



The Spoke

July 6th, 2016



New Rotary Leaders

Slachta Gets The Gavel



President Tom Briers presented Next President Steve Slachta with the club's President Pin that has been traditionally handed down and a new gavel for Steve's next meeting.

Incoming Rotary International President



Incoming Rotary International President John F. Germ of Chattanooga, TN. As president, Germ wants to “find the popcorn smell that’ll bring people to Rotary. And what is that? Service. We’ve got a service-minded generation coming up. We’ve got to get our message out to them, and we’d better do it fast.”

The New District 6960 Governor



Incoming District 6960 Governor Ladd Waldo.

“The task before us remains challenging and I am enthusiastic about our goals in 2016-17. We will continue reaching out to the young professionals and newly retired in

our communities, adding them to our ranks of Rotary Serving Humanity. We will maintain our generous spirit as a \$1 Million District... This is a great district and I am privileged to be your Governor.”

Last Week Meeting



President Tom Briers presided. Week 53.

Wayne Hemstead gave the invocation; Roger Brunswick led the Pledge of Allegiance; and Ray Faubion recited the Four Way Test in true Past President fashion. Ron Anderson led singing of The National Anthem.



This is Ron's last day as regular song leader. (He will do a couple of guest appearances in July). Last week Ron announced Wayne Hemstead will be doing the song picking.

Ron said, "I've done this for 5 years and consider it a privilege. It's been really rewarding to hear this group sing. I really believe we need some new blood with different ideas. I tried to introduce new songs from time to time with mixed results. Some worked and some were just fodder for George." [Ron, thanks for your

dedication to this club tradition. Ed.]



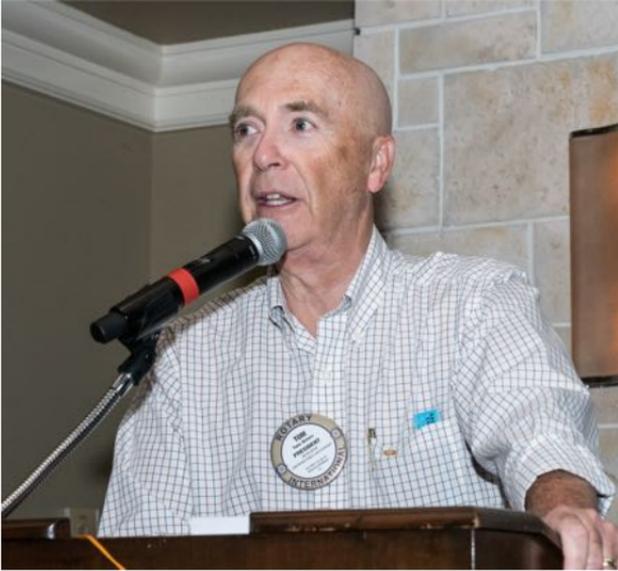
Tom presented blue name badges signifying completion of all the introductory tasks for club membership to Wayne Neller and Dave Adamson.

We recognized the birthday of Walter Restrepo of the Bonita Bay Club staff.



The Rotary Clock will be dedicated at 8:30 am on July 4th at the Banyan Tree. The cost of the clock, \$30,000, was shared by our club, the Noon Club and the city. Congratulations to Bob Lombardo for shepherding this project to completion.

Nancy Ross offered a testimony to President Tom, "Congratulations and appreciation for a year well done." This was followed by a well deserved standing ovation.



Tom called Next President Steve Slachta to the podium for the change of command ceremony. Tom said, "I want you all to know how much I appreciate your support and how much I have enjoyed serving as president of the club. It's an honor. I'm a bit emotional, it's been great."

Tom presented Steve with the club's President Pin that has been traditionally handed down and a new gavel for Steve's next meeting.

With that ceremony completed, Tom tried to skip over the Sergeant-at-Arms session. Roger Brunswick would have none of that and promptly fined Tom \$5 for this oversight.

Roger introduced visitors and organized singing of Happy Birthday to Tom Burgess and Claudie Delgado-Feeney. Then Roger, who immigrated from Shaker Heights, OH, had to brag about "his" Cleveland Indians who are on a winning streak.

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches



Brad Piotrowski introduced our speaker, Mike Kiel, Donor Relations Officer of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. The Youth Ranches were first started in 1957, modeled after a Texas program aimed at reducing the number of kids in trouble that were being sent to jail.

The first Florida ranch was started in Live Oak (near Lake City) with the donation of 3,300 acres. It is a working ranch with cows, bulls, horses, timber and hay sales. There are 90 boys in a “cottage situation” with 10 kids and a Mom and Pop in each cottage. Mom and Pop are a married couple who live on site. They provide adult role models,

structure, discipline, and love while helping to develop the boys self-esteem. The kids go to school on the ranch or to local county schools.

There are now several ranches throughout the state. Some are co-educational so that brothers and sisters may be kept together. These are beautiful properties, not boot camps. Licensed therapists work with the kids from the first day. The average stay is about 11 months.

The program is all ab0ut structure for the kids. The pillars of the program are work, study, play, and pray. All attend some type of religious service on Sunday. Every one has a job and gets paid for work. The money earned can then be used for field trips like a trip to the movies. The campers would pay for their own admission, popcorn, etc. Each evening at 6 PM everyone in the cottage sits down for supper with Mom and Pop and talks about their day.

The goal of the program is to re-unite the kids with parents or others who will care for them. Mike told us of Angel and his sister who were “campers”. A donor volunteered to fund a two week trip for them to visit grandparents in Puerto Rico. After the visit, the grandparents decided to take the kids who are now doing well in a loving home.

The program now includes summer camps for groups of children. The camps have deputies in and out of uniform as staff so that the kids will build relationships with and be comfortable with police officers.

Mike’s primary responsibilities are to meet with current donors, provide updates on the children at the ranches, and to serve as a guest speaker at civic clubs and other organizations. The speaking engagements help to expose these wonderful programs and services to more people in the local

area. He has been charged by Sheriffs Scott and Rambock to make a presentation to every civic club in the area. You can help Mike if you have a connection with an area club where he could speak.

This Week Program

Growing up in Bonita

Frank Liles,
Gary Murphy,
Don Thomson

Careful Jason Dolle drew the Q♠ to win \$5



The 50/50 is \$1,419

Birthdays

Frank Mazzeo July 10

**Rotary Sings:
What a Wonderful World**

I see trees of green, red roses too
I see them bloom for me and you
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world

I see friends shakin' hands
Sayin', "How do you do?"
They're really sayin'
"I love you"

I hear babies cry, I watch them grow
They'll learn much more than I'll ever know
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world

This Morning's Invocation

Father of all mercies, on this summer day we gather here to not only break bread together and to enjoy social interaction, but to be reinforced in commitment to serve. Help us to use both our affluence and our influence to advance the principles and causes we espouse as Rotarians.

So often we focus on our own needs and situations and pray for your ministry to us. But today we pray for others. Give guidance to this club, to its board, officers, committees, and to our sister clubs in our district and across the world, that a cumulative influence may be felt to the good of all.

Accept our thanks for our manifold blessings, for food, for friendship, for commonality of effort. Grant to each of us the personal peace derived from faith and courage drawn from commitment to truth. Amen.



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