



The Spoke

A Flagship Theatre

Our "Top" Repertory Company in its 15th Season



Describing the Florida Rep as our "Flagship Theatre," we were happy to welcome Robert Cacioppo, Founder and Producing Artistic Director of the Florida Repertory Theatre once again to our Rotary podium.

Bob enthusiastically charted the history of the Florida Rep, which the Wall Street Journal has described as being "profoundly satisfying." Southwest Florida's only professional theatre, the Rep is located in Downtown Fort Myers and has called the historic Arcade Theatre its home since 1998. In 2012 the Rep unveiled its newly-renovated ArtStage Studio Theatre.

With its wonderful repertoire of productions and commitment to the region, Florida Rep is a community resource and treasure. Thanks Bob for a great presentation--visit us again soon.

Rotary International

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Yashio, Saitama, Japan

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Nancy Ross
The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs

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2012-2015

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Trustees of The Foundation of The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs

Nancy Ross, President; Steve McIntosh, Secretary; Tom Burgess, Treasurer; Fred Partin, Guy Quinn, Ray Faubion, John Mathes, Trustees

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Stephanie presided. **Gerry Myers** led the invocation; **Dawn Colecchio** the 4 Way Test; and **Dave Langendorfer (rr)** the Pledge of Allegiance. **Ron Anderson** led an abbreviated version of "Red River Valley."

Don Manley advised that a container of 280 wheelchairs is being delivered to El Salvador the end of July as part of the Wheelchair Foundation initiative. If you would like to participate, please see Don for more information.

As was reported recently in The Spoke, **Bob Lombardo** and **Klaus Helf** visited Tegucigalpa (commonly referred to as "Tegus") the capital of Honduras during a wheelchair delivery. In recognition of their visit and humanitarian efforts, Bob and Klaus were presented with a certificate of recognition and banner from the local Rotary Club which they were proud and pleased to display. Thanks gentlemen for your efforts.



Bob also reminded us that our annual Gift of Life Mini Golf Tournament will take place at Congo River March 20. Tickets for this event (which have no expiration date) are currently available for purchase. (Those who have already secured their tickets can pick them up after today's meeting.) Please plan on attending this important fundraiser in support of Gift of Life. Flag and hole sponsor sheet up



sheets continue to be available. Bob tells us that only eight such sponsorships remain.

Ron Anderson briefed us on the Habitat for Humanity work day which took place this past

Saturday and we look to reporting on those fine efforts in future issues of The Spoke.

Off to Costa Rica... as **Tom Burgess** reported, our FGCU Rotaractors are participating in their first

international service project, a trip to Costa Rica. Special thanks go out to **Scott Anderson, Jim Horein,** and **Dave Langendorfer (rr)** for providing transportation to and from Fort Lauderdale.

Bobbi Bird announced

that **Melissa Taylor** and **Jamie Weaver** will be serving as Co-Chairs for



this year's Relay for Life team. Please support this effort by signing up for our team and purchasing tickets for the flatscreen TV raffle. Bobbi, Jamie, and Melissa have all the details on this most Rotarian of projects.

And Finally... mark your calendars and plan on attending "Love of Bonita" March 14 at the Hyatt Coconut Point as we honor this year's award recipient, our own **Ray Faubion**. And don't forget to keep selling those tickets for our Reverse Raffle, April 20. Remember, as **Treasurer Tom** advises, to make your checks payable to our Club *and not* our Foundation.



The 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.

From Rotary International

“A Year of Achievement”

Rotary’s 108th anniversary, celebrated on February 23, marked a year of achievement in the fight to eradicate polio and a stepped-up commitment to finish the job.

Worldwide, 222 polio cases were reported in 2012, a little more than one-third of the 650 cases reported in 2011. India marked its second year without polio on 13 January. Overall, the annual incidence of polio has decreased more than 99 percent since the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) was launched in 1988. Then polio infected about 350,000 children per year.



Although the wild poliovirus is now endemic only in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Nigeria, it could spread from there back to other countries.

Among Rotary’s chief responsibilities in the eradication initiative is advocacy, an increasingly important element of this latter stage of the effort. In addition to contributing more than US\$1 billion to the GPEI, Rotary has helped secure over \$9 billion from donor governments since the initiative began in 1988. Rotary is boosting its advocacy work in the 200 countries and regions where Rotary clubs exist to encourage every national government to help meet a \$700 million shortfall (as of 1 February) in funding the GPEI through 2013.

Rotarians in Canada, for example, have used letter-writing campaigns to persuade members of Parliament to support polio

eradication. In August 2012, Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair and Past RI President Wilfrid Wilkinson and International PolioPlus Committee Chair Robert Scott, both Canadians, took the lead by writing Prime Minister Stephen Harper. Every Rotarian in the country received a

copy of the letter and another that asked them to contact their own members of parliament.

Within three days, Wilkinson heard back from Rotarians who had conveyed the message to the prime minister or friends serving in other government positions.

In September, the Canadian government announced the Pennies and More for Polio initiative at a high-level side meeting on polio eradication during the United Nations General Assembly. Through the initiative, which runs until 1 March, the Canadian International Development Agency and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation are each contributing C\$1 to the GPEI for every dollar raised by Canadian Rotarians, up to \$1 million. By the end of December, Rotarians had already exceeded the \$1 million potential match, with the combined effort generating more than \$3 million for the GPEI.

“The fundraising by Rotarians allows them to ask for support from the public at large,” says Wilkinson. “The fact that the government of Canada and the Gates Foundation are behind Rotary’s polio eradication effort is a big plus and helps our overall awareness efforts.”



**"The Fifty-Fifty"
This Week's Big Prize--\$2186.**

A delighted Camilla Campbell drew the Queen of Clubs to win \$500.

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

**"Rotary Sings"
So Happy
Together**



Imagine me and you I do
I think about you day and night
It's only right
To think about the girl you love
And hold her tight
So happy together
If I should call you up
Invest a dime
And you say you belong to me
And ease my mind
Imagine how the world could be
So very fine
So happy together
I can't see me loving nobody but you
For all my life
When you're with me
Baby the skies will be blue
For all my life.



**It's A Birthday
Celebration!**

**Jane Goble, March 8
Frank Ogden, March 10**

**Our
Upcoming
Speakers**



**This
Morning,
Dr. Allen
Weiss,
"Naples**

Community Hospital."

**March 13, Dr. Clinton
Cottrell" Air Traffic Events
of 9/11."**

**March 20, Denise
Wheeler, "Employment
Law."**

**March 27, Mei-Mei Chan,
"The Newspaper Industry
Today"**

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?

Your finances. Your future. *Our focus.*

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