



# The SMILE

November ,11 2020

## ROTARY CLUB OF SARASOTA

**CHARTERED APRIL 12, 1926**  
**CLUB NUMBER 4339**  
**DISTRICT 6960**  
**ZONE 34**  
**PRESIDENT – LAURA RANDALL**

### The Four Way Test of Things we Think, Say or Do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

### Upcoming speakers

Nov. 18.....Carrie Seidman,  
Sarasota Herald Tribune

Nov. 25.....Jennifer Fowler-Hermes,  
Williams Parker

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

### This week's speaker

**Destin Wells**  
**Vice President, Business Development**  
**EDC of Sarasota County**



Destin Wells is the Vice President of Business Development Services at the Economic Development Corporation of Sarasota County. He comes to the EDC by way of Enterprise Florida, where he was the Director of Aerospace and Defense for the State, working projects that generated more than 10,000 jobs and \$1.3 billion in Capital Investment. Committed to Economic Development and the impact on the individual and their ability to provide for their family, Destin brings a balance of the relational and data-driven approaches to building strategy and affecting outcomes.

Prior to his time in Economic Development, Destin was a consultant for small businesses, focusing on Export Marketing for the Small Business Development Center.

Destin graduated from the University of Central Florida with B.A. in Political Science and Master's in Business Administration. In his personal time, he enjoys spending time with his wife, Haley, and two children, Addison and Landon. You can often find him with a guitar in his hands and close to the water.

## We are back at Marina Jack!

Please join us in person each Wednesday for great socially-distant fellowship and impressive speakers. We will continue to present the meeting via zoom, converting to Facebook Live next week, for those who do not wish to attend for health reasons. Click [here](#) for the current lunch time link. The meeting ID is 850 7495 4959.



## 11/4 Meeting Recap

by Francine DiFilippo

Greg Corvelle is the General Manager of food service for Marina Jack. Greg came to MJ in 2018. It is run by a private company that is based in Dallas. Everything has been modified to accommodate the COVID challenge. While they are back to being allowed to have full capacity (outdoor seating does not count) they are maintaining the 6ft distance between tables and continuing to make modifications. Amazingly they have the same revenue as pre-covid last year. Their 3 big money-making events are New Year's Eve, the Boat Show, and the 4th of July Fireworks. The city has placed a moratorium on all events until March 31st, 2021, so it is unlikely there will be a boat show. Almost all 150 employees of which 60 are considered full time are back. (Hourly staff will be receiving a \$1.50 raise in Sept. as part of the \$15.00 an hour ballot referendum.)

Capital improvements led the presentation of the 300-slip marina and restaurant complex. The city receives 3% of gross receipts for the land lease. They have 33 years left on their 100-year lease.

O'Leary's is the "flip flop and T-shirt" part of the operation but brings in half of the revenue and the same net because of the lower level of staffing required. They have invested \$1MM in building a sea wall and a living wall to buffer the shoreline as well as continuously adding picnic tables.

Marina Jack II is running Weds-Sun and needs 10 or more reservations to be profitable. They invested in new motors and transmissions for the boat last year.

Marina Jack where we meet is the original half of the building. (BTW our turnout enjoyed roast pork and salmon! – we should have the G.M. visit more often!) A tent/ pergola is being used to replace the fly away umbrellas on the patio. Planning for the bathrooms to be remodeled and the replacement of the beloved burgundy carpeting in our meeting room. The biggest change in operations is that one kitchen supports all three levels of operation which has helped considerably for the financials.

Parking & Valet parking – they will be losing spaces due to the roundabout and it appears it will be challenging to enter & exit during and after construction is completed. The road improvement project is FDOT managed and is expected to take 400 days although it is not clear on when it will start.

Don Bruns wanted to know if the sound system can be improved so that it works consistently – he explained the general frustration which our speaker experienced personally! Thanks Don, for having the presence of mind to ask.

Parking & Valet parking the road project will remove 70 parking spaces. Employees will be parking in the Palm Avenue parking garage to make this adjustment for visitors & guests.



**Happy Birthday!**

Karen Wreder - 11/12  
George Schofield - 11/17

# ELECTION

With the election for US President (almost) over, it is time to focus on the leadership of the Rotary Club of Sarasota. If you are interested in serving in a leadership position in our Club next year, please contact PP David Bowman, Chair of the Nominating Committee, and let him know your interest. Elections for next year's directors and officers will be held at our **Annual Meeting on December 16, 2020.**

## Let's get social!

You can now find the Rotary Club of Sarasota on Facebook and Instagram @RotaryClubOfSarasota We'll post photos and stories so you can share.



## Find our meetings on Facebook Live

In order to engage more members and the public in our weekly meetings we will be transitioning to Facebook live. We will continue to use Zoom for the rest of November, but we will migrate to Facebook in December.

**YOU DO NOT NEED A FACEBOOK ACCOUNT TO ACCESS THE MEETING.**

Members will receive a link the day before the meeting and you will just click on that to watch the meeting. It's that simple.



## Club Board meeting on 11/9

All members of the Rotary Club of Sarasota are invited to attend the Club Board meeting on Nov. 9 at 5:30pm. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89588013378> Your input is welcome and appreciated.

# International Committee

## Dining For Women

by Lois Schaper



Dining for Women is a 501c3 organization that was founded in 2003 by a nurse, Marsha Wallace in Greenville, SC. Its purpose is to help women in developing countries through grassroots programs for education, healthcare, and economic self-sufficiency. DFW accepts over a 100 grants per year that are vetted by a committee of DFW members.

This organization aligns with Rotary's Areas of Focus which are peace and conflict prevention/resolution, disease prevention and treatment, water and sanitation, maternal and child health, basic education and literacy, and economic and community development. DFW provides an avenue of international service for interested Rotary Club members. They have had this opportunity since 2014. All DFW projects must target the UN Millennium Development Goals. DFW has been featured by CNN, NBC Nightly News, Good Morning America, Today Show, New York Times, USA Today, Oprah Magazine, People Magazine to mention a few.

Project: Democratic Republic of Congo-The project empowers women and men most afflicted by conflict to reclaim their lives, rebuild their communities, and build peace from the ground up. When: Tuesday, November 17 from 7-8pm via ZOOM. Maarten Meckman will be sending the link out closer to the meeting.

Join us for an interesting presentation!



## 'Tis the Season

It's the time of year when Rotarians get out in the community and raise money for the Salvation Army. Joan Verizzo has worked to find our Club a time and place to oversee the red kettle. Please help if you can! Click here to sign up for a shift:

<https://forms.gle/kKHbZnVojC8CHt9b8>

## 2020-2021 Rotary Club Board of Directors

Laura Randall - President  
Lee-En Chung - President-Elect  
Dan Smith - Vice President  
Jeff Meyer - Immediate Past President  
Andrea Nierenberg - Secretary  
Steve Cork - Treasurer  
Drew Adams - Sargent-at-Arms

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