

# The SMILE

February 24, 2021

## 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

Mar. 3.....Kurt Hoffman,  
Sheriff, Sarasota County  
Mar. 10.....Francine DiFilippo  
Mar. 17.....Dr. Brennan Asplen,  
Superintendent, Sarasota County  
Schools  
Mar. 24.....Beth Duda,  
Patterson Foundation

## This Week's Speaker

### Bill Jotham Engineer and Bon vivant

To hear his friends on the Saturday morning Zoom call tell it, Bill's greatest accomplishment was driving a tractor and marrying the farmer's daughter.



But on Wednesday you will hear about Bill's professional accomplishments and his Rotary career.

Mr. Jotham studied architecture, obtaining a BS from Iowa State University. Bill serves as President Emeritus of Structural Connections Inc.

Bill is a long-term, dedicated Rotarian and has served as President of our Club. Bill is also the incoming President of the Rotary Club of Sarasota Foundation.

Join us Wednesday to hear Bill tell his story!

## February 17th Meeting Recap

by Francine Difilippo

Mayor Hagen Brody gave us a State of the City address with updates and highlights of various programs, issues, and goals going forward. He cited some accomplishments, changes we might not have been aware of, his desires going forward, and goals that he would like to point at for his tenure. The mayor's position is an elected one from amongst the city commissioners so he does not know if he will be given the opportunity to serve another term as mayor. His desire is to work toward predictable quality processes that make the city hospitable for the next generation.



Working with the building department to be more cooperative and less restrictive with homeowners seeking make improvements in their homes was one example. A \$4 million dollar surplus was accumulated as a result of multiple inspection fees for simple projects like deck or railing construction at a private home in the city.

Form based codes – a city mantra that was pushed/promoted by outside consultants for several years, has had to be modified by the planning department because it could not be uniformly applied in residential neighborhoods with specific and unique characteristics as opposed to commercial developments in urban corridors. The issue of affordable housing came up and capped density was identified as the culprit. Q & A suggested and asked for a better definition of what makes housing affordable.

Changes for the good: the city is working to have better relations with the other institutions and agencies that affect us such as County government, the hospital and school board, etc. The city has added 150 acres of city parkland to keep protect green spaces. Coming, he mentioned the Bayfront project and the 4 stages that will take our lifetime to complete. Selby Gardens received approval of their revised plan and this project will be scheduled to go forward. He requested the city planning department to undertake a new review of the Sarasota Orchestra's possible development around Payne Park has been revived with a request to review and see how we can work to keep this cultural institution in the city. Mayor Hagen wants to get the city back to the vitality it was enjoying pre-pandemic with events and activities to help the downtown reemerge as a fun and interesting destination for citizens county-wide. The first step is to return to some normality, hopefully, is a celebration for the 4th of July if possible, with a boat parade etc.

The move of city elections to coincide with national and state elections in the fall as opposed to the spring had made a difference. Where before voter turnout was questionable as far as being representative of the citizenry because it was so embarrassingly low, he pointed to new commissioners in districts that had not even had run offs in the past. He has standardized city commission meetings to take place in the evening and to have them live streamed to increased citizen awareness and participation. The link below will take you to both city and county governmental meetings. Make good use of it!

**Access Sarasota | Sarasota County, FL** <https://www.scgov.net/i-want-to/access-sarasota-tv>  
Access Sarasota is proud to bring government to the citizens of Sarasota County by providing live coverage of all Board of County Commissioners meetings, Charter Review Board meetings and the meetings of six advisory councils and appointed boards. We carry live meetings from the City of Sarasota, replays of municipal and organizational meetings, original public affairs ...

# PROPOSED NEW MEMBER

Name: Nathaniel Buck

Classification: Sales - Hearing Aids and Related Services

Proposed by: Judy VanHouten

If no written objections are submitted to the Board of Directors by the end of the work day March 8, 2021, Nate will be invited to our club's Rotary Information Meeting.

DO-GOODERY

Well done, volunteers!

PEOPLE OF ACTION



As part of our District hunger relief project to provide food to families in our community, 150 bags of groceries will be assembled and delivered. Thank you to Rotarians for stepping up to help!

Infinite Possibilities: Series 2

# Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Presented by Rotary District 6960

FABULOUS and ENDEARING are the best descriptions we can offer for our upcoming February 26th Infinite Possibilities Series: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, featuring Past Rotary International President and World Leader Barry Rassin, along with International Speaker Brian Rusch. "Embracing Our Differences" is the focus of our conversation, as we listen to stories of their personal journeys and life experiences. This conversation will touch your hearts and inspire your spirit to greater service.

This multi-part webinar series offers you the opportunity to hear from very dynamic speakers who will offer vision, encouragement, enthusiasm and motivation to grow your membership. We encourage you to invite not only your fellow Rotarians, but prospective members as well. You can register below for this session, as well as the March and April events. [Members can register through their DACdb account and Non-Rotarians can register at: \[rizones33-34.org/infinite-possibilities/\]\(http://rizones33-34.org/infinite-possibilities/\)](#)

February 26, 2021 at 1:00pm EST – Embracing Our Differences, hosted by Rotary International Director Stephanie Urchick, with featured speakers Past RI President Barry Rassin and Rotarian Brian Rusch of District 5150 in California.

March 26, 2021 at 1:00pm – Investing in Equity, hosted by District 6960 Governor Darryl Keys, with featured speaker Xavier Ramey, fellow Rotarian from Chicago.

April 30, 2021 at 1:00pm – Celebrate Diversity, with special guest speakers Rotary International President Holger Knack, Rotary International Director Peter Kyle and Anna Ekbäck.

## 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.





As of July 1<sup>st</sup> two seats will be available on the Rotary Club of Sarasota Foundation Board. If you are interested in applying please email Susan Leavis at [sleavis@gmail.com](mailto:sleavis@gmail.com) by March 19, 2021. Please include a brief bio if available.

***Responsibilities of RCSF and its Board Members***

*The Rotary Club of Sarasota Foundation, the charitable arm of the Rotary Club of Sarasota, is a registered 501(c)(3). Its mission is to help the Rotary Club of Sarasota build a better community and world through humanitarian, educational, and charitable endeavors. The Rotary Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation that receives contributions and distributes funds in support of approved humanitarian and educational activities that are implemented through Rotary clubs and districts.*

*Elected Directors serve terms of three years each, commencing on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Foundation Board Meetings are held quarterly and as a board member attendance is expected. Secretarial and treasurer reports are presented as well as a review, discussion and vote on any proposed projects submitted by the Rotary Club of Sarasota. Meetings last between one and two hours.*



**Join the Paul Harris Society**

Step up your commitment to The Rotary Foundation with a \$1000 donation annually and be a member of the Paul Harris Society.

Give to your choice: the Annual Fund—which covers everything—or directly to PolioPlus, or even to an approved Global Grant. Make a real difference through The Rotary Foundation.



*Give at [www.rotary.org/give](http://www.rotary.org/give) · Go TRF Direct*

## Is it fair to all concerned?

As Rotarians we need to be aware of the behavior expected of us. Conducting ourselves in adherence to this code of conduct can help us all act in the Rotary spirit.

# ROTARIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

As a Rotarian, I will:

1. Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life
2. Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
3. Use my professional skills through Rotary to mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world
4. Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians
5. Help maintain a harassment-free environment in Rotary meetings, events, and activities; report any suspected harassment; and help ensure non-retaliation to those individuals that report harassment



## 2020-2021 Rotary Club Board of Directors

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

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