



# The Spoke

## MJ from the Assistance Office



**Tom Briers** introduced our speaker, **Marjorie Kasell-Johnson**, President and Executive Director of the Bonita Springs Assistance Office. BSAO has served the our community since 1979. Its goal is to **help ordinary people** that encounter a life situation creating a temporary financial hardship, food, or health needs.

The BSAO provides a **hand up not a hand out**. MJ says, "We **extend the helping hand of assistance**, while enabling clients to retain their dignity. We show clients who are able to work **how to locate jobs** and **become productive members** of the community. We specialize in working with elderly residents and families with young children.

"Providing food and financial assistance **improves** the ability of individuals and families to care for their children and senior members and **achieve goals** of self-sufficiency. BSAO is a valuable resource in the community. If families and individuals do not have a helping hand a time when they still have control of their lives, the social cost would be very steep in terms of health, safety and security issues."

For over thirty years, the Bonita Springs Assistance Office has served as a primary social service agency in Bonita Springs. We are **proud to be supporters** the BSAO.

### Rotary International President

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

### District 6960 Governor

Pete Doragh  
The Rotary Club of Ft. Myers South

### Area 3 Assistant Governor

Rick Perry  
Bonita Springs Noon

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#### 2014-2017

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Peter O'Flinn	Susan Schmitt

### Trustees of The Foundation of The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs

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

## LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President **Sandy Hemstead** presided for week 4. Sandy showed off the club's new PROJECTOR and started the meeting with a slideshow from the Starspangled 5k. **Jonathon Shaw** presented the invocation; **Bob Lombardo** led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Rex Sims** flawlessly recited the Four-Way Test.

SUMMER SOCIAL EVENT at Bonita Bay Beach Club, Thursday, July 31st, 6-8 PM. Please RSVP text to 412-606-7819 or email [teodorojuan@hotmail.com](mailto:teodorojuan@hotmail.com).



# CART

Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust  
A project of The Rotary Clubs in Southeast US

**Mark Generales** came forward to make a donation to CART with a box of pennies used in the Rotary play. Sandy challenged each table to put at least \$7 into the blue cups.

Did you make a pledge to Jon McLeod's Bos2Kw? **Pledges are due** based on 2,000 miles. Please make checks payable to Rotary Club of Bonita Springs and give them to **Bobbi Bird**. Can't remember how much you pledged? Ask Bobbi.



**Jim Dati** with assistance from **Dick Fredrickson** led singing of *Oh What a Beautiful Morning*.

Treasurer Bob Lombardo, fresh from a trip to Italy, announced "**Dues are due**". Payments may be made by check or credit card on the club's web site. Bob reported some members are more than 90 days overdue. About half have paid their July dues. Please pay ASAP.

Special thanks from the Spoke Folks to **Mark McCaw** for printing The Spoke while Jon McLeod was on vacation.

**Juan Teodoro** introduced our only first time visitor, daughter Lauren. Juan reminded us of the upcoming annual BIKINIS & SWIMMING SUIT



**Mark McCaw**, in uniform, described the **Summer Saturday Morning Golf** circuit. "We have played some spectacular courses. This week we are playing Quarry. Play is available for all skill levels, just for fun and we have plenty of room for more players."

Please email Mark, [mark.mccaw@ubs.com](mailto:mark.mccaw@ubs.com), for information.



**Bill Banfield**, Sergeant-at-Arms for the day, noted that "It's amazing what happens to attendance when you're not giving away six thousand dollars." Bill helped **Morgan Eldridge** and **Jim Dati** celebrate their birthdays.

## Rotary Scholar with a Desire to Help Others

In a municipal hospital in Cubatão, Brazil, a new mammography machine **funded by a Rotary global grant** provides breast cancer screening to women who previously had to wait for weeks before they could get in for a checkup with a doctor.

A Rotary global grant also funded training for medical staff and cancer awareness education for people in the community. **Isis Mejias Carpio** of Houston, studying at the University of São Paulo **on a Rotary scholarship**, played an instrumental role in bringing together Rotary clubs in two countries to make the grant possible.

Members of the Rotary Club of Cubatão, who hosted Mejias during her scholarship, had already identified the hospital's need for expanded health services for women. **Visiting the clinic herself, Mejias saw an opportunity to collaborate with her contacts back home** in the Rotary Club of Humble Intercontinental, north of Houston.

**"Building a bridge between a host and international sponsor on any grant project is always one of the most important parts,"** Mejias says. "It was very rewarding to know that my little participation evolved into a project like that."

