

ROTARY CLUB of SARASOTA



CHARTERED APRIL 12, 1926
CLUB NUMBER 4339
DISTRICT 6960
ZONE 34

PRESIDENT – BEN BATES
Classification: Real Estate Broker

August 10, 2016

SMILE the weekly club newsletter

About This Week's Speakers: Zack Desrosiers & John Colosimo

Sarasota Downtown and Sarasota Bay Rotary Clubs sponsored students in the Districts **Rotary Youth Leadership Awards** Program. RYLA took place from April 7-10th in Lake Placid, Florida. The local Rotary Clubs interviewed and selected outstanding students and offered them the opportunity to learn new leadership skills, meet new and diverse peers and hopefully encourage new life-changing ideas from participation.

This is the second year that the Florida District 6960 has offered this program. It is popular in many areas of the United States and sponsored by local Rotary Clubs. The four days included lectures and demonstrations as well as team building activities both indoors and outdoors.

District Governor Cyndi Dorough said: "If you want to experience joy, faith and pride in our young people, get involved in Rotary Youth Service! These young adults are a blessing and true Gifts to the World!" The participants learned about Gift of Life, Shelter Box, and human trafficking in Florida. They met with Rotary Youth Foreign Exchange Students who are spending a year here in Florida living with host families supported by local Rotary Clubs. Among the activities were obstacle courses and performance skits as well as lots of small group interactions.

Zack Desrosiers, Northport High (sponsored by Sarasota Downtown) said: "The most important lesson, I believe, that I was taught was listening to everyone's opinions before making a final decision."

John Colosimo, Out-of-Door Academy (sponsored by Sarasota Downtown) said: "As the weekend went on, I learned so much about not only other people, but myself. I learned many new leadership skills, public speaking skills, and was able to break out of shell a little bit and try new things. RYLA was truly a life-changing experience."



Pictured L to R: Lee-En Chung, John Colosimo, Cayla Dammann, Zach Desrosiers and Barry Levinson

Next Week's Speaker : Tony Driscoll ..The Sarasota Tennis Scene

GIVING CHALLENGE OFF TO A GREAT START!

Last week, Rick Hughes kicked off the Rotary Club of Sarasota Foundation's **2016 Giving Challenge**. President Ben Bates also issued a challenge to Rotarians to have **100% member participation**. We are happy to report that on our very first day we received 27 Rotarian pledge forms and 4 member-family pledges. That's 28% of members already... we CAN make it 100%. Remember, all donations from \$25 - \$100 are doubled for repeat donors and tripled for new donors. But we only meet our goal if we also have at least 50 donors from outside the club. So spread the word and encourage your friends, family and colleagues to invest in the future of our community by contributing to the Rotary Club of Sarasota Foundation during the 24-hour Giving Challenge; noon-noon on September 20-21 (all donations must be made on-line during the 24 hour period in order to receive any match). YES... if you plan to participate we need your pledge form in advance so that we can celebrate our progress and plan accordingly. Forms available at club meetings and on the club and RCSF website.

Be The One

PREVIOUS MEETING (8/3/16) by Ron Rayevich

What a pleasant experience it was to have two rising seniors that our club sponsored to **S4TL (Seminar for Tomorrow's Leaders)** address our meeting. Each year Rotary Clubs in Southwest Florida can sponsor two rising seniors one of the 110 high schools in the area who hold high school leadership positions to attend this one week program held at Florida Southern University in Lakeland. **Arianna Murdocca** from Venice High School and **Brittany Swart** from Lakewood Ranch High School explained how much they enjoyed and learned at this June's leadership program now in its 36th year. Joel Walters, who has coordinated this program for several years, introduced our speakers and we learned how the program was organized with Yellow Shirts (the sponsored attendees), Red Shirts (former college level attendees who act as mentors for groups of 10), White Shirts (adults who run the program), and Blue Shirts (Rotarians). If you never gone up to be in one of three Rap Sessions that Rotarians are invited to attend, make some time next June and see what our youth are thinking about today. You will be both impressed and pleased.

Club Social At McCurdy's with Comedian Ian Bagg
AUGUST 12TH, 7PM....\$25 ADMISSION, PLUS PURCHASE 2 ITEMS

PLEASE SEE HEATHER GILLON TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT OR CALL 949-292-3336

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The Four Way Test of the things we think, say or do: 1. Is it the truth? 2. Is it fair to all concerned? 3. Will it build good will and better friendships? 4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

2016–2017 PRESIDENTIAL THEME: ROTARY SERVING HUMANITY