

ROTARY CLUB of SARASOTA



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

PRESIDENT – DAVID BOWMAN
Classification: Law, Real Estate

JULY 26, 2017

SMILE THE WEEKLY CLUB NEWSLETTER

WWW.ROTARYCLUBOFSARASOTA.COM

Today's Speaker:

July 26: Meredith Scerba: World Rowing Championships



[See page 2 attached for Bio](#)

Upcoming Speakers:

August 2: John Giglio - Freedom Boat Club
August 9: Bob Stone - Youth Exchange Program
August 16: J.J. Hummon - District 6960 Polio Plus Ambassador

A Note From Ethan.....



**The Salvation Army
Nashville Area Command
Office of the Area Commander**

Dear Friends,

Greetings. How I miss our Saturday mornings together! Please accept my resignation from the Sarasota Rotary Club and my great appreciation.

**May your work continue to change the community through inspiring fellowship and catalytic service.
It has been an honor to serve with you.**

Peace and joy,

**Ethan Frizzell, Major
The Salvation Army, South, USA**

Fighting For Progress

PREVIOUS MEETING (7/19/2017) by Dorothy Pratt

Golf and the beaches sound like a pretty nice retirement agenda but Rotary speaker **Janna Overstreet** insists on adding lifetime learning.

She relocated here from Illinois in 2013 to become executive director of the Lifelong Learning Academy at USF-Sarasota Manatee. The once-competing Perian Springs Academy has merged to offer even more classes to engage retirees and prevent cognitive decline.

"The classes can engage people and fill black holes in the brain," she said. "They promote friendship and reduce depression."

The fall term begins in September at a variety of locations including Senior Friendship Centers and over-55 neighborhoods. The historic red brick Sarasota High School will eventually be utilized for classes.

"Some classes fill up in a matter of hours," she added. "The classes are an outlet to share wisdom. Audience members often have a lot to share. At least three of our lecturers are nationally known."

Rotarian Roy Adams has taught an economics class in the program.

Fall schedules of the Suncoast Alliance for Lifelong Learning will be available Sept. 13. Among the choices is a weekly half-day art class. Future plans call for evening programs.

Overstreet holds a masters degree in gerontology and continues to teach upper level psychology courses at both Lakeland College and Eastern Illinois University where she has taught for the past 19 years.

Every Saturday Morning for Coffee!

**Saturday Mornings at 9:00am –
Panera Bread at Bahia Vista**

**Rotarians Make the World Better,
One Community at a Time.**





Meredith A. Scerba is the Executive Director for the 2017 World Rowing Championships.

Prior to joining the team in October 2015, Scerba was the Senior VP of Marketing & Operations for the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission (GCSC) and had been a part of the Sports Commission team since 2005. She started her career at the Cleveland Cavaliers/Gund Arena company as the Group Events Coordinator, where she developed, planned and executed all ancillary/special events.

Over the ten and half year span at the Sports Commission (GCSC) she was involved in a multitude of international and national events that the GCSC had produced, ranging from the USA/Italy/Ireland Boxing Triad and Continental Cup Sports Festival to mega events such as the NCAA Women's Final Four and US Figure Skating Championships.

In 2011, she expanded her responsibilities at the Sports Commission by assuming the post as Executive Director for the 2013 National Senior Games. The Senior Games provided the City of Cleveland a \$36.1-million-dollar economic impact hosting 11,000 athletes competing in a variety of 27 sporting competitions over a two-week timeframe.

This experience set the benchmark for her current role as the Executive Director for the 2017 World Rowing Championships. Her role includes overseeing the overall budgeting, staffing, managing, fundraising, operations, marketing, communications and execution of the event. The event will mark the largest sporting event to take place in the Sarasota/Bradenton community to date. An estimated \$25-million-dollar economic impact with elite athletes, spectators and fans from 60+ countries around the world is to be expected from this community wide event.

Meredith's current extracurricular positions include serving as WISE (Women in Sports & Events) National Chapter Advisory Committee and University of Findlay Advisory Board.

Prior to moving to Florida, she served as Board President of the WISE Cleveland chapter, the University of Findlay and Mount Union University's Sports Management Advisory Board and an advisory board member for America SCORES Cleveland, a member of SME and an adjunct professor at Baldwin Wallace University.

Special honors include: 2014 DMSA Award recipient, The Cleveland Professional Twenty-Thirty Club Mover & Shaker Award in 2012, chosen to be a part of the 2009 Bridge Builders Flagship program, honored as one of the 2008 Crain's Cleveland Business Magazines' Twenty in their Twenties recipients, 2004 recognized by the NBA League office for "Best Practices" and played a vital role in the success of the Cavaliers Group Sales Department when setting the new NBA record in sales with a new mark of 3.2 million in Groups tickets.

She graduated from the University of Findlay, located in Findlay, Ohio with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing and Business Management. Meredith attended the university on a swimming scholarship, where she was an All-American and team captain her junior and senior years.