



The Spoke

January 18th, 2017

Rotary



“It’s not a dry subject”



Carl Schwing introduced our speaker **John Jenkins** who became the Executive Director of the Bonita Springs Utility in June 2015. John had practiced public utility law for more than 30 years and served as BSU’s outside council for more than two years.

Bonita Springs Water System, Inc., a member-owned, not-for-profit utility, was established in 1969 by local residents to provide **potable water service** to a handful of homes. The franchise area now covers Bonita Springs, the southern part of the Village of Estero and a bit of Lee County.

In 2002, with the availability of new technology and a focus on a more sustainable water resource, the Company developed a Reverse Osmosis (RO) Water Treatment Facility adjacent to the lime-softening plant. Water treated through this new plant is drawn from deeper, brackish water wells approximately 800 to 1,120 feet deep into the Lower Hawthorn formation of the Upper Floridan aquifer system.

In 1989, the BSU Board of Directors decided to establish a **wastewater system** to protect the environment, promote economic opportunity and enhance service to its member-customers.

BSU acquired a wastewater treatment facility and other infrastructure from Springs Environmental Systems, Inc., which, at that time, only served Bonita Bay. In the years that followed, BSU expanded wastewater capacity and extended service throughout the area.

Today, BSU serves more than 40,000 wastewater connections in a 60-square-mile franchise area.

In cooperation with Resource Conservation Systems, LLC (RCS), the irrigation company established by Bonita Bay Properties, reclaimed water systems have been extended throughout additional master-planned communities including The Brooks and Highland Woods; in medians along U.S. 41; and in adjacent areas, all at the developer's expense.

By requiring RCS to provide this storage, pumping and distribution capacity, BSU has saved its member-customers millions of dollars in costs for alternative and backup disposal systems.

RCS pays BSU for reclaimed water in 1,000-gallon increments. By contract, RCS pays a rate based on the average for similar services charged by Lee County and Collier County utilities, ensuring that BSU receives the market rate for reclaimed water.

It is worth noting that many Florida utilities have long-term contracts to provide effluent for little or no payment, because the supply far exceeded demand when those contracts were negotiated 20 to 30 years ago.

Last Week..28

President **Steven Slachta** convened the meeting. **Peter O'Flynn** presented the invocation; **Roger Brunswick** led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Tom Briers** recited the Four Way Test flawlessly.

Ding, Ding, Ding went Song Leader **Wayne Hemstead**. He gave us a little history of **George Cohan's** *Give My Regards to Broadway* before leading the singing of the chorus.

Steven recognized **Bill Banfield** who recently received a Certificate of Appreciation from the City for his work with the **Louisville Sluggers**, the amputee warriors softball team.



Vince Modarelli announced that the second annual **Nautical Flea Market** is planned for the first weekend in April. “We’re gonna market the heck out of this thing.”

He announced there will be 95,000 promotional flyers distributed with the Naples Daily News and the News Press in coastal zip codes.

This is a wonderful opportunity to get an advertising message and to tell the story of FOLK and Rotary to many people at a reasonable cost. **Brad Piotrowski** and **Jon McLeod** were the first to sign up for advertising space.

President Steven announced there will be an **Area 3 Social** on February 15th at Artichoke & Co. This will be a wheelchair fundraiser. Cost will be about \$30/person.



Bill McLaughlin visiting Rotarian from Old Saybrook, Ct exchanged club flags with President Steven Slachta.

Our resident author, **Dave Shellenbarger**, rose to explain that **Rex Sims** has started writing a “true life” mystery about a town in Indiana. Dave urged us to encourage Rex in this project.

Roger Brunswick was Sergeant-at-Arms. He chastised some ladies sitting together while there were lady-less tables where the men were due to be fined. He turned the tables and had the ladies pay the fine.

Roger welcomed **Frank Keck** and **Roger Kemper**(rr) and collected “no pin” fines of \$5. Wow.

