



The Spoke

“The Fight Continues”

“Global Polio Eradication Initiative gets 36 million boost”



This past week, Rotary International reported that “the continued fight to eliminate polio gets an additional \$36 million boost from Rotary in support of polio immunization activities and research to be carried out by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, which aims to end the disabling viral disease worldwide by 2018.

The funding commitment comes at a critical time as the eradication initiative focuses on stopping polio in the three countries where the virus remains endemic: Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan. Stopping polio in those countries is crucial in order to halt the recent spate of outbreaks in countries where the disease had previously been beaten and where mass immunizations of children via the oral polio vaccine must continue until global eradication is achieved.

The Rotary grants include \$6.8 million for Afghanistan, \$7.7 million for Nigeria and \$926,000 for Pakistan. Grant amounts are based on requests from eradication initiative partners UNICEF and the World Health Organization, which work with the governments of polio-affected countries to plan and carry out immunization activities.

“Now it is of critical importance to get as many children as possible immunized through routine immunization, especially in areas within the Horn of Africa that are not doing so well in that regard,” says Joel Lehmann, a Rotary member from Nairobi, Kenya. **“As Rotary, we want to find effective ways to eradicate polio worldwide and at the same time, to improve child health in general,”** Lehmann adds.”

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LASTWEEK'S MEETING

President Bobbi presided. **Steven Slachta** delivered the invocation; **Dave Shellenbarger** led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Fred Partin** the 4 Way Test. **Ron Anderson** led us in a rousing rendition of "America The Beautiful."

A Paul Harris Moment



Gerry Myers conducted a Paul Harris Award ceremony as we honored Glenn Sabatka. Receiving his Paul Harris pin from **President Bobbi**, Glenn recently retired as the Radio Reading

Service manager at WGCU. Since starting the Radio Service in 1983, Glenn has helped provide a window to the world to thousands of visually impaired people in Southwest Florida. Thank you Glenn for your leadership and compassion.

Bob Lombardo reported on our very successful and recently complete theatrical production "It's A Wonderful Life" and encouraged us to support the sponsors who helped make the event possible.

Jon McLeod offered concluding remarks and our super Bowl fundraiser (if you haven't paid for your "square" please do so as soon as

possible) and reminded us that that bos2kw shirts are now available. They are a smart and indispensable addition to your wardrobe—and cost only \$20. Make your checks payable to the Club. Your support is appreciated.

"Rotary Rocks" Update

Gerri Spaeth offered an update on the Bonita Springs-Estero Relay for Life which will take place on April 26-27 at Riverside Park. "Relay" is an organized overnight community fundraising walk with a goal this year of raising \$120,000. A number of our Club members, **Donna Marcotte**, **Carl Schwing**, and **Bill Banfield** are playing key roles in this Relay and your help is needed and invited. Sign up on-line (www.RelayForLife.org/bonitaspringsesterofl) or see a committee member. Sponsorship opportunities are also available and will be credited our Team.

Gift of Life

Ron Anderson was kind enough to forward this photo of our Gift of Life child Ann Weins along with her father Pedro and her medical team at Joe Di Maggio Hospital. As we all know Anna's return home was



delayed by some post operative complications which were identified and resolved. As a result, Anna and Pedro were able to return home to Belize. Thanks to **Ron**, as well as **Karen** and **Mark McCaw** for their extraordinary efforts once again in making a "gift of life" possible and, ultimately, a reality.

Around The Club

Last week **Sue Masters** introduced us to Navy Lieutenant Joe Conway. Lieutenant

C o n w a y currently serves as the Division Officer and Officer Recruiter for Recruiting Command, covering the areas from Bradenton to Naples. Since 2007 he has also served as the Executive Officer, Diving and Salvage Unit, United



States Navy Reserve where he is responsible for providing diving support for the Navy's full-spectrum research, development, test and evaluation, engineering and Fleet support. He developed, as a member of the engineering Diving and Salvage team, a detailed refloating plan, enabling Navy divers to successfully bring a sunken Cold War Soviet submarine (Juliett 484) back to the surface of Portsmouth Harbor, Rhode Island.

Lieutenant Conway was raised in New York City. He is a graduate of the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Engineering and Wright State University with a Masters Degree in Human Factors Engineering.

He spoke of our “investment” in our Navy as it defends our County on the world’s oceans, offering and delivering a presence that matters from a number of different perspectives. From national defense to humanitarian initiatives, Lieutenant Conway articulated, forcefully, why being there matters.

An informative question and answer period followed allowing Lieutenant Conway to describe the future and vision of our Navy. Thank you Lieutenant Conway for your courage, vision...and service to our Country.

And finally...it was great to visit with Philipp

Weiner, our 2008-2009 Rotary Exchange Student. Pictured with **Ray and Jeanne F a u b i o n**, Philipp updated us on his activities and studies since returning home.



He is studying in the Netherlands, majoring in International Business and Management. A member of Rotaract, Philipp expects to finish his studies next year. Thanks for your visit Philipp—you are always welcome at “your” Club.



Rotary Club of Bonita Springs, chartered November 3, 1978, meets every Wednesday at Bonita Bay Club. The Club may be contacted through its mailing address P.O. Box 474, Bonita Springs Florida 34133, or its websites www.bonitaspringsrotary.org. and www.facebook.com/myrotary. **The Spoke**, the Club’s official newsletter, is published weekly throughout the year (except when the Club is in recess.) You can reach the Spoke through its email riverchip12-spoke@yahoo.com



"The Fifty-Fifty" This Week's Big Prize-**\$2,089.50**

Last week a delighted Jay Berube drew the
Three of Clubs to win **\$500.**

As always,,we're all winners as the "fifty-
fifty" helps keep our Club strong and ready to serve.

"Rotary Sings" "Home on the Range"

Oh give me a home where
the buffalo roam,
Where the deer and the
antelope play,
Where seldom is heard a
discouraging word,
And the skies are not
cloudy all day.

Home, home on the range,
Where the deer and the
antelope play,
Where seldom is heard a
discouraging word,
And the skies are not
cloudy all day.



It's A Birthday Celebration!

- Frank Liles, February 22*
- Sue Masters, February 22*
- Steve McIntosh, February 25*
- Jack Powers, February 25*
- Roger Brunswick, February 26*
- Carl Schwing, February 26*



Our Upcoming Speakers

This Morning,

**Polio Eradication
Update**

The 4-Way Test
Of the things we think, say or
do.

- Is it the **TRUTH?**
- Is its **FAIR** to all concerned?
- Will it build **GOODWILL**
and **BETTER**
FRIENDSHIPS?
- Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to
all concerned?

This Morning's Invocation

O God, we come humbly into your presence by this avenue of prayer, expressing both our gratitude for gifts received, and our yearnings to be used as gifts to others. To that end, grant us visions of service yet unrendered, an awareness of goals yet unattained and hopes yet unrealized. Give us zeal and power to bring to reality the good and worthy things waiting to be done, and confirm our efforts by your assistance without which we labor in vain.

Strengthen us now by food prepared and enjoyed. Enlighten us through productive conversations, and go with us as we return to waiting opportunities to make the day better for others. Amen.

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