



# The Spoke

## \$15,000 for Polio Plus



Bobbi and **Nancy Ross** presented a \$2,400 check for Polio Plus to **Sandy Scoggins**. Today, our club raised over \$5,000 toward polio plus. With Rotary's matching funds this will become \$15,000!



The World's Greatest Meal

This week we participated in "The Worlds Greatest Meal to Help End Polio Now". During our regular breakfast meeting, approximately 80 of us listened

as **Ira Hawk** told us of his experience having polio at the age of 11. Ira reminded us that fellow members **Bill Oehler** and **Mike O'Dell** were also polio victims.



Rotarian **Martha Erickson** read her doctor husband's lecture, given about his work to test results of the polio vaccine.

Lastly, **Sandy Scoggins** summarized Rotary's work to eradicate polio.



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 The Rotary Club of Bradenton

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**2013-2016**

<b>Sara McCallum</b>	<b>Gregory T. Holtz</b>
<b>Barbara Bird</b>	<b>Steven Slachta</b>

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

**Nancy Ross, President; John Mathes, Secretary; Tom Burgess, Treasurer; Fred Partin, Ray Faubion, Stephanie Kissinger, Guy Quinn, Trustees**

## LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President **Bobbi Bird** presided. Her quote for the day was, "Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart." , Eleanor Roosevelt. New member **Carol Johnson** presented the invocation, **Gary Price** led the Pledge of Allegiance, and **Dave Langendorfer** (rr) provided a flawless 4-Way Test. **Ron Anderson** led a stirring rendition of *Home on the Range*.

**Tom Burgess** introduced the visiting Rotaract members. He announced that **Jack Powers** will take on the task of revving and re-launching the Mentoring Program with the Rotaractors.

**Jon McLeod** reviewed the last weekend's three serious car/bicyclist accidents. He then proceeded to auction "The best recovery drink I've been able to find.". Of course, that's Wisconsin beer supplied by **Carl Nickel**.

Bobbi reminded us of the **Installation Dinner** Friday, March 14th. If you can't find your Evite invitation or you need to RSVP, please contact **Sandy Scoggins**.



Bobbi reported that our Gift of Life child, Anna, and her father have returned to Belize. Bobbi thanked **Ron Anderson** for organizing the effort, helpers **Klaus Helf**, Jon McLeod, **Jim Horein**, and especially **Mark and Caren McCaw** who hosted Anna and Pedro for nearly a month.

Bobbi announced that **Sara McCallum** had been appointed to complete the director term of **Jay Berube** who had to step away from his board duties.

**Nancy Ross** has tickets to the Love of Bonita Dinner March 12th at the Hyatt. Club member **John Warfield** will be the 2014 Love of Bonita Award recipient.

### MEMBER MOMENT



Past President **Jim O'Leary** provided the Member Moment last week. Jim joined the club in 1997. He says, "Rotary has always been my pizza. When it's good it's very good, when it's bad it's still pretty good."

Jim reflected on the developments in his life. His grandfather was born poor, worked in way through college and medical school and became the pre-eminent obstetrician in Brooklyn. Jim's father followed in those footsteps and also became a pre-eminent obstetrician.

After the grandfather's death, Jim's parents divorced. Jim and his mother stayed in Miami and Jim became the man of house at an early age. He didn't see his father "all that much" for 14 years. When Jim was in 9th grade he re-connected with his father who encouraged Jim's personal development. It was through this process that he began to dream of becoming a trial attorney. Now, Jim says, "I feel an incredible honor and privilege to enter a courtroom with a client for a trial."

Jim moved to Bonita Springs in 1996. He says that no other organization or group of people outside of family has been more important in his business and professional development here in Bonita Springs than this Rotary Club and the people and friends he has met here.

He says, "Part of what I love about Rotary is that we all come and share. It's not something we're doing to make profit. We're doing this work out of the goodness of our hearts and we're doing great work. When I walk into the meeting in the morning, I'm very proud to be a member of this club."

