriptions, lists of countries and climates where they grow, photos and drawings, and cooking methods.

“There are thousands of nutritious plants, but people don’t have any information about them,” says Buz Green, an agriculturalist and member of the Rotary Club of Devonport North in Australia. “We’re trying to bridge some of the gaps.” Green launched the Learn Grow project with French in 2007 to help people in developing countries grow local food that suits their nutritional needs.

The project receives support from the Devonport North club and Rotary District 9830. Early last year, the RI Board recognized the Food Plant Solutions Rotarian Action Group, whose 195 members are helping support Learn Grow efforts. Past RI Director John Thorne chairs the group.

“Rotarian teams in developing countries inevitably identify hunger, malnutrition, and

food security as critical issues,” Green explains. “They tend to look to Western solutions to address food production issues.”

The problem, he says, is that Western crops don’t have the right nutritional profile for people in the developing world, whose diets often have little variety. Indigenous crops can allow them to eat more nutritiously and are already adapted to local pests, diseases, and climatic conditions.

“Virtually every woman in the tropical world is anemic,” French adds. “We go there with cabbages and make the situation 10 times worse.”



In 2010 Learn Grow launched a pilot project in the Solomon Islands, producing a compendium of local edible plants, field guides for growers, and a book on crops for schools and community groups. Local organizations provide support and distribute information while a qualified agriculturalist

serves as a technical support specialist. The project team has received inquiries from 20 developing countries; another effort is underway in North Korea where a Canadian Rotary member will serve as the specialist.

The principles of eating locally are gaining momentum in the Western world, French says. “My children and lots of other people thought I was eccentric for 35 years. Now I’ve become fairly trendy in my old age.”



Rotary Club of Bonita Springs, chartered November 3, 1978, meets every Tuesday at Pelican’s Nest 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

In unprecedented, historic, and dramatic fashion both Steve Krehniak and Bob Lorenz were winners in last week's "Fifty-Fifty."

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

"Rotary Sings" "All Hail to Rotary"

Tune: "Anchors Aweigh"

All hail to Rotary!
Steadfast and strong.
We'll strive to hold our
course,
Though days seem dark
And things go wrong,
Service in all we do
Friends ever free,
Until we meet once more
Here's health to all our
friends in Rotary!



*It's A Birthday
Celebration!*

Bill Banfield, Sept 29

Our Upcoming Speakers This Morning,



**FGCU
Rotaract
"Update"**

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

Good and Gracious God, whose ways we sometimes only dimly understand, but whose love is brightly revealed, whose grace is broadly given, whose goodness flows to us in abundance, we acknowledge that we live within your overarching Providence. We ask for help in fulfilling the expectations of us who are committed to serving others above ourselves.

We offer thanks for food to nourish our bodies and for fellowship to refresh our relationships. And as we go about our tasks during the remainder of the day, keep us, we pray, in your protective and sustaining hands. Amen.

Your finances. Your future. *Our focus.*

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