

Bonita The Spoke March 8th, 2017



Human Trafficking

Marjorie Rubacky introduced our speaker, Colleen Henderson who is the Community Education Coordinator of ACT (Abuse Counseling and Treatment). Colleen's topic was Human Traffick**ing** and the role ACT plays in addressing this tragic mistreatment of the innocent and vulnerable.



Colleen has 30 years of previous experience in public speaking including more than 6 thousand presentations on a wide variety of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking topics locally and statewide.

In 2006, ACT not only specialized in domestic and sexual violence supportive services, but also comprehensive human trafficking victim support. With occupancy constantly being reached, the Fort Myers facility expanded in 2008 to accommodate a total of 68 beds along with additional office space for community education and victims' counseling services. And in 2015, a 16-bed safe shelter was opened to meet needs in LaBelle for Hendry and Glades counties. With a total of 106 beds, ACT runs one of largest emergency "safe" housing facilities in Florida.

"Today, ACT's 24-hour crisis hotline rings more than 40 times per day, over 15,000 calls were received in the last year. Many times a whispered or secretive call. A woman in trouble. A young man afraid. Mothers needing a safe place to take their children. Rape victims panicked at their experience. Help begins with a listening ear, medical attention, shelter, clothing, food, transportation, and protection. It ends with education, esteem, confidence, self-reliance, friendship, and hope for the days ahead."

She presented some Key Statistics about Human Trafficking:

Up to 300,000 American children are trafficked every year as sex slaves.

83% of the victims identified in the U.S. are U.S. citizens.

11-13 is the average age of children entering into commercial sex trade.

Average life span of a victim is 7 years (found dead from violent attack, prolonged abuse, HIV and other STD's, malnutrition, overdose or suicide).

In the U.S. there are an estimated 1.5-2 million slaves (all kinds). CA, TX, NY, and FL are the highest ranked states. This is a \$12 billion tax-free profit business.

"ACT is a private, nonprofit social service agency funded by grants and donations. Grant funding has changed significantly, along with government funding which has greatly been reduced or eliminated in many areas. So, we are counting on your help and generosity. Help that will keep our doors open and community safe."

Last Week Meeting ...35

President **Steven Slachta** got the meeting going. **Clara Anne Graham** presented the invocation; **Roger Brunswick** led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Mary Saunders** recited the Four Way Test flawlessly. **Except**, that Steven interrupted after the third Way, and finally, after an outpouring of objection, allowed her to finish.



Song Leader **Wayne Hemstead** lectured on the history of *My Country 'tis of Thee* before leading the singing.

Do you know about the beer pouring events? **George Cohan** and **Frank Liles** with wives plus **Bob Lombardo** poured beer at a February concert and **netted about \$3,000** for the club. Congratulations and thank you!

Adam Botana has plenty of unallocated tickets for the Reverse Raffle. The time is right to sell before the seasonal people sneak home.



Bob Lombardo spoke about the FineMark Nautical Flea Market **kickoff cocktail party** Thursday, March 16th. This is a club social with heavy hors d'oeuvres, "You will not leave hungry." Contact **Carrie Reynolds** to RSVP.

Mary Saunders has automated the sign up scheduling for the Nautical Flea Market and beer sales at the NFM. You may use the site or contact Mary directly at mary@saundersgrouprealty.com or 239-293-2032.

Bobbi Bird rose to talk about the Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisors. Our March 8th speaker will be a member of the Cadre.

Cadre members review, monitor, and evaluate projects and ensure grant funds are being used properly. The assignments include: Technical reviews, Site visits, Financial Audits, and Operational Audits. This is a way that the RF looks out for our money and projects.

Roger, "Good Morning, fellow Rotarians", **Brunswick** was Sergeant-at-Arms. He quickly fined President Steven \$5 for interrupting the Four Way Test. He then attacked the late arrivers. **Rick Barber** begrudgingly admitted with "I suppose so", while **Morgan Eldridge** claimed, "I was late because I had to stop for cash for the fine."

Bobbi Bird was volunteered to lead the singing of Happy Birthday to Roger, **Carl Schwing**, and **Jim Renfro**.

Tom Burgess announced there will be a **Rotaract Committee meeting** March 8th about the scholarship the club will be awarding.





