

# Rotary



# Rotary Opens Opportunities

## The SMILE

November 25, 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

December 2.....Dr. Emily Hall,  
Mote Marine

Jim Henry - October 28th

### This week's speakers

#### Jennifer Fowler-Hermes Williams Parker

JENNIFER FOWLER-HERMES is a Florida Bar Board Certified Specialist in Labor and Employment Law. She is a partner at Williams Parker Harrison Dietz & Getzen and serves as the firm's Labor and Employment Practice Leader.



Jennifer has represented both private and public sector employers of all sizes regarding employment law issues for over twenty years. Jennifer is AV Preeminent-Rated by Martindale-Hubbell and has been repeatedly named to Florida Super Lawyers® for Employment Litigation. Jennifer is also a Supreme Court Certified Circuit Civil Mediator. Jennifer has personal ties to Rotary International. She attended Rotary's S4TL seminars as both a delegate ('89) and a counselor ('90). Further, after successfully advocating on behalf of the Carrollwood Rotary Club for Interact to be permitted to form at her high school, she served as the club's inaugural President ('89-'90). She arranged and ran a one day mini-S4TL seminar leadership seminar during senior year, and received a scholarship for college from the Carrollwood Rotary Club.

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## This week's speakers (con't)

### John C. Getty, Williams Parker

JOHN C. GETTY is an associate at Williams Parker focusing on Labor and Employment law. He is admitted to practice in Florida, Georgia, and Louisiana. John not only has experience litigating employment matters, including but not limited to, discrimination and harassment, but also provides counseling to clients on ways to avoid litigation. He has been named as a Rising Star by Florida Super Lawyers® both in Louisiana and more recently in Florida (2020). He is also a member of Leadership Sarasota 2020, Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce.



## Governor's monthly message



Ahead of our speakers on Wednesday, please consider taking a look at Governor Darryl Key's monthly message. Among other topics, Governor Darryl speaks about the importance of respect and tolerance as we make our clubs more diverse, equitable and inclusive. The message can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

## 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 in the coming weeks. Click [here](#) for the current lunch time link. The Passcode is **571989**  
The meeting ID is 850 7495 4959.



# Meeting Recap

by Francine DiFilippo

The topic of Carrie Seidman's presentation was "Where Do We Go from Here?" The responsibility of Government, Media and Us. Healing our national divide.

Public trust is down to 20%, according to Pew, which is near historic lows for more than a decade. Less than half of those surveyed believe fellow Americans have the knowledge and wisdom to understand what is going on. Demonstrating the fraying of interpersonal trust fully is broken down into roughly thirds; 1/3 have high trust, 1/3 have medium trust and 35% believe we cannot be trusted to make good decisions. She explained that it is because we cannot agree on Basic Facts. The good news is that 86% of the people surveyed believe that this can be improved through changes in our personal behavior.

There are coming changes at The Herald Tribune with Barbara Peters Smith leaving to be replaced by someone from South Carolina whose title will be Opinion & Community Engagement Editor.

They get a lot of criticism from our local public who have the active interest and time to do so. The changes in the advertising model are making headlines more sensationalistic. Space limitations add to the challenge. Print will continue to diminish, but our community still likes a print newspaper.

She is intrigued by what she calls Solutions Journalism going beyond the reporting of issues to proposing ideas for change and possible improvements. She has a special interest in covering stories on mental health and trauma in the community. She said we need better arguments and gave a web site that is devoted to this concept called [www.betterarguments.org](http://www.betterarguments.org). essentially encouraging constructive conversations recognizing the historical context, using emotional intelligence, and recognizing power as it is.

- Take winning off the table
- Listen passionately
- Pay attention to the context
- Embrace vulnerability
- Make room for transformation

She summed up her presentation with the Mahatma Gandhi quote: **"Be the change that you wish to see in the world."**

In the Q & A Karen Sites made a very thought-provoking statement. **"Diversity is a number; inclusion is a choice."**

## 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 before the meeting and you will just click on that to watch the meeting. It's that simple.



## '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>



Looking for a few good Rotarians to help serve at the Food Pantry at Alta Vista Elementary School December 16th. Contact Lou Schwartz and sign up!

# Welcome to new Paul Harris Fellows!



Congratulations to the following members who have achieved recognition in the Paul Harris Society as part of the District's Matching Program in November of 2019:

- Paul Mlotok – Paul Harris Fellow
- Kumar Mahadevan – PHF+2
- Bill Furst – PHF+4
- Bill North – PHF+5
- Carl Jackson – PHF+3

Additional recognition is in order for

- Bill Sadlo – PHF+1

The Paul Harris Fellow recognition acknowledges individuals who contribute, or who have contributions made in their name, of \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation.

Thank you for your commitment to the work of The Rotary Foundation.



## SMILE Alert

We want to make you Smile when you read our bulletin. Please contribute your Happy \$\$ mentions, member news, requests, pictures, fellowship opportunities, Q & A, a joke, an observation, a poem or a very short story. Please share with us. We want to encourage our members to share and use the *SMILE* as a vehicle for keeping us connected. You can send your material to laurarrandall813@gmail.com by Thursday noon. Since we do not have the limitations of space that paper requires let's have some fun!

## Happy Birthday!

Sarah Lodge - Dec 1



## 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

*Directors*  
Pam Akins  
Peg Cork  
Zain Hartman  
Ruth McLaren  
Tom Melville  
Paul Mlotok  
Steven Stegall