

Julie's Weekly Rotary E-Newsletter – Mini-Spoke, May 31, 2026

THIS WEEK: First Thursday :

- **June 4 (6 – 8 p.m.):** Location: Ceremony Brewing, 10441 Packinghouse Ln., Bonita Springs. **Hosts:** GT & Eileen Tasso

June Programs (Len Eckert, Speaker Chair)

- **June 2:** Bob Lucius, Ph.D., Executive Director, CREW (Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed) Land & Water Trust
- **June 9:** Judge Amanda Levy-Reis: “How to Judge a Judge”
- **June 16:** Gary Medley, Military – Economy
- **June 23:** Adam Botana, Florida State Representative (and Rotary Club Member)
- **June 30:** Victoria Scott, Lighthouse for Blindness & Vision Loss

July Programs (Rich Jacobs, Speaker Chair)

- **July 7: Club Assembly**
- **July 14: Valerie's House** - SW Florida's non-profit organization providing grief support for children who have lost a loved one.
- **July 21: Artificial Intelligence** - AI overview and details about FGCU's AI Academy programs.
- **July 28: SW Florida Proton Center** (Advanced Cancer treatment facility recently opened in Estero). **Speaker:** Dr. Shannon MacDonald, Senior Medical Director at Southwest Florida Proton and is considered a pioneer internationally in the field of proton therapy.

August Programs (Julie Pedretti, Speaker Chair)

- **August 4:** Tom Doerr, President of the Press Club of SWFL; Retired News Director; FGCU Journalism Instructor: “How Do We Decide What is True?”
- **August 11:** Annie Campbell, Director of Development, Heights Foundation; Rotary District 6960 District Governor Nominee; member of the Rotary Club of Sanibel/Captiva & Read Sawczyn, Private Wealth Advisor, Finemark Bank; member of the Rotary Club of Fort Myers South: “Medical Training Program in Underserved Fort Myers Neighborhood Pursuing Critical Rotary International Global Grant”
- **August 18:** Barb Kuesters, Rotary District 6960 Foundation Chair; member of the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch & Janet DiBenidetto, District 69690 Global Grants Chair; member of the Rotary Club of Bonita Naples: “The Growing Impact of The Rotary Foundation and Global Grants Around the World”
- **August 25:** Chuck Stauffer, EVP of SWFL and Customer Success Leader & Wendi Fowler, Director of Residential Account Management | SWFL Hotwire Communications; member of the Rotary Club of Bonita Beach Sunset: “Trends in Telecommunications and Internet Services (ISP) Industry”

Henry Bird Celebration of Life

A Celebration of Life for Rotarian Henry Bird, husband of Bobbi Bird, Past District Governor of 6960 and Past President of our Rotary Club, will be held at 3 p.m. Friday,

June 5, at Estero Community Church, 21115 Design Parc Ln, Estero, FL 33928. Henry was a member of the Estero Rotary Club, serving several times as President. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to: Rotary Club of Estero Foundation, P.O. Box 743, Estero, FL 33929. Sympathy cards may be mailed to Bobbi Bird at 27152 Edenbridge Court, Bonita Springs, FL 34135.

Bill Oehler Celebration of Life

Harrison William (Bill) Oehler served as president of the Rotary Club of Rochester (Minn.), St. Paul and Bonita Springs (2001-2002). A funeral service is scheduled for 11 a.m. Tuesday, June 16, a Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church.

Club Service/Fundraiser:

July 4th Beer Sales Volunteers: Volunteer recruitment for one of our Club's largest fundraisers will begin at Tuesday's breakfast meeting.

Invite a Prospective Member to Breakfast! Please consider a neighbor, friend, or business associate who may have an interest in learning more about our Rotary Club. Since July, we have welcomed 12 new members. Steve Sims has business cards you can give to a prospective member so they can join us for one free meeting. Let's see how many more we can bring in before June 30.

Invocation | Greeter

Thank you to our Rotarians who serve as greeters and provide the invocation:

June 2: Jamison Ford, Invocation; Chris Riesen, Greeter

June 9: Stefan Gehrold, Invocation; Richard Jacobs, Greeter

June 16: Ron Anderson, Invocation; Jamison Ford, Greeter

June 23: Donna Flammang, Invocation; Jason Olson, Greeter

June 30: Julie Pedretti, Invocation; Chris Riesen, 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