



## **THE SUNRISE CIRCUIT**

Newsletter of the  
Stuart Sunrise Rotary Club, Florida



**Stuart-Sunrise Rotary**

**March 19, 2015**

President Scott (assisted by Sara) opened the meeting at 7:30. Pledge was led by Keith Charlton and Prayer was given by Jenny Esler. Gary Damen was in charge of 50-50 sales.

Ellen Peitz read an essay from one of the applicants for our Rotary Scholarship. This young lady will be the first in her family to go to college and she is shooting for a career in health services. She is an outstanding candidate. Award night will be held at the high schools in April.

Be a Tourist in Stuart kickoff will be May 1 at Toyota of Stuart! Bring your special appetizers, wine and check books! Tickets will be available. The drawing will be Oct. 9 at the Club Corp Golf Classic at Monarch!

Brenda is sending thank you letters out to last year's donors.

Check the club web site to download the forms for our donors and sponsors at [www.stuart-sunriserotary.org](http://www.stuart-sunriserotary.org).

Julia is helping Sue update the Club Directory. Make sure you have the correct info for family, job and Rotary accomplishments!

### **Gonzalez presents!**

Our sergeant at arms took the podium and proceeded to collect Birthday Dollars (Gene) and Julia collected the bucks! Sports dollars were everywhere as March Madness kicks in - both happy and sad. Danielle announced that she had saved the banks in America and was moving up to head member relations at Monarch!

Visitors to the club included Rotarians John Bracken, David Kennedy, and Phil Rasmussen as well as guests Julia and Sara Simmons and Chris Shoaf. Members thanked Sue for providing shredding services last weekend at Smith Barney.

### **Doug Smith speaks – and we listen!**

Commissioner Doug Smith made his periodic visit to the club to update our members on issues in the county. Serving his 4<sup>th</sup> term as a commissioner he is now in a position of being outvoted by the no-growth members of the commission. He has been working on establishing objectives and accomplishing partnerships at the regional, state and Federal level. Working with 15 other counties in south Florida that represent over 9 million Floridians, the legislators are focusing on 3 major areas:

1. Finish the Okeechobee Dike
2. Finish the C-44 Canal to help filter the water flowing into the St. Lucie
3. Build the Tamiami Trail Bridge in South Florida to allow water to flow south.

Economic Development has been slowed. Doug explained that the state Enterprise Zone program in Indiantown will be allowed to expire. The state plans to analyze the programs by county by county to seek out and fund the most successful approaches.

The County has approved a \$1.5 million dollars expenditure to hire an attorney to fight the FEC. This vaguely defined initiative seems to be based on the fact that Jupiter Island (part of Martin County) and Loblolly Pines think it is a good idea and have already bought in. An RFQ defining services and measurable goals will be developed AFTER the fact. (These are the same commissioners who wouldn't accept Federal dollars to build a Customs Facility.)

Club members mentioned an effort called CARE that is being created and funded by local citizens. They have already raised over \$4 million to fight the FEC. Lots more details. The website is [www.Savefl.com](http://www.Savefl.com).

### **50 50 was sold by Gary Damen and won by Rick Zurich!**

Dave Shoaf

Light Up Rotary!