

Julie's Weekly Rotary E-Newsletter – Mini-Spoke, April 7, 2026

**Reminder:** Starting May 5, Rotary Club of Bonita Springs Breakfast Meetings will be held on Tuesdays (shifting from Thursdays) at Spanish Wells Country Club, 9801 Treasure Cay Lane, Bonita Springs, FL 34135.

**April Programs (Stefan Gehrold, Speaker Chair)**

- April 9: Dr. John Colman, Professor of Politics, Political Science Department, Ave Maria University (*with a special visit from FGCU Rotaract Club Leaders – see article and photo below*)
- April 16: Hon. Kyle S. Cohen, Judge, Unified Family Court in Collier County
- April 23: Club Assembly (with Strategic Planning presentation by Lynda Waterhouse; Education update from Dr. Steve McIntosh; DACdb Ignite training by Angela Swaepoel and Wendy Arsenault); and *with special recognition of Paul Harris 158<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth (April 19)*.
- April 30: Chase Marinell, PGA, Chase'n Birdies - Suncoast Junior Tour

**SAVE THE DATE: 2026-27 Rotary Club of Bonita Springs Installation & Awards Dinner**

Wednesday, May 6, at Copperleaf Golf Club. Incoming President Kelli Groom sent information about the menu and how to register. Registration also available online: <https://bonitaspringsrotary.org/>

**First Thursday Social Calendar:**

- **May 7:** Location: Vichino's, 25987 S. Tamiami Trl, Bonita Springs. **Host:** Bob Lombardo
- **June 4:** Location: Ceremony Brewing, 10441 Packinghouse Ln., Bonita Springs. **Hosts:** GT & Eileen Tasso

**Congratulations to our FGCU Rotaract Club Members!**

From Katie Long, Coordinator, FGCU Serving Learning & Civic Engagement: *On behalf of Florida Gulf Coast University's Service-Learning & Civic Engagement office, it is my pleasure to congratulate you on being selected as a recipient of the **Excellence in Civic Engagement Award - Most Engaged "New" Registered Student Organization!***

*This recognition is reserved for individuals who demonstrate an exceptional commitment to community engagement and who embody the values of service, partnership, and student success that are central to FGCU's mission. Your dedication has made a meaningful and lasting impact not only within our community, but also in shaping transformative experiences for our students. Together, your efforts represent the very best of what it means to be an engaged citizen and partner in advancing the public good in SWFL and beyond. Your work helps ensure that FGCU students graduate not only with knowledge, but with purpose, compassion, and a commitment to making a difference.*

Our Rotary Club extends its appreciation to **Angela Swanepoel**, advisor to the FGCU Rotaract Club, and **Steve McIntosh**, our Club's Education Committee Chair.



## Fundraisers

**LAST CHANCE: Everblades Hockey Game:** Let's pull together the biggest crowd of Rotarians and Friends for the next and final game **THIS Friday, April 10**, with the Everblades vs. South Carolina. Game starts at 7:30 pm. Use this link to buy tickets to the Rotary/Blades fundraiser games.

[Florida Everblades - Powered by Spino](#)

**Only \$35/ticket** for premium seats. Go Blades and Go Rotary!

### Rotarian-Sponsored Fundraiser

New member Scott Stryker is hosting a fundraiser to benefit caregivers of children with cancer. See details about the May 16 Casino Night here:

<https://strykoutcancer.ticketspice.com/strykoutcancer-casino-night>

### Community Service/Outreach:

**Still NEED for old/used backpacks, reusable grocery bags and other bags:** Bags are needed for those who bicycle or walk to the Meals of Hope distribution at St. Mary's on Monday afternoons. Please give to Angela.

### **Club Service:**

#### **Invocation | Greeter**

**Thank you** to Jerry Pelak and Tom Snyder for staffing the registration table each Thursday morning. We also thank Rotarians who serve as greeters and provide the invocation:

April 9: Richard Jacobs, Invocation; Paul Fox, Greeter

April 16: Paul Fox, Invocation; Jason Olson, Greeter

April 23: Jim Burger, Invocation; Marcus Moody, Greeter

April 30: Kelli Groom, Invocation; Lisa Portnoy-Hurm, Greeter

#### **Note: Shift to Tuesday**

May 5: Donna Marcotte, Invocation; Abbe Guddal, Greeter

May 12: Stefan Gehrold, Invocation; Scott Stryker, Greeter

May 19: Marcus Moody, Invocation; Jules Inman, Greeter

May 26: Jules Inman, Invocation; Kimberly Baxa, Greeter

June 2: Jamison Ford, Invocation; **OPEN**, Greeter

June 9: **OPEN**, Invocation; Richard Jacobs, Greeter

June 16: **OPEN**, Invocation; **OPEN**, Greeter

June 23: **OPEN**, Invocation; **OPEN**, Greeter

June 30: Julie Pedretti, Invocation; **OPEN**, Greeter

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves. "Our projects bring together people of all races, religions, genders, ideologies and economic backgrounds, uniting us in a shared purpose to **do good in the world**. Let's build a Rotary that **unites for good** and ensures a brighter future for all."

Julie

Julie Pedretti, President, Rotary Club of Bonita Springs