



The Spoke

The State of Estero High School



Clayton Simmons

Steve McIntosh introduced **Clayton Simmons**, first year principal of Estero High School. Clayton is from Lee County and is a 7th generation Floridian. His mother and step-father were both school principals. He has been an educator in Lee County for 19 years, 8 years as a middle school principal, and 1 year at EHS.

Clayton says, "I am amazed every day to walk around the campus because of how fantastic are the students and how great the staff is." He says the District is committed to upgrading EHS and there are several

projects ongoing and planned for the summer.

Lee County high schools have "career academies". These are specialized learning communities within a school. Schools in one zone will have different "academies". Students can then pick the school in their zone that meets their objectives. (Some academies are almost universal, i.e.. STEM, Information Technology, Arts, A/V Technology and Communication.) In addition to the common academies, EHS has Architecture and Construction, Engineering and Technology, Health Science, and Hospitality and Tourism.

EHS has the Cambridge Program, a rigorous academic program for gifted students. This year the program had its largest group of incoming freshman, " a group of extremely smart kids."

The school also has the **Advancement Via Individual Determination** program aimed at the largest group of middle achieving students. AVID works with them to teach coping skills, how to be organized, how to take notes, etc. In Junior and Senior years, the program teaches how to write a resume, apply to college, apply for scholarships, and visits to college campuses encouraging these kids to continue their education.

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LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President **Sandy Hemstead** rang the bell, bell, bell to start the meeting. **Dave Shellenbarger** presented the invocation; Principal **Clayton Simmons** and the EHS delegation led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Tom Burgess** recited the Four-Way Test flawlessly.



Song leader **Ron Anderson** introduced **Frank Keck** (rr) who led a special performance of "Smile-Sing a Song". Frank is a former District Governor and

has led this song in his inimitable style at many meetings in U.S. and abroad.

Sandy reported a thank you letter from Meals of Hope for the Christmas Food Packing event. Our \$2,500 contribution support 12,500 meals. In addition, we have a thank you from Australia where we have been working on a literacy grant that has resulted in a new school library, and a thank you from a high school in Thailand where a grant has provided clean water for drinking and cooking.



Tom Briers surprised most of us with the announcement that **Greg Holtz** and Jodi DeLeon were **married** February 7th. Congratulations and Best Wishes.

Fred Partin reported that he will be retiring from BSU in June.

Sandy introduced her daughter **Kelsey Scoggins** President Elect of the Rotaract Club of Naples.

Sandy announced that member **Jay Berube** ranked #1 in closed transactions for 2014 out of 100,000 agents at Keller Williams.

Member Moment



New member **Chuck Spears** came forward to present his "three minutes of fame". He was born in Ohio, raised in Indiana, and went to IU. After college he spent 10 years in accounting as a CPA.

He then spent 36 years with Emerson Electric in a variety of increasingly important management positions. He was for a time based in Hong Kong and later in Aachen, Germany and completed his career at Emerson in Columbus, Ohio. Now he calls Bonita Bay home.

Chuck had been a Rotarian in Missouri, and Columbus and transferred his membership to our club. "I really like the Rotary; I like the service aspects of Rotary and the fact that you do a lot of work locally and internationally. I think it's a great organization."

Now that he is retired one of the things he does to keep busy is New Horizons as a tutor for a 5th grader. Chuck, who has four

children, says, "It's my fifth time doing fifth grade math."

He is also on the International Board of the American Heart Association, plays tennis, and a "miserable" brand of golf. In the business area, he consults with private equity groups evaluating industrial companies. Welcome Chuck!

Sandy reported that we are about to submit a new Rotary Grant which **Bobbi Bird** has been working on and **Jon McCleod** rode his bicycle for, to raise funds for 200 children in El Salvador to receive Open Heart Surgery this year.

Peter Zahner inducted Chuck Spears and **Mike Poff** and presented them with their blue badges.

Jon McCleod announced the Super Bowl Matrix half time winner was **Ray Faubion** and the overall winner **Harve Humphrey**.

The **Walk for Water** will be this next Saturday, February 21st, 9-11 AM at the YMCA. **Susan Hill** has wrist bands for sale.

The **Keep Bonita Beautiful** day will be Saturday, February 28th. Contact Bobbi Bird for details.

The March 4th meeting will be conducted by the **Rotary Regulars**.

The 19th annual **Reverse Raffle** will be held Saturday, March 14th.

John Mathes noted the annual **CREW** concert and Eco Auction will be Saturday, March 21st at Riverside Park. The club will be selling beer at the event.

The **Installation Banquet** will be April 24th. Details later.

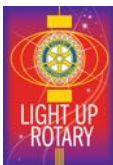
George Cohan, chairman of the Reverse Raffle is beginning to get twitchy. "I need help. I've still got a stack of unsold tickets". As Sergeant-at-Arms, George introduced guests. Not surprisingly the visitor from New Jersey said "I'm here because there is 4 feet of snow on the ground at home". George asked what event was one year ago. No one answered the the Club play. "How soon they forget stardom".

George's editorial was on "new math". "The new math of the 70's, good luck. Try Common Core. Forget it. You add the left column first. We're not going to the moon any more. Trust me."

Students/Staff of the Month

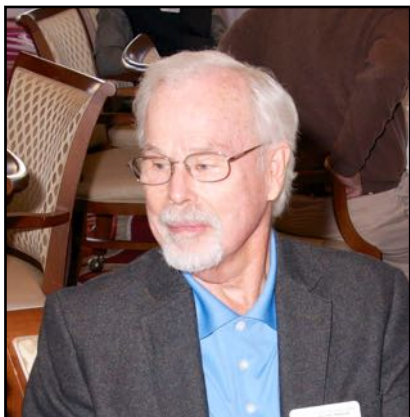


From left to right, Jack Powers, Jamin Adams, academic student; James Higgins, service staff; John Robinson, faculty; Evelyn Pacheo, service student of the month; President Sandy.



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. **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. **Scott Gerrish** issue editor.

**Last Week: A hopeful
Andy Frech (rr) drew the
5♠ to win \$5**



The 50/50 Now

\$2,732

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?

Your finances. Your future. *Our focus.*

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Mark W. McCaw

Sr Vice President--Wealth Mgmt, Sr Portfolio Manager
8000 Health Center Blvd., Suite 150, Bonita Springs,
FL 34135-8175

239-495-4192 888-300-9001

mark.mccaw@ubs.com

ubs.com/fa/markmccaw



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Rotary Sings:
America the Beautiful

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

This Week:

EHS Interact Club

Birthdays

Bobbi Bird Feb 14
GEORGE COHAN Feb 15

This Morning's Invocation

O God, we pray not only for ourselves today, but for all who are in need of Your gracious attention. Comfort the sorrowing, give relief to the anxious, strength to the weary, and direction to the wandering. Give moral strength and courage to young people faced with alluring temptations. Grant wisdom to their counselors and parents in order that the youth of our communities might have a deeply-entrenched inner strength, from which comes good character and esteem. Make effective the efforts of Rotarians around the world who work with youth.!

Bless our own efforts in the service of others, and bless for our use the food and fellowship we enjoy. Use us as willing instruments of Your will. Amen.