

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

No Events found

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

[Craig Schmutzer](#)

Newsletter - January 20, 2021

By John Edward Bauer

The Rotary Club of Wauwatosa
Jots and Tittles
January 20, 2021

Our meeting was called to order by President-Elect Anne Neafie who stepped in for our mysteriously absent President. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, our designated prayer boy Jonathan Lorenzen offered an inauguration-appropriate invocation.

Under the banner of happy/sad news, the following items of interest were registered:

- Because of an oversight, the club had neglected to sign Happy Birthday to Paul Roller who turned 84 last week. We tried to make up for it by regaling him with song. (Your humble bulletin scribe was later informed that the club had already sung birthday wishes to Paul on January 6th, one full week ahead of his birthday!). Oy! Let's get the dates straight.
- Gerv Rose announced that he had a pacemaker installed two weeks ago not by a doctor, but by an electrician. How fitting! Maybe Roman Electric should consider a new line of service!
- Robert Niedermann shared thank you notes from the Wauwatosa Food Pantry and Tosa Cares for our support of these two important sources of food.
- For those who did not receive the announcement from John Ericson, long-time former Rotarian Dick Mossey passed away. Besides being Wauwatosa's chief health officer, Dr. Mossey led a most interesting life as a doctor, war-time spy, and excellent magician!
- John Bauer announced that our club has been approved by Tosa Tonight to use the Rotary Stage to host the Kids from Wisconsin premiere performance on July 4th. However, according to Jim Del Balso, the Wauwatosa Civic Celebration will be held on July 5th. Efforts will be made to adjust the Kids schedule, but regardless of whether the concert is on the 4th or the 5th, advertising and sponsorships will have to be obtained. John will finalize dates and times and get materials to members.

Gerv Rose introduced the program for the day. David Locher from the Milwaukee County Transit System and Mike Zabel, an