



The Spoke



October 25th, 2017

Last Week Program: Florida Lions Eye Clinic



Chris Riesen came forward to introduce speaker **Tamika Seaton** Executive Director of the **Florida Lions Eye Clinic** located at the Lions Club in Bonita Springs.

The Clinic's mission is to provide state-of-the-art, no cost refractive, medical and surgical eye care as well as optical and glasses for the growing number of **medically indigent people in Southwest Florida**. The goal is to improve the quality of life of those **who cannot afford eye care** by diagnosing and treating visual and related ocular medical conditions.

Since 2008, the Florida Lions Eye Clinic, a 501 (c) (3) organization, has provided free eye care to needy children and families in Florida. **The goal is to help those with no medical insurance** and income below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline improve their eyesight and maintain a high quality of life. **This service has helped thousands of clients and provides over \$750,000 worth of services to the community each year.**

The clinic specializes in working with all ages, from young children to mature adults and cooperates closely with several other agencies in Lee, Collier, and Charlotte counties to coordinate medical care. It is **the only facility in the state** offering free eye care and surgeries to uninsured people living at 200 percent or more below the federal poverty line.

Tamika says, “We have had patients come from as far as Tampa, Miami and all over the region to see us,” she said. **“They didn’t have any other options.”**

The clinic’s major annual fundraiser, the **Eyeball Soiree**, is scheduled for **Dec. 7**, at the Southwest Florida Event Center on Bonita Beach Road. This James Bond-themed gala will feature casino games, music and a live auction.

She says, “The clinic welcomes donations of eyeglasses and is always seeking new volunteers, as well as ophthalmologists willing to volunteer an hour or two per week”.

Last Week Meeting...



President Jon McLeod took a sick day so Next President **Claudie Delgado** was at the controls. **GT Tasso** presented the invocation; **Roger Brunswick** led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Eileen Tasso** read the Four Way Test flawlessly.



Jim Dati, Esq. leaped up to lead the singing of *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*. There was considerable rumbling about the line with “..the whole wild world..” versus “...the whole wide world..” We managed to sing the song with “wild” in 2014 and 2015 without

objection. Many versions of the lyrics have neither wild/wide. We need a volunteer to step forward and take charge of the song selection process.

Bob Lombardo reported receiving a “Thank You” note from the students and staff at **Bonita Middle School** for our contribution of school supplies.

He announced that the documentary “*Enlisted*” produced by **Bob Gillette** will premier at the Arts Center on Saturday, November 11th as part of the city’s **Veterans Day** celebrations. \$50/person for the premier, cocktails, and heavy hors d’oeuvres. Contact **Steven Slachta** if you want tickets.

Bob L. reported that **Bob Gillette** had donated \$5,000 for the Irma Relief Fund. Thank You, Bob.

Club member **Dave Langerdorfer**, former Rotary Regular, got his northern Maumee, Ohio club to **match his \$5,000** donation to the Irma Relief Fund, \$10,000 total. Way to go, Dave.



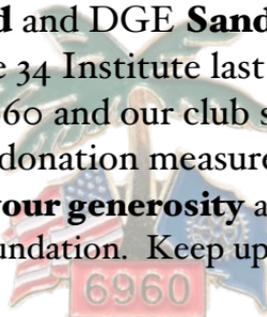
A Project of the Rotary Clubs of North America

Sara McCallum came forward and chastised us for leaving more than half of the CART blue buckets empty at the last meeting. She then began to tell us about SANTA ON THE SAND as the sound of coins dropping into the buckets could be heard.

The SANTA program is a **joint effort the club** and Friends of Lovers Key. It is not a fund raiser, but a community activity to provide Christmas toys to 100 needy children. The event will be Sunday, December 10th, 1 to 4 pm at The Gazebo. The fee is \$8/car **plus one unwrapped toy** for each child 8 and under. Space is limited to 100 Children. Reservations may be made at events@friendsofloversonkey.org by November 30th.



DG **Bobbi Bird** and DGE **Sandy Hemstead** attended the Zone 34 Institute last week. Bobbi reported District 6960 and our club stood well in the listings of various donation measures. “Thank you all very much for **your generosity** and **continued support** of the Foundation. Keep up the good work.”



