

# Rotary



# Club of Tampa

Thursday, August 5, 2021

## Upcoming Events

August 10th

### Club Luncheon Meeting

**Speaker:** Alex Sanchez, Pres & CEO, Florida Bankers Association

**Subject:** How Washington's Actions Impact the Economy

August 17th

### Club Luncheon Meeting

**Speaker:** Carole Post, City of Tampa

**Subject:** What is on the horizon for local economic opportunity and development?

August 17th

### Learn About Becoming a Rotarian!

August 24th

### Tour and Lunch at JC Newman Cigar Co.

**Speaker:** Eric and Bobby Newman

**Subject:** JC Newman Cigar Co and the premium cigar craft in Tampa

## Happy Birthday!



Courtnei D. Watts  
August 9th



Ronald Meyers  
August 10th



Thomas A. Cassedy  
August 11th

## Your Leaders



Linda W. Devine  
Ph.D.  
President



Christine L. Derr  
President-Elect

Malia Powers

## How Do Washington's Actions Impact the Economy?



Since 1993, **Alex Sanchez** has been the Executive Director of the Florida Bankers Association. He is among the most recognizable spokespeople for the financial industry in the country, is often seen on cable news programs, and is a prolific writer of opinion pieces that land in Florida dailies and the *Wall Street Journal*.

Alex is the first Hispanic to become President and CEO of the FBA. The FBA is the leading voice for Florida's banking industry. Mr. Sanchez's responsibilities include representing and advocating for Florida's banking industry before all legislative and regulatory bodies in Tallahassee and in Washington. In 2002, President George W. Bush nominated Mr. Sanchez to serve as one of the three Presidential appointees on the five people Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, of which he served for over 9 years.

[Click here to register for the live luncheon.](#) Members attend at no charge, and guests pay \$20 to join us. Space is always limited, so please register in advance so you know there is a meal for you. MASKS are required for all attendees, regardless of vaccination status. Thanks for your cooperation!

### Or, Join Zoom to catch it on screen!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85466963279?pwd=bU5ZbnpQTGZldXNwYnVJc3ZBUW55dz09>  
Meeting ID: 854 6696 3279  
Passcode: Rotary2021  
One tap mobile  
+16468769923,,85466963279#,,,,\*1857245280# US (New York)

## President Linda's Message

**Greetings, Rotarians, and happy August!** We are charging into the month, with Olympics in the foreground. What a marvelous exposition of the limits of human performance, in some sports where I don't understand the rules (at all). Our July Club presentations were expositions of high performance, too, including a mayor of a major American city and a representative of a championship professional sport.

**Yet YOU are my heroes.** I observe you weekly. I see members that pack backpacks and others who provide meals. Some share good fortunes by donating to our Foundation and Rotary International. Many greet at meetings. Others bring gifts and write notes to those who are place bound or facing personal challenges. Committees are quietly humming with activity, and Boards past and present feted Joe Hunt for a year wisely led.

**You are the heroes among us.** August is Rotary *Membership and Extension* month, and we have opportunities to share the goodness of the *Rotary Lifestyle of Giving*, so aptly put by Lisa Reeves. I encourage to look around your for Rotarians in the making, and invite them to join us. August 17 we will host a seminar just for them.

**And while Olympics are in the foreground, COVID-19 is part of the backdrop.** Connie Gage said: *I love my Tuesdays.* I do, too, and I know we all appreciate the ability to gather, learn, and enjoy the friendships of our shared Rotary experience. In this era of Pandemic, we will continue to offer a Zoom alternative to our in-person meetings. And, for those who are comfortable attending in person, we will follow the strictures of the Ferguson Law Center, asking for masks at our club lunches regardless of vaccination status. And, when you plan for in-person meeting attendance, please RSVP. That will help us not waste precious food and appropriately plan seating.

**Looking for a service opportunity?** Ron Meyers would like a few more members to add to the Music Committee, and Larry Marfise and Pete Bazzini welcome those who would like to serve as





Secretary



Charles V. Williams  
Treasurer



Benjamin David  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Steve Overton  
Assistant Governor

invokers. Flags for Hillsborough's Heroes is a powerful event coming up that welcomes more volunteers as well.

Thank you for the quiet steps you take weekly to make this a better place. And invite a colleague to Rotary ♦ you never know where the next act of heroism will occur.

Yours Rotary Service,  
Linda

## Prospective Member Info Event is August 17

Our club Membership Committee leadership is hosting a prospective member meet and greet on August 17 after our weekly club luncheon. Here is your chance to share Rotary with someone that you know could make a difference in our club and the community. Prospects will meet club leadership, learn more about our club and Rotary International, be introduced to the application process, and more. Guests are also invited to the luncheon in advance at no charge.

Help us grow our Rotary family by inviting a guest for this event. [Click here to register someone for the seminar.](#) The link is also available on our website and on our Facebook page. Share this with any guest you have brought to a meeting in the past that wants to learn more.

Do you have questions or want to help out? Just contact committee co-chairs [Sunny Alexander](#), [Rod Gaerlan](#), or [Connie Gage](#). Thanks for sharing the good news of Rotary membership with your friends and colleagues!



## Experience history with a tour of the JC Newman Cigar Co.



### August 24th, we will gather for a special offsite luncheon.

Experience history with a tour of the JC Newman Cigar Co. This recently renovated landmark is home to America's oldest family owned premium cigar manufacturer. Founded in 1895 by Julius Caesar Newman, J.C. Newman Cigar Company has been handcrafting many of the world's finest cigars for 4 generations and 125 years. Join Rotarians Eric and Bobby Newman for a behind the scenes look inside this iconic 110-year-old cigar factory in the Ybor City National Historic Landmark District. Lunch provided by Inside the Box as well.



[Click here to register for this special event!](#) Members attend at no charge, and guests pay \$20 to join us. Space is limited and walk ins are not possible since meals will be ordered in, so please register in advance. [Email Brooke](#) if you have trouble registering and she will take care of it for you.

## Spotlight Rotarian - Robin Roup

By Malia Powers



### Gasparilla Bash mastermind, Club Director, tireless Community Service member, and SO much more for our club!

About Robin: Robin is a born and raised Floridian, who once lived for 367 days in Missouri before promptly moving back. Growing up she was a competitive swimmer, and played tennis and golf, and dabbled in other sports. She moved to Tampa to study journalism and political science at USF, where she was also introduced to Rotary when she joined the new USF Rotaract Club.

Following college, Robin worked for a decade in nonprofits before launching her own business in 2019. She took her talent for picking out great gifts and planning events to create a business where she gets to help people celebrate everything! When not working, Robin spends her time volunteering with local organizations, checking out craft breweries, going to Disney, and planning future travels (she's currently working through the goal of visiting every national park).

**How long have you been a Rotarian?** Robin has been a Rotarian for 15 years. She spent her 20s in Rotaract Clubs at USF, St Louis, Pensacola, and Tampa before joining our club - thanks to



Jonathan Moore and Winnie Marvel convincing her it was the best club in the district.

***What is your favorite part of Rotary?*** Meeting people from everywhere who are all passionate about making the world a better place. I've loved visiting clubs in other cities, and going to the Rotary international conventions. Who is ready for Australia in 2023?

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