



The Spoke



November 15th, 2017

Last Week Program

Marjorie Rubacky introduced our guest speaker **Chris Patricca**, Lee County school board member representing District 3.



Chris is married has 3 kids and an RYE student in Lee County Schools. She is an Adjunct Professor, teaching Justice Studies classes, at Florida Gulf Coast University. She has been a frequent volunteer in the School District, in the classrooms and serves on several Committees.

Chris says, “My involvement in the District made me realize how many good things happen in our schools every single day. My experiences as a mother, attorney, teacher, and volunteer have created a desire to do more for the education of all of the students in Lee County”.

She treated us to an overview of the Lee County School system: **More than 90,000** students, **120 schools**, \$1.5bn budget. The Vision 2020 goals include increasing student achievement, increase family and community engagement, increase retention of effective and highly effective employees, and become a model continuous improvement organization.

At present, the system needs \$400 million for construction and reconstruction of schools needed to house the existing and projected students. The state department of education has agreed to the forecasted need. The school board is working on ways to fund these projects.

She told us that Lee County’s middle and high schools offer a diverse collection of Career & Technical Education programs to prepare students for college and career readiness. Over 4,600 certifications were earned in the 2016-17 school year.

As a college student, Chris had a waitress job for two years at a restaurant that hosted a Rotary Club. On her last day working there, the members passed a bucket and gave her enough money to pay for her books in her first year in law school.

Last Week Meeting

President **Jon McLeod** managed to get the meeting started without the usual bell. **GT Tasso** presented the invocation; **Roger Brunswick** led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **Ike Lichtenstein** finally mastered the Four Way Test. The song of the day was *God Bless America* and it was well sung.

Jon is asking for volunteers to sign up for duty at the front desk.



Ike Lichtenstein, co-chair of the Christmas Tree Sales, is **asking for help setting up the tent Saturday, November 18th**. He is also looking for sponsors for the sale.

Ike stayed at the podium to present his three minute Spotlight. In 2012, Ike resigned from the club to form a new business, **Accounting for Profitability**.

Ike's goal is to assist clients to structure their businesses to accomplish their business and personal goals. He has over 25 years of experience working with businesses to develop and implement business plans. As managing partner in a successful accounting-consulting firm and Chief of Internal Operations for a regional accounting firm in the New York City area, Ike has the breadth of experience to work with clients to achieve their goals.

Accounting for Profitability is the premier Quick-Books consulting and training firm in the Naples-Fort Myers area. It is a full service accounting firm providing profitability consulting and tax services. a4p aims to help clients get organized, stay worry free from the IRS, and get profitable.

Ike says that in 2017 he recognized that he was missing something... the camaraderie he felt when he was a member of the club. He reached out to **Bill Banfield, Joe Murgallo, and Adam Botana** to sponsor his returning to membership. "I am very glad to be back. This is a great club and surely helped me get situated in this community. I'm looking forward to giving back."

Paul Harris Fellow recognitions:

Sarah Hadeka Williams and **Hamish Williams** are local musicians. They organized and performed the Irma Relief benefit concert that raised \$30k. Sarah said, "We wanted Rotary to sponsor the event to make sure the money we raise actually gets used in our area for victims of Irma."

Darrell Haney is an Ohio resident who came down with his chainsaw to help. Wayne Hemstead

says, “He wields a **mean chainsaw**. He worked for 8 straight days...8-12 hours per day. Darrell is our icon of ‘Service Above Self’”.



Darrell,

Sarah,

Wayne



Roger Brunswick presented an award to his wife, **Anita Brunswick**, “for being a wonderful, loving wife for 41 years.”



Tom Briers presented an award to his “only son”, Mike. “Father of two fantastic grandchildren, past president of the Chamber, my business partner, and best friend. It’s a **real privilege to honor him** today.”

Ike Lichtenstein presented awards to **Richard** and **Cheryl Willett**, his partners at Accounting for Profitability. “I’ve spent a good part of my professional career mediating when things go sour in business, so I appreciate that being able to find such able and accepting partners is a wonderful thing.”



