



The Spoke

Secret Keeper



Chris Riesen introduced our speaker **Brent Barkway**, Business Development Manager at Lee County Economic Development Office. His main focus is working with companies from outside of Florida. These deals must be developed without revealing company names.

Most recently he was project manager for the relocation of Hertz from NJ and Oklahoma offices to Estero. He notes that one

big question for potential transferees is the opportunity for spousal employment.

Brent praised the helpful work of the Community Development Department in dealing with the company long before they knew the company was Hertz.

In addition, the Economic Development Office has a close relationship with both Edison State College and FGCU. The schools are very willing to develop programs for a company that has a large number of employees needing training in a particular area.

The Hertz announcement has resulted in the area now being viewed as a possible business location not just a tourist place. Brent said there is now a focus on trying to develop the area near the airport. He said, "We have a number of companies looking, but haven't snagged one yet."

Of course, this was just another example of secret keeping. The **next day** it was announced that Alta Resources would be taking over space in Gateway near the airport bringing 400 new jobs.

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LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President-Elect **Bobbi Bird** presided on *National Catfish Day*. **Jim Dati** delivered the invocation; **Greg Holtz** led the Pledge of Allegiance; and new member **Kae Moore** delivered the 4-Way Test flawlessly. **Jon McLeod** and **Dale Timble** led the singing of *When Johnny Comes Marching Home*.

Jack Blake expressed his delight at being able to attend the meeting.

Mark Generales was Sgt-at-Arms for the day. He introduced visitor **Donna Marcotte**, membership manager of The Colony Golf & Country Club.

When he finished, Bobbi announced a fine for a table with no women. The men protested that she wasn't the Sgt-at-Arms but Bobbi prevailed saying, "I am Acting President and I top that!"

The *STARSPANGLED* 5k will be coming up on Thursday morning. **Brian Olitsky** is looking for runners/walkers to sign up as well as volunteers to help with registration, water distribution, and traffic control.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Our man in Wimauma, **Gary Price**, related an interesting tale of the "government" man trying to explain the benefits of zoning to working folks in Wimauma, rural Hillsboro county.

While working for the county, Gary and his assistant went to a "town meeting" at the church there. Gary's assistant ignored Gary's repeated attempts to get him to the front of the room. After the meeting, the assistant said, "Well, I heard them talking about lynching and I thought I ought to stay near the door."

Gary arrived on his three wheel motorcycle for today's meeting. He recently retired after 11 years as Bonita Springs City Manager. Gary spent more than 40 years working in three local governments and one county.

Prior to coming to Bonita, Gary spent 14 years as manager at Sanibel. He was involved in developing many of the facilities that make that a wonderful vacation spot. We are fortunate to have Gary as an active part of the club.



THE STATION



Jim Dati read "The Station" by Robert J Hastings for his invocation. [This really captures the essence of enjoying and appreciating the gifts we receive in life each day. Hope you enjoy the passage as much as I did. ed]

"Tucked away in our subconscious is an idyllic vision. We see ourselves on a

long trip that spans the continent. We are traveling by train. Out the windows we drink in the passing scene of cars on nearby highways, of children waving at a crossing, of cattle grazing on a distant hillside, of smoke pouring from a power plant, of row upon row of corn and wheat, of flatlands and valleys, of mountains and rolling hillsides, of city skylines and village halls.

But uppermost in our minds is the final destination. Bands will be playing and flags waving. Once we get there our dreams will come true, and the pieces of our lives will fit together like a jigsaw puzzle. How restlessly we pace the aisles, damning the minutes for loitering - waiting, waiting, waiting for the station.

"When we reach the station, that will be it!" we cry.

"when I'm 18"

"when I buy a new 450sl Mercedes-Benz!"

"when I put the last kid through college"

"when I have paid off the mortgage!"

"when I get a promotion."

"when I reach the age of retirement, I shall live happily ever after!"

Sooner or later we realize there is no station, no one place to arrive at once and for all. The true joy of life is the trip. The station is only a dream. It constantly outdistances us. "Relish the moment" is a good motto,

Upcoming Speakers

Today, Club Assembly

Club Events

Saturday Morning Golf. Every Saturday casual golf at different local courses. Contact Mark McCaw at mark.mccaw@ubs.com.

Starspangled 5K, Wednesday, July 4th, 7:30am, Riverside Park.

especially when coupled with Psalm 118:24: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." It isn't the burdens of today that drive men mad. It is the regrets over yesterday and the fear of tomorrow. Regret and fear are twin thieves who rob us of today.

So stop pacing the aisles and counting the miles. Instead climb more mountains, eat more ice cream, go barefoot more often, swim more rivers, watch more sunsets, laugh more, cry less. Life must be lived as we go along. The station will come soon enough."

"The Fifty-Fifty" NOW \$4,036
A disappointed Chris Riesen drew the 10 ♦ to win \$5



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

It's A Birthday Celebration!



Hank Hochstetler June 27th

Rotary Sings *The Star Spangled Banner*

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light
 What so proudly we hailed
 at the twilight's last gleaming?
 Whose broad stripes and bright stars
 thru the perilous fight,
 O'er the ramparts we watched were
 so gallantly streaming?
 And the rocket's red glare,
 the bombs bursting in air,
 Gave proof through the night
 that our flag was still there.
 Oh, say does that star-spangled banner
 yet wave
 O'er the land of the free and
 the home of the brave?



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

Is it the TRUTH?
Is it FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?
Will it build GOODWILL and
BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all CONCERNED?



Rotary Club of Bonita Springs, chartered November 3, 1978, meets every Tuesday at Pelican's Nest Golf Club. The Club may be contacted through its mailing address P.O. Box 474, Bonita Springs Florida 34133 or its website www.bonitaspringsrotary.org. **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. Scott Gerrish (rr) issue editor.