He recognized **Donna Flammang**'s birthday. She wanted everyone to put “a buck in the blue bucket” as her celebration. **Wayne Hemstead**'s 60th birthday got the traditional birthday song.

Last Week Vocational Service
..love your neighbor as your self!



Past President **Don Thomson** presented his Vocational Service Moment. Don was born “up thar” but was brought to Florida at an early age and is a 44 year resident of Bonita Springs.

Don graduated from Bishop Verot HS, St Leo University, and Stetson Law School. He is the “managing stockholder” of the Bonita Springs office of the **Henderson Franklin law firm**. The firm was founded in 1924, has offices in Ft Myers, Sanibel, and Bonita Springs, and is the largest locally based law firm between Tampa and Miami.

For most of his career, he has been a trial lawyer specializing in commercial litigation. Two years ago he transitioned to real estate, helping clients negotiate contracts, closings, and title work. “It’s really nice.. **not** to have the Court telling my what my schedule is.”

He says, “What I hope my clients say about me is that I return calls personally and promptly, take a personal interest in their case or transaction, and I provide exceptional service.”

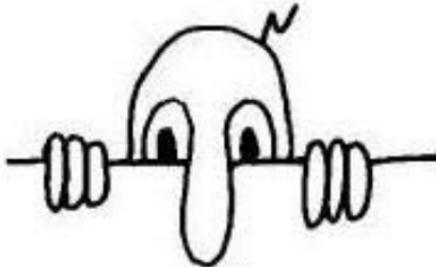
Don married his high school sweetheart, Kim. They have four children aged 23 to 36 and one grandchild. He enjoys mountain hiking, bicycling, motorcycling, and snow skiing at Beech Mt, NC.

He says, “I try not to take myself too seriously, try to enjoy life to the fullest.,My guiding principle is **“Love the Lord our God with all your heart and all your soul and might, and love your neighbor as yourself.”**

This Week

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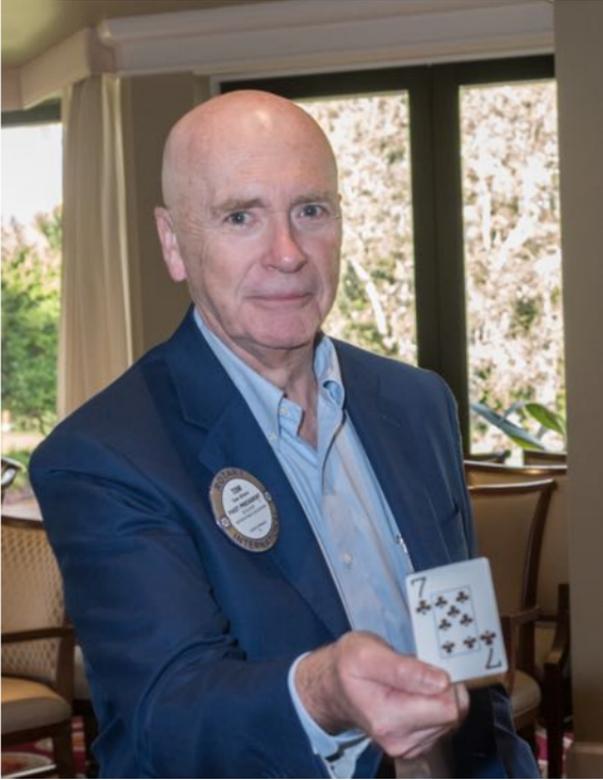
Shelly Redovan
Deputy Dir Lee County
Mosquito Control



50/50 \$1,120

41 Cards

Tom Briers drew the 7♣ for \$5



The 50/50 is \$1,044

Birthdays

Gary Colecchio Jan 18

Bob Rosier Jan 19

Marjorie Rubacky Jan 19

Jon McCleod Jan 24

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!

O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife.

Who more than self their country loved
And mercy more than life!

America! America!

May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness
And every gain divine!

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.

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

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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

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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**



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Scott Gerrish issue editor.