



The Spoke

“On Courage and Commitment”

“We are inspired by Nicholas Romano’s Story”



Last week **Steven Slachta** introduced us to a true American hero, Nicholas A. Romano, an individual whose devotion to his Family, his Country and his Community offers profound insight into what it means “to make a difference”. Mr. Romano’s description of growing up in Philadelphia offered a glimpse into a loving and nurturing family. He graduated from Saint Joseph’s University majoring in Marketing (with a minor in Philosophy). In honor of his late father who never had the opportunity to serve, Mr. Romano enlisted in the United States Army. He served in Vietnam during the “Tet Offensive” and was awarded the Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, Certificate of Achievement, Good Conduct Medal and Vietnam Service Medal. He was also appointed to the staff of two Major Generals. Mr. Romano continued to lead during his business career. He served as CEO of several successful companies and led a not-for-profit company that promoted a smoking cessation program for teenagers. Thank you for your presentation and your leadership Mr. Romano. You offer an extraordinary example of “service above self.”

Rotary International President

Gary C. K. Huang
Rotary Club of Tapei, 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

2013-2014 Club Officers

President	Sandra Hemstead
President-Elect	Thomas B. Briers
Secretary	Gregory T. Holtz
Treasurer	Bob Lombardo
Sergeant-at-Arms	George M. Cohan III
Assoc. Sgt.-at-Arms	William Banfield

Board of Directors

Bobbi Bird

Immediate Past President

2012-2015

Brian Olitsky Scott Anderson

Peter Zahner Jason Dolle

2013-2016

Sara McCallum Tom Briers

Gregory T. Holtz Steven Slachta

2014-2017

Bob Lombardo Frank Mazzeo

Peter O’Flinn Susan Schmitt

Trustees of The Foundation of The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs

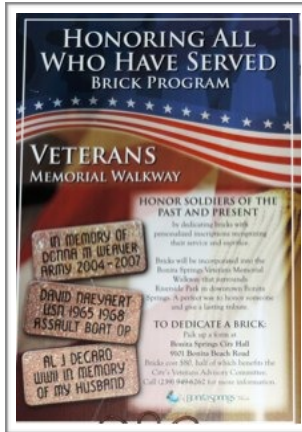
Stephanie Kissinger, President; Nancy Ross, Secretary; Richard Garner, Treasurer; Guy Quinn, Ray Faubion, Ed Houck, John Mathes, Trustees

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Sandy presided. **Nancy Ross** delivered the invocation; our speaker Nicholas A. Romano led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Morgan Eldridge** the 4 Way Test. Given our Business Meeting agenda we dispensed with our Rotarian tradition of singing.

An Opportunity

Bob Lombardo reminded us about the "Honoring All Who Have Served" brick program. A Veterans Memorial Walkway is being constructed in Riverside Park. You are invited to dedicate a walkway brick in honor of a Veteran. Bob has all of the details of how to make that happen. Half of the proceeds from brick sales will benefit the Bonita Springs Veterans Advisory Committee.



Blue Bucket Update



The purpose of the Coins for Alzheimers Research Trust (CART) is to collect and provide funding for research for the cure and prevention of Alzheimers Disease. Since 1996 CART has awarded over 4 million dollars in research grants. For example, in 2013 CART awarded grants to the Children's Hospital Boston and the Lerner Research

Institute. You can participate in this noble cause by contributing to the Blue Bucket at your table each and every week. Program coordinator **Sara McCallum** reported that \$191 has been raised this quarter. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Rotary Peace Centers Shape Peace and Conflict Resolution

With bloody conflicts raging in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and parts of Central Africa, the message of nonviolence and reconciliation that nations worldwide observed in late September demands more urgent and collective attention.

In 2001 the United Nations designated September 21 as an annual International Day of World Peace "to be observed as a day of global ceasefire and nonviolence" according to a General Assembly resolution.

The day's devotion to peace connects closely with what Rotary members have been fostering since The Rotary Foundation's mission to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace, was proclaimed in 1917.

Rotary's goal of worldwide peace and tolerance has been an unwavering pursuit: conducting global forums, hosting international peace symposiums, advancing peace through its 60-year collaboration with the UN, as well as grassroots initiatives such as the Rotarian Action Group for Peace.



But Rotary's most significant effort to wage peace is the

Rotary Peace Centers program, established in 2002. Each year, the program trains some of the world's most dedicated and brightest professionals, preparing them to promote national and international cooperation and to resolve conflict. They include graduates of a two-year master's degree program and a three-month professional certificate program at Rotary's partner universities.

