



The Spoke

“A Paul Harris Moment”

“We Celebrate Being Rotarian ”



Paul Harris recognition ceremonies are truly special moments. They carry with them a rich history and tradition by acknowledging individuals who contribute to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. Paul Harris recognition was originally established in 1957 to show appreciation for and encourage substantial contributions to what was then the Rotary Foundation’s only program, Fellowships for Advanced Study, the precursor to Ambassadorial Scholarships.

Today, those receiving Paul Harris recognition contribute to a Foundation enabling Rotarians to advance world understanding, good will and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education and the alleviation of poverty. In many ways, Paul Harris participation embodies all it means to be “Rotarian,” positively impacting the lives of people in Bonita Springs—and throughout the world.

So it was fitting that we applauded and congratulated **Julie Pedretti** on achieving advanced Paul Harris recognition. Thank you Julie and all who achieve Paul Harris recognition. Your generosity and purpose continually make what Paul Harris called “the great power of friendship” become truly alive, meaningful, and relevant now and for generations yet to come.

Rotary International President

Gary C. K. Huang
Rotary Club of Taipei, Taiwan

District 6960 Governor
Pete Doragh

The Rotary Club of Fort Myers

Area 3 Assistant Governor
Rick Perry

The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs, Noon

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Secretary	Gregory T. Holtz
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2014-2017

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Trustees of The Foundation of The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs

Stephanie Kissinger, President; Nancy Ross, Secretary; Richard Garner, Treasurer; Guy Quinn, Ray Faubion, Ed Houck, John Mathes, Trustees

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Sandy presided. **Bob Lorenz** delivered the invocation; our guest speaker Mary C. Evans led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Hal Cooper** the 4 Way Test. **Dale Timple** led us in a very engaging version of "In the Good Old Summertime."

Member Spotlight



Don Thomson began our meeting by stepping into the Member Spotlight. Don has been a resident of Bonita Springs since 1972 where he participated in his family's business. Currently

Don is the managing partner of the Bonita Springs Henderson Franklin office where he concentrates his law practice in the areas of civil, commercial, and construction litigation. Don is deeply committed to his community, serving on the the Boards of many organizations including the Speakers Assembly of Southwest Florida, the Bonita Springs Center for Arts and the YMCA of Bonita Springs. His work and efforts on behalf of his community have continually been recognized as Don was the recipient of both the Love of Bonita Award and the Bonita Springs Citizen of the Year Award. He was Club President during the 1990-1991 year and has held numerous leadership positions since then. Don and his wife Kim have four children Breanne, Jon, Heather and Donny. Thanks Don for being a great Rotarian.



Dictionary Day Approaches

Please mark your calendars now and plan on participating in one of our District's signature

events—Dictionary Day. Two dates require your attention. The first, "Labeling Day," starts at 8 am Saturday September 6 at the Lee County School District Offices (located at the corner of Colonial and Metro). The second, the actual dictionary distribution day, is Friday, October 3rd. Please see **Roger Brunswick** for additional information.



The purpose of the CART Fund (Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust) is to collect and provide dollars for leading edge research for the cure/prevention of Alzheimer's disease. Starting in 1996 with Rotarians voluntarily emptying their pockets and purses of change at weekly meetings, CART has awarded over 4 million dollars in research grants. You can participate in that noble cause by contributing to the Blue Bucket at your table each and every week.

Mark McCaw reminded us all that our Rotary Summer Golf Tour continues and visits The Forest Golf and County Club this coming weekend. Watch your email and reserve a tee time—it's fun. And thanks Mark for arranging these outings—we all appreciate your efforts.

Our Speaker



Attorney Mary C. Evans visited us this past week. A Florida resident since 1984, Mary attended Edison Community College, Florida Gulf Coast University and earned her Juris Doctorate degree from Stetson College of Law. She addressed us on behalf of The Florida Bar and focused on the topic of judicial merit retention. Thank you Mary for a very informative presentation.

From RI: "A 1.3 Million Goal"

Gary C.K. Huang never imagined he would become Rotary International's president when he joined in 1976, but now that he is in office, he hopes to increase membership to 1.3 million by the end of his term.

"It's simple. The more members we have, the more people we can help. A stronger membership base will result in stronger communities," says Huang, who on 1 July became Rotary's first Chinese president.

Huang also hopes his presidential theme, Light Up Rotary, will encourage members to brighten Rotary's image to the public, which he believes in return will improve member recruitment and retention.

Huang has a track record of improving membership development in Asia, adding 19 clubs when he was district governor for Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau. One of the cornerstones of his presidency is encouraging clubs and districts to conduct a Rotary Day. These one-day events, he says, can spotlight a particular cause, and solidify Rotary's image as one of the world's leading service organizations.

"We need to showcase our good work to everyone in the community. Rotary Days need to be fun and all inclusive.

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to participate. My hope is at the end of the day a few non-



members will want to join Rotary," he says. "Let's give people the opportunity to experience what it's like to make a difference. Rotary Days can achieve that."

Huang designed a travel schedule that will allow him to visit more than 30 Rotary Day events across the globe, including Argentina, Chile, France, India,

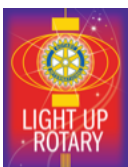
Italy, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, and the U.S., as well as his home city of Taipei.

Huang says he's honored and humbled to be Rotary's president. He knows he's part of an exclusive club.

"We [past Rotary presidents] have achieved great success in our businesses and in our communities," says Huang. "But success isn't about power or money. It's about giving back. Being a Rotarian has given me the opportunity to help those in need. As president, I can inspire our members to take advantage of the same opportunity and bring happiness in people's lives."

"I want to show Rotarians why I am their president," he adds. "The best way to do that is to see and inspire their work, participate in their projects, and help them raise funds."

"I want to, along with my district governors, reach out and try to link different clubs from different countries together so we can find the right communities in need," he adds. "That's one of the great things about being an international organization: the ability to bring different cultures and backgrounds together to find a common cause."



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—\$1035**

Last week a delighted Dale Timple drew the Two of Hearts to win \$500.
As always...we're all winners as the "fifty-fifty" helps keep our Club strong and ready to serve.



***It's A Birthday
Celebration!***

None To Report



**This
Morning's
Speaker**

Christine Ross,
President and CEO
Bonita Springs Area Chamber
of Commerce



**"Rotary Sings"
School Days**

School days, school days
Dear old Golden Rule days
'Reading
and 'riting
and
'rithmetic
Taught to
the tune
of the
hick'ry

stick
You were my queen in calico
I was your bashful, barefoot
beau
And you wrote on my slate,
"I Love You, Joe"
When we were a couple o'
kids

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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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.