



# The Spoke



September 9, 2015

## Ken Modzelewski and the SKY Family YMCA



**Richard Garner** introduced the directors of the Y seated at the head table and mentioned other club members, John Spear, Jim O'Leary, Steve McIntosh, and George Cohan, who have been active at the Bonita Springs Y.

Richard then introduced **Ken Modzelewski**, CEO of the SKY Family YMCA, operators of the Bonita Springs YMCA. After the ill-advised closure of the Bonita Y, three years ago, SKY family Y purchased and brought new life to the Y. Ken is the "White Knight". Richard says "Ken has a big heart. He is an astute busi-



ness man, but does not measure success by budgets and balance sheets. He measures his success with lives touched and families made stronger in the communities he is working in."

The SKY Family YMCA is a leading non-profit organization committed to youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. SKY stands for "Strength & Knowledge at the YMCA."

Headquartered in Venice, Fla., the SKY Family YMCA has about 500 employees that serve at its wellness branches in Venice, Englewood, Fort Myers and Bonita Springs and public, charter middle schools, SKY Academy, in Venice and Englewood.

Each branch is guided by an advisory board of community members who are dedicated to the advancement of the Y's mission. A Metropolitan Board of Directors oversees the operations and strategic planning of the entire corporation.

The SKY Academies combine modern, 21st Century academic standards with a research-based curriculum that focuses on total student health. The schools are free charter public middle schools open to all families regardless of home address. The SKY Academy curriculum is based on research that proves regular physical fitness conditions the mind for academic learning and also helps students build a solid emotional foundation.

## LAST WEEK MEETING

President **Tom Briers** presided, week 11. **Chris Riesen** presented the invocation; **Roger Brunswick** led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Len Eckert** recited the Four Way Test flawlessly. Song Leader **Ron Anderson**, newly returned from a northern sojourn, led the singing of *Bye, Bye Blackbird*.

**Tom Burgess** stood up to mourn the loss of **Rebeca Olivera** a graduate of FGCU and a Rotaract member. Rebeca died after a gas explosion in her native Mexico. She had graduated in May with an environmental engineering degree and had gone back to school to pursue a master's degree at University of Monterrey. **She wanted to make a difference in Mexico cleaning up water pollution.** Tom will be meeting with the Rotaractors and club members to develop an appropriate memorial for Rebeca.

**Bobbi Bird** said that several members had brought bags of items for **Miracles in Action**, a 501-C-3 charity focused on rural Guatemala. They are sending a container to Guatemala and

are looking for gently used clothing, shoes, socks, toys, anything in good condition. **Donations may be brought to the meetings September 16th or 23rd.**

**Roger Brunswick**, Acting Sergeant-at-arms, was shamed into using the microphone for the "deaf people". He claimed to be disappointed that **George Cohan** didn't attend to help him celebrate the Ohio State football victory. Roger managed a late celebration of Tom Brier's birthday but didn't get any money.

**Steve McIntosh** reported on the Interact Club at Estero High School. In 1997, the club started with five members. Last week **there were 133 students** for the first meeting of the new year.

**Adam Botana** reminded us of the club **Sunset Cruise Social** on Thursday, September 24th, "This will be some fun on a boat, yeah." The club is providing food and drink. The Bay Water Boat Club is at 5124 Bonita Beach Rd. Boats will load at 6:30 for about an 1 1/2 hour cruise. There are floating docks so getting on and off the boats is easy.



Bonita Y directors at our meeting Don Thomson, Ken Modzelewski, Gary Price, Hank Hoffstetler, Ray Faubion, Joe Murgalo, Marjorie Rubacky, Richard Garner, Rick Barber.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday, September 19th, 9 am.** Clean up day at the **Community Garden** with Noon club.

**Saturday, September 19th.** RLI, Weston, FL

**Thursday, September 24th, 6pm.** **Adam Botana** is hosting a **Sunset Cruise club social** for members and a guest.

**Saturday, September 26th.** The Estero Rotary Club **annual golf fundraiser at Raptor Bay**. The club is looking for help from hole sponsors, teams, individual sign-ups. This will be a Callaway System tournament. Contact

Henry Bird, 239-272-4712 or Gary Seacat, 239-410-4341.

**Wednesday, September 30th.** **Three club social** at Artichoke & Co.

**Monday, October 5, 1:00 pm.** Third annual **Help for American Warriors** golf and dinner event. Nine holes of golf. Dinner at Cirella's. \$135/person. \$65 for dinner only. Contact Bob Lombardo.

**Saturday, October 17th, 6 pm.** **Gift of Life Concert** at St. John the Evangelist. [www.keysfortheheart.org](http://www.keysfortheheart.org) or Sonny Grech 239-450-5184.



### TODAY'S PROGRAM Peter O'Flinn and The Spotlight

Peter O'Flinn is the President and Publisher of the Spotlight Magazines, Publishers of the Southwest Spotlight News Magazine and the Estero Spotlight News Magazine. The Spotlight Magazines are Southwest Florida's go-to source for real local news, with the largest audited print circulation in the North Naples, Bonita Springs and Estero area.

When Peter started the Spotlight Magazines in the fall of 2010 he set out to bring quality journalism back to Southwest Florida. The Spotlight isn't just any other publication. It's different. It's unique. The Spotlight's editorial content and distribution method are what make it unique.



**Rotary Club of Bonita Springs**, chartered November 3, 1978. The Club may be contacted through its mailing address P.O. Box 474, Bonita Springs Florida 34133. You can reach **The Spoke** through its email [BonitaSpoke@aol.com](mailto:BonitaSpoke@aol.com).

<b>President</b>	<b>Thomas B. Briers</b>
<b>President-Elect</b>	<b>Steven Slachta</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Jon McLeod</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Bob Lombardo</b>
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	<b>George M. Cohan III</b>

## Last Week: Hank Hoffstetler drew the 9♣



The 50/50 is \$1,375±

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  
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## Rotary Sings: *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*

Row, row, row your boat,  
Gently down the stream.  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,  
Life is but a dream.

*This Week*

Peter O'Flinn  
Spotlight Publisher

*Birthdays*

Ed Houck Sept 21

### **This Morning's Invocation**

Good and Gracious God, we are privileged to be involved in service, but in our reaching out, keep us from inflated egos and undue self-congratulations, realizing that only by empowerment from Your Will can we serve others.

So give us wisdom, guidance, strength and the will to be engaged in fruitful service. We intercede for all who are in need this day, locally and globally. We also pray for all who serve those with needs, both within and outside of the Rotary family.

Accept our thanks for food to strengthen us, for fellowship to enrich us, and for Your promised grace to sustain us. Amen.