



The Spoke

End Polio Now

Didn't know polio still exists?



When Rotary first started the fight against polio in 1985, the disease affected 350,000 people every year in 125 countries. Since then, polio has been reduced by 99%. Now there are 193 Polio-Free countries with just 3 Polio-Endemic countries left.

If we don't finish the fight right now, more than 10 million children under the age of five could be paralyzed by polio in the next 40 years.

We can all play a role in ensuring that polio is eradicated.

Last year, more than 20,000 ordinary people made their voices heard and helped convince five world leaders, together with Bill Gates, to announce an additional US\$118 million in funding for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

This year, we're calling on world leaders to announce further funding for polio eradication, closing the funding gap that's currently leaving millions of children vulnerable to polio.

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LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President **Stephanie** welcomed a large crowd to "National Escape Day". **Dick Fredrickson** gave the invocation, **Steve Slachta** led the Pledge of Allegiance, and new member **Howard Lemus** recited the 4-Way-Test. A yellow shirted **Ron Anderson** led the singing of "The Yellow Submarine". Ron apologized that his back-up guitar players didn't show up.

Bob Langhans (rr) told us the temperature in Watertown, NY was 52, "but not to panic it's going back to the teens tonight."

Tom Burgess reported that the Rotaract'ers had been treated to a wonderful beach party by **Don** and **Karen Manley**. The kids were supposed to attend the meeting today but failed because the driver over-slept.

Stephanie announced the annual **Bonita Blues Festival** will be held in Riverside Park, March 8-9th. She also announced two sessions of the Rotary Leadership Institute, one in Port Charlotte, the other in Weston. See RLltraining.org for details.

Wendy Arsenault announced the 3rd annual **Bark** in Riverside **Park**, Saturday,

February 9th, 11am - 3pm. Bring your dog for a day of food, music, and much more. All the proceeds from the event will benefit the Gulf Coast Humane Society.

Susan Schmitt pleaded for more workers for Saturday's Camp Florida work day. Susan needed 20 workers and only had 8 signed up.

Ray Faubion was the Alternative Fund Raiser for the week. He had \$10 and \$20 grids for the Super Bowl and announced various prizes to be awarded at the Jon McLeod's Super Bowl Party.

Sergeant-at-Arms **George Cohan** asked if any had a birthday that had not been recognized. **Marjorie Rubacky** confessed that her Jan 19th birthday had been skipped. She settled for a "Happy Birthday Marjorie" cheer.

George recognized first time visitors and fined those without a Rotary pin. Then he explained that the Reverse Raffle would be having a Pincher's Crab Shack as a caterer, open bar, dancing, and entertainment. Each club member is expected to sell 3 tickets. George concluded by asking if anyone needed a dog walked.



BUILDING AMERICA'S NEWEST CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida

The Lee Memorial System's Children's Hospital of SWFL was established in 1994. It is the only comprehensive children's health care system between Tampa and Miami with more than 350 pediatric trained inpatient hospital staff. The staff includes 70 pediatric subspecialty physicians including a large multi-specialty clinic in Naples and one scheduled to open this year in Port Charlotte.



Dan Fink, Chief Administrative Officer, gave us an overview of the Children's Hospital. There are many unique programs for pediatric patients at the hospital including a dedicated Pediatric Emergency Room and Child Life and Family support and services with school teacher, music and art therapists, and a six bedroom Ronald McDonald House.

Currently the facility has more than 5,000 inpatient admissions and more than 41,000 outpatient visits annually. 70% of the pediatric patients served are Medicaid or "no pay". Since there is no direct tax support, all Children's Hospitals rely on philanthropy for non-reimbursable services and capital projects.



Emad Salman MD, Medical Director of the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Program, outlined the need for the program and the new hospital plans. He said that has been a 28% growth in the pediatric population in SWFL since 2000 with a corresponding increase in Children's Hospital admissions. The hospital is completely full almost 3/4 of the year with

annual occupancy rate above 80% for the hospital and above 90% for the Neonatal Intensive Care Units. 18-20% of children leave the area for treatment because services aren't accessible here at home.

The new hospital will have 128 beds with the building designed to hold 32 more in the future. It will include an emergency department, Hematology/Oncology Outpatient Union, Pediatric Pharmacy, MRI suite, and other facilities designed to improve family and patient treatment and convalescence.

Upcoming Speakers

February 6, Donn Wagner,
Evaluation of Sports Teams
Performance

February 13, Steve
McIntosh and FGCU Rotaract

February 20, Either Dr
Burke, School Board, or Larry
Kiker, Lee County Council

February 27, Bob Cioppino,
founder and Director of the
Florida Repertory in Ft Myers.

Club Events

Super Bowl Party, Sunday,
February 3rd at Jon McLeod's.

Habitat for Humanity,
Saturday, March 2nd. Contact
Ron Anderson.

Relay for Life, Friday &
Saturday, April 5-6. Contact Bobbi
Bird

Reverse Raffle, Saturday, April
20th

District Conference, May 16-19.
Contact web site or Jane Goble.

Thomas Golisano, founder of Paychex, Inc, announced a \$20 million community challenge grant Oct. 30, 2012 to finance the new hospital. The grant will match \$ for \$ all gifts raised through May 2014. So far \$6.2 million has been raised.

"The Fifty-Fifty" NOW \$1,715
A disappointed George Cohan went to the dogs after drawing the 10♣ to win \$5



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

Rotary "Sings"

Give My Regards To Broadway

G. M. Cohan

Give my regards to Broadway;
 Remember me to Herald Square.
 Tell all the gang at Forty-Second Street
 That I will soon be there.
 Tell them of how I'm yearning
 To mingle with the old time throng.
 Give my regards to old Broadway
 And say that I'll be there 'eer long.



It's A Birthday Celebration!

Jon McLeod Jan 24

Your finances. Your future. *Our focus.*

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The 4-Way Test
 of things we think, say or do.

Is it the TRUTH?
Is it FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?
Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all CONCERNED?



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 website www.bonitaspringsrotary.org. **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. Scott Gerrish (rr) issue editor.