



Rotary Club
of Bonita Naples

Rotasphere

Club Meeting

Bonita Naples
Meets at Artichoke & Company
- 11920 Saradrienne Ln,
Bonita Springs, FL 34135
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Bonita Springs, FL 34135
Time: Thursday at 12:00 PM

Club Leaders



Gary S. Dworkin
President



James F. Fabry
President-Elect



John G. Wharton
Secretary



Dixon W. Blevins
Treasurer



Kim Scott Anderson
Club Director



Linda Lee Dworkin
Club Director



Tamton Mustapha
PDG
Club Director
Public Relations
Chair



Stephen C. Agius
Membership Chair



Cindy J. Cedeno
Past President
Rotary Foundation
Chair



Robert A. Grady
Sergeant-at-Arms

Events and Speakers

February 6, 2020

Present: Steve Agius, Sam Black, Dick Blevins, Anne Bolger, Cindy Cedeno, Betty Jean Christiansen, Don Crost, Gary Dworkin, Lin Dworkin, Jim Fabry, Campbell Gault, Sonny Grech, Cindy Hall, Rossi Haller, Bob McClain, Tam Mustapha, Mike Prioletti, Phil Roach, Mike Rusk, Stuart Stern, Ken Strumm, John Wharton.

Guests: Bob Cope (Poplar Bluff, MO Club), Ken Decker (North Shore Staten Island, NY Club), Kelly Liu (Centers for the Arts, Bonita Springs), Loretta Menezes (Centers for the Arts), Dave McKee (Granite Falls, NC Club), Terry O’Harra (E. Liverpool, OH Club).

President Gary rang the bell to open the meeting at 12 noon. Mike Prioletti gave the invocation and Mike Rusk led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following a dining break, Gary started announcements:

- **Volunteers** are needed to sell refreshments for the the next Bonita Springs Concert Band performance on Sunday afternoon, February 23. Please contact Gary or Jim if you can help!!!

- Space is still available for the **Gift Of Life fundraising dinner**, on February 15 at the home of Don and Buffy Crost Home Gary noted that we’re hoping to have the foundation’s founder joining us that evening. See announcement below.

- **Lin Dworkin** gave an update on **Carolyn Pitt**, who is undergoing treatment for breast cancer. She said Carolyn’s spirits are good and that she would welcome encouraging words from her Rotary friends.

- **Jim Fabry** reported on a visit to see longtime Rotarian and now-honorary Club member **Dave Macarthy**, saying that Dave is doing well and is in great spirits in assisted living, and would love to have phone calls or visits. Jim referred us to the details of his previous day’s e-mail about the visit. Dave sent a thank you to the club which went out in a separate email.

- **Steve Agius** briefed us on February 29th’s Leap Into Rotary noontime event at Artichoke & Co., urging all to attend and bring at least one friend/membership prospect. Number counts will be needed a week before so Artichoke & Co. can plan accordingly. *******Leap into Rotary Flyer sent to all members*******

Mike Prioletti served as acting Sergeant At Arms, and led off by chiding President Gary for not fulfilling his primary directive, that of keeping the meeting moving along so that the guest speaker might have enough time to actually speak! Campbell Gault moved about the room collecting Happy/Sad Dollars from: John Wharton, celebrating his Butler Bulldogs’ win the previous night over Villanova ... Sam Black, who was pleased to have been out to California to see a friend ... Sonny Grech, who said he was happy to be a Rotarian ... Dave McKee, who reported his son had announced that



Betty Jean Christensen
Youth Services
Chair



Scott D Hunter
Past President



Jonathon McLeod
Assistant Governor

twins are on the way ... Bob Cope, whose Missouri roots stretched to celebrate the Super Bowl victory of the Kansas City Chiefs ... Jim Fabry, who noted that Dee was off today doing a Rotakids activity ... Bob McCain, who said he was happy to be back at a Rotary meeting ... and President Gary, who gave an apology dollar for holding up the speaker.

Jim Fabry welcomed **Loretta Menezes and Kelly Liu**, the respective heads of membership and development for the Centers for the Arts in Bonita Springs. Loretta outlined the 60-year history of the Centers, which steadily grew from 15 people to 100 in the 1990s, when art classes were done in a single room.

Loretta pointed to 2000 and 2002 as years when the Centers greatly expanded their offerings and abilities. In 2000 Phase I was the establishment along Old 41 of studios for painting, sculpting, pottery and glass arts. In 2002, Phase II was announced, for the performing arts.

Loretta said the original Phase II plan was an \$8 million building off of Old 41, but the timely availability of the Living Waters church along Bonita Beach Rd. allowed the Centers to establish theaters, performance studios a youth campus for less than \$3 million. Because the former resident had been a performance-based church, Loretta said the switchover was very smooth, almost literally taking place in one day.

Today, Loretta said, the Center for Performing Arts has both a 200-seat and 400-seat theater space. In addition to a range of concerts and performances, these spaces allow the Center to be the hub of the Bonita Springs Film Festival, coming February 27-March 1, she said.

Loretta said the Center for Visual Arts is helping to shore up reduced arts education in area schools by providing arts outreach and teaching. And she outlined several upcoming events of note for the older art lovers, including a February 13 wine and chocolate pairing, a February 19 membership party, campus-wide open house on the first Friday in April. She and Kelly pointed to a range of literature they'd brought with them for more details.

Kelly then conducted a raffle drawing, with Ken Strumm, Cindy Hall, Sonny Grech, Tam Mustapha and John Wharton the winners.

And speaking of winners, **Dick Blevins** was the winner of the day's 50/50 drawing, but he failed to pull the winning Joker. Sixteen cards remain, with the pot over \$1,000.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00.

The RotaKids Club meeting was changed from its normal date to Thursday, February 6. This was because the school hosted over 80 guests visiting the school. The Leadership Day is a central part of the school's values. The guests visited each leadership group and about 10 people stopped in to observe the RotaKids as they worked on their service project - Comfort Cozies for the Hope Hospice. Dee and Dory Blevins were at Bonita Springs Charter School assisting the **RotaKids**. Jamie Kirschner, Assistant Principal, and Deanna Blackwell, Teacher Sponsor support the RotaKids Club. The Bonita Naples Rotary Club is the only club that has volunteers from the community working with the leadership groups. We are thrilled to be a part of this amazing school.



Exciting Meeting Pics Below Gift of Life Flyer:
Next week's speaker - Richard Leber from Harry Chapin Food Bank

gift of life
INTERNATIONAL

Healing little hearts around the world

<https://www.giftoflifeinternational.org>

Tax Id:#56-2322626

You're Invited

February 15, 2020

6:00 pm - 11:00 pm

THE GIFT OF LIFE DINNER

FOOD, WINE, MUSIC, FUN

TICKETS \$100 PER PERSON



Hosted by;

Buffy & Don Crost

6480 Sandalwood Lane, Naples, FL 34109

RSVP to: gsd@dworkin.com

239-631-2605