The ink had barely dried on the final report for the mammography grant when **Rotary member Bill Davis, Mejias' principal mentor in the Humble club, approached her with another health-related project.** Baylor University in Texas had partnered with the government of Botswana to support the [Botswana-Baylor Children's Center of Excellence](#), which provides free, state-of-the-art pediatric care, treatment, and support to HIV-positive children and their families in Botswana.

The growing number of adolescents with HIV has outpaced the center's resources. So Davis, who had previous contacts with Baylor, was interested in pursuing a global grant to fund a separate adolescent center on an adjacent plot of land. **The center would provide a safe place for kids to receive life skills education, health information, and training to deal with the stigma of HIV and discrimination they may face.**

To get the project off the ground, Davis says he

raised money in his district and called Mejias to see if her friends in Brazil would want to help.

**The HIV project grant has been approved by the Foundation.** It's just the latest good to come from Mejias' first meeting with Davis in 2011. A volunteer with the Central Houston chapter of Engineers Without Borders (EWB) at the time, Mejias was looking for help on a clean water project for a hospital in Kenya and had heard that Davis and his club had a history of supporting EWB projects. So she approached him.

"I liked what she had proposed," says Davis, who recalls Mejias had already been to Kenya twice to see the project, which also involved a retired doctor from San Diego whose wife is a Rotary member. "I thought it's a pretty secure deal, so our club became the international sponsor and got a couple other clubs in."

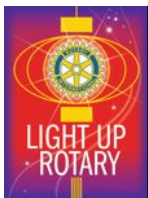
"Talking to Bill we made a friendship through the months of developing this grant," Mejias says. She told him **she was working with a team at the University of Houston developing a bio-filter to remove metals from water.** Davis told her of a Rotary scholarship for graduate students that she might be interested in. But the deadline was in two weeks. "I knew little about the scholarship, but I researched it and thought it would be a perfect opportunity to understand more about water treatment."

**Mejias met the deadline and was selected for the scholarship,** but she didn't want to abandon her work. So with the help of her academic sponsors, she forged an agreement between the University of Houston and the University of São Paulo to collaborate on the study and work toward a dual PhD.

**About her Rotary scholarship, Mejias says, it made her realize "I can have a huge impact on changing people's lives. I was able to find my passion in life and determine I want to create a road for future projects."**

Mejias was also recently selected by The Rotary Foundation to **lead a team of engineers who will be traveling to Uganda to study the feasibility of water projects.**

*Rotary Weekly*



**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](http://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](mailto:riverchip12-spoke@yahoo.com). **Scott Gerrish** issue editor.

**Last Week:  
A Bemused Fred Partin  
drew the 9♣ to win \$5**



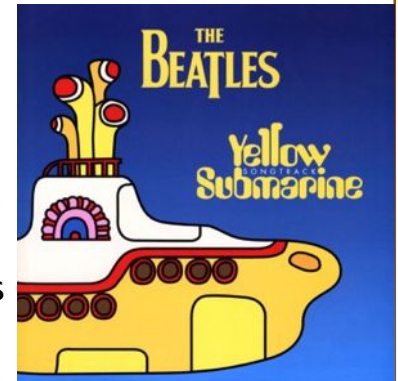
**The 50/50 Now  
\$881**

### Rotary Sings: *Yellow Submarine*

In the town where I was born  
Lived a man who sailed to sea  
And he told us of his life  
In the land of submarines

So we sailed up to the sun  
Till we found the sea of green  
And we lived beneath the waves  
In our yellow submarine

We all live in a yellow submarine  
Yellow submarine, yellow submarine  
We all live in a yellow submarine  
Yellow submarine, yellow submarine



### Upcoming Speakers

*This Week:*

**Jon Berlie MD,  
“Facinating  
Findings of the  
Eye”**



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

***John Warfield Aug 2***

***Steve Krchniak Aug 5***

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?

### *This Morning's Invocation*

Almighty God, at the apex of this summer season we turn from leisure and work to engage in this hour of fellowship, and to reaffirm our identity as responsible citizens committed to service, and to the practice of that which is true, fair, and beneficial in our relationships.

Even in the slower pace of summer we are not freed from obligations, nor released from responsibilities in business and family life. Strengthen us, therefore, to fulfill our tasks and to seize opportunities to do good. Help us to live, not by our own laws, but by those which serve the common good.

Accept our gratitude for food and sociability enjoyed here today, and for the joy of involvement in this special fellowship.

We pray with grateful hearts and spirits, energized to serve.  
Amen.

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