# Monthly Newsletter

Rotary Bonita Naples




## Message from Mike:

*As we turn the calendar page to November, let's take one more opportunity to* ***brag a little about our terrific Oktoberfest****! Thank you and congratulations to Johnny for his leadership, and to everyone who helped make it such a success. It took plenty of teamwork, great Rotary spirit, and I suspect a beer or two didn't hurt!*

*There's a lot of good energy around our club right now. With our new meeting location, a great lineup of speakers, and an involved Board, we're working to make the Rotary Club of Bonita Naples* ***a club we're proud to call our own and excited to invite our friends to join.***

*If you have a friend who would enjoy the fellowship and purpose of Rotary, bring them to a meeting.* ***Great clubs grow when great members invite great people.***

*As November begins, I want you to know how thankful I am for each of you. Our Rotary family gives us friendship, fellowship, plenty of laughs, and most importantly, the opportunity to do* ***life-changing work together.***

*That's a pretty wonderful combination.*

***Happy Thanksgiving!***

*Mike*

**CREATE LASTING IMPACT**

### In this newsletter you can expect:


- Other Happenings
- Member Birthdays
- Anniversaries
- Speaker Information
- Upcoming Events
- Member Spotlight

## Other Happenings:

- A special thanks to Johnny Varsames and all our involved members for a successful **Oktoberfest**. We had great media coverage, a terrific expanded band, delicious food & beer, and over 270 tickets sold. A great time was had by all, the participant response was fantastic. Profits were over $11,000.

- **Your help is needed:** Bob Bornstein and Joanne Ziccarelli are asking volunteers. They are going to the Bonita Springs Friends of the Library this Wednesday the 4th, to purchase hundreds of books to replenish our supply of both children's and adult's books for our **Little Libraries** project. Since the amount and weight of the books will be too much for the two of them, they would appreciate assistance from our club members. They will **meet at the Bonita Springs Library on 11/4 at 1:00pm**, select the books and then bring them to the Little Libraries at the YMCA.

- If you haven't yet been featured in our monthly Member Spotlight, please let Anke know so that she can plan for our upcoming months.

## November Calendar:

- **11/5** - tbd
- **11/12** - Nicole Hornberger - Bonita Springs Fire Control & Rescue District
- **11/19** - Phil Roach - The Rotary Foundation
- **11/26** - No meeting - Happy Thanksgiving









## Wishing all the best to:

11/4 - Don Ballo
11/5 - Mike Prioletti
11/7 - Joerg Meyer
11/9 - Joanne Zicarelli
11/11 - Bob Bornstein
11/28 - Frank Pisano

"The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate." ~ Oprah Winfrey




## Thank you for your years of service:

11/1 - Cindy Hall
11/1 - Phil Roach
11/9 - Joanne Ziccarelli
11/30 - Rosi Haller

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."
~ Mahatma Gandhi






# Member Spotlight: Dan Martens

Dan joined Rotary in March 1996 with the Hudson Rotary Club in Hudson, Wisconsin. He had a business in Hudson and wanted to get involved in the local community so his friend and attorney suggested and brought him to Rotary. He was involved with the Board early on and became President in 2008 and again in 2011. He was Foundation Chair in 2012 and International Service Chair from 2013 to 2020. He rejoined Rotary January 2025 with Bonita Naples after extensive research...

Dan enjoys being a Rotarian because of the people involved and the service that is provided, he values the motto “Service Above Self”. Most of his best friends are Rotarians and he loves the opportunities to provide service locally and internationally.

Dan was born and raised in southern Minnesota. His father was a rural Veterinarian so his family was involved in that. He has two children with his first wife, ages 45 and 42 and five grandchildren. Dan has been married to his current wife Karen for two years and she has two children ages 33 and 31. Dan’s first job out of college was with GMAC, the finance division of General Motors. He started out as a “Field Rep” which was basically a repo man. He was a Credit Supervisor with them until he got into his own business at the age of 29. He worked mostly in his own businesses until he retired in 2024. Dan likes live music and travel, playing racquetball and golf, and likes to hike, mountain bike and kayak.

Dan is especially proud of the work that he has done with the non-profit International Village Clinic, IVC, based in India — their founder Abul Sharah spoke to our club last January. He was also involved with Water Survival Box for several years prior to his work with IVC, and he was also involved with Meals on Wheels and now the Café of Life.

A little known fact about Dan is that he was involved with managing a few musicians in the early 2000’s and some of them used to work with Prince, so he crossed paths with and met him a few times. Dan spends his free time enjoying his favorite activities, spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren, and planning his next trip. In the past 5 years Dan and his wife have traveled on their own, mostly to hike, to Portugal, Italy, Spain, Greece, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia, and Croatia. Not sure where next...

| ROTARY CLUB OF BONITA NAPLES | **MEETING THURSDAYS AT NOON** |
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