

# Rotary



## Club of Wauwatosa

### Welcome to the Rotary Club of Wauwatosa

Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

Rotary club membership represents a cross-section of the community's business and professional men and women. The world's Rotary clubs meet weekly and are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds.

Rotary membership provides the opportunity to: Become connected to your community. Work with others in addressing community needs. Interact with other professionals in your community; assist with RI's international humanitarian service efforts. Establish contacts with an international network of professionals. Develop leadership skills. Involve family in promoting service efforts.



### Newsletter - July 8, 2020

By John Bauer, PhD

July 8, 2020

President Rick Steinberg called the second in-person meeting of the post-pandemic era to order and led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Three members joined the hybrid meeting via Zoom. Monsignor Meylor provided a timely invocation.

We were pleased to recognize Bill and Rita Makal on their 19th wedding anniversary which they will observe on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Robert Niedermann celebrated 20 years as a Wauwatosa Rotarian on July 5<sup>th</sup>. Some suggested that he was the second-best Rotarian ever sponsored by Pat Meylor!

Among various announcements, Anne Neafie informed the club that she has appointed a three-person Nominating Committee for the four officer positions on the Foundation Board. They are to

### Club Meeting

Wauwatosa  
Meets at Radisson Hotel Milwaukee West  
2303 N. Mayfair Road  
Wauwatosa, WI 53226  
Time: Wednesday at 12:00 PM

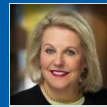
### Events / Speakers

No Events found

### Club Leaders



[Rick David Steinberg](#)  
President



[Anne Ruttger Neafie](#)  
President - Elect



[John A. Sebald](#)  
Vice President



[Robert P. Niedermann CPA](#)  
Treasurer



[James M. Del Balso DDS](#)  
Bulletin Editor



[Peter M. Skanavis](#)  
Public Relations Chair



[Richard Frenn](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Jonathan Lorenzen](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Aaron D. Sebald](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms

[John C. Ericson](#)  
Club Executive Secretary  
Webmaster

submit a slate of candidates by July 22 so the club can elect officers at the Foundation's annual meeting on August 5<sup>th</sup> (in complete compliance with the Foundation's bylaws!!)

President Rick announced that the schedule of program chairs has been generated by Craig Schmutzer and will be distributed shortly. Members are reminded that they are to inform Secretary John Ericson and President Rick of who will be speaking and to make sure that any necessary media support is available.

On September 9 our new 6270 District Governor will visit our club and meet with the Board of Directors.

President Rick encouraged members to complete the Club Health Check, an RI tool that enables clubs to identify their strengths and opportunities for growth. He emailed the link out last week. Any member who did not receive the survey should contact Rick so he can resend the link.

John Bauer described a process by which members can sign up to attend upcoming meetings. Because we must provide a hard lunch count for the hotel, members need to let John know by each Tuesday noon if they are going to attend so he can call the hotel with the number.

There is no program scheduled for today, President Rick continued his club organizing discussion from last week. As a follow up to several service project ideas, it was mentioned that there is great eagerness by the City to have organizations such as Rotary host events at the Rotary Stage. However, they are following CDC guidelines and restrict attendance to not more than 50 people at a time, even though it is an outdoor venue. This would rule out any kind of concert.

Paul Vandeveld reported that the Milwaukee River Revitalization Foundation is not accepting volunteers for a river clean up project at this time. He will monitor and inform us of when such a project might be possible.

President Rick next raised the important issue of membership and recruited himself, Paul Vandeveld and John Sebald to serve on a Membership Committee. Ideas were solicited, some of which included:

- Tom Kirchen suggested not charging prospective members dues for the first six months. During this probationary period, prospects would attend meetings, participate in club activities, but only pay for lunches.
- Robert Niedermann suggested that the probationary period extend only three months. Recruits would not be listed as members for RI purposes so we would be charged by RI for the magazine and insurance. Instead, their applications would be held until inducted.
- Two significant issues were raised that affect the capacity of the club to recruit younger members: the fact that the average age of the club is 70 and that we have never clearly defined the value proposition for club membership.
- Bill Bode noted that businesses that have succeeded through the pandemic are those that have found ways to market and sell products and services through social media and internet-based platforms, suggesting that to reach younger businesspeople, our club needs to ramp up its social media presence.
- There is plenty of research to suggest that millennials are not as likely to be attracted by membership as they are by opportunities for engagement and participation in activities that have an impact on their local community.
- While our club has sponsored an Interact Club at Kingdom Prep, there are very few Rotaract clubs in our area, and only two are university-based. This might be an avenue to pursue.

The issue of fundraising will be discussed at the July 29<sup>th</sup> Club Assembly. John Bauer, Tom Kirchen, and Rich Mannisto will serve as the core group of this committee. So far, ♦Kids, Nuts and Coffee♦ are the established fundraising activities, but more ideas are always welcome.



[Craig Schmutzer](#)  
Club Programs Chair



[John Edward Bauer](#)  
iPast President



## Years of Service

No Years Of Service Found

President Rick went so far as to purchase the ♦Best Joke Book♦ book. If his first joke was any indication, he should ask for his money back. Perhaps Rich Mannisto will buy it from him??!!

Respectfully Submitted,

John E. Bauer, secretary *pro tempore*.

