

# January 2023

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#### **OFFICERS**

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**President-Elect** Elizabeth K. Wessel

Vice President Francis Rooney

Past President Susan S. Jones

**Secretary**William D. Swartz,
D.V.M.

**Treasurer** John C. Smarge

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#### **Karl Rove**

Former Senior Advisor to President George Bush Monday, January 9, 2023 **Hilton Naples** 

Karl Rove, an iconic political strategist and one of the most sought-after political brains of our time, is best known for his provocative and robust knowledge of the major

political issues of the day. Mr. Rove served as Senior Advisor to President George W. Bush from 2000–2007 and Deputy Chief of Staff from 2004–2007. At the White House he oversaw the Offices of Strategic Initiatives, Political Affairs, Public Liaison, and Intergovernmental Affairs and was Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy, coordinating the White House policy-making process. Before Karl Rove became known as "The Architect" of President Bush's 2000 and 2004 campaigns, he was president of Karl Rove + Company, an Austin-based public affairs firm that worked for Republican candidates, non-partisan causes, and non-profit groups. Today, Mr. Rove writes a weekly op-ed for the Wall Street Journal, is a Fox News contributor and is the author of the newly released book, The Triumph of William McKinley: Why the Election of 1896 Still Matters, and the New York Times Bestseller, Courage and Consequence.

Due to constraints with the aftermath of Hurrican Ian, no guest tickets will be available on this date.



Ginni Rometty Former CEO, IBM Friday, January 20, 2023 **The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort** 

Beginning her career with IBM in 1981, Virginia M. Rometty held a series of leadership positions across the company and led the successful integration of PricewaterhouseCoopers Consulting, creating a global team of more than 100,000 business consultants and

services experts. She became Chairman President and CEO of IBM in 2012 and retired from the company on December 31, 2020. During

J. Douglas Gray Paul Greenberg Raynelle Heidrick James P. Johannsen William R. Johnson Richard H. Lenny James R. Lozelle Janet P. Rathbun Kenneth R. Reeves Ronald N. Riner, M.D. Cherry W. Smith Adria D. Starkey Jav B. Stephens William H. Strong Inge G. Thulin Robert S. Troth

her tenure she made bold changes to reposition IBM for the future, investing in high value segments of the IT market and optimizing the company's portfolio. Under Rometty's leadership, IBM built out key capabilities in hybrid cloud, security, quantum computing, industry expertise, and data and AI. IBM acquired 65 companies during Rometty's tenure as CEO, including Red Hat, the largest acquisition in the company's history. She reinvented more than 50 percent of IBM's portfolio, built a \$21 billion hybrid cloud business and established IBM's leadership in AI, quantum computing and blockchain.

Rometty also established IBM as the model of responsible stewardship in the digital age. She was the industry's leading voice on technology ethics and data stewardship, working relentlessly to safely usher new technologies into society. She enabled people of diverse backgrounds and education levels to participate in the digital economy by building talent, skills and opportunity for disadvantaged populations. She also helped to redefine the purpose of the corporation through her work with the Business Roundtable, expanding corporate commitments to include a wide range of stakeholders, from customers to communities.

She serves on the Board of Directors of JPMorgan Chase, the Board of Trustees of Northwestern University, where she is a Vice Chair, the Board of Trustees of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, the Board of Trustees of the Brookings Institute, and the Council on Foreign Relations. Rometty is also a member of the Tsinghua University School of Economics and Management Advisory Board, the Singapore Economic Development Board International Advisory Council, and the BDT Capital Advisory Board.

Rometty has a Bachelor of Science degree with high honors in computer science and electrical engineering from Northwestern University, where she later was awarded an honorary degree. She also has honorary degrees from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and North Carolina State University.

### Guest Ticket Request for January 20, 2023 Retired CEO of IBM, Ginni Rometty

To place a request for one guest ticket, please submit to:

### forumclub@theforumclub.org

If guest tickets are available,

requests are processed in order of receipt and must be received by

January 13, 2023

They will be mailed by that date, and you will be billed for \$90, or notified if there is no space.

