



The Spoke

“Awards of Excellence”

We Welcome Back Estero High School’s Scholars and Educators



One of Rotary’s cornerstone activities is that of advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the support of education. It is a goal, activity, and aspiration that our Club has always taken very seriously.

So it was fitting last week we welcomed back our Estero High School Award of Excellence winners as **Steven Slachta** introduced us to Jeremy Jasper (Faculty); Paul Edmond (Staff); Stephanie Connor (Service Student); and Janessa Demedeiros (Academic Student).

Your devotion to academic creativity and excellence, professionalism, and service inspires us and emphasizes the continuing meaning and relevance of our Four Way Test. Thanks and congratulations.

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**Trustees of The Foundation of
 The Rotary Club of Bonita
 Springs**

**Nancy Ross, President; John Mathes,
 Secretary; Tom Burgess, Treasurer; Fred
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 Kissinger, Trustees**

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Bobbi presided. **Dick Fredrickson** delivered the invocation; our Estero High School honorees the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Stephanie Kissinger** the 4 Way Test. **Ron Anderson** led a rousing version of "This Land Is Your Land."

Tom Burgess acknowledged members of the current FGCU Rotaract leadership team visiting with us. We appreciated the opportunity to meet and chat with Jazmin Williams, Rotaract President and three of the Club's new directors, Shalice Hill (fundraising chair); Joe Boyle (marketing/social media chair); and Samantha Sanchez (social chair).

Halloween In The Park

Donna

Marcotte briefed us on this year's Halloween In The Park event which will, logically, take place Thursday, October 31 at 6:00 p.m. in Riverside Park. The event provides children a safe and fun environment for trick or treating. Our Club traditionally participates in this event and your help is requested at our booth and with the candy drive which is now in progress. Please see Donna for additional information.



Donna also reminded us about the Relay for Life Kickoff Party which will take place Tuesday, November 12, at The Colony Bay Club at 5:30 pm. The actual Relay for Life event is scheduled for Saturday, April 26, 2014 so mark your calendars now.

Nancy Ross advised us that October 26 is *National Make A Difference Day*. We will offer support by participating in a rice packing event at the Harry Chapin Food Bank in Naples. There will be two packing shifts, one from 9-11

am and other from 11:30-1:30 pm. We will be able to accommodate 50 persons per shift. Please sign up if you haven't already done so.

Your Help Is Needed

Our Treasurer **Bob Lombardo** reported on some technical issues his office was experiencing with the collection of our quarterly dues. If possible, please remit your current dues payment by means of a check. We should be back "on-line" shortly.

Our Speaker

Last week, our own **Dr. Ed Houck** offered an interesting and helpful overview of the Affordable Health Care Act. Ed is uniquely qualified to do so, holding both Doctorate and Master of Science degrees in Health and Hospital Administration from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. He currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the Health Planning Council of Southwest Florida, Inc. and the Estero Medical Center.

Ed's presentation focused on three of the Act's key components, namely Marketplace Exchanges, the Navigator Project, and the Educational Component. He provided useful information describing the resources available

for those who need information and guidance on various aspects of the law and did an especially good job of describing the operation of the Act's Marketplace Exchange component, its cost sharing and tax credit features, and the protocols involved in the development of the various health insurance plans.



A “Push” To End Polio

RI reports that Indian philanthropist and businesswoman Rajashree Birla has announced a new gift of US\$1 million to Rotary to help eradicate polio. The gift brings her total contributions to the Rotary effort to more than \$7.2 million.

What’s more, this gift will be matched two-for-one by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, resulting in \$3 million in new funding for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI). Rotary is a leading partner in the GPEI, especially in advocating government and donor support, fundraising, and building public awareness. Through the End Polio Now: Make History Today fundraising campaign, the Gates Foundation is matching two-for-one every new dollar Rotary commits to polio eradication, up to \$35 million per year, from 2013 through 2018.

“Mrs. Birla’s generous gift is deeply appreciated and could not have come at a more opportune time in our fight to end polio once and for all,” says Ashok Mahajan, a former Rotary Foundation trustee and close friend of the Birla family. “Her generosity no doubt will inspire other private donors to step up and help Rotary take full advantage of our innovative partnership with the Gates Foundation.”



Birla’s gift underscores India’s commitment to remain polio free. India -- which some experts believed would be the last nation to beat polio -- hasn’t recorded a case of the disease since January 2011. Only Nigeria, Pakistan, and Afghanistan remain on the list of countries where the wild poliovirus has never been stopped. India’s nearly 3,200 Rotary clubs have

been instrumental in supporting National Immunization Days, massive initiatives that reach nearly 175 million children under age 5 with the oral polio vaccine.

“Thanks to the efforts of Rotary and its partners -- including India’s Health Ministry, WHO [World

Health Organization], UNICEF, CDC [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention], the Gates Foundation, and other organizations -- India continues to be free of polio,” says Birla, whose son, Kumar Mangalam Birla, has transformed the Aditya Birla Group into a Fortune 500 global conglomerate. “Now we owe it to humanity to see that Nigeria, Afghanistan, and Pakistan also become polio free in the near future.”



Rotary Club of Bonita Springs, chartered November 3, 1978, meets every Tuesday at Pelican’s Nest 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-~~\$~~1,080
Last week a delighted Jay Berube drew the Queen of Spades to win ~~\$~~500.

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

"Rotary Sings"
"Shine On Harvest Moon"

Oh, Shine on, shine on,
harvest moon
Up in the sky;
I ain't had no lovin'
Since April, January, June or
July.
Snow time ain't no time to
stay
Outdoors and spoon;
So shine on, shine on,
harvest moon,
For me and my gal.



***It's A Birthday
Celebration!***

None to Report

**Our
Upcoming
Speakers
This Morning,**



**Club
Assembly**

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

Eternal God, in this autumn season we acknowledge the magnificence of creation and the magnitude of your power in the natural world. For the splendor of the colors in your earthly tapestry and for the orderliness by which the months come and go, we are grateful.

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.

Your finances. Your future. *Our focus.*

McCaw & Clegg Wealth Management
Mark W. McCaw, Senior Vice President-Investments
Senior Portfolio Manager
8000 Health Center Blvd., Bonita Springs, FL 34135
239-495-4192 888-300-9001
mark.mccaw@ubs.com
ubs.com/team/mcwealth



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