

Rotary



Rotary Opens Opportunities

The SMILE

April 21, 2021

ROTARY CLUB OF SARASOTA

CHARTERED APRIL 12, 1926

CLUB NUMBER 4339

DISTRICT 6960

ZONE 34

PRESIDENT – LAURA RANDALL

The Four Way Test of Things we Think, Say or Do:

- 1. Is it the TRUTH?
- 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Upcoming speakers

- Apr 28.....Strategic Plan Presentation
- May 5.....Ciera Coleman, Downtown Farmers Market
- May 12.....Tom Knight, First Step
- May 19.....Lee-En Chung, President-Elect
- May 26.....Beaver Shriiver, Rise & Nye

April 14th Meeting Recap

Gary Powers, Speaker

by Francine DiFilippo

What do people think of when the phrase “Cold War” is mentioned? It is that period after WWII (1945 - 1991) when distrust between the Soviet Union and the United States and her former allies over their fundamental differences in policies and governing were at a high level. The US practiced a policy of containment which could be summed up as a commitment to stop the spread of communism to other nations. The two countries never actually went to war, but they competed against each other for nuclear weapons creation and strength, technological advancements such as space exploration and influence over other countries by providing aid (\$\$\$\$) to war torn and poor countries who became client states.

With this as the backdrop, Francis Gary Powers was an American pilot whose Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) U-2 spy plane was shot down while flying a reconnaissance mission in Soviet Union airspace, causing the 1960 U-2 incident. The story is electrifying and his retelling of it chronologically kept our attention riveted. At first the even was disavowed and his Dad was mischaracterized. Gary claimed it was the first time a president, Eisenhower, got caught in a lie to the American people. Eventually after several years an exchange was devised between Russia and the US -a spy for a spy. Upon his return to the country his name was cleared, and he was able to return to his passion for flying. The court of public opinion had convicted him and even in this he finally prevailed. He later worked as a helicopter pilot for KNBC in Los Angeles and died in a 1977 helicopter crash. Gary was 12 years old. His personal childhood memories of his dad and the resulting family aspects of the incident and consequences were honest. He presented it with clarity and compassion.

(Continued)

(Meeting recap - continued)

His ability to answer questions about various aspects of his research and interviews with people who knew his father were telling and recognizable. Listeners learned a lot.

He wanted to understand his father's experiences as a prisoner during the cold war and what was written about the historic incidents. While doing his research he found out that a film was being made about the negotiations leading up to the exchange of his dad for a Soviet spy. In 2015, he consulted for the Steven Spielberg thriller, Bridge of Spies, about the 1962 spy exchange between KGB spy Rudolph Abel and CIA U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers, Sr. He said the film was historically accurate but that there was some Hollywood treatment to certain aspects of the treatment and story line. He could not object or change this but felt it was better to participate in the effort than to have had no say whatsoever. He is the author of Letters from a Soviet Prison and Spy Pilot. Some members took advantage of the availability of his books after the meeting. As usual some of our members had personal experiences involving bases that were used for some of these spy plane launches in Turkey and elsewhere.

Gary is the Founder and Chairman Emeritus of The Cold War Museum, which is located at Vint Hill, VA. He also serves as a Board Member of the The SAC and Aerospace Museum and, is an Honorary Board of The International Spy Museum. He is the Chairman of the Presidential Advisory Committee for the Cold War Theme Study which assists the National Park Service to identify historic Cold War sites for preservation.

Gary is on a two-week book tour sweeping through Florida. Members suggested several locations for him to visit such as Boca Grande and Useppa Island to get more insight into the role these places played in the international arena during the cold war.



YOU ARE INVITED TO

***A Night of 1000
Paul Harris Fellows***

MAY 21, 2021

COCKTAILS - 6:15PM | DINNER - 7PM

CHARLOTTE HARBOR EVENT CENTER
75 TAYLOR ST, PUNTA GORDA, FL 33950

**\$75 per person | Cash Bar | Black Tie Optional
RSVP on DACdb**



THE VOTES ARE IN!

The Club Board election is final and next year's leadership will be as follows:

- **President - Lee-En Chung**
- **President Elect - Steve Cork**
- **Vice President - Jay Riggs**
- **Immediate Past President - Laura Randall**
- **Secretary - Pam Akins**
- **Treasurer - Peg Cork**
- **Sargeant-at-Arms - Tony Swart**
- **Director - Dan Dannheiser**
- **Director - Francine DiFilippo**
- **Director - Zain Hartman**
- **Director - Tom Melville**
- **Director - Lois Schaper**
- **Director - Lou Schwartz**

★**CONGRATULATIONS**★

to new members of the Rotary Club of Sarasota
Foundation Board, Jayne Cory, Scott Eller and
Ruth McClaren

DO-GOODERY!

TOGETHER WOMEN RISING



Project: It takes place in India and targets maternal and newborn health.

When: Tuesday, April 20 at 6:30pm.

Host: Lois Schaper at 5816 Fairway Lakes Drive

Bring: A dish to pass and a beverage of your choice.

Enjoy: Fellowship and learning about another culture. A great way to do international service.

RSVP: Lois Schaper at 941-388-8492 or loisschaper@yahoo.com

Support the
Africa Peace Fund
#APeaceConcert

The
Rotary
Foundation



**AFRICA
PEACE
CONCERT**

VIRTUAL

Speke Resort Munyonyo
Kampala Uganda

AFRICA'S FAMOUS TROUPES
Ndere Troupe
Munye Childrens Choir
Indian Troupe

**3 HOURS OF AFRICAN
COLOURS, BEAT & RHYTHM**

FRIDAY 23 APRIL 2021
15:00 - 18:00 Hours (GMT)

CONTRIBUTION: US\$50
Rotarians can tag the US\$50 to
their Rotary Foundation Giving

BOOK NOW

Follow this link to Register <http://bit.ly/3d9IN2E>

FOR MORE INFO
PLEASE CONTACT

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Rotary Club of Sarasota - www.rotaryclubofsarasota.com

LET'S HAVE SOME

fun!

SPRING FLING

Grab Your Partner and Head on Over to
Mote Ranch to Celebrate all Things Spring
With Your Fellow Rotarians!!

6 PM Saturday, April 24

**Judy and Jim VanHouten's
6963 Superior Street Circle Sarasota**

Join this Casual BYOB and Dish to Pass

Event Sponsored by Your Social
Committee!!

**LET JUDY KNOW YOU'RE COMING!
315-719-9800**

Is it fair to all concerned?

As Rotarians we need to be aware of the behavior expected of us. Conducting ourselves in adherence to this code of conduct can help us all act in the Rotary spirit.

ROTARIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

As a Rotarian, I will:

1. Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life
2. Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
3. Use my professional skills through Rotary to mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world
4. Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians
5. Help maintain a harassment-free environment in Rotary meetings, events, and activities; report any suspected harassment; and help ensure non-retaliation to those individuals that report harassment



2020-2021 Rotary Club Board of Directors

Laura Randall - President
Lee-En Chung - President-Elect
Steve Cork - Vice President
Jeff Meyer - Immediate Past President
Andrea Nierenberg - Secretary
Dan Smith - Treasurer
Drew Adams - Sargeant-at-Arms

Directors
Pam Akins
Peg Cork
Zain Hartman
Ruth McLaren
Tom Melville
Steven Stegall