



The Spoke

March 29th, 2017

Rotary



Ding. President **Steven Slachta** convened the meeting that had been advertised as club assembly but ended up being something quite different. **Susan Schmitt** presented the invocation; **Roger Brunswick** led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Jon McLeod** recited the Four Way Test.



The Bonita Bay guys had rolled in the piano for **Gordon Costley's** last meeting this season. He accompanied as **Wayne Hemstead** led us in singing *You Are My Sunshine*. Thank you, Gordon, we enjoyed your music.



Ron Anderson is a director of Gift of Life Florida. He said that in the past we had hosted 5 Gift of Life children who had come here to have heart surgery. Now the GOL program is putting resources into having the surgery in other countries. Rotary sponsored a medical team on a trip to Kingston, Jamaica. Ron and Ruth Anderson were able to observe open heart surgery on an 8 year old girl. The patient is doing well and can look forward to a normal life as the result of the surgery.

Mark Generales came forward to plead for workers, particularly **Friday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons** to help as parking lot attendants at the **Nautical Flea Market**. "This is fun, not work."

Mark says the boat dealer slots are all filled, more than 50 vendors are signed up, and the special advertising supplement in the local newspapers will be delivered Saturday, March 25th. He praised the effort by **Vince Modarelli** who was responsible for developing the insert.

Tom Burgess rose to welcome the Rotaractors for their monthly visit to breakfast and introduced the club's new officers. They serve until the end of the fall semester so there will be an experienced group on hand at the beginning of the new school year.

Tom announced that the committee will be interviewing for the six scholarships to be awarded. He thanked Wayne Hemstead who has been his “point man” on this project.



Kristen Dugay, Rotaract President, presented a slide show describing the FGCU Rotaract Club’s activities. The club has 30 active members now and is hoping to be at 50-60 when new members sign up in the fall.

The club is the top service organization on campus and works with Harry Chapin, Community Cooperative, Habitat for Humanity, and FGCU events. The club’s motto is “Service above Self”. Although there are only 30 active members, other service clubs often get involved in the club’s events.

Program: Bike and Pedestrian Trails

SUN Trail Project





Peter O'Flinn Jr came forward, posed for the camera like a professional, and introduced his father, “the other Peter O'Flinn in town”, our speaker.



Peter, the elder, moved to Bonita Springs in 2004. Prior, he had been co-chairman of a Wall Street law firm specializing in finance and merger transactions. He was elected to the Bonita Springs City Council in April 2016. His focus on the council is on fiscal prudence and enhancing the quality of life in Bonita. He is Deputy Mayor as well as District 4 Councilman.

Peter, the elder, introduced the Mayor of the Village of Estero, **Nick Batos**. They had been involved in fact finding on the **SUN (Shared Use Non-Motorized) Trail Project** prior to the first joint meeting of their councils.

Peter noted that the Bonita Springs 2000 Master Plan included a recommendation of a system of safe, shaded bike paths throughout the city. The paths would connect neighborhoods, better enable kids to walk to schools, and connect public places.

The SUN Trail Project has \$125 million funding for trails. One third is slated for the Coast to Coast trail (St. Pete to Cape Canaveral), one third for the St John's Loop, and one third for the rest of the state. Cape Coral has managed to snag \$5.5 million showing that funding can be found.

The current focus is on the CSX right-of-way between Alico Road and Bonita Beach Road. The ROW is leased to Seminole Gulf and has very little rail traffic. This would be a long term project requiring serious money and state and county cooperation. The ROW is mostly 130' wide which would support a "Trail with Rail" or a "Rail Trail" with the rails removed.

Another regional opportunity for a SUN Trail Project is the Coast Loop. This would go from Old 41 to Bonita Beach, Fort Myers Beach to Fort Myers.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 26th, 5-8 pm. **Installation Dinner.**
Pelican Isle Yacht Club. \$65/pp. No ties.

March 29th - April 3rd. Second annual **Nautical Flea Market.** Help needed. Contact Mary Saunders.

Friday, April 7th, 5:30 - 8:30 PM. **Kickoff Dinner Walk for Water.** Artichoke & Co. \$35/pp cash or check.

Saturday, April 8th, 8:30 - 10:30 am. Third Annual **Walk for Water.** Bonita Springs YMCA.

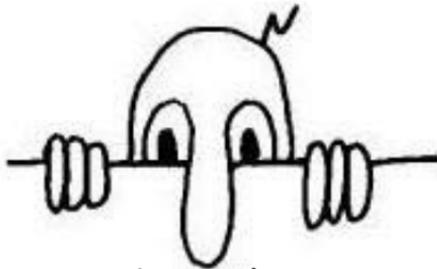
Saturday April 22, 8:30 am. **District Assembly.** Port Charlotte. Training for Secretaries, Treasurers, and a Grants Seminar. All Rotarians invited.

Saturday, April 29th, 6 pm. 21st Annual **Reverse Raffle.** St John the Evangelist.

May 18-21 **District 6960 Conference.** Hyatt Regency Sarasota.

This Week

**Ed Smith
SWFL Estate Planning**



50/50 \$1,810

31 Cards

**Rex Sims drew the A♥
for \$100**



The 50/50 is \$1,810

Birthdays

**Steven Slachta March 29
Jason Dolle March 31**

Rotary Sings: Happy Trails

Happy trails to you
Until we meet again

Happy trails to you
Keep smilin' until then

Who cares about the clouds
when we're together
Just sing a song
and bring the sunny weather

Happy trails to you
'Til we meet again

This Morning's Invocation

Almighty God, as we pause in prayer at the outset of this meeting, help us to realize the significance of these brief moments as a preface to our time together.

We confess that our prayers are often perfunctory, our acknowledgement of your presence and power all too casual, and our impatience with quietude all too pervasive.

Although we represent various sectarian back-grounds, we unite in mutual awareness that in all of our human endeavors we need divine assistance and blessings.

Use our private and corporate involvement and our Rotarian experience to bring truth, fairness, good will, and beneficence to our community, culture, and world.

Accept our gratitude for food and all other gifts lavished upon us. 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
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Scott Gerrish issue editor.