

Bonita The Spoke Rotary March 1st, 2017



Bonita Springs High School

Steve McIntosh came forward to introduce the program. Steve said, "Four years ago Connie and I started a program at EHS called Leadership Academy. The program was based on Leadership Bonita and Leadership Lee. This year we had 60 applicants for 12 slots.

"The school sponsor was with us the whole time, making sure the kids were comfortable, safe, and learning as we went. That sponsor was **Jeff Estes**, then assistant principal of EHS."



Jeff is now the principal of the new Bonita Springs **High School**. He is a "home grown" principal, graduate of EHS and FGCU, and his kids go to Bonita schools. "He is a man of high ethical standards, the kids respect him, and he lives the 4-way test."

Jeff is obviously and excited with his new job. He noted that his first job in Florida was washing golf carts at Bonita Bay. Now he has the opportunity to develop a "crown jewel" high school.

Jeff had an animated video showing the site and school facilities. "This is the best site." He says "The number of students that will be able to walk to the campus is tremendous. This means that students without a car or private transportation will be able to get involved in school activities...Research tells that if they are involved they will be more successful in school."



Jeff believes the school must have the best offerings in academics and extra-curricular activities and must have something available for every student.

ZZ 118 LZ 62 LF 4 LY 15	1% 59% 31% 2% 8%	1s & 2s 3s, 4s, & 5s STAR Grade Level	4 2 Reading 26% 74% 8.5	2% 1% Math 24% 76%
Male 96	48%	AICE	63	32%

He showed us some data based on the current freshman class at EHS with Bonita zip codes. It is a very diverse group in economic, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds. "I want to make sure that for every child that has the desire to be successful there's something at this high school for them to be successful with."

The data he presented showed a mix of 52% hispanic, 44% white, 4% asian, black, other; 90% of the kids in regular or gifted programs; about 75% had above average reading and math scores; and 32% were enrolled in the "Cambridge" program. He says, "These students are great kids, smart, English speaking, and many are bi-lingual."

The first freshman class will start next year in a "portables" school on the EHS campus and will move to the new school when it is completed in 2018. Jeff is hoping that the school will be opened one grade level at a time to reduce the difficulty of staffing a full high school all at once.

He says that the partnership being developed with FGCU is unique and will provide a premier academic program. Students will be able to earn up to 60 FGCU credits, use the credits directly at FGCU and other Florida institutions, and be eligible for tuition discounts at FGCU. This will probably be the only high school in the state with such an advantage.

Jeff would like to develop a Health Academy program so that students could be certified LPN right out of school. And, to compete with the large Collier County high school bands, he wants to have the largest high school band in Lee County.

The **ground breaking** for the school is scheduled for March 10th. The school's mascot will be revealed then. Information about BSHS is at:

bnh.leeschools.net/

Last Week Meeting ...34

How classy can a breakfast meeting get? We had chamber music played by **Gordon Costley**(rr) before the start of the meeting.



President **Steven Slachta** convened the meeting. **Wayne Neller** presented the invocation; **Jon McLeod** led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Jim Horein** recited the Four Way Test without notes.

Song Leader **Wayne Hemstead** led us in singing *Michael Row Your Boat Ashore* with special lyrics for Rotary <u>and</u> piano accompaniment.

Dave Shellenbarger rose to laud **Jim 'Leary**'s work to New Horizons. Jim has been mentoring an atrisk kid there for 4 years. The boy is now a graduating senior. "**Jim's contribution is just another example of Rotarians doing great work**."

Steven recognized **Connie McIntosh**, wife of Steve, who has shared involvement with programs at Estero High School.

Carrie Reynolds pitched the Nautical Flea Market **Kickoff Cocktail Party** March 16th. Please signup on-line or contact Carrie.

There will be a 4-club **Kickoff Dinner** for the **Walk for Water** on Friday April 7th, at Artichoke & Co. \$35/pp cash or check.

Mark Generales rose to extol the advantages of the 8 page insert planned for both the News Press and Naples Daily News for the Nautical Flea Market. This is going to be a really nice piece, 95,000 copies delivered in the coastal zip codes. Mark is looking for more signups for ads. A great chance to help out and reach a large audience. Contact Mark or Vince Modarelli.

Wayne Hemstead will be giving a **Report on Our Trip to India** at Artichoke & Co. on Tuesday, February 28th at 5:30 pm.



Kae Moore presented the Rotary Minute describing youth programs that we support.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an intensive leadership experience organized by Rotary clubs and districts to develop skills as a leader while having fun and making connections. Last year we sponsored 4 students to this great program.

The **Seminar for Tomorrow's Leaders** or (S4TL) is a powerful leadership training program for high school students. It is organized annually by a board of directors of Rotarian senior staff from Districts 6890, 6950 and 6960 in mid-Florida. This award-winning program is capable of transforming the lives of these young leaders. Approximately 200 Rotary sponsored delegates from more than 130 high schools participate in this program. We sponsored a student from EHS last year.

Steven reported on a Wheelchair fundraiser sponsored by the Sunset Club. **Nancy Ross** and guests at her table donated \$1,000 and **Jay Berube** pledged \$1,000. Thank you for your support.

Next President **Jon McLeod** leaped up to act as Sergeant-at-Arms for the day. He did some fining for lack of pins and name badges and conducted shout-outs for Birthday Boys **Frank Liles** and **Steve McIntosh**.



Jon then managed to choreograph a flag exchange with a visiting Rotarian from the Walworth-Fontana, WI, Rotary Club.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, February 28th, 5:30 pm. Wayne Hemstead, **Report on trip to India.** Artichoke & Co.

Wednesday, March 8th, Rotary Regulars' Meeting.

Thursday, March 16th, 5:30-7:30. **Nautical Flea Market kickoff** cocktail party for club members and F.O.L.K. at FineMark, 10010 Coconut Rd.

Sunday, March 26th, 5-8 pm. **Installation Dinner.** Pelican Isle Yacht Club. \$65/pp. No ties.

March 29th - April 3rd. Second annual **Nautical Flea Market**. Help needed. Contact Mary Saunders.

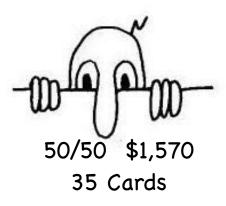
Friday, April 7th, 5:30 - 8:30 PM. **Kickoff Dinner Walk for Water**. Artichoke & Co. \$35/pp cash or check.

Saturday, April 8th, 8:30 - 10:30 am. Third Annual **Walk for Water**. Bonita Springs YMCA.

Saturday, April 29th, 6 pm. 21st Annual **Reverse Raffle**. St John the Evangelist.

This Week

Colleen Henderson ACT Abuse Counseling and Treatment



Diane Ewing (rr) drew the 10♥ For ÷5



The 50/50 is \$1,570

Birthdays

Roger Brunswick Feb 26 Carl Schwing Feb 26 Jim Renfro Mar 2

Rotary Sings: My Country 'tis of Thee

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside let freedom ring!

My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free, thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills, like that above.

This Morning's Invocation

O God of amazing grace and goodness, as we gather again for fellowship and pursuit of our rea- sons for being Rotarians, we give thanks for bless- ings received since last we met.

We pray that in the renewal of relationships en- joyed here today we might experience a new surge of confidence and hope for going forward. Help us not to be weary in well doing, but to be buoyed up with faith and assurance that we are not alone in life and work. Rekindle in us a sense of purpose in life, in the community, and in this club.

We pray that the work of our officers and com- mittees will prosper, to the end that our service in the community and in the world may be enhanced. Amen

Rotary International President

John F. Germ Rotary Club of Chattanooga, TN

District 6960 Governor

Ladd Waldo The Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch

Area 3 Assistant Governor

Sally Smith The Rotary Club of Estero

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2016-2019

Bob Lombardo, Kae Moore, Gary Price

Trustees of The Foundation of The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs

Jim Dati, President; Stephanie Kissinger, Secretary; Richard Garner, Treasurer; Jason Dolle, Sandy Hemstead, Ed Houck, Mark McCaw Trustees



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.

Scott Gerrish issue editor.