



The Spoke



“A Presidential Visit”

President Bradshaw’s Presentation a Profile of Leadership and Vision



Last week we were pleased and proud to welcome Wilson G. Bradshaw, President of Florida Gulf Coast University to our podium. Its President since 2007, Dr. Bradshaw came to FGCU from Metropolitan State University where he served as President. He is committed to the Southwest Florida region serving on the Alliance of Educational Leaders Board of Directors; Naples Botanical Gardens Board of Directors; Lee County Education Foundation; and Searching for Solutions, Inc. Board of Directors.

President Bradshaw spoke eloquently about the great story that is FGCU—focusing on its students, faculty, programs, and bright future. He also offered an update on the Innovation or “I-Hub” project and efforts to secure its funding. The I-Hub project seeks to offer education, research, and development in the area of renewable energy. President Bradshaw emphasized that FGCU looks for access, quality, and affordability as guiding principles as it provides high quality college education in Southwest Florida.

Thanks President Bradshaw for a great presentation and your leadership and vision. Please visit us again soon.

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LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Bobbi presided over what was a full and particularly action packed meeting. **Peter O' Flinn** delivered the invocation; FGCU President Wilson Bradshaw the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Jim Dati** the 4 Way Test. **Ron Anderson** led a rousing version of "O Christmas Tree."

Peter Zahner presided over a Red to Blue Badge Ceremony, honoring and celebrating **Julie Pedretti's** completion of those tasks necessary to earn the Rotary Blue Badge. Congratulations and welcome Julie.



Susan Schmitt offered a preliminary report on the results of this year's Poinsettia Sale. She thanked everyone who participated in any way and as a "thank-you" conducted a drawing for a \$100 Roy's Gift Certificate of which **Rick Barber** was the



proud recipient. Thanks to Susan and her committee for a job well done.

It was nice seeing our friend Steve Popper who invited us to attend the "Holidays Without Hunger" food packing event on Christmas Eve from 9-11 am at Harborside Event Center. The goal is to pack 500,000 meals in two hours. A sign up sheet will be circulating or go on HolidayswithoutHunger.org to register.

Clara Anne Graham provided a Shots for Tots Report. We served 11 families. As we all know, Shots for Tots is one of our Club's most

revered community service initiatives. If you would like to participate, please see Clara Anne for details.

Each week we smile, laugh and are entertained—all for a very good cause. It is the work of **George Cohan**, our sergeant-at-arms. George's office is a tradition, one that adds to the fabric, character, and yes, charm of each and every meeting. During those wonderful and fun moments each week he is our advocate, commentator, and representative. He fulfilled that



role yet again this past week, accepting on our behalf the Banner of the Rotary Club of Kharkiv, District 2230. Thanks for all you do George—keep it rolling.

And Finally... We all anticipate and admire **Jon McLeod's** upcoming ride in support of Gift of Life. So it was



a pleasant surprise to meet Brian Walton, Jon's cycling coach. Brian's 12 cycling career has seen him race in Europe and in three compete Olympics where he won a silver medal for Canada in 1996. Welcome Brian. It was great meeting you.

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“From Broadway to Bonita”

Editor’s Note: Anyone who has participated in the preparation, production, and presentation of live theatre knows that it is one of the most “human” of all endeavors— from the hard work of rehearsal, to the exhilaration of opening night, to the satisfaction of audience applause, to the tears of the final, closing curtain—live theatre is something to savor, appreciate, and enjoy. So a hearty round of applause to Bob Lombardo and his team for offering us this opportunity to enjoy a very special evening. So, from now until February, the Spoke will cover our Theatre Company’s inaugural event with great enthusiasm. To begin, here’s an initial report from our Director.

What do corn flakes, a seltzer bottle, and an antique car horn have to do with fundraising? You’ll find out when the Rotary Club of Bonita Springs mounts **IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE: A LIVE RADIO PLAY** in February!

You’ll see familiar faces like **George M. Cohan III** as Mr. Potter, the richest and meanest man in all of Bedford Falls. **Mark Generales** will be our Foley Artist. What’s a Foley Artist? He’s the one you’ll see on stage producing 47 sound effects using everything from corn flakes (sounding like ice cracking), trash cans, and jelly beans, to a wind machine and a thunder sheet. Mark will make this classic holiday story come alive in the best tradition of old-time radio.

