

ROTARY CLUB of SARASOTA



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

PRESIDENT – DAVID BOWMAN
Classification: Law, Real Estate

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SMILE THE WEEKLY CLUB NEWSLETTER

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Today's Speaker:

Alice Murphy – Ca'd' Zan, Ringling Museum



Alice has been Public Relations Manager at the Ringling Museum since January 2016. She moved to Sarasota from New York, where she worked for Sotheby's Auction House. Prior to that, Alice spent a year in Arkansas helping open Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. She holds a Master's Degree in Art and Business from NYU and worked at J. Walter Thompson, America's largest advertising agency, for five years.

Alice's presentation will explain the history of The Ringling Museum and the legacy of its founder John Ringling. Exciting new exhibitions and programs will also be discussed.

Upcoming Speakers

December 20: Rotary Singers

December 27: No Meeting!!!!

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON ROTARY GOLF?



Several Rotary Club of Sarasota members enjoy golf after the Wednesday meeting. Should any Rotarian be interested in joining them at the Rolling Green Golf Club, 4501 N. Tuttle Avenue, for a 2:00 p.m. tee time, please contact Roy Adams at the club or at RDJWAdams@aol.com.

Join Us Every Saturday Morning for Coffee!

**Saturday Mornings at 9:00am –
Panera Bread at US 41 & Bahia Vista**

PREVIOUS MEETING (12/6/2017) by Ron Rayevich

It was a delight to have our own **Francine Difilippo Kent, President of the Downtown Sarasota Alliance (DSA)**, explain what the DSA does for downtown Sarasota and how its activities differ from other downtown organizations. The DSA picks up in many areas where the city government and other downtown organizations (such as the Downtown Improvement District (DID), the Downtown Merchants Association, and the Downtown Sarasota Condominium Association) leave off. This includes such activities as managing the banner program announcing local events, art fair promotion, the "shop local" program, publishing the city guide and a walking map of downtown, and supporting and promoting the 342 businesses active in downtown.

Downtown Sarasota has gone from the typical declining urban district 35 years ago to a vibrant and growing business, retail and residential area with nearly one thousand new hotels rooms coming into the market, 1500 new apartments underway, and 500 condos under construction or recently completed. Thanks, **Francine**, for reminding us of what a great downtown means to Sarasota and why it is so important to support our local merchants.

The Club's 2017 Holiday Party at Sara Bay was a fabulous time! The venue was beautifully decorated and we enjoyed great food and drinks in addition to music, dancing and fellowship. Our Rotary Club Singers entertained and got us into the Holiday spirit with their festive tunes. The Social Committee's Raffle raised \$800, thanks to the enthusiastic participation by party goers, and they announced that the Season of Sharing would be the benefactor of the funds. A big thank you to our Social Committee and the great job they did in pulling this party together.

Judy VanHouten



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