Tickets are non-exchangeable and non-refundable.

### FORUM CLUB SPEAKER SELECTION

The Program Committee's goal is to bring the best speakers to the Forum Club. The criteria for the speaker selection requires that each speaker have a reputation as an outstanding well-respected leader and role model in his/her area of expertise.

To offer program variety, speakers are selected from the government, corporate, financial, international, media, health care, technology, and other fields.

This year's Program Committee, chaired by President-Elect Beth Wessel, has begun its efforts to secure speakers for next season.

While the Forum Club provides for transportation and hotel expenses, it does not offer its speakers honoraria. The Club encourages all members to assist in securing potential speakers with whom they have contact. If you have a suggestion of a potential speaker, please contact the Forum Club office or Program Committee Chair, Beth Wessel.

### 2022-2023 SPEAKER PROGRAM

Kristi Noem

November 18, 2022

Governor of South Dakota

**Michael Pompeo** 

December 9, 2022

Former Secretary of State

KARL ROVE

January 7, 2022

Former Senior Advisor to President George W. Bush

**GINNI ROMETTY** 

January 20, 2023

Retried CEO, IBM

**CHRIS CASSIDY** 

February 10, 2023

Astronaut, SEAL

LARRY P. ARNN, PH.D.

February 17, 2023

President, Hillsdale College

STEPHEN J. HEMSLEY

March 3, 2023

Non-Executive Chair of the Board, UnitedHealth Group

**VINITA GUPTA** 

March 17, 2023

CEO, Lupin Pharmaceuticals

RICHARD K. DAVIS

March 31, 2023

CEO, Make-A-Wish Foundation

**BRIAN LAMB** 

April 14, 2023

Chair of the Florida State University System Board of Governors

Northeast Segment Head, JP Morgan Chase & Co.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Forum Club's mission is to:

- Provide a congenial meeting atmosphere for members to enjoy prominent speakers in fields such as academia, business, economics, finance, government, health, international relations, media and the arts, science and technology
- *Promote the highest civic, moral and ethical standards*
- Share the "Forum Club Experience" with outstanding high school students in Collier County.
- Provide scholarships to Collier County high school students

# PAST PRESIDENTS

Susan S. Jones 2021-2022

Clark T. Randt, Jr. 2020-2021

Edward J. Putzell Jr.\* 2001-2002

Linda C. Flewelling 2000-2001

Joseph G. Fogg, III Thomas E. Ingram 2019-2020 Verne G. Istock Carol E. Girardin 2018-2019 Richard S. Bodman R. James Harvey\* 2017-2018 Melvin C. Short Jr. Raymond Mueller\* 2016-2017 **Shelly Church** Donald J. York 2015-2016 Thomas B. Wheeler John M. Passidomo 2014-2015 William C. Sinclair\* William F. Allyn 2013-2014 Thomas A. Bringardner 2012-2013 David A. Rismiller\* 2011-2012 **Ulla Norris** 2010-2011 Wade F. Keller 2009-2010

John T. Duffner\* 1991 Alan R. Korest 1990 Tom Shea\*

1989 Corbin A. Wyant Alan M. Horton 2008-2009 1988

Malcolm B. Chancey Jr. Robert D. Stakich\* 2007-2008 1987 W. Wallace Abbott

Brenda C. Wilson 1986

> Leonard F. Llewellyn\* 1985

1999-2000

1998-1999

1997-1998

1996-1997

1995

1994

1993

Joe B. Cox

1992

William S. Gentry\* Founder

\*deceased

2006-2007 Carl J. Kuehner

2005-2006

Richard I. Wilson\* 2004-2005

William E. Hoglund\* 2003-2004

L. Lindsey Halstead\* 2002-2003

### **INQUIRIES**

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