As for casting, I’m looking for three more adult actors and three children:

One Male Actor (to play George Bailey), 20s-30s

Two Female Actors (one to play Mary Bailey), 20s-30s

Three Child Actors, 5 – 12

Contact me for an audition if you or anyone you know might be right for a part. Talent and enthusiasm required (fun guaranteed)!

As for me, I’m very excited to be working with all of you on the first theatrical production of the Bonita Springs Rotary Club. I’ve just completed ten years working in professional theater, my latest position as Artistic Director of Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater, an Equity company on Cape Cod. I’m fortunate to have worked on over 70 professional theater productions.

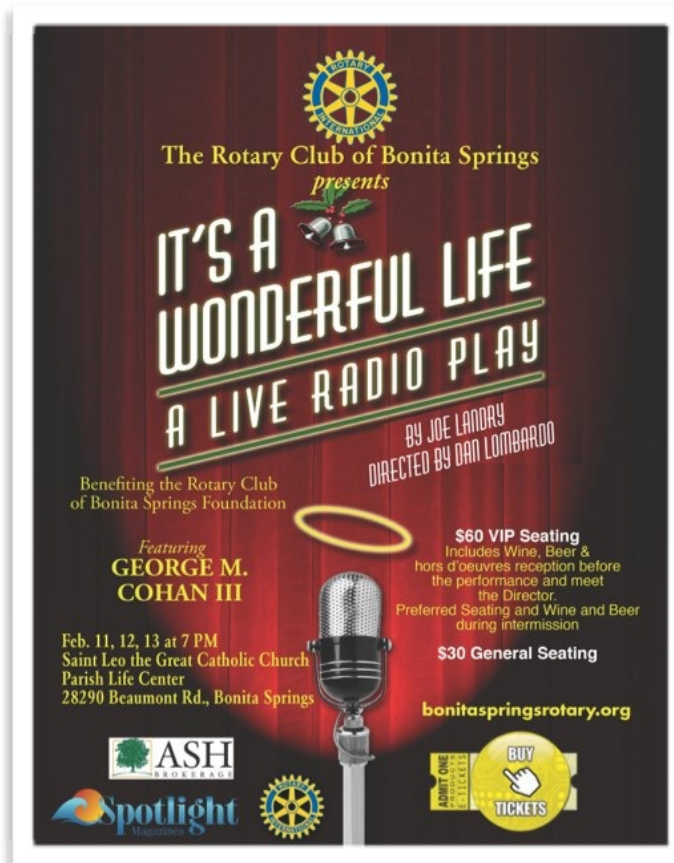
My philosophy has always been work on what you love with people you love.

Cheers!

Dan Lombardo, Director

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Rotary Club of Bonita Springs, chartered November 3, 1978, meets every Wednesday at Pelican’s Nest 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- $\$1,587.50$**

Last week an enthralled Jon McLeod drew the King of Diamonds to win $\$5.00$.

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

**"Rotary Sings"
"Jingle Bells"**



Dashing through the snow
In a one-horse open sleigh
O'er the fields we go
Laughing all the way
Bells on bobtail ring
Making spirits bright
What fun it is to ride and sing
A sleighing song tonight!
(chorus)
Jingle bells, jingle bells,
Jingle all the way.
Oh! what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh.
Jingle bells, jingle bells,
Jingle all the way;
Oh! what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh.



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

***John Mathes,
December 10
Sandy Scoggins,
December 11***



**Our
Upcoming
Speakers**

**This Morning,
Chief Joseph Daigle,
Bonita Springs Fire and
Rescue**

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

Good and gracious God, comfort and sustain members of our club who are experiencing adversity of any kind. Use each of us as an agent of help and hope to our fellow Rotarians and to others who might benefit from our encouragement. Help all of us to realize that even out of adversities, blessings frequently come.

As physical beings we appreciate the physical things of life but help us to be even more grateful for the spiritual realities which give meaning to all of life. For gifts of food and fellowship we offer thanks, but also for faith and hope.

Grant us your consolation and peace. Amen.

