



The Spoke



July 12th, 2017



Last Week Meeting ..1



Ding, ding, ding, ding. Sergeant-at-Arms **Roger Brunswick**, without scepter, clanged the crowd to attention. With *Hail to the Chief* echoing in his head, he introduced new club President **Jon McLeod** who took the helm for his first official meeting.

Jim Dati presented a special invocation dedicated to the memory of **Herb Barnes (rr)**. It was a reading from Hamlet, Act 1, Scene 3...

“...This above all: to thine own self be true,...”

Roger Brunswick led the Pledge of Allegiance and District Governor **Bobbi Bird** recited the Four Way Test and added a Fifth, “Keep it Fun”.

Ron Anderson undertook the role of Song Leader and led us in *God Bless America*.

Bob has a deal for you



Bob Lombardo announced that we now can have the club dues automatically paid through a credit card. You must complete the form that Bob emailed to everyone.

Learn2Earn

Chuck Spears introduced **Rich Kirschner** of The Rotary Club of Naples and Chuck told us about the Naples Learn2Earn program which he hopes we will adopt. This means sponsoring young people who want to go to technical schools for auto mechanics, plumbing, etc. and mentoring them during their training. Chuck is hoping for scholarship help from the club's Foundation.

New Signin Sheet

Eileen Tasso will be the Attendance Secretary replacing **Chris Riesen** who was promoted. Eileen's first goal is to reduce the paper proliferation by using the same sign in sheets all month.

Signin Desk Help

GT Tasso reports there are plenty of open slots for the signin desk. See GT or Tom Briers if you are willing to help.

Bobbi Bird Time



Bobbi thanked **all those who helped** in selling beer at the city's Fourth of July celebration. There was a big crowd and sales were excellent.

Bobbi then became **The District Governor**. She had put a mysterious cup at every place. "Because **I want you to have as much fun as I'm going to have**, I invite you raise your cups and drink **The Rotary**



Kool-Aid." She then handed out Rotary theme pins to all who attended.

Happy and Sad \$

Mark McCaw proudly announced he had made a **hole-in-one** at the 165 yard 4th hole at the Brick Yard CC in Indianapolis, IN.

Bob Lombardo will be on vacation and will miss the next several meetings.

President Jon **regretted missing** his family's Big Fat Greek Wedding. It seems his boat broke down on a trip to Key West leaving him in the Gulf under tow. **Adam Botana** suggested he get rid of the boat and join the **Baywater Exclusive Boat Club** which has **nearly** 40 boats available.

In addition to his boat's problems, Jon got to the meeting with the previous week's Spoke, no gavel, and no theme banner.



Small quantity but high quality crowd.

This Week's Program



Kae Moore introduced our speaker **Dr. jur. Stefan Gerhold**. Stefan is a frequent club visitor and an ardent golfer. Kae claims he “hits the golf ball crooked, but never loses a ball”. Kae has warned him that someday he will meet an alligator on his searches.

Stefan began by telling us that he has been visiting the club since 2009. “This club has become family. I love the golf. I love the meetings. **The Rotarian spirit is stronger in this club than in any other club I have attended so far.**”

Stefan is an executive with The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), a political foundation. The group focuses on consolidating democracy, the unification of Europe and the strengthening of transatlantic relations, as well as on development cooperation.

As a **think-tank** and consulting agency, its soundly researched scientific fundamental concepts and current analyses are meant to offer a basis for possible political action.

Stefan discussed the issues of the **EU post Brexit relationship with the UK**. The UK administration has invoked Article 50, starting the exit clock. “We don’t know what the results will be like. Will the UK have an relationship like Switzerland, or Turkey, or Norway?”

He noted that in the Brexit referendum younger people voted to Remain. If their dissatisfaction grows after exit, they may foster an effort to rejoin.

An important reason for the exit vote was “Immigration”. In the UK case, most of the immigration has been Poles, 500,000 in the last 12 years. The irony is that the UK has 4.8% unemployment and needs the labor force.

He believes the important points of the exit negotiations will be the rights of EU citizens living in the UK, financial settlement of the “cost to leave”, and the customs regime between the Irish Republic and Northern Ireland.

Article 50 requires negotiations to be completed with 2 years. He believes it would be very difficult to get the votes required to extend the process, giving the negotiators on both sides an extremely difficult task.

His conclusions:

Withdrawal of a country from the EU is singular event.

The event will have serious and painful consequences particularly for the EU.

Crucial for negotiations will be consensus on the EU side.

The EU strategy will be based on fairness but rigor as well in order to prevent future departures.

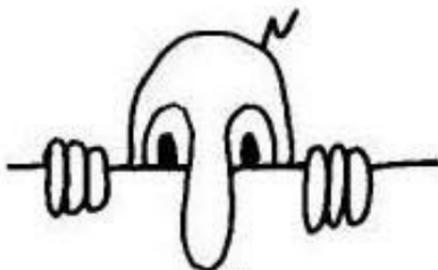
The EU is essential to the future of the European Continent.

The EU has an opportunity to strengthen the integration process and shouldn't let the opportunity pass.

Upcoming Events

This Week

**Assistant Governor
Joe Faerber**

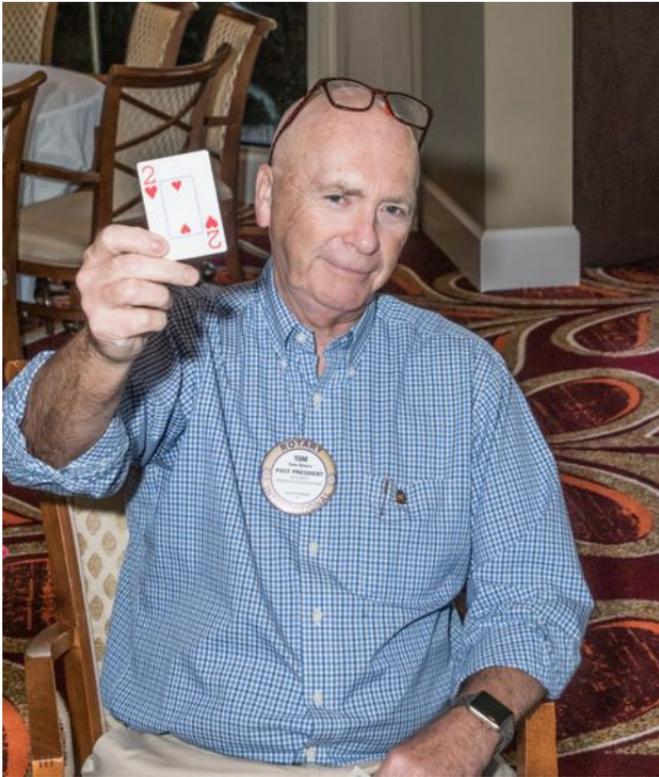


50/50 \$500

51 Cards Left

Including 4 Aces, Joker

Tom Briers Drew the 2 ♥ for \$5



The 50/50 is \$500

Birthdays

Frank Mazzeo July 10

Ira Hawk July 13

Stephanie Kissinger July 14

Dawn Colecchio July 14

Rotary Sings:
Yankee Doodle Dandy

I'm a Yankee Doodle Dandy,
A Yankee Doodle, do or die.
A real live nephew of my Uncle Sam's,
Born on the Fourth of July.

I've got a Yankee Doodle sweetheart,
She's my Yankee Doodle joy.

Yankee Doodle came to London,
Just to ride the ponies,
I am a Yankee Doodle boy.

This Morning's Invocation

Good and gracious God, as we gather here today, we are grateful that we can be lifted out of ourselves and our private concerns to share with others in a fellowship of like minded people. May the good spirited banter between us, the fun of being together, and the awareness of a camaraderie in a common cause, enrich our lives.

Jolt us from lethargy about the world and our own community by a vivid awareness of the needs we can help to meet. We seek no glory for ourselves, only the good of the community and world we are privileged to serve.

We thank you for the physical food, and and social fellowship enjoyed here today. May some good ensue from this experience for ourselves and others. Amen.

Rotary International

Ian Riseley

Rotary Club of Sandringham, Australia

District 6960 Governor

Bobbi Bird

The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs

Area 2 Assistant Governor

Joe Faerber

Estero Rotary Club

2016-2017 Club Officers

President

Jon McLeod

President-Elect

Claudie Delgado-

Feeney

Secretary

Chris Riesen

Treasurer

Bob Lombardo

Sergeant-at-Arms

Roger Brunswick

Asst. Sgt-at-Arms

Bill Banfield

Members of the Board

Steven Slachta, Jon McLeod,

Claudie Delgado-Feeney,

2015-2018

Adam Botana, Joe Murgalo,

Jon Shaw

2016-2019

Bob Lombardo, Kae Moore,

Gary Price

2017-2020

Donna Marcotte, Frank Mazzeo, Mary

Saunders

Trustees of The Foundation

Jim Dati, President; Stephanie

Kissinger, Secretary; Mark McCaw,

Treasurer; Jason Dolle, Sandy

Hemstead, Steven Slachta, Rex Sims

Trustees



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

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