

ROTARY CLUB of SARASOTA



CHARTERED APRIL 12, 1926

CLUB NUMBER 4339

DISTRICT 6960

ZONE 34

PRESIDENT – DAVID BOWMAN

Classification: Law, Real Estate

JANUARY 24, 2018

SMILE THE WEEKLY CLUB NEWSLETTER

WWW.ROTARYCLUBOFSARASOTA.COM

Today's Speaker:

Major General (Retired) Jim Adkins

The Use of the Military in International Engagement: Starting with the Response to the Collapse of the Soviet Union



Major General Atkins' military career spanned nearly 40 years of service in both the enlisted and officer ranks. He served at nearly every level of command and in various staff assignments. Adkins graduated from the Defense Language Institute's Russian Language Program in Monterey, California, and served in intelligence, infantry, and cavalry assignments in the United States and

abroad. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, he assisted the Republic of Estonia in its integration into NATO. His military travels took him to Japan, Germany, Estonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Kuwait, Qatar, Iraq, Egypt and Afghanistan.

Adkins' military decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Maryland Distinguished Service Cross, the Republic of Estonia's Order of the Cross of the Eagle 2nd Class and the Order of the White Cross.

In 2016, he was selected for induction into the Defense Language Institute's Hall of Fame in Monterey, California. General Adkins was inducted into the Maryland State Firemen's Association Hall of Fame in 2014.

He is a member of numerous organizations including the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, American Veterans (AMVETS), Vietnam Veterans of America, Military Officers Association of America, U.S. Army War College Foundation and Alumni Affairs, 2nd Armored Division Association, 29th Infantry Division Association, National Society Sons of the American Revolution, Society of the War of 1812, Cambridge Rotary Club and the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association.

Upcoming Speakers:

January 31: Stanley Eding - FCCI

February 7: David Rovine - Baltimore Orioles

February 14: Anna Hahn - Gulf Coast Community Ftd.

PREVIOUS MEETING (1/17/18) by Ron Rayevich

It was a pleasure to welcome back **Judge Charles Williams, Chief Judge of the 12th Judicial Court of Florida** (which comprises Sarasota, Manatee and Desoto Counties). Judge Williams' topic was "A photographic History of Sarasota's African American Community". Beginning with the earliest African Americans in Sarasota, which were laborers in the turpentine industry in the 1870s working in an area toward I-75, he showed how the local AA community developed with the wives and sisters of the turpentine workers living in what is today the Rosemary District (then called Overtown). These women worked as domestic help in Sarasota and were located close to the families they served. Emma Booker became the first school teacher for African American children, and in her honor three local schools are named. Most interesting, was that many of those involved with the Tuskegee airman lived and later relocated to Sarasota. The residents in Overtown moved to Newtown over an issue of the cemetery located in what is now the Rosemary District. And finally, there was a photographic presentation of the sit-in at the Woolworth lunch counter and the rise of the civil rights movement in Sarasota. Thanks, Judge Williams, for this refreshing look at the way Sarasota was from the perspective of the African American community.

Regular Social Gatherings

**Saturday mornings at 9 a.m.
Panera Bread @ US 41 & Bahia Vista**

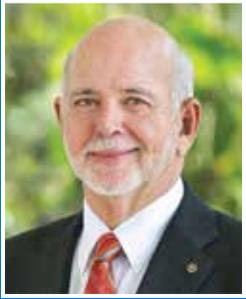
**Monday Evenings at 5:30 p.m.
Amore
Burns Court, 446 South Pineapple Ave.**



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2016/2017 PRESIDENTIAL THEME: ROTARY SERVING HUMANITY

REPORTER – JIM ROQUE – JIM.ROQUE@SUNTRUST.COM



BE THE INSPIRATION

Since Rotary was founded 113 years ago, its role in the world and in the lives of its members has been in a state of continuous evolution. In its earliest days, Rotary offered its members a way to find fellowship and friendship and to build connections within their communities. Soon after, service found a place in Rotary, and as our organization expanded, so did its influence. In time, Rotary's service, supported by our Rotary Foundation, would change the lives of families and communities across the world. We formed partnerships and focused our service to increase our impact. We launched

the world's largest public-private health initiative, partnering with governments, international organizations, and countless local and regional health agencies to eradicate polio. More and more, our members came to us seeking not just friendship but a way to take action for good.

Rotary still is, and always will be, the organization Paul Harris envisioned: a place where people from every corner of the earth can come together to become something greater than themselves. Yet Rotary today offers something of singular and enduring value: the chance to be part of a global network of people who have the talent and the drive to change the world. We are men and women who believe in the power of community action to make a global impact — and together, we have the capacity and the resources to achieve almost anything.

Globally, Rotary is more relevant than ever before, and its potential for good is vast. Unfortunately, not enough people fully understand what Rotary is and does. Even within our clubs, many Rotarians don't know enough about Rotary to take full advantage of what Rotary membership offers.

Rotary service transforms lives and communities. To achieve even more of that truly transformational service, we need to think differently about our role in Rotary, and Rotary's role in the world. We need to put more emphasis on our public image, using social media to build our membership and attract the partners that can help us scale up our service. We need to focus on larger projects that have a more lasting impact, taking the time to research and plan work that spans Rotary years and terms of office. Most important of all, we need to *Be the Inspiration* for positive change, inspiring our clubs, our communities, and our organization to face today's challenges head on, with courage, optimism, and creativity.

As Paul Harris put it, "Rotary is a microcosm of a world at peace, a model which nations will do well to follow." To me, Rotary is not only a model but an inspiration. It shows us what is possible, inspires us to reach for it, and gives us a path to act — and to *Be the Inspiration* to our world.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barry Rassin', written in a cursive style.

Barry Rassin

President, Rotary International, 2018-19