

# 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.



## Best Coffee In Town!

By John C Ericson on Saturday, August 29, 2020



### Club Meeting

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

### Events / Speakers

January 13th  
[David Crowley, Milwaukee County Executive](#)

January 20th  
[David Locher, from Milwaukee County Transit System and Mike Zabe](#)

### Club Leaders



[Rick David Steinberg](#)  
President



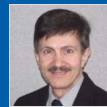
[Anne Ruttger Neafie](#)  
President - Elect



[John A. Sebald](#)  
Vice President



[Robert P. Niedermann CPA](#)  
Treasurer



[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

## Newsletter - January 13, 2021

By John Edward Bauer  
The Rotary Club of Wauwatosa  
Meeting Gazette  
January 13, 2021

Our meeting today began customarily with President Rick leading our sturdy little group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Roger Walsh offered an invocation calling for peace and reconciliation ♦ very appropriate in light of recent events in Washington.

A missed opportunity to sing passed us by today. Paul Roller celebrated his 84<sup>th</sup> birthday on Monday, January 11. Happy Birthday, Paul!!

There being no other business or announcements today, Anne Neafie introduced our speaker, Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley. Mr. Crowley was elected last year to succeed Chris Ebele. He had served in the Wisconsin State Assembly before assuming his office as County Executive. A life-long resident of Milwaukee, his passion for this City and the County were evident.

Declaring racism as a public health crisis has placed racial equality at the forefront of his policy and program initiatives. It is a well-documented fact that significant disparities exist between black and majority populations in terms of access to quality health care, jobs, and housing. Milwaukee is the second most unhealthy city in Wisconsin.

He outlined three strategies to address this condition: 1) implementation of practices that reflect intentional inclusion, 2) bridging the gap, i.e., breaking down silos in government, and 3) investing inequality by funding programs of community intervention, violence prevention, and employment.

The County was able to utilize resources from the CARES Act to launch several of these initiatives. \$60 million from the federal government combined with \$15 million from the State has enabled the County to invest \$27 million in access to health care and \$11.5 million in grants to small businesses.

In the larger picture, the growing budget deficit problem remains daunting for the County. Since 2012 the budget gap has grown to \$30 million, due in large measure to the fact that the money sent to the State of Wisconsin to meet State mandates far exceeds the amount of revenue returned to the Country by the State. Because legislation to address this condition has not been forthcoming, a coalition of County and municipal leaders have been advocating a 1% local sales tax option to reverse the deficit trend. If approved, the measure would include some property tax relief.

In a post-pandemic world, Mr. Crowley envisions Milwaukee County emerging as the regional leader among surrounding counties and municipalities to function efficiently and effectively.

Responding to a question about the East-West Corridor rapid transit project, plans are on track to have the system installed by early 2022. It will connect downtown Milwaukee with the Regional Medical Center with much of the track running down Bluemound Road.

Fielding another question about the virus vaccine, Mr. Crowley indicated that the County has little role to play in its distribution, that being managed by the federal and state governments.

We thank Mr. Crowley for sharing his vision for Milwaukee County and we wish him well in his leadership role.

There being no other business, President Rick attempted to close the meeting with a selection from the *World's Greatest Joke Book*. However, a successful bid of \$30 to the Foundation from our joke-hating curmudgeon, Rich Mannisto, thwarted Rick's effort. Rick will have to defer sharing his humorous stories to a



Craig Schmutzer  
Club Programs Chair



John Edward Bauer  
iPast President



### Years of Service

Barry Weber  
03-01-2000  
21 Years

Anne Ruttger Neafie  
02-18-2009  
12 Years

Christine Lynn Merritt  
02-15-2017  
4 Years

time when Rich is absent!

Respectfully submitted, your humble Gazeteer,

John E. Bauer