Today, more than 900 peace fellows are applying their expertise in various fields. They're settling border conflicts in West Africa, developing aid programs at the World Bank, drafting legislation to protect exploited children in Brazil, providing security for U.S. diplomats, and many other career paths devoted to peace. (Courtesy of RI)

Club Assembly Effects Good and Positive Change

Last week **President Sandy** convened the Club into Assembly primarily for purposes of proposing and seeking consent to a variety of important changes in our By-Laws. As a result of our deliberations, relevant sections of the By-Laws have been amended to read as follows:



Article I/II (Board of Directors)

Article I: At least 30 days prior to there annual meeting of the Club in December, the President, with consent of the board of directors, shall appoint a represented nominating committee consisting of the President-Elect and four active members of the club who are not presently serving as directors. At three regular meetings of the club prior to the annual meeting, the nominating committee shall actively solicit recommendations from active members to be elected to serve as directors for three year terms. At the meeting of the club, the nominating committee shall present a slate of three (3) active members for election, and the presiding offer shall invite further nomination of active members from the floor. If there are additional nominations from the floor, a written ballot shall be distributed and all three active members who receive the greater number of votes shall be declared elected. If there are no additional nominations from the floor, the three active members presented by the nominating committee shall be declared elected.

Article II: The governing body of this club shall be the board of directors, consisting of thirteen (13) members of this club, namely nine (9) directors elected in accordance with article I, section I of these by-laws, and then the President, President-Elect, Secretary and Immediate Past President.

Article V (Fees and Dues)

Section 2. A club member shall be responsible for the payment of both membership dues and club fees. Membership dues shall consist of Rotary International per capita dues, subscription fees to The Rotarian Magazine, district per capita dues, club annual dues and any other Rotary or district per capita assessment. Said membership dues shall not exceed \$225 per annum. Club fees shall consist of meal costs, and if applicable, a member's sustaining fund contribution. Membership dues and club fees

shall be payable quarterly on the first day of July, October, January, and April.

Article X (Finances)

Section 1. The Treasurer shall deposit all funds in a banking institution to approved by the board. The deposits of said banking institution must be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

Article XII (Termination of Membership)

Section 1. Membership may be terminated by a member's failure to pay quarterly membership dues and club fees as described in article V, section 2 within 90 days of the date inscribed on said invoice.

Section 2. If a member has failed to pay the membership dues and club fees as described in Article V, Section 2 within 30 days, the member will receive a monthly invoice by US Mail until the account is current. If the member has failed to pay the dues and fees within 60 days of the date inscribed on the invoice, the Treasurer shall assess a \$25 late fee to the outstanding balance. If a member has failed to pay the dues and fees as described in Article V, Section 2 within 90 days of the date inscribed on the invoice, the Treasurer shall be responsible for informing the delinquent member and club President by regular US mail and, if applicable, electronic mail. The board shall vote on the termination of membership of the delinquent member at the next scheduled board meeting. Under exceptional circumstances, the board may delay termination of membership for one board meeting on the recommendation of the Treasurer and the written petition of the delinquent member to be delivered through the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be responsible for informing the delinquent member of the extension to pay past dues and fees. The President shall be responsible for informing the member, should the board vote on termination.

Congratulations

We also had the happy and high privilege of proposing and approving **Bobbi Bird** as a District Governor Nominee for the 2015/2016 Rotary year. Congratulations Bobbi. A great and devoted Rotarian—the District will be well served by your vigorous, thoughtful and compassionate leadership.



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—\$1415

Last week an overwhelmed Jim O'Leary shared the joy of winning \$5 with drawing coordinator Bobbi Bird.

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

"Rotary Sings"

"Take Me Out To The Ballgame"



Take me out to the ball game,
Take me out with the crowd;
Just buy me some peanuts and
Cracker Jack,
I don't care if I never get back.
Let me root, root, root for the
Indians,
If they don't win, it's a shame.
For it's one, two, three strikes,
you're out,
At the old ball game.



*It's A
Birthday
Celebration!*

Klaus Helf, October 3



**This
Morning's
Speaker**

R. Arden McCurdy,
Executive Director
*The Speakers Assembly of
Southwest Florida*

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?

This Morning's Invocation

Eternal God, from various walks in life, from different family backgrounds and religious persuasions, we come together in unity of spirit and purpose.

In this autumn season we acknowledge the magnificence of creation and the magnitude of Your power in the natural world. For the splendor of the colors in your earthly tapestry and for the orderliness by which the months come and go, we are grateful.

Help us to know the joy of serving rather than being served, of loving rather than seeking to be loved. As we share in the commonality of our identity and purpose, help us to use that relationship for the welfare of our club and in service to others.

We offer thanks for the food prepared for us and for table fellowship as we share these moments together. Help us to be appreciative of each other as we work together for others. Amen.

Printing provided by

