

# ROTARY CLUB of SARASOTA



CHARTERED APRIL 12, 1926

CLUB NUMBER 4339

DISTRICT 6960

ZONE 34

PRESIDENT – DAVID BOWMAN

Classification: Law, Real Estate

AUGUST 30, 2017

**SMILE** THE WEEKLY CLUB NEWSLETTER

[WWW.ROTARYCLUBOFSARASOTA.COM](http://WWW.ROTARYCLUBOFSARASOTA.COM)

## Today's Speaker:

### Gus Mollasis – Writer & Movie Critic



Gus is a writer, producer, author, and film teacher. His acclaimed PBS TV series, *"Diamonds Along the Highway"*, returns to the airwaves soon for a third season. You will find Gus on the pages of Scene magazine penning his monthly interview segment - Scenes from An Interview, or teaching film around town and at the Longboat Key Education Center.

An author of two books, one on his beloved Detroit Red Wings, *"On a Wing and a Prayer"*, and the other on his Detroit Lions Hall of Famer and football hero, Lem Barney. Gus is currently working on two memoirs - one on philanthropist Betty Schoenbaum and the other on Detroit TV and Advertising icon Mr. Belvedere - Bud Lezel. Gus adheres to his writing hero's philosophy on the secret to good writing - "All you have to do is write one true sentence." And his interviewing skills rely on his secret, "Be interested - but not interesting."

## Upcoming Speakers

**September 6: Katrine Karley – Feng Shui Master**

**September 13: Rotary Social**

**September 20: Tony Moon – songwriter**

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"If you're calling from a rotary phone, leave your name and number and I'll have my grandmother call you back to chat about the good old days."

## PREVIOUS MEETING (8/23/2017) by Dorothy Pratt

**The Jazz Club of Sarasota** was the brainstorm of Hal Davis, who retired to Sarasota in 1978 after heading a NY ad agency that handled top talent like the big bands. When he and wife, Evelyn, moved to Sarasota, they invited people over to listen to jazz. This nucleus of six couples put on the first concert in 1980 featuring Bucky and John Pizzarelli. That concert led to the formation of the Jazz Club of Sarasota, which had its first festival in 1981 at Holly Hall. Mrs. Louis Armstrong was the honored guest the next year. Concerts moved to Van Wezel in 1983.

**Nancy Roucher's husband, Jerry**, became president in the 1990s and he continued the Festival, concerts and presenting jazz around the area, partnering with other groups. The Jazz Festival was, and still is, the major event, but concerts ranged from traditional, swing, Bebop, Blues, Latin Smooth but the basic is Straight Ahead Jazz. The club brought in some of the world's best, including Bucky and John Pizzarelli, Pete Fountain, Marian McPartland, Ramsey Lewis, Gerry Mulligan, George Shearing, David Brubeck, Lionel Hampton, Bobby Rosengarden, and our own Dick Hyman, who lives in Venice.

**Hyman has played almost every season.** The club celebrated his 90th birthday this year as the entire festival featured Hyman. As one of the most active jazz clubs in the US, it offers classes, lectures, Jazz in the Park, a Jazz Trolley to night spots, outdoor concerts at Centennial Park in Venice, an afternoon series, Jazz in the Ballpark and free outdoor concerts.

**Coming soon will be Oktoberfest on Oct. 18** with music at seven spots, and Giving Hunger the Blues on Oct. 28 at Van Wezel grounds. Also coming up will be four evening concerts, as well as Jazz on the Water, Jazz in Phillippi Estates Park and Sarasota Jazz Festival. Info at [www.jazzclubsarasota.org](http://www.jazzclubsarasota.org).

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## Join Us Every Saturday Morning for Coffee!

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

**NO HAPPY HOUR THIS MONDAY NIGHT - LABOR  
DAY. NEXT ONE IS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER  
11...5PM AT MATTISON'S.**

**2016/2017 PRESIDENTIAL THEME: ROTARY SERVING HUMANITY**

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