

**Rotary International President**  
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Vapi, Gujarat, India



**District 6960 Governor**  
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**Area 3 Assistant Governor-District 6960**  
Barbara Bird  
The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs

**2010-2011 Club Officers**

President	James L. O'Leary, II
President-elect	P. Stephanie Kissinger
Secretary	Bobbi Bird
Treasurer	Thomas B. Briers
Sergeant-at-Arms	George M. Cohan III
Assoc. Sgt.-at-Arms	Roger Brunswick

**Board of Directors**

James D. Dati, Immediate Past President

**2009-2012**

Ron Anderson	Brian Zamorski
James L. O'Leary	Sandra Scoggins

**2010-2013**

Jay Berube	Gregory T. Holtz
Barbara Bird	P. Stephanie Kissinger

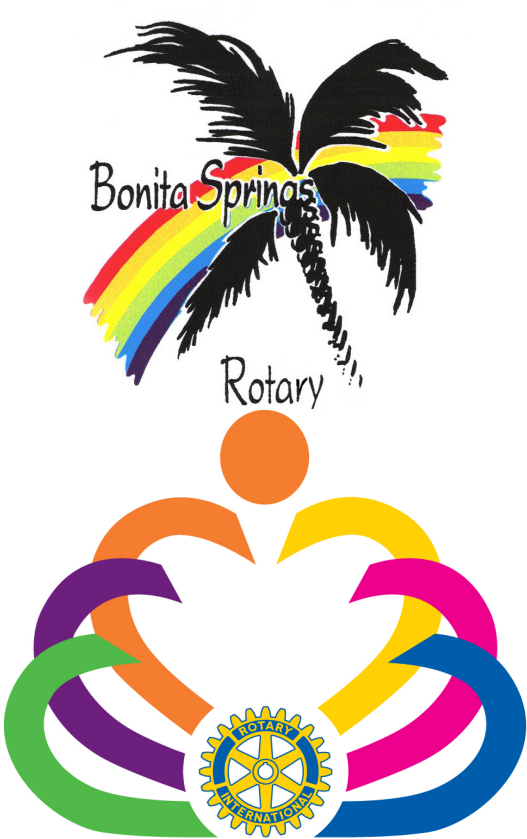
**2011-2014**

Tom Briers	Bob Lombardo
Mike Liggins	Don Manley

**Trustees of The Foundation of  
The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs**  
Ray Faubion, Chairman, Nancy Ross, Secretary,  
Richard Garner, Treasurer, Fred Partin,  
Guy Quinn, Steve McIntosh, and Tom Burgess

# The Spoke

**The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs**  
**Chartered November 3, 1978**



**Reach Within to Embrace Humanity**  
Meets Wednesday at 7:30 am at Bonita Bay Club  
**The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs**  
**P.O. Box 474**  
**Bonita Springs, FL 34133**  
[www.bonitaspringsrotary.org](http://www.bonitaspringsrotary.org)

# Rotary Club of Bonita Springs

December 14, 2011



## Last Meeting

**President Jim** presided. **John Knowles** delivered the invocation. **Carl Bals** led the Pledge of Allegiance and **Ron Anderson** led the 4 Way Test. **Ron Anderson** led a rousing rendition of *God Bless America*.

## Our Party Approaches

Our Club Christmas Party will take place Saturday, December 17th at St. John the Evangelist Church Hall. Your \$100 donation secures appetizers, dinner for two and an open bar. If you have silent auction items you would like to donate, please see **George Cohan** or any Committee member. Last year's event raised over \$10,000 and the Committee aims to surpass that number. Let's help them reach and surpass that goal.



## Time To Get Heavy

As **Melissa Taylor** has been reminding us, this morning is the morning to bring 5 food items with you in support of the Food Drive Competition which benefits the Bonita Assistance Office. As we all know, we are in a friendly competition with the Estero and Noon Clubs, the two "losing" Clubs being required to contribute \$250 to the Bonita Assistance Office. (The winner is determined by the cumulative weight of all food donated.) Therefore, if you are reading this prior to Wednesday morning, consider bringing something a bit "heavy" as part of your food contribution (flour, sugar, rice). Thanks.

**Nancy Ross** reminded us that Meals of Hope Packaging Event will take place December 17 at the Hyatt Coconut Point. Packaging gets underway at 9:00 am. Please plan on attending—with a friend or two.

