



The Spoke

December 21st, 2016

Rotary



Merry Christmas
from President Steven Slachta



What better image than Wayne's picture of the Last Tree and the remaining poinsettia on Saturday night.

Last Week...24

President **Steven Slachta** ding, dinged the meeting to order. **Rick Barber** arrived just in time to present the invocation; **Roger Brunswick** stood up to lead the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Kae Moore** delivered a flawless Four Way Test.



Our multi-tasking Song Leader, **Wayne Hemstead**, led singing of *Jingle Bells*. Then he presented visiting Rotarian **Peter Ferner** with an Armed Services Veteran Rotary pin. Wayne noted that although they were in different armies, both were Artillerymen.

Adam Botana presented the Rotary Minute, a quote from Our Leader John Germ.

“Through our vocations and in our clubs, in our communities, and across continents, **we are touching the lives of people we don’t know and might never meet.** And in every part of the world, every single day, whether they know it or not, **people are living better, safer, and healthier lives because of the work of Rotary.**”

“The people we help might not have met a single Rotarian. They might not even know that Rotary exists. But they are drinking clean water from a bore well that Rotary dug. They’re learning to read with books that Rotary gave them. They’re living lives that are better, happier, and healthier – because of Rotary Serving Humanity.”

Steven then announced that the club had received an 2016 JCMF Rotary Water Safety Advocacy Award for our “outstanding and life saving efforts for the **Josh the Otter Project**”.



The award was accepted by **Nancy Ross**, District 6960 Chair of the Josh the Otter project; and by **Jay Berube** and **Carrie Reynolds** club members active in local Josh efforts. Nancy said, “I am really proud of the work the JCMF is doing to promote water safety. We’re really saving lives.”

Steven reminded us, “NO MEETING WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER **28th**.”



Last Week Speaker



John Flammang introduced our speaker **Lois Knox**. She is the director of the **Florida Small Business Development Center** at FGCU. Prior to that position, she served as Financial Manager for the Florida SBDC Network State Office, and as grant manager at the University of West Florida.

She had worked with small businesses in Ohio, Missouri, Georgia and Florida for over 20 years in helping to set up financial reporting systems.

The Florida SBDC Network provides tools, training and resources **to help small businesses grow and succeed.** Designated as “Florida’s provider of small business assistance,” the Florida SBDC Network has more than 40 offices from Pensacola to Key West to serve the needs of Florida’s business community. Since 1976, the network of partners has helped construct a statewide ecosystem to foster the spirit, support, and success of hundreds of thousands of entrepreneurs and innovators.



The Florida SBDC Network is funded in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Defense Logistics Agency, State of Florida and other private and public partners, with the University of West Florida serving as the Network’s designated lead host institution. The Florida SBDC Network is nationally accredited by the Association of SBDCs.

Vocational Service Moment

“Rotary..is one of the best things I have ever done.”



Bob Lombardo stepped up to offer his Vocational Service Moment. He was born and raised around Hartford, and lived and worked there until 2006 when he moved here permanently. He has owned a home here since 1990 and considers Bonita his home town.

He lives with wife Theresa and son Robert in a “Cracker House” (stick house with a tin roof) in Bonita Bay on Cracker Way. They have three children and four grandchildren. Robert, and tuition money, are in his first year at Virginia Tech.

Bob spent 4 years in the US Navy, graduated from Central Connecticut State College and began his career at Travelers Insurance as a home office life and disability underwriter. Underwriting is the art and science of risk selection, using medical and financial data to evaluate prospective insureds and assess appropriate policy pricing.

After ten years of home office underwriting, he joined an agency as an in-house underwriter. He assisted insurance professionals in evaluating and negotiating the best price for their clients by working with the home office underwriters as one of their peers.



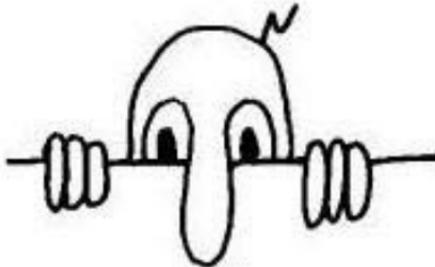
Bob now represents approximately 40 insurance carriers and provides insurance products for independent insurance agents in Florida and New England. As the industry has changed, Bob is transitioning to work directly with individual clients to assist them in their asset protection needs. “I love what I do and don’t ever plan on retiring.”

He says, “One of the best things anyone has ever done for me was when **Roger Brunswick** asked me to come to a Rotary Meeting. Since I have become a member of Rotary, I have 100 friends I never would have had. My closest friends are in this room.

“Rotary has given me an opportunity to give back very efficiently and is one of the best things I have ever done. Thank you all for being my friends and being my fellow Rotarians.”

This Week

**This Week
Wayne Leinen:
Animal Refuge Center**



50/50 \$909

44 Cards

**With eyes closed Eileen Tasso
drew the 10♣**



The 50/50 is \$909

Birthdays

Carl Nickel Dec 22

Peter O'Flinn Dec 23

Scott Gerrish Dec 25

David Adamson Dec 26

Andy Frech (rr) Dec 28

Bob Langhans (rr) Dec 29

Vince Modarelli Dec 30

Hal Cooper Jan 3

Rotary Sings: The Christmas Song

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire
Jack Frost nipping at your nose
Yuletide carols being sung by a choir
And folks dressed up like Eskimos
Everybody knows a turkey and some mistletoe
Help to make the season bright
Tiny tots, with their eyes all aglow
Will find it hard to sleep tonight
And so I'm offering this simple phrase
To kids from one to ninety-two
Although it's been said many times, many ways
Merry Christmas to you

This Morning's Invocation

Most Holy God, to whom we turn in the midst of Christmas and Hanukkah celebrations, we are thankful for the meaning of these holidays.

In our respective worship situations outside of Rotary, we pray that inspiration may be gained to better fulfill our Rotarian calling of looking to the needs of others. Make us zealous to accomplish more.

Bless all special family gatherings held during these holidays. Bless our guests who have come to share with us. With grateful hearts we acknowledge the gift of food and the opportunity for fellowship.

Keep us in your loving care until we meet again. Amen.

Rotary International President

John F. Germ
Rotary Club of Chattanooga, TN

District 6960 Governor

Ladd Waldo
The Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch

Area 3 Assistant Governor

Sally Smith
The Rotary Club of Estero

2016-2017 Club Officers

President	Steven Slachta
President-Elect	Jon McLeod
Secretary	Claudie Delgado- Feeney
Treasurer	Bob Lombardo
Sergeant-at-Arms	Roger Brunswick
Asst. Sgt-at-Arms	Bill Banfield

Members of the Board

**Tom Briers, Steven Slachta, Jon
McLeod, Claudie Delgado-Feeney**

2014-2017

**Frank Mazzeo, Peter O'Flinn,
Susan Schmitt**

2015-2018

**Adam Botana, Joe Murgalo,
Jon Shaw**

2016-2019

**Bob Lombardo, Kae Moore,
Gary Price**

Trustees of The Foundation of The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs

**Jim Dati, President; Stephanie
Kissinger, Secretary; Richard Garner,
Treasurer; Jason Dolle, Sandy
Hemstead, Ed Houck, Mark McCaw
Trustees**



Rotary Club of Bonita Springs, chartered
November 3, 1978. The Club may be
contacted through its mailing address P.O.
Box 474, Bonita Springs Florida 34133. You
can reach **The Spoke** through its email

BonitaSpoke@aol.com.

Scott Gerrish issue editor.