



## Two New Rotarians

Past President **Jim Dati** sponsored new member **Lexi Smith** and presented her with her Rotary pin. Lexi joins the club with the classification of Banking Relations Specialist. She is at the Florida

Club Secretary **Bob Lombardo** sponsored new member **Jim Fitzpatrick**. Jim joins the club with the classification of Financial Professional. He is in insurance sales, specializing in annuities, life insurance, and long term care insurance. He is with World Financial Group.



President **Claudie Delgado** presided. **Wendy Arsenault** presented the invocation; **Roger Brunswick** led the *Pledge of Allegiance*; and **Mark Generales** muddled his way through the *Four-Way Test*.

**Chris Riesen** read the **Rotary Minute**. This time he told us about the history of the Rotary Youth Exchange. The program in its current form was started in 1958. Now there are about 9,000 exchange students per year.

**Ron Anderson** acting as song leader told us "I forgot how to sing." Then our singing of *Michael Row the Boat Ashore* sank after the first two lines.



**Roger Brunswick** stepped up to give his two minute *Vocational Talk*. (3 minutes). Roger has had a varied career in sales and management. He returned to Florida from Ohio in 1992. In 2005, he became a Realtor. He says, "Selling real estate is something I truly enjoy. Wish I had been

doing it for the last 30 years."

Roger announced that **Rotary Regular Day** will be March 20th. **Bob Lombardo** gave us an update on **George Cohan**. A get well card was passed around.

Roger, the Sergeant-at-Arms, introduced guests and organized a Happy Birthday shout-out for **Jon Shaw** and **Frank Liles**.



Dr. Mike Martin

**Steve McIntosh** came forward to introduce our speaker, **Dr. Mike Martin**, President of FGCU. Steve said, "Some folks don't recognize how important it has been to have FGCU in our community... You can't be a Class A community without a university of higher education."

(continued)

### This Morning's Invocation

O God of amazing grace and goodness, as we gather again for fellowship and pursuit of our reasons for being Rotarians, we give thanks for blessings received since last we met.

We pray that in the renewal of relationships enjoyed 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 committees will prosper, to the end that our service in the community and in the world may be enhanced. Amen

### This Week's Program:

**Chris Patricca, Board Member,  
LeeCounty School District**

### Song: **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!

Mike told us, "I believe you get up every morning and try to be a little bit better than you were the day before." Some of the improvements that are on-going are:

Getting per student state aid that is in line with the other schools in the state system.

Adding to the academic profile. There are now 62 majors, designed so that a student completing can "go where they choose and succeed."

Recognizing the needs of the local community, majors have been added in supply chain management, construction management, a minor in agri-business, and will be adding an environmental geology major with a focus on water.

The early indications are that the "4 year" graduation rate has improved by 6%. Scores for "performance based funding" have increased significantly. About 80% of the students work part time, with 62% working more than 20 hours per week.

FGCU as greatly increased the use of "summer" school. For many students, working during the winter "season" and going to school in summer and fall makes economic sense. In addition, the summer school gives better utilization of facilities.



District Governor

**Sandy Hemstead**

drew the 3 ♣  
to win \$5.

The 50/50 is still:  
**\$500**

### UUpcoming Programs

March 6, Warren Pfohl - "David's Refuge: Our journey in Caregiving"

March 7, Monthly Club Social. Trianon Lounge.

March 13, Doug Pratt - "Inspirational Stories Come to Bonita"

March 20, Rotary Regular Day - Andy Frech - "Someone said I would not be here"

March 27, Billy Birch - "I'm a successful musician in spite of myself".

### Birthdays (Feb 24-Mar 2)

**Steve McIntosh Feb 25**

**Roger Brunswick Feb 26**

**Jim Renfro Mar 2**

### The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs

Chartered November 3, 1978

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Scott Gerrish issue editor

Some of the "experiments" in community engagement are:

A transfer arrangement with FSW to reduce the total time to degree of graduates.

Introduce some faculty into a Lee school to study how students learn.

Funding a program in Moore Haven to help non-certified teachers gain certification.

Next January. An *Arthrex Scholars* program. 20-25 students who will complete their college training as interns at Arthrex.

He told us that:

Hertz hired 56 graduates in one year.

The school's nursing program has the highest rate in the state for passing the RN exam on the first attempt.

83% of FGCU graduates are still in Florida with 63% in SWFL. As a comparison UF has 42% leaving the state.

Mike says the FGCU mission is simple: "We transform individual lives so they will transform the greater society".

### 3 Years ago

**George Cohan** renewed his "retirement from the Reverse Raffle" vows, but said he would do one more year after a personal appeal by President **Tom Briers**. Let's all get behind this event and send George happily off into the sunset.

### 7 Years ago

President **Jim O'Leary** presided. He lamented on the death of **Herb Barnes** noting that Herb at 85 had been energetically picking up trash on a Rotary project only four weeks ago. **Bobbi Bird** offered an invocation. **Dawn Colechio** led the Pledge of Allegiance and **Wendy Arenault** recited the 4-way test. **Ron Anderson**, led the singing of *When Johnny Comes Marching Home*.

### The Four Way Test

Of the 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?

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