



The Spoke

February 1st, 2017

Rotary



Last Week Program



Carl Schwing came forward to introduce our speaker **Tiffany Esposito**, President and CEO of the Bonita Springs Area Chamber of Commerce.

Tiffany has been on the fast track to success all her life. She graduated from Florida Gulf Coast University with a bachelor's degree in communications in 2009 and received a master's degree in business administration in 2012.

She worked for nearly three years at a public relations firm and rocketed through the ranks at the Bonita Chamber from communications manager to director of operations and corporate partnerships to vice president.

In January 2015 she became chief of staff at the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce, where she directed all the operational, financial and administrative activities of the 1,800-member organization and worked with the board to advance its mission.

"It fit my career path," she said. "I truly love chamber work because it gives me a unique ability to impact the community." She became President and CEO in June 2016, replacing Christine Ross who led the chamber for seven years.

Tiffany said her priorities will include looking at ways to increase workforce housing, improve job creation and partner with universities to find ways to accommodate more job growth and keep more young graduates in the community.

She was born and raised in Lee County, "I think that growth is what allowed me to stay here and grow my career here." But while she's rooted in Lee County, she said she will work with state agencies, the Greater Naples Chamber and other organizations to "**move forward as a region.**"

Another priority will be to attract larger businesses to Bonita Springs while serving the needs of smaller businesses, which she called "the foundation of our community", noting that **if every Chamber member added one job, it would bigger than a Hertz.**

Improvements along the Old U.S. 41 corridor will create a "vibrant downtown, and I hope to assist in that growth," she said.

But Bonita Springs businesses still face challenges, she said — among them seasonal fluctuations that can make it tough to weather the offseason — and she plans to strategize with the board to find ways to create a year-round economy.

Last Week Meeting...30

Ding, Ding, President **Steven Slachta** convened the meeting.



Marjorie Ettinger, new Rotary Regular from Dun-
nville, ON, Canada, presented the invocation; **Roger
Brunswick** led the Pledge of Allegiance; and **John
Flammang** recited the Four Way Test.

Maurice Sullivan(rr) reported that she had chaired a successful book drive at the Wilmette Rotary Noon Club. The drive netted 22,200 books that were distributed to 1,600 inner city Chicago charter schools.

Sara McCallum reported that husband, John, is recovering nicely from a double knee replacement.



Bobbi Bird, fresh from an International Assembly, revealed that the 2017-18 RI theme will be “***Rotary: Making a Difference***”.

Ding, Ding, Ding, Song Leader Emeritus **Ron Anderson** was pressed into service to lead singing of Puff the Magic Dragon.



We gave a well deserved standing ovation to **Carl Bals**, PH+5, and **Gerry Myers**, PH+6 as Sara McCallum presented them with their awards.

Vince Modarelli came forward to pitch the Nautical Flea Market, March 31 - April 1. “We have to get this thing going.” Vince says there will be a brochure reaching 95,000 homes. We will make sure it’s very valuable for you, your company, and the event itself.” He thanked **Jon McLeod**, **Brad Piotrowski**, and **Wendy Arsenault** who have already signed up as sponsors.

2017 + officers

Jon McLeod, chairman of the nominating committee, announced that the directors had chosen **Chris Riesen** as Secretary and the committee recommended **Dona Marcotte**, **Mary Saunders**, and **Frank Mazzeo** as directors for 2017-2020. The recommendation was accepted by acclamation.



Roger Brunswick was Sergeant-at-Arms. He introduced the Rotary Regulars and announced **Rotary Regular Day will be March 8th.**

He issued a \$5 fine for talking while he was pontificating and then organized birthday celebrations; a shout-out for **Marjorie Rubacky** and a serenade by all the “under 50’s” for **Jon McLeod.**



Vocational Service Moment



Past President **Jim Dati** came forward to present his **Vocational Service Moment**. He was sponsored for membership in 2002 by **Jim O’Leary**. Jim came to SWFL from upstate New York. He is married to Annette and claims his greatest accomplishments are his daughters Micala and Alexandra.

Jim is a member of **Bond, Schoeneck & King** law firm. He is a “transactional” lawyer with most of his work, “spent delivering objective criteria and structural overlays to human relationships.” The relationships take place in matters involving money, business, commerce, and real estate.

Jim says, “**My aim is to add value to the transaction...**I try to pick the most advantageous structure for the transaction.”

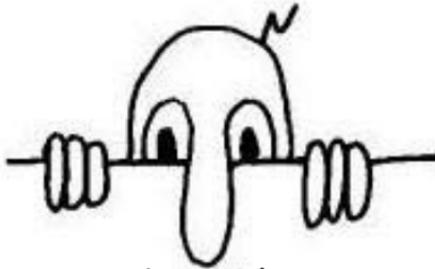
He says he was honored to be **invited** to join Rotary. Membership is a special privilege and should be treated as such.

He closed with this quote from the *Rotarian* in 1921.

“There is nothing intangible about Rotary: It is reality itself. To give is to receive; to lose oneself is to find oneself; to be happy is to serve. These are old truths...for the individual...and the mass, whether application be in the exchange of goods, toil, knowledge, or love.”

This Week

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50/50 \$1,288

39 Cards

Donna Flammang Drew the 6 ♣ For \$5



The 50/50 is \$1,288

Birthdays

Donna Marcotte Feb 2
Drew Montez-Clark Feb 3
Jonathon Shaw Feb 6
Kanema Clark Feb 7

Rotary Sings: God Bless America

God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above

From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home

From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home
God bless America, my home sweet home

This Morning's Invocation

Gracious God, as we unite in prayer, we give thanks for the spiritual dimension of human existence in which we find help and hope amid the secular realities which make insistent claims upon our time and effort. Having retreated from those pressures for this time of renewed fellowship with friends, we pray that you will grace our gathering with your presence.

In this anniversary month of Rotary's founding we give thanks for Paul Harris and others who established the organization in which we are privileged to be.

Help us to be faithful to our heritage by being re- sponsive to the needs of others.

Accept now our thanks for all earthly provisions for our needs, and for spiritual resources to pursue opportunities to serve others. 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
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.