

Global Grant at Work

Three clubs in District 6960, Bonita Springs, Anna Maria, and East Manatee, all contributed and sponsored RI Global Grants that will fund corrective surgeries for polio survivors in India.

Our grant partners Narasinha Goshi and Susanne Rea are working on the next steps to our Global Grants. It was approved by TRF and funds transferred to the Indian bank account so

the surgeries can begin.

This banner will be used in all public relations as well as at the hospital. It lists each of our clubs and our district.

These are photos of polio survivors who will receive the life changing corrective surgeries. Susanne met them on one of her vis-



its to India for WGM events.



LAST MEETING

President **Tom Briers** presided on a morning where only the Canadians were going to the pool. There was a good crowd of members, Rotary Regulars, visitors, and guests. Week 30. **Chris Riesen** presented the invocation, **George Cohan** led the Pledge of Allegiance, and **Mark Generales** recited the Four-Way Test. **George M Cohan III** assisted in singing of George M Cohan's *Give My Regards to Broadway*.

Tom welcomed **Bill Banfield**, returning from a leave of absence, and Rotary Regulars **Frank Keck** and **Maurice Sullivan**. Frank is visiting for a couple of months from his home on the left coast. Maurice was triumphant in chairing the annual book drive for her Chicago area club. They donated 17,650 books to Chicago kids.

Tom announced that elections for directors and secretary will be held at the next meeting. **Steve Slachta** is chairman of the nominating committee. Please contact Steve to volunteer or nominate.

George Cohan yielded to birthday boy **Jon McLeod**, the Patriot Fan, to organize Jon's birthday recognition. Jon asked all Packer and Steeler football fans to assemble and sing. It was the usual Happy Birthday song dedicated to "Dear Cheater".

Tom introduced **Sally Smith** of the Estero club. Sally is the District Chair of the Paul Harris Society. The Society is made up of Rotarians who commit to contributing \$1,000 or more annually to the PHF. She said, "Rotary makes dreams come true for extraordinary projects both here at home and around the world. Projects that

would not be possible without the generous support of Rotarians."

Sally presented awards to **Wayne Hemstead** and **Jay Berube** signifying their **membership** in the Paul Harris Society.



Jim Dati presented his Vocation Service Moment. He is a member of Bond, Schoeneck & King, a law firm from upstate NY with 11 offices. Jim says, "In the 1970's some retired members decided to open an office in SWFL so they would have somewhere to go after playing golf."

Jim relocated here in 2001. Today he is focused on transactional work as a business and real estate transactional attorney. He works mostly with closely held companies, high net worth individuals, and decision makers. "I think of myself as an 'outside inside counsel'. This firm is big enough so that if I don't know the answer, I know someone that does."

Among Jim's distinctions is being a Green Bay Packers, Inc. shareholder.

Jim has been in the club for 14 years and is a Past President. He says, "Having joined Rotary was one of my most significant life events. Members are among the finest human beings I know."

LAST WEEK SPEAKER



Carl Schwing introduced our speaker **David Grossi** a retired police lieutenant from upstate NY. David has trained over 170,000 federal, state, local, and international law enforcement officers in Firearms and Use of Force training. He is a court certified expert in police procedure and has been retained in over 500 cases as an expert witness.

Our speaker described a case where an FBI agent was charged of murder/ manslaughter in his wife's death. Arthur Gonzales was accused of shooting his wife Julie Gonzales four times on April 19, 2013. Gonzales had claimed his wife came at him with a kitchen knife and he fired his 40 caliber pistol in self-defense. The forensic evidence corroborated Arthur's description of the event.

Gonzales was tried three times by the local District Attorney. The first two trials

resulted in hung juries with the jurors overwhelmingly, but not unanimously, in favor of acquittal. After the hung juries, the charge was downgraded to voluntary manslaughter. The judge acquitted him after the third trial.

Dave said, "A local Sheriff's Deputy told me that the District Attorney made it his mission to ruin the agent financially and professionally, but he only accomplished one half of his mission. Art was acquitted but did lose his house, job, and pension... That, as some professionals call it, is 'The New Normal' about how our criminal justice system works."

Jim Dati commented "When you think of the number of criminal trials that are conducted in the U.S. day in and day out, we still have, I think, the finest criminal justice system in the world. We still afford the defendant their due process.

We still have the rule of law rather than a purely arbitrary rule of men. This case is a terrible situation. A rogue D.A. out to get this guy...The system works right most of the time, law enforcement gets it right, they get the right person... It is a system that doesn't have enough money because we won't fund it...Yet it is still the most magnificent system the world has ever seen."



Rotary Club of Bonita Springs, chartered November 3, 1978. The Club may be contacted through its mailing address P.O. Box 474, Bonita Springs Florida 34133. You can reach **The Spoke** through its email BonitaSpoke@aol.com.
Scott Gerrish issue editor.

President	Thomas B. Briers
President-Elect	Steven Slachta
Secretary	Jon McLeod
Treasurer	Bob Lombardo
Sergeant-at-Arms	George M. Cohan III

Dale Timple drew the Jacker to win \$2,551



The 50/50 is \$500

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?

Your finances. Your future. *Our focus.*

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Rotary Sings: Yellow Submarine

In the town where I was born
Lived a man who sailed to sea
And he told us of his life
In the land of submarines

So we sailed up to the sun
Till we found the sea of green
And we lived beneath the waves
In our yellow submarine

We all live in a yellow submarine
Yellow submarine, yellow submarine
We all live in a yellow submarine
Yellow submarine, yellow submarine

This Week

Ben Nelson
Mayor, Bonita Springs

Birthdays

Donna Marcotte Feb 2

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.