



ROTARY CLUB OF SARASOTA BAY
District 6960 Area 9
2010 DGE Sarasota Hospitality Program



Dear District Governor Elect,

On behalf of District 6960 Areas 8, 9, 10 and 11 and the **Rotary Club of Sarasota Bay** we are pleased to invite you and your guest to our 2010 DGE Hospitality Program to be held in Sarasota, on the beautiful west coast of Florida. We have presented this hospitality program for the fellowship and enjoyment of District Governors' Elect in the week prior to the International Assembly since 1974 and it is one of our favorite programs. It's our club's finest project for Fun, Fellowship, World Peace and Understanding. We all look forward to meeting you and your guest in person and sharing your stories and projects.

We extend an invitation to you and your guest to attend our 5-day home stay hospitality program. This agenda begins with your arrival on either Sunday, January 10 or Monday, January 11, 2010 and will end with your departure for San Diego, California on Saturday, January 16, 2010. You will be housed and entertained as guests of our local Rotary families. Our program will begin with mid-morning registration and the regular Rotary Club of Sarasota Bay meeting on Tuesday, January 12, 2010. There will be a "get acquainted" reception in your honor that evening. On Wednesday, January 13, 2010 we have planned a visit to Mote Marine Laboratories. This is an internationally known center for oceanographic and estuarial research - the Mote Aquarium has a beautiful display of marine life. A banquet, including banner exchanges, is scheduled for that evening. On Thursday, January 14, 2010 we have planned a visit to our newly built Riverview High School where you will be able to interact with the students and discuss each other's cultures and philosophies; so be prepared. Lunch with the students is always a highlight of this event. That evening your host families will arrange opportunities for you, your fellow DGE's and other host families and to get better acquainted. Friday, January 15, 2010 you will experience our famous Wilderness Barbecue featuring local foods in the Myakka State Park where Florida wild life abounds.

In between all these wonderful attractions there will be time for some unplanned activities such as visiting our beaches, which are considered some of the finest in the world, wine tasting, art galleries, perhaps a night at the Van Wezel, a world-class performing arts center, and plenty more. Sarasota is also famous for its many golf courses and tennis facilities. Sarasota is home to the Sarasota Orchestra, and to the John and Mabel Ringling Museum of Art, which houses the largest collection of the works of Peter Paul Rubens outside of Europe - our 2010 hospitality program promises to be the best year yet.

Your home stay will begin with your arrival at the Sarasota/Bradenton International Airport (SRQ) where you will be met by your hosts. Please advise me by email the airline and flight number. If you are unable obtain a convenient connection to Sarasota/Bradenton, you may fly into Tampa International Airport (TPA) which is just over an hour away from Sarasota. Often it is less expensive to fly into Tampa. We will help you arrange to be met by a limousine for a cost of about \$75 - \$100 per trip (at your own expense) or you may prefer to arrange for the freedom of having a rental car at your disposal while you are here.

Your home stay program officially ends after the Wilderness Barbecue on Friday, January 15, 2010, however, each host family is looking forward to having you stay with them until your departure for the International Assembly on Saturday, January 16.

You will need to make arrangements to fly on to San Diego, California on Saturday, January 16th, 2010. Your host will drive you to Sarasota/Bradenton International Airport.

Please complete and send the enclosed reservation form along with a bank draft for the registration fee of US\$450 as soon as possible. You may also pay via MasterCard or Visa (*see registration form*). Since this is not a for-profit venture, your registration fee helps defray some of our expense.

Attendance is limited, so please send your registration form, photos, and registration fee at your earliest convenience; shortly after we will email you with the contact details of your host.

Send the completed registration form and all other correspondence to:

Gail Maynard
PAG and Chair DGE Home Stay Program
Rotary Club of Sarasota Bay
852 Hudson Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34236 - USA

Tel: 001-941-957- 4127 (residence)
Tel: 001-941-320-4193 (cellular)
E-Mail: ggmaynard@comcast.net

Yours in the Service of Rotary,

Gail Maynard

Gail Maynard
PAG and Chair DGE Homestay Program
The Rotary Club of Sarasota Bay
Sarasota, FL USA

