



The Spoke



“On Being Rotarian”
“Creating Opportunities—Securing Futures”



For her work to mitigate extreme poverty around the world, Susan Davis has received many honors. But the 2015-16 Rotary Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award has special significance.

“It feels like a circle of completion,” says Davis, who was a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar in 1980-81, doing graduate studies in international relations at Oxford University in England. **“Rotary invested in me when I was young, and now is celebrating the harvest.”**

From 1987 to 1991, Davis championed microfinance while working as a program officer with the Ford Foundation in Bangladesh. She developed a consortium that raised \$175 million, increasing the availability of microloans in Bangladeshi villages to 44 percent from 5 percent, she says. Though debates endure over how much credit microfinance should receive for the country’s progress, conditions in Bangladesh have improved significantly.

Davis also is co-author, with journalist David Bornstein, of the book **“Social Entrepreneurship: What Everyone Needs to Know.”** And she is involved with Ashoka, a nonprofit organization that supports social entrepreneurship; as a director, she oversaw its expansion to the Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia.

Perhaps most importantly, says Davis, that Rotary-sponsored year gave her an entirely new perspective on power and privilege. Davis will be honored at the Rotary International Convention in Korea in June. *(From RI)*

**Rotary International
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 K.R. “Ravi” Ravindran
 Rotary Club of Columbo, Sri Lanka

District 6960 Governor
 Cyndi Doragh
 The Rotary Club of Fort Myers South

Area 3 Assistant Governor
 Sandra Hemstead
 The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs

2013-2014 Club Officers

President	Thomas B. Briers
President-Elect	Steven Slachta
Secretary	Jon McLeod
Treasurer	Bob Lombardo
Sergeant-at-Arms	George M. Cohan III

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 Steven Slachta, Jon McLeod
2013-2016

Sara McCallum, Gary Price
 Kae Moore
2014-2017

Frank Mazzeo, Peter O’Flinn
 Susan Schmitt
2015-2018

Joe Murgalo, Jon Shaw
 Claudie Delgado-Feeney

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

Jim Dati ,President; Stephanie Kissinger,
 Secretary; Richard Garner, Treasurer
 Ray Faubion, Sandra Hemstead, Ed Houck,
 Nancy Ross, Trustees.

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Tom presided and delivered the invocation; **George Cohan III** led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Dave Shellenbarger** the 4 Way Test. Musical Director **Ron Anderson** organized an impromptu chorale and then led us in a melodic rendition of "God Bless America."

A Vocational Service Moment



Last week **Len Eckert** hosted last week's Vocational Service Moment. A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and a graduate of the

Pittsburgh Art Institute, Len held a variety of positions within the visual display profession, ultimately moving to Tampa, Florida. He secured a positions as a graphic artist, at the *Tampa Tribune* and an advertising agency, the Food Group. In 1994 Len met Diane who he married in 1997. Currently he is the Owner and Creative Directive of iconDo, Inc. Len has been a member of our Club for 6 years and during that period of time has held a number of service and leadership positions. Thanks Len for being a great Rotarian.

A Look to the Future

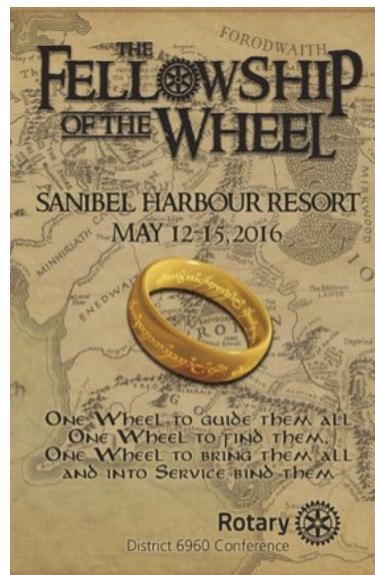
President Tom asked **Wendy Arsenault** and her son Ben to join him at the podium. Ben has shown a great interest in Rotary and has been especially instrumental in helping raising money in support of the Wounded Warrior project. President Tom echoed our sentiments when he

believed Ben was destined to be a Rotarian. Toward that end, **President Tom** designated Ben an official "Future Rotarian" and someday, in the not too distant future, a member of this Club. Congratulations Ben and **Wendy**.