## POLIO PLUS NEWS Afganistan, Nigera, Pakistan

**No polio vaccinator had ever set foot in Killi Baksho, near Pakistan's rugged northwest border with Afghanistan. Most people there have long opposed immunization, believing the polio vaccine causes infertility or AIDS.**

The combination of that public mistrust and intimidation from militant groups has been nothing short of deadly. In 2013, 20 polio vaccinators and nine police officers assigned to guard them were killed in Pakistan. With that memory fresh in their minds, a team from a Rotary-supported polio resource center went to the village to promote acceptance of the vaccine. They expected an uphill, potentially life-threatening battle.

**It took the team a month just to persuade village elders and religious leaders to meet with them. But their persistence paid off.**

Immunizations were allowed to begin. Then the campaign stalled again. "After the team had covered half the children, some militants came and started investigating," says Pakistan PolioPlus Committee Project Manager Asher Ali. "But the leaders of the community defended [the team] and, after an hour, convinced the militants to back off and allow the vaccine drops to be administered."

**Rotary members have established seven polio resource centers in Pakistan to build community trust in areas that are at high risk of the disease. Rotary members also work with leading Islamic scholars to form the Pakistan Ulema PolioPlus Committee, which strongly endorses the drive to rid the country of the disease.**

These efforts are reaching children who would otherwise be missed, and help to change the minds of parents who once refused to let their children be vaccinated. Success in one community "has a ripple effect on adjoining communities," says Ali.

**Winning community trust is vital to carrying out the polio endgame plan worldwide. Rotary and its partners in the**

**Global Polio Eradication Initiative are at the forefront, focused on countries where transmission of the wild poliovirus has never been stopped: Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan.**

In Nigeria, a network of more than 3,000 [volunteer community mobilizers](#), launched by UNICEF and funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is promoting vaccination in high-risk areas.

**In Afghanistan, not a single case of endemic polio occurred in 2013. Of the 11 cases reported, all were linked to cross-border transmission from neighboring Pakistan. This achievement reflects the success of social mobilizers, community elders, and religious leaders in forging community trust.**

And though the Taliban has dropped its opposition to vaccination in some parts of the country, says Peter Crowley, UNICEF's chief of polio, "this was a very highly reported reason for vaccinators missing children in southern and southeastern Afghanistan."

**Globally, families in polio-affected areas who refuse immunization of their children dropped from 1.6 percent to .9 percent between January and September 2013, according to UNICEF.**

In many countries, Rotary has enlisted celebrity polio eradication ambassadors to build trust. In Pakistan, international cricketing superstar Shahid Afridi has engaged the Pashtun community, which composes 15 percent of the population but contracts more than 80 percent of the polio cases. In Nigeria, actor Sani Danja is reaching out to Hausa-speaking people in the country's northern states.

**Danja is "countering anti-OPV propaganda," Funsho says, and sending communities a clear message: "Let's protect our children from polio."**

*Rotary News*



**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 website [www.bonitaspringsrotary.org](http://www.bonitaspringsrotary.org). **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](mailto:riverchip12-spoke@yahoo.com). **Scott Gerrish** issue editor.



**The 50/50 Now  
\$2,283**

**Last Week:  
Frequent winner  
Jay Berube  
picked the 9 ♠  
to win \$5.**

*Rotary Sings*

*So Happy Together*

Imagine me and you, I do  
I think about you day and night,  
it's only right  
To think about the girl you love  
and hold her tight  
So happy together

I can't see me lovin' nobody but you  
For all my life  
When you're with me, baby  
the skies'l be blue  
For all my life

Me and you and you and me  
No matter how they toss the dice,  
it has to be  
The only one for me is you,  
and you for me  
So happy together

I can't see me lovin' nobody but you  
For all my life  
When you're with me, baby  
the skies'l be blue  
For all my life



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

**Jim Renfro March 2  
Jim Friedgen March 5**

**Upcoming Speakers**

*Today:*

**Michael Francis**

**WINK radio  
producer**

**The 4-Way Test  
of 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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*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