A Special Note

This will be the 36th year of the DGE Florida Hospitality Program sponsored by the Rotary Club of Sarasota Bay. We recognize the unique opportunity for DGEs around the world to experience, first hand, the American culture as it is lived in Southwest Florida. The most rewarding feature of the program is having you and your guest in the homes of local Rotarians and friends of Rotary. The friendships you develop here will last a lifetime. In order to make your stay as enjoyable as possible, we would like to offer some thoughts for your consideration:

- Your home-stay hosts are looking forward to your visit. They will enjoy opening their homes to you, cooking for you and serving the types of food we enjoy in Southwest Florida. If you have allergies or other reasons why you cannot eat some types of foods, your hosts will try to accommodate your needs.
- We have some of the finest restaurants in Florida serving all kinds of cuisine. Please let us know if you have special requirements during your home stay when you complete your registration form.
- The Program Committee, your hosts and others are working hard to plan some activities to entertain you and to show you things we are proud of as Floridians and Americans – we sincerely hope you will enjoy them. You may wish to bring a jacket or cardigan sweater just in case it gets a little chilly and be sure to include comfortable walking shoes.
- There will be a reasonable amount of unscheduled time for you to visit the local attractions (beaches, art galleries, museums, theaters and great shopping) with your hosts or for you to explore the area on your own. There will not be time during this week to visit cities other than Sarasota. Florida is a large state and driving times to other cities make it difficult to see all you might wish to see without planning those visits prior to your arrival in Sarasota.
- We would very much appreciate that you do not schedule activities that conflict with the planned activities of the program and those of your host.

The links below may prove informative:

Rotary District 6960

<http://www.rotarydistrict6960.org/>

Sarasota/ Bradenton Int'l Airport:

<http://www.srq-airport.com/>

Sarasota Visitors Bureau:

<http://www.sarasotafl.org/>

Chamber of Commerce:

<http://www.sarasotachamber.com/>

Sarasota Government:

<http://www.scgov.net/>

Sarasota "Herald Tribune":

<http://www.heraldtribune.com/>

Mote Marine Laboratory:

<http://www.mote.org/>

Riverview High School:

<http://www.sarasota.k12.fl.us/RHS/>

Ringling Museum:

<http://www.ringling.org/>

Marie Selby Botanical Garden:

<http://www.selby.org/>

Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall:

<http://www.vanwezel.org/>

Sarasota Orchestra:

<http://www.sarasotaorchestra.org/>

This is truly a wonderful time to meet new friends, share ideas for projects, and to discuss the many Rotary International programs.

A detailed schedule of the planned activities will be available in mid-November.

ROTARY CLUB OF SARASOTA BAY

DGE Hospitality Program 2010

RESERVATION FORM:

Please complete and return this reservation form as soon as possible.

Please type or print.

DGE Last Name: _____ District Number: _____

DGE First Name: _____ Badge Name: _____

Guest Name: _____ Badge Name: _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Country _____

Phone #: Residence _____ Business _____

Give all numbers & include country code and area or city code

E-Mail Residence: _____ E-Mail Business: _____

Flight Information: (email later once we have confirmed application) Arrival Date _____

Airline: _____ Flight # _____ Time of Arrival in: Sarasota _____

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:



Classification _____ Business/Profession _____

Hobbies _____ Interests _____

Spouse's Hobbies & Interests _____

Are you or your spouse smokers? _____ Vegetarian? _____ Any Allergies? _____

Other Info? _____

Name on Card: _____	Expiration Date: ____/____/____	CVN # _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 	Card # _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> 	Registration Fee: \$450 US	
Signature: _____		

We request your **completed reservation form with photographs and a small biography** of you and your guest as soon as possible. Single or combined photographs are acceptable; 5 cm x 6.5 cm or larger please. We publish a booklet listing all participants as a remembrance of your visit – you will also receive a photographic memento for all the DGE's taken by a renowned Sarasota photographer.

You may send by email or by postal mail and enclose the registration fee of US\$450 by bank draft or complete the credit card information above if you prefer.

Please have your registration forms to us as soon as possible or by the latest **October 1, 2009**. Upon receipt of your registration form, we will *acknowledge your reservation by return email*. We will **confirm** your reservation immediately **when payment is received**.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE TO:

Gail Maynard
PAG and Chair DGE Hospitality Program
Rotary Club of Sarasota Bay
852 Hudson Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34236 – USA

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