President Tom reminded us that nominations are currently being sought for Board of Director positions. Our Board of Directors election will be held later this month. If you are interested in serving please see the Chairperson of that committee **Steven Slachta**.

President Tom called upon **Sandy Hemstead** who offered an update on this year's District Conference. "The Fellowship of the Wheel 2016 District Conference" will be held at the Sanibel Harbor Marriott Resort & Spa May 12-May 15. The Conference itself is free with a charge assessed for meals so it is very easy to develop your own agenda



and attend events and presentations that are of interest to you. There will be two dinners, one on Friday, celebrating the accomplishments of Governor Cyndi Doragh and one on Saturday installing our Governor Elect Ladd Waldo.

“Around the Club”

Rotary’s “End Polio Now— Make History Today provides a unique challenge and opportunity. Through it, Rotary and the Bill &

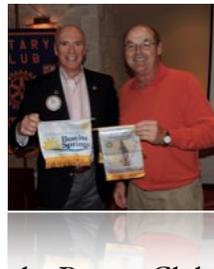


Melinda Gates Foundation are extending their partnership during the “endgame” phase of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Until 2018, every dollar Rotary commits to WHO and UNICEF in direct support of polio immunization will be matched by the Gates Foundation. Our Club has enthusiastically supported this initiative and **President Tom** presented **Past President Sandy** a certificate

acknowledging these efforts during her presidential year.

Our Treasurer **Bob Lombardo** reminded us all that our dues are now payable. Dues can be paid online or by check. If you have not already done so please take care of this important obligation today.

Tom Burgess offered a “call to action” to join our FGCU Rotaract Committee. If you would like to make a difference and help, please see Tom for more information.



And finally...President Tom celebrated one of Rotary’s timeless traditions, exchanging club banners as a token of friendship. In that spirit we exchanged with Rotarian Jerry Patton our banner for that of his Club

the Rotary Club of Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Our Speaker

Last week we heard from Mark Weber, Manager of Florida Business Operations for the Minnesota Twins. He offered an interesting overview of the “business” side of baseball and its regional and economic impact. His presentation focused on the Twins who have have trained in Lee County for the past 24 years and the improvements



that have been made at Hammond Stadium, among them improvements to the practice area; a brand new Player Development Academy; an enhanced concourse and a “boardwalk” which allows fans to complete a 360-degree walk around the ballpark.. Thanks Mark for an insightful presentation.



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 BonitaSpoke@aol.com.



“The Fifty-Fifty”

This Week’s Big Prize—\$2551

Last week, a spontaneous celebration erupted as Adam Botana drew the Ten 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” Give My Regards to Broadway

G.M. Coban

Give my regards to Broadway
Remember me to Herald Square
Tell all the gang at Forty Second Street
That I will soon be there

Whisper of how I'm yearning
To mingle with the old time throng
Give my regards to Old Broadway
And say that I'll be there, 'ere long



It's A Birthday Celebration!

Jon McLeod, January 24
Mike Poff, January 25



This Morning's Speaker

David Grossi

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

Holy God, who has set before us high standards and expectations, we come prayerfully to you as men and women who seek to be diligent in meeting the expectations inherent in our identity as Rotarians.

In home and office, in stores and schools, and in all public places in which we are under scrutiny, help us not betray the moral and ethical standards we profess to hold. May our presence here today remind us of who we are. Help us to renew our commitments to the qualities we revere as Rotarians.

And now for the nourishing gift of food and the nurturing gift of our being together, we offer thanks. Amen.

Your finances. Your future. *Our focus.*

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