## This Week's Program

**Maribel Slabaugh**

## "Bonita Assistance Office"

Last week it was good welcoming back Maribel Slabaugh, Executive Director of the Bonita Springs Assistance Office. Maribel has over 15 years of social service management working with children and families. Originally from Co-



lumbia, Maribel served as Program Manager for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in Collier County where she provided strategic direction and planning for child safety programs in Collier County. Maribel has also worked with the foster care system in Southwest Florida through the Department of Children and Families the Children's Network of Southwest Florida.

**In her position with the Bonita Assistance Office, Maribel is responsible for overseeing administrative, staff and community development needs.**

Maribel offered an insightful and comprehensive report of the Assistance Office's activities during the past year focusing on its new location and the "New Choice" and "Summer Mobile" pantry models. She also acknowledged our Foundation's role in providing the resources necessary for the Assistance Office to acquire a new commercial freezer.

Thank you Maribel for your leadership and a great presentation.

## In the “Spirit” of the Season



In anticipation of our Club’s gala Christmas Party, next week, **Mark McCaw** donated an interesting sized bottle of vodka to Party C o - C h a i r , **George Cohan**. George promised to maintain and preserve the integrity of the bottle contents through December 17th. See you all at the Party—it promises to be a great time.

### *On Being Rotarian*

## Two Holiday Traditions

**President Jim** recognized the Chairs of two signature fundraisers, both of which are quickly becoming important Holiday traditions, namely our Poinsettia and Christmas Tree Sales. **Dave Shellenbarger** reported that our Poinsettia Sale was complete. We doubled our plant sale totals, from 700 last year to over 1300 this year. From a revenue perspective, the sale grossed about \$18,000 with a resulting profit of over \$7,000. Dave announced that he would be relinquishing the Sale Chair position to **Susan Schmitt**. Congratulations to **Roger Brunswick** on being the Club's top salesperson and the winner of a gift certificate to Tarpon Bay. **Jay Berube** then briefed us on the progress of this year’s Christmas Tree sale. As of last week’s meeting we were on a trend, largely because of the compressed time and number of shifts, to sell fewer trees than the year before. As a result, our tent was scheduled to observe ‘expanded’ hours. Thanks for helping fill those shifts and to Jay and his Committee for their work.



## Member Spotlight

### **Melissa Taylor**

stepped into the Member Spotlight last week. Born in Orlando, Melissa is a true Florida native. Her father and uncle are pastors in Orlando, and her formative years were spent participating in mission trips – to Guatemala, Mexico, and Nicaragua along with her family. Melissa and her three sisters were always encouraged to focus on doing for others, so in addition to her mission work she was also a camp counselor and youth group leader in her church.



After graduating from Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee, she first worked for Pulte Homes in real estate, then tried nursing for a while. In August of 2011 she moved to our area, where she is Publisher for Florida Weekly’s Bonita Springs edition. In addition to her career and hobbies, Melissa is involved in the Bonita Springs Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Realtors.

What does she love to do? Anything that will increase the heart rate...hunting, fishing, horseback riding, or sky diving! She also loves to sing, so she probably sings lullabies to her “child,” an English Bulldog named Ruby Sue Taylor. Welcome to our club, Melissa!

### **Congratulations**

**President Jim** convened our Club’s annual meeting for the sole purpose of formally nominating and electing our new slate of Directors. Nominating Committee Chair **John Spear** offered the following candidates who were nominated and elected by acclamation: **Sandy Scoggins** (one year term); **Brian Zamorski**, **Brian Olitsky**, **Scott Anderson** and **Peter Zahner** (three year). Thank you for your leadership and willingness to serve.

\$\$\$50/50\$\$\$  
This Weeks Big Prize—\$500



An ebullient **Jay Berube** drew the Queen of Diamonds to win \$5.00.

As always...the real winner is our Foundation which gets one half of the prize purse.

**Happy Birthday**

**None to Report**

### **The Spoke**

Editor - **Greg Holtz**  
riverchip12-spoke@yahoo.com  
Assistant Editor—**Susan Schmitt**

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?



*Let's Sing, Rotarians!*

### ***Jingle Bells***

Dashing through the snow  
In a one horse open sleigh,  
O'er the fields we go  
Laughing all the way. (Ha ha ha)  
Bells on bob-tails ring  
Making spirits bright;

What fun it is  
to ride and  
sing  
A sleighing  
song tonight.  
Oh, 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.

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