

# Kiwanis

## NEWSLETTER

# The Gateway Gazette News

## Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers Gateway to the Islands

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Viki Luster, Editor

"If you want to reach a goal, you must "see the reaching" in your own mind before you actually arrive at your goal." Zig Ziglar

### Upcoming Dates

May 17	Brightest Horizons Child Development Center - Golf Outing
May 19	<b><u>Builders Club Meeting with the advisors 8:50am-9:20am</u></b>
May 19	Dr. Piper Center for Social Services – Nida Eluna
May 26	LARC Community Relations & Education – Lisa Cronin Miller
June 1	Board Meeting RBC Bank 1:30, all members are welcome
June 2	Community Cooperative Ministries – Sarah Owen
June 9	Girl Scouts of America Community Development – Megan Fasig

### “Delicious Dining Discounts”

We are off to a great start but still need to **sell, sell, sell**. If you don't ask, how will they know about our dining book? It is a great deal for those who eat out. Ask everyone you have sold a book to tell their friends. More hands mean more service with some money in the bank, we can help even more.

# **The Lee County Bar Association is a not-for-profit organization of lawyers. Our mission is to enhance the environment for the practice of law in Lee County**

## **Diversity Statement**

In principle and in practice, the Lee County Bar Association values and seeks diverse and inclusive participation within the legal profession, as well as our own Association. The Lee County Bar Association promotes involvement and access to leadership opportunity to all members regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, nationality or disability.

This is a little snippet from their newsletter for more go to [www.leebar.org](http://www.leebar.org). Under Goals:

Recognize our members for their pro bono service, community service, and volunteer efforts.

Our incredibly active Pro Bono Committee works in conjunction with Florida Rural Legal Services. Our Pro Bono Committee Chair is Lynn Spradley. In 2008, due to Lynn's efforts, we received a \$5,000 grant from the Florida Bar Foundation. The Foundation makes grants to voluntary bar associations to support activities to improve the operation of the justice system and for education, outreach or service-delivery projects, which enhance the administration of justice. We are using our grant for our Pro Bono Foreclosure Legal Assistance Program. Additionally, every three months, our Pro Bono Committee has recognized individual lawyers and law firms for their Pro Bono services.

It's been estimated that lawyers in Florida spend 1.5 million hours volunteering with charities, religious and civic groups during the year. These are activities that are not considered Pro Bono services. Each month, we have spotlighted a member in the Res Gestae for their community service. In addition to the individual efforts, LCBA has organized community service events that would not be successful without the active participation of our members.

Through the efforts of the Social Committee, chaired by Rana Holz and Mary Evans, we have auctioned gift baskets following our monthly meetings to benefit local charities. Recipients have included the Boys and Girls Clubs of Lee County and Salvation Army.

Our Young Lawyer's Division once again organized their annual Holidays in January event. Under the guidance of Kristina Gotera, our former Young Lawyer's Division President, we provided food and gave presents to 54 foster children and their foster families on a beautiful day in Centennial Park.

Once again, Christine Wright has organized our Mock Trial program for area high schools. The Lee County competition was comprised of ten teams representing seven high schools. We also hosted the 20<sup>th</sup> Circuit competition. Fort Myers High School won the Circuit Competition and will be competing at the state level. We are raising funds to support their team. A number of participants also were recognized for their performances as attorneys and witnesses.

Inspired by our commitment to giving back, Kevin Jursinski has organized a Salvation Army fundraiser matching program. Kevin donated \$2,500.00 to the Salvation Army and has challenged ten other attorneys to donate \$250.00 and law firms to donate \$2,500.00 to match his donation.

## **Brightest Horizons Golf Outing**

Mark your calendars for the May 17 outing at Beach View Golf Club on Sanibel for golf & a lunch buffet. It is an 18 hole scramble - shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Ask member Tina for more details. Board approved us as a hole sponsor. Look for Brightest Horizon spot on Channel 15.

## **Speakers**

Do you have a passion? We all do, let Tish know she will be happy to schedule a speaker. Thank you Tish for doing such great job our speakers have been awesome.

Kelly Sonnanstine – President  
Matt Ponzio – President-Elect  
Danielle Emery – Vice President  
Valerie Petracco – Treasurer  
Terry Luster – Secretary

George Eddy – Director  
Chris Heidrick – Director  
Mike Huisman – Director  
Jack Liptak – Director  
Viki Luster – Director