



The Spoke

“On Being Rotarian”

“RI Reports On A Unique Vision”



“A woman with a black apron is stirring tomatoes into a pan of vegetables in Bursa, Turkey. Visually impaired, she is being helped by an assistant, who is a spouse of a Turkish Rotary member. Elsewhere in the kitchen, other cooks and Rotary spouses are preparing meatballs, slicing and peeling eggplants, and measuring out cookie dough. At a table in an adjacent dining area, a man is reading a recipe from a Braille cookbook. The cookbook, "Good Smells From the Kitchen," has enabled many members of the Library of Turkey for the Visually Disabled to enter the kitchen with new confidence.

The activity is part of a project by Rotary members in western Turkey, who have partnered with the library to produce the country's first cookbook for the visually impaired, printed in Braille and recorded on audio CD. Several dozen copies of the book have rolled off the library's presses and have been recorded in the library's studio, and given free to library members. Additional copies are printed as Rotary members secure funding and line up new sponsors Günes Ertaş says fellow Rotary club members came up with the idea after they had helped the library purchase Braille machines and other equipment through Rotary grants. Ertaş's wife, Figen, collected more than 100 recipes

The cookbook won first place among all Turkish entries in the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards in the categories of Best Innovative Cookbook and Best Charity Cookbook. It now advances to the world finals in Beijing. Günes says he and his wife plan to attend the award ceremony in May.”

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LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Bobbi presided. **Clara Anne Graham** delivered the invocation; our speaker LTC Robert Frazier, USA (Ret.) led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **John Spear** the 4 Way Test. We all participated in a spirited version of "Anchors Aweigh."

A Paul Harris Moment



We were pleased once again to observe **Gerry Myers** preside over a Paul Harris Award ceremony. "Next-level" Paul Harris designation was awarded to two long-time, active members of our Club, **Dick Hamlin** and **John Spear**.

Dick has been a member of Club since April, 1997. He has served our Club (as President during the 2003-2004 Rotary year) and our Club Foundation. John joined our Club in August, 1983 having served our Club in many capacities including as President during the 1988-1989 Rotary year.

Gentlemen, thank you for your generosity which supports Rotary's humanitarian programs and initiatives throughout the world, improving standards of living and make dreams possible.



Last Week's Program

Last week we heard from LTC Robert A. "Bob" Frazier, U.S. Army (Ret.) LTC Frazier has over 39 years of service to his country and has been awarded the Bronze Star, Army Commendation, Humanitarian Service Medal,

Iraq Campaign Medal and the Global War on Terror. He is active in his community serving as Director of the Saint Andrews Society of Southwest Florida and Board member of the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Drive. LTC Frazier informed and educated us about the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA, with over 380,000 members worldwide is "the professional association of military officers and their families at every stage of life and career." The organization offers a number of benefits dealing areas such as finance, health, careers, professionalism, travel, discounts and educational assistance. Thank you for LTC Frazier for an informative presentation and your service.

Member Spotlight

Len Eckert stepped into the Member Spotlight last week. The creative force behind iconDo, Inc., Len hails from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where he earned a degree from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh in the field of Visual Communications. We learned how his work at iconDo allows him to provide logo design, architectural renderings and art direction to a variety of individuals and businesses. He also willingly volunteers his time and talent to assist a number of causes and organizations within our community. Thanks for being a great Rotarian Len.



“From Boston to Key West”—The Ride *For A Lifetime*

Editor’s Note: Throughout his noble and historic ride, the Spoke will publish excerpts from Jon’s blog as we follow his progress and cheer him on to Key West.

That's it - 9 hours left till the ride begins! What and incredible couple of days here in Boston - not even sure where to begin (so I'll go chronologically)...

Tuesday evening Carl and I got to visit with the Boston Downtown Rotary club. Great group! A very young club, this group is dynamic and meets on Tuesday evenings. We attended their month social and were able to share the Gift of Life story with them, as most had not heard of the program as of yet. On Wednesday, we shot over to Malden and spoke there to a group of about 15 Rotarians. These guys were exactly as I remembered Boston to be like - accents, fun, poking fun at each other constantly and very diverse. It was great to meet the gang!

Today Carl and I visited the Natick and Westford Rotary Clubs. Natick hadn't had much experience with GoL, although, based on their reaction, that will change in the near future.

While in Westford, I had the pleasure of a visit from my good friend Bob Langlois (whom I hadn't seen more than twice in the past 15 years).

Although it was a 3 minute visit, it is another defining moment that will help shape this trip.

The Westford club is familiar with both GoL and the Global Grant process and seemed very willing to participate through GoL New England.

The day ended with a wonderful surprise: My fiancé’s daughter and her Brownie Troop raised

\$300 to donate to Gift of Life (you may remember I spoke to the troop a couple months back about giving back to the community). We haven't even left Boston yet and already there are moments that I wouldn't trade for anything...



Day 1 started from Faneuil Hall in Boston - it was cold (for a FL boy) at 52* and light rain was falling. Carl, my parents, brother and niece ventured into town for the start.

We were greeted at the start by my uncle Muncie and Rotarians from Beverly and Boston Downtown.

After a few pics, some well-wishes and good-lucks, it was time to roll!

Within about 300 yards I learned that mapping software isn't foolproof (my route took me through the lobby of a hotel), but no worries - small detour. I took Storrow Drive out of town towards Newton and into SE Massachusetts. Rain stopped about 10 miles into the journey (ruining a set of headphones) and a nice tail wind was setting in. About 25 miles in I spotted another cyclist on the road with a flat, so I stopped to help. Matt is a double-major at MIT and was headed home to Manhattan for the summer, so he decided biking would be the way to go. Cool - now I have some company for a little bit! Well - turns out his route was the same as mine and his stop on the first night was near mine, so we rode through MA, RI, CT and part of Long Island together. Neither of us realized the beauty in SW Rhode Island or SE Connecticut - extremely rural, many farms and small, old-style New England homes along the way. Oh - lots of hills too! The ride from Boston to New London had more climbs than the Hill Camp I did in CA back in February!



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



"The Fifty-Fifty"

This Week's Big Prize-~~\$~~3489.50
Last week a delighted Dick Hamlin drew the Five 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" "You're A Grand Old Flag"



You're a grand old flag,
You're a high flying flag
And forever in peace may you wave.
You're the emblem of
The land I love.
The home of the free and the brave.
Ev'ry heart beats true 'neath the Red, White and Blue,
Where there's never a boast or brag,
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
Keep your eye on the grand old flag.



It's A Birthday Celebration!

Dick Fredrickson, May 28
Ray Faubion, May 29
Julie Pedretti, May 29



Our Upcoming Speakers

This Morning,
Lt. Col. Paul Garruh,
U.S. Army Retired
"JROTC Program"

This Morning's Invocation

Good and gracious God, in this week of national and personal remembering of honored dead, we offer our gratitude for the benefits and blessings we have received from the work and influence of those whom we remember. Revive in us an appreciation for our heritage, and a renewed awareness of our present responsibility as citizens and as Rotarians.

As we act with integrity, serve with love and strive for peace, grant that conflicts in society may be resolved and overtures of peace may be eagerly embraced. Through us may enmity and hatred give way to respect and loving concern.

Bless to our use today the food of which we partake, the fellowship in which we participate, and the purposes to which we give ourselves in service. Amen.

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?

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