



Welcome Help from disaster aid USA



Joe Faerber, Estero Rotary Club, Area 2 Assistant Governor and **Russ Koon**, Morgantown, WV Rotarian, ambassador, *disaster aid USA* at the staging area in Estero.

DAUSA is an American Rotary project run by Americans. It operates with full transparency, accountability, oversight and professionalism that are expected of genuine Rotary projects. Russ and his wife, Lois, arrived with a trailer full of equipment and the experience gained from previous service. He will help with coordination with FEMA and other organizations. DAUSA requires waiver forms from volunteers and covers their insurance needs.



Last Week...12

We started with the pre-game "meet and greet" with President **Jon McLeod** in charge. **Wayne Hemstead** presented a special invocation for the meeting:

"Can we all join our hearts and minds and just give thanks for Your seeing us through the storm, Gracious God. And for bringing us all together on this day.

"Help us, lend us your strength to rebuild and help those who are suffering. Let us look upon this as a lesson on what Rotary is, and what Rotary does, and who we are.

"Thank You and let's all think about those who need us now and let's be there for them. Amen."

Roger Brunswick led the Pledge of Allegiance and **Bob Lombardo** needed help to recite the Four Way Test.



Don and Karen Manley and Eddie Barrios came to the front. Eddie is a Bonitan who worked along with Don and Karen. Jon said, "Don has done more for this community than anyone I know. With Karen and Eddie, he has been out every day in the Bonita Beach Road and Imperial area rescuing and feeding people. Last Saturday and Sunday they gave out 50,000 bottles of water, 10,000 meals plus diapers and hygienic supplies.

Roger Brunswick said, "I'm never going to fine you again...unless you grow hair".

Don noted that they had received donated supplies and help from many people including a truck load of supplies from the Rotary Club of Cape Coral, an Ohioan who dropped off three new chain saws, and a Michigander who worked for two days before having to go back home "to work".

Jay Berube and **Chris Riesen** have arranged for storage units and staging areas for equipment, supplies, and donated furniture. The Naples Daily News has donated warehouse space with a loading dock for staging.

The Plan



DGE **Sandy Hemstead** is the District 6960 Irma Relief Committee Chair. She estimates there are 1,000 homes flooded in Bonita Springs.

Our effort will be to organize teams to clean out and prepare these homes for rebuilding. This means mucking out, removing sheet rock, appliances, furniture, and sanitizing as

quickly as possible.

Sandy says the clubs from the northern part of the district, Sarasota and Bradenton, are helping in Immokalee. Fort Myers clubs have been helping in LaBelle, Buckingham, and Lehigh. The North Naples clubs are helping in Everglade City while the Bonita and Estero clubs are helping here.

Sandy notes that the immediate work is to bring needed supplies, downed tree removal, and preparation for repair of flooded homes. The longer term work will include aid to areas like Arcadia where crop damage will reduce the earnings of the agricultural workers during harvest season.



Rick Barber, on the governing board of the South Florida Water Management District, told us that the local flooding is due to heavy rains in the Immokalee area. The Imperial River drainage basin covers 310 square miles. All the run off flows to the Gulf via the Imperial River. In periods of heavy rain, the run off is more than can be con-

tained in the river resulting in flooding.

Rick reported that recommendations to alleviate the flooding were made in 1995 and were not implemented. The possibilities included buying people out, constructing a levee in conjunction with extending CR 951, and/or channelizing the river to increase its capacity. Under the leadership of PDG Pete Doragh, our district has established a **Donor Advised Fund** with The Rotary Foundation that will be used for club projects to help our communities. This will be important with what will likely be a long term recovery effort. Please consider reaching out to your out of state Rotary contacts, snowbirds, friends and others who may be interested in donating to Irma Relief.

Copy and paste into your browser

https://www.your-fundaccount.com/rotary/HowToContribute.asp



You can contribute to the Donor Advised Fund through your online account or by following the instructions below





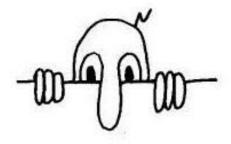
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www.amazon.com



This Week

This Week Club Assembly



50/50 \$564 41 Cards Left Including 3 Aces, Joker

Eddie Barrios drew the 10 ♠ for \$5



The 50/50 is \$564

Birthdays

Ed Houck Sept 21 Bill Banfield Sept 29

Rotary Sings: Take Me Out To The Ball Game

Take me out to the ball game,

Take me out to the fair —

Buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jacks,

I don't care if I never get back!

We will root — root — root for the home team

If they don't win it's a shame;

For it's one! two! three strikes you're out!

At the old ball game.

Take me out to the ballgame.
First, let's stop at the bank.
I'll need a mortgage so I can pay.
Parking the car is another outlay.
And you pay big bucks for a hotdog.
The cost of beer is insane.
First it's Oh my! Prices are high at the old ballgame.

This Morning's Invocation

Eternal God, from various walks in life, from different family backgrounds and religious persuasions, we come together in unity of spirit and purpose.

In this autumn season we acknowledge the magnificence of creation and the magnitude of Your power in the natural world.

Help us to know the joy of serving rather than being served, of loving rather than seeking to be loved. As we share in the commonality of our identity and purpose, help us to use that relationship for the welfare of our club and in service to others.

We offer thanks for the food prepared for us and for table fellowship as we share these moments together. Help us to be appreciative of each other as we work together for others. Amen.

Rotary International

Ian Riseley

Rotary Club of Sandringham, Austrailia

District 6960 Governor

Bobbi Bird

The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs **Area 2 Assistant Governor**

Joe Faerber

Estero Rotary Club

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Jon McLeod Claudie Delgado-

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2017-2020

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Trustees of The Foundation Jim Dati, President; Stephanie Kissinger, Secretary; Mark McCaw, Treasurer; Jason Dolle, Sandy Hemstead, Steven Slachta, Rex Sims

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.