Tom Burgess came forward to present his Vocational Service Minute. Tom grew up in rural, downstate Illinois. His family had a tradition of public service. His grandfather was a State Senator and his father a County Judge. "There were always lots of people in and out of our home."

Tom graduated from the U of Illinois and met his wife of 54 years there. He has earned the PCAM (Professional Community Association Manager) designation. The PCAM designation is the highest professional

recognition available nationwide to managers who specialize in community association management.

Tom first joined Rotary in 1970 and has been a member of 4 clubs. He was named Rotarian of the Year for his work in chartering the Rotaract Club at FGCU.

He says, "I have worked with these kids and have come to have a very high opinion of them and where they are going in the world. I think our future generation is in good hands. I started out doing this as a Rotary project and now I keep doing it because I love it."

Tom says, "I am very happy to be a member of this club which I happen to think is one of the best Rotary Clubs I have ever had anything to do with."

Upcoming Events

Thursday, March 16th, 5:30-7:30. **Nautical Flea Market kickoff** cocktail party for club members and F.O.L.K. at FineMark, 10010 Coconut Rd.

Sunday, March 26th, 5-8 pm. **Installation Dinner.** Pelican Isle Yacht Club. \$65/pp. No ties.

March 29th - April 3rd. Second annual **Nautical Flea Market**. Help needed. Contact Mary Saunders.

Friday, April 7th, 5:30 - 8:30 PM. **Kickoff Dinner Walk for Water**. Artichoke & Co. \$35/pp cash or check.

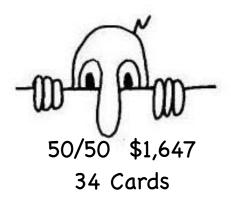
Saturday, April 8th, 8:30 - 10:30 am. Third Annual Walk for Water. Bonita Springs YMCA.

Saturday, April 29th, 6 pm. 21st Annual **Reverse Raffle**. St John the Evangelist.

May 18-21 **District 6960 Conference**. Hyatt Regency Sarasota.

This Week

Bob Downe Cadre Investigator



Carl Nickel drew the 9 For \$5



The 50/50 is \$1,647

Birthdays

Roger Kemper (rr) Mar 7 Len Eckert Mar 9 Frank Ogden Mar 10

Rotary Sings: I've been working on the Railroad

I've been working on the railroad All the live long day I've been working on the railroad Just to pass the time away Can't you hear the whistle blowing Rise up so early in the morn Can't you hear the whistle blowing Dinah, blow your horn Dinah won't you blow Dinah won't you blow Dinah, won't you blow your horn Dinah, won't you blow, Dinah, won't you blow, Dinah, won't you blow your horn Someone's in the kitchen with dinah Someone's in the kitchen I know March Rotary Songs Someone's in the kitchen with dinah Strumming on the old banjo Fee fie fiddley io Fee fie fiddley io oh oh oh Fee fie fiddley ioh! Strumming on the old banjo

This Morning's Invocation

O God, we come humbly into your presence by this avenue of prayer, expressing both our gratitude for gifts received, and our yearnings to be used as gifts to others.

To that end, grant us visions of service yet unrendered, an awareness of goals yet unattained and hopes yet unrealized. Give us zeal and power to bring to reality the good and worthy things waiting to be done, and confirm our efforts by your assistance without which we labor in vain.

Strengthen us now by food prepared and enjoyed. Enlighten us through productive conversations, and go with us as we return to waiting opportunities to make the day better for others. Amen.

Rotary International President

John F. Germ Rotary Club of Chattanooga, TN

District 6960 Governor

Ladd Waldo The Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch

Area 3 Assistant Governor

Sally Smith The Rotary Club of Estero

2016-2017 Club Officers

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Steven Slachta Jon McLeod Claudie Delgado-Feeney Bob Lombardo Roger Brunswick Bill Banfield

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Frank Mazzeo, Peter O'Flinn, Susan Schmitt

2015-2018

Adam Botana, Joe Murgalo, Jon Shaw

2016-2019

Bob Lombardo, Kae Moore, Gary Price

Trustees of The Foundation of The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs

Jim Dati, President; Stephanie Kissinger, Secretary; Richard Garner, Treasurer; Jason Dolle, Sandy Hemstead, Ed Houck, Mark McCaw Trustees



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.