

ROTARY CLUB of SARASOTA



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

PRESIDENT – DAVID BOWMAN
Classification: Law, Real Estate

MAY 2, 2018

SMILE THE WEEKLY CLUB NEWSLETTER

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Today's Speaker:

Rick Piccolo

President & CEO

**Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority
Sarasota Bradenton International Airport**



Fredrick Piccolo has over forty-six years' experience in the aviation industry and has been President, Chief Executive Officer of the Sarasota Bradenton International Airport since 1995. He began his career as a janitor at the Buffalo International Airport, and after earning a BS degree in Business Administration from the State University of New York at Buffalo, held several airport positions that include Building Superintendent, Property Manager, Assistant to Airport

Manager, and Assistant Director of Operations. Locally, he worked in the Operations Department at Tampa International Airport and prior to his position at SRQ, he was the Assistant Airport Director at the St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport.

The Florida Department of Transportation selected Mr. Piccolo as the 2005 Aviation Professional of the Year. The Federal Aviation Administration also chose him as the 2005 Airport Manager of the Year. In October 2009, Airport Revenue News announced Mr. Piccolo as the winner of the "Small Airport CEO of the Year for 2009." Members of the aviation industry nationwide vote on this award.

Mr. Piccolo is past Chair of the Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and is a past recipient of the Premier Volunteer Award, an honor given for his significant leadership commitment to the Chamber and community. He is currently a member of the campus Board of Trustees, University of South Florida/Sarasota Manatee, and serves on the Manatee Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and the Bradenton Economic Development Council Board of Directors.

On a personal note, Mr. Piccolo is married with three sons, and two grandchildren.

CLUB YEAR END AWARDS

Rookie of the Year

Citizen of the Year

Ed Pierce Rotarian of the Year

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PREVIOUS MEETING (4/25/18) by Ron Rayevich

Even though I am not nor ever have been one who smokes cigars (or cigarettes), I found the presentation by **Rick Louis of Island Lifestyle Importers** to be absolutely fascinating. He and his partner, who both enjoy smoking cigars, developed their own special blend and then proceeded to convince Tommy Bahama in NYC to brand their cigars and accessories with the Tommy Bahama label. The story of what it takes to become an entrepreneur beginning with a new cigar blend (18 hour days and weekends) sounds just like a version of TV's "Shark Tank", with manufacturing of the cigars, accessories, and affiliated products all off-shored to Nicaragua and China. The cigars sell for between \$8.45 and \$10.95, but there are a variety of accessories, such as cutters, lighters, cigar cases, special unbreakable ash trays, and now glasses and games for the cigar aficionado to enjoy.

Today, nine years after the start, the business is a multi-million dollar revenue generator with distribution throughout the US, and a growing worldwide presence all coordinated by a staff of three here in Sarasota County. Rick and his partner also give back to the community by tithing to both The Salvation Army and Veteran's Charities.

Thanks, Rick, for sharing your story with us. It makes me want to dream up a product for which I have a passion, and get out there and sell it to someone. Wait, I don't want to work 18 hour days anymore, so I will just that thought pass.

Regular Social Gatherings

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

**Last Monday Evening of each Month
at 5:30 p.m. Amore
Burns Court, 446 South Pineapple Ave.**

**Baloney Club at 11:15 a.m.
Meets in the Marina Jack Balcony prior to the
Wednesday Meeting. Come one, come all.**

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



The Awards Committee is once again coordinating the process of selecting Rotarians from our club and one non-Rotarian to receive awards at the upcoming installation banquet for their service to our community. The members of the Awards Committee this year are Joe Formella, Joel Walters and Jayne Cory.

Those deserving of awards are often not those individuals featured in the headlines – rather those individuals who live the 4-Way Test every day, making our community an even better place to live. It is requested that you, as a member of our Club, provide to the committee the names of those people who you believe are worthy of consideration for the awards described below. For each person nominated, please identify the award that you feel is appropriate, the reasons for your nomination and specific examples of the nominee's adherence to the 4-Way test and the criteria for the particular award. Please give special consideration to members who did not receive an award last year.

Rookie of the Year Award: The nominee must be a new member who has become very involved in Club activities and who, otherwise, has made a significant impact in supporting and strengthening the Club. The persons who are eligible for this award are listed on the nomination form.

Ed Pierce Rotarian of the Year: The nominee should have demonstrated high ethical standards, and exemplary humanitarian service, with an emphasis on personal volunteer efforts and active involvement in helping others through Rotary. Because this is the Club's highest service recognition, a recipient's high ethical standards and exemplary service must extend beyond the Club level and occur over an extended period of time.

Citizen of the Year: This award is given to recognize lifelong humanitarian efforts and contributions to the Sarasota community by a non-Rotarian. To be eligible an individual should have exemplified the Rotary creed of "Service above Self" as a lifetime achievement, not as a single significant service. The individual should live and/or work in Sarasota. The individual must have influenced or aided in the advancement of a community ideal, such as education, charity, civic cooperation, beautification, patriotism or other cause.

- Only one award will be given to a person in any Rotary year.
- The award recipient (other than Citizen of the Year) must be an active Rotarian in good standing.
- Special consideration should be given to nominating and giving awards to members who ***did not*** receive an award during the past two years. The following Rotarians ***did*** receive an award during the last two years: Dick Rehmeier, Maarten Meckman, Jim Roque, Charles Alkire and Sue Leavis.
- Rotarians who are ineligible for an award are: current club president; and current, incoming, and **immediate** past district governors, and members of the Awards Committee. Please note that, for this Rotary year, there are no members of the Club who are current, incoming or immediate past district governors who cannot be considered for an award.