Ana Lopes our RYE student from Brazil reported that she has been here for three months and has had lots of experiences, Halloween, trip to Miami for a football game...She now has a chance to go on a cultural trip to NYC, Philadelphia, and Washington with other RYE's from the U.S. and Canada. She has a basket of **many things**

from Brazil that she is **raffling to help pay for the trip**. Chances are \$10. 200 tickets will be sold.

Roger Brunswick time

Roger introduced guests including **Thomas Driving** from Sweden. He is a retired dentist and renown jazz trumpeter. Tom offered to play for us at the next meeting.

Don Manley, poster old-guy for Service Above Self, told us he is competing in a 24 hour, Tough Mudder event this weekend. He has been competing to benefit the Wheelchair Foundation this year, donating a wheelchair for **each mile he makes**. So far he is up to 50 wheelchairs. "Regardless of the outcome this week, **we are committed to donating 100 wheelchair this year.**"

Gary Price reported cooking "1,000 hamburgers" for the grand re-opening of the Everglades Wonder Gardens. "There is still some damage outside, but it's all repaired inside..**going to be better than ever.**"

**The Club was Chartered 39 years
ago on November 3, 1978**

From: *The Spoke* archives:
9 Years ago

President **Ray Faubion** presided. **Bob Lorenz** delivered the invocation. **Frank Keck** (rr) led the Pledge of Allegiance and **Jim Dati** led the 4 Way Test. **Steve Krchniak**, directed a rousing rendition of Happy Birth day in honor of our Club's 30th Anniversary.

President Ray reminded us of the 30th anniversary of our Club and a very special birthday cake was presented to ommemorate that event. We all sang Happy Birth

5 Years ago

New Club Members

Bob Gillette is Founder of American House Senior Living in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. He is a transferring member from Michigan and was proposed for membership by Steve Slachta.

Sara McCallum is Executive Director of the Bonita Springs Community Health Center in Bonita Springs. She was proposed for membership by Bob Rosier.

This Week

Teri Lamaine Ex. Director Bonita Springs Assistance

Upcoming Programs

Wed. Nov 22nd. Kitty Green, Habitat for Humanity.

Tues. Nov 28th. Club Social at Momentum Brewhouse.

Wed. Nov 29th. Jon McLeod. Club Assembly

Wed. Dec 6th. Dr. Larry Antonucci President & CEO Lee Health Systems

Wed. Dec 13th. Paul Gavin, Esq. You are in charge, You decide.

Wed. December 20th at the Colony Bay Club starting at 5pm for cocktails and dinner at 6pm. Marc Vee will be supplying holiday music for your enjoyment :)



50/50 \$1,000±

28 Cards Left

Including 2 Aces, Joker

**Bobbi Bird drew the J
♦ for \$5**



The 50/50 is \$1,000±

Birthdays

None

**Rotary Sings:
On The Sunny Side of The Street**

Grab your coat and get your hat
Leave your worries on the doorstep
Life can be so sweet
On the sunny side of the street

Can't you hear the pit-a-pat?
And that happy tune is your step
Life can be complete
On the sunny side of the street

I used to walk in the shade
With those blues on parade
But I'm not afraid
Because this rover crossed over

And if I never had a cent
I'd be rich as Rockefeller
With gold dust at my feet
On the sunny side of the street

This Morning's Invocation

Good and Gracious God, in this season of Thanksgiving, we pause to reflect upon what life would be like were it not for Your immeasurable love, grace, and generosity. We give thanks for life itself, for minds to use in creative ways, and for hearts which generate compassion and love. We are grateful for the capacity to worship, to work, and to use those gifts to bring honor and glory to Your name.

As we share today the material gift of food in the context of meaningful relationships, we are grateful for the spiritual realities of life which supersede the material, giving satisfaction to the soul. With thankful hearts, we pray. 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.