

**Sarasota Chef Serves Up Sides of History & Nostalgia** – Hidden away off the main road is a little place of circus history. **Bob's Train** is a restaurant and museum comprised of four modern 45-foot railroad cars. The oldest railroad car is the JoMar that was custom built, steel constructed for John and Mable Ringling in 1916. The JoMar is undergoing renovations. The other three railroad cars were used by the Ringling Bros. Circus. 1000+ framed photos cover the walls of two of the cars and tell much of Sarasota's history. We will join Bob for coffee and donuts while he shares some history.

**American Troubadour – Bill Schustik** travels all over America, 2,000 villages and towns, gathering songs and sowing legends. He makes history come alive in songs and story. The tools of his trade include his guitar and banjo along with his baritone voice. He has performed at the White House, singing songs of Civil War, love, and Americana.

**History of Florida Native American Tribes** – Don Saba returns to share with us a seminar that describes the original Indigenous tribes of Florida when the Spanish arrived. He will discuss the demise of the original Indigenous tribes by the early 1700s and the arrival of the Seminole and Miccosukee tribes of Florida and how groups of Indians of Southeastern United States became known as the Seminoles. Finally, he will outline the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Seminole Wars and the ongoing conflict with the "cracker" pioneers from the 1700s through the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Seminole War in 1858.

**Manufacturer of Fire Vehicles – Pierce Manufacturing Inc.** is one of the largest manufacturing companies of customized fire and rescue vehicles in the United States. The company is a subsidiary of Oshkosh Corporation in Wisconsin. In 1913 Humphrey Pierce and son Dudley established Pierce Manufacturing Inc. Both father and son operated Pierce Auto Body Works Inc, which built truck bodies for Ford Model Ts.

**Only Full Service Fixed-Wing Aviation Operation in Sarasota – Dolphin Aviation** is home to various businesses including flight school, aircraft sales, and service to aircraft owners and operators, passengers, and crew. Dolphin Aviation started in 1969. Ron Ciaravilla, a flight instructor, purchased the company in 1979. He tripled its size from 9 to 25 acres. After 44 years of operating Dolphin Aviation, Ciaravilla died in 2021. His wife sold the business to Hawthorne Global in 2023.

**T. Mabry Carlton Jr. Memorial Reserve & Water Treatment Plant** – In 1982, the citizens of Sarasota voted and passed a referendum of up to \$30 million to purchase a tract of land in eastern Sarasota County that the Ringling Brothers purchased in the 1920s. The county voters wanted the land for a water wellfield along with conservation and recreational uses. They established a 24,565 acre-preserve that has 100 miles of hiking, equestrian and biking trails. The water treatment plant provides six million gallons of treated drinking water per day. The plant distributes the potable water through 1,400 miles of pipes to service 268,000 county residents and businesses. This is the largest of three treatment plants in Sarasota County. The water comes from 16 wells on the Carlton Reserve. We will visit both facilities.

### BECOME A PATRON

For as little as \$50 per year, an ACE Patron receives priority registration for a year, a free class/lecture each term (chosen by the ACE staff), and other benefits.

### REFUND POLICY

Refunds available only if ACE is notified 48 HOURS (excluding weekends/holidays) PRIOR TO THE START OF CLASS. A \$15 transaction fee will be imposed for all student-generated withdrawals. NO REFUNDS ONCE

### QUESTIONS?

Contact instructor at  
941-921-9392 or  
BrendaLeeHickman@comcast.net



*Classroom on Wheels  
50th Anniversary  
1974-2024*



School Bus-Based  
Traveling Classroom

**EXPLORING  
SARASOTA & MANATEE  
COUNTIES**

**Winter 2024**

**ace-sarasota.com  
941-361-6590**

***Classroom on Wheels  
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**CLASSROOM ON WHEELS** is a school bus-based traveling classroom offering weekly half-day field trips throughout Sarasota and Manatee Counties. Since 1974, we have been providing an in-depth look into local business and industry, social services, government, religion, education, arts and culture, as well as history. Celebrating our 50th year serving the community, we have visited and/or educated our students on over 1,400 places and people. Choose from Wednesday, Thursday or Friday morning sessions.

**New to the community?**

This class provides the perfect introduction to the greater Sarasota area.

**Longtime resident?**

Find a new perspective as you experience your changing and growing community.

**REGISTER FOR** an opportunity to meet the people who shape the community while traveling to local destinations you may not have even known existed. We are sure you'll gain a new found appreciation for this amazing place we all call home.

***Classroom on Wheels  
50th Anniversary  
1974-2024***

**All 8 CLASSES for \$179!!**  
**Wednesdays, Jan. 24 - March 13**  
**Thursdays, Jan. 25 - March 14**  
**Fridays, Jan. 26 - March 15**

(Classes meet once per week,  
9:00 am - 12:30 pm)  
Meet the bus at 9:00 AM

## REGISTRATION

**Patrons**

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

**ONLINE**

Monday, December 4, 2023  
[ace-sarasota.com](http://ace-sarasota.com)

Telephone/In Person  
December 4—22, 2023  
Resumes January 8, 2024  
4748 Beneva Road  
Sarasota, FL 34233  
(941) 361-6590

We are located on the Suncoast Technical  
College (STC) campus, west end of  
Building 3.

**Join us for a year of celebrating our  
50th Anniversary!**

**All Students Will Ride the COW Bus!**

**Bus Pick-Up Location** Park on the Suncoast Technical College campus at 4748 Beneva Road. Enter the campus off Proctor Road and drive to the northwest corner across from Building 5. Park near the fence that is adjacent to the baseball fields.

**CLASS TOPICS**

**Winter 2024 Series #190**

**Hunter/Jumpers** – Venice is home to one of very few privately family-owned and operated equestrian facilities in the State of Florida - **Fox Lea Farm**. The farm is a nationally recognized championship-level horse show facility. Attracting competitors from all over the country and internationally, they host 30 shows a year. We will observe a hunter/jumper competition during our visits. In 1983, the family purchased 40 acres of land and established the farm and horse show facility. Today, three generations of family engage in the operation. Clay and Kim Farrell operate a show stable that produces top horses and riders.

**Florida Weather is No Joke-It is News** - We will meet with the meteorological staff of WWSB - ABC7 television. They forecast the weather for the Suncoast area of Sarasota and Manatee Counties. Weather broadcasters provide essential information about daily and weekly forecasts including temperature and precipitation. They go to significant effort to educate their viewers about maps and radar, threats of hurricanes, red tide, heat alerts, and more. They are award-winning members of the community.

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