Bobbi again promoted the **Irma Goodness** benefit concert and silent auction being organized by Sarah Hadeka on **Friday, October 27th at Riverside Park**. All of the artists and technicians are donating their time and talents. Sponsors are needed for the fencing, sheriff's brigade, and ? port-a-potties. The club will be selling beer and wine. Contact Bobbi if you can help out.

Eileen Tasso is the current club chairperson for Josh the Otter. She has three upcoming events and **needs a couple** of people to help including someone to wear the Josh costume.

Mark, *the Otter*, Generales showed us the



Lovers Key 2018 Calendar. There are 12 months of **spectacular photographs** by award-winning photographer Dennis Goodman put together by Len Eckert. Proceeds from the purchase of the FOLKS calendar will be used for the highly anticipated Visitor Center. At \$15.00 each, these calendars

make amazing holiday gifts! **Think about giving them as Christmas gifts to your friends and customers.**



Claudie brought Rotary Exchange Student **Ana Lopes** from Brazil to the meeting. Ana is “Really happy to be at the club meeting again.” Claudie is taking Ana to a Bishop Verot football game on Friday. Please contact Claudie if you are going **somewhere interesting** and would like to take Ana along.

Roger Brunswick greeted the returning “snowbirds” including J-I-M Horein. Jim offered \$5 happy\$ “just to have the mic..I don’t intend to give it back.”

DGE **Sandy Hemstead** has been chairing Irma Relief for the District. She said she was sad having revisited the Dean St area where much remains to be done. She was happy to report a “really good” meeting with Habitat for Humanity with more to come and is hoping for a successful partnership to help the families there.

Roger Brunswick complained about the distance he had to walk carrying the microphone around. He asked for **roller skates**. How about a skateboard, Roger?

From: *The Spoke* archives:

10 Years ago

The Rotary Club of Bonita Springs Club President **Fred Partin** will present a check for \$35,000 Wednesday morning to the Rotary Club of Bonita Springs Foundation Chairman **Dave Shellenbarger** to support local and international programs, projects and charities.

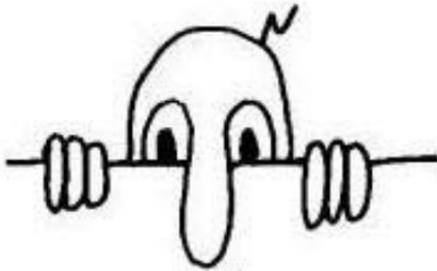
"We are all very pleased to see this money go to the foundation where it will be used for numerous local and global charities that make such a difference in the world we live. This is what Rotary is all about and what we believe in," Partin said in a press release.

5 Years ago

W e l c o m e Home...it's great seeing dear friends return home to our meetings. The Spoke happily observed **Jim Horein**, **Dave Shellenbarger** and **Scott Gerrish (rr)** in attendance last week.

And of course, the stress of travel often results in things left behind—like Rotary pins. As always, we're here to help as **Sandy Scoggins** provided Dave with his brand new Rotary pin.

**This Week
Lora Taylor,
Communications Director,
City of Bonita Springs**



50/50 \$749
37 Cards Left
Including 2 Aces, Joker

Ike Lichtenstein drew the J♣ for \$5



The 50/50 is \$749

Birthdays

No Birthdays

Rotary Sings:
When the Saints Go Marching In

Oh, when the saints go marching in,
Oh, when the saints go marching in,
Yes, I want to be in that number,
When the saints go marching in.

And when the sun begins to shine,
And when the sun begins to shine,
Yes, I want to be in that number,
When the sun begins to shine.

Oh, when we meet at Rotary,
Oh, when we meet at Rotary,
Yes, I want to be in that number,
When we meet at Rotary.

This Morning's Invocation

As we come to the end of the month called Economic and Community Development Month being observed throughout the Rotary world, we are grateful for opportunities in the context of Rotary, to use our individual vocations to advance the cause of truth, fairness, and beneficence and to build better relationships in clubs, communities and countries.

For this we request Your guidance and empowerment, as we commit ourselves to serving others, with glory given to You.

Thank you for the food prepared for us and for the fellowship which binds us together in doing Your will in the world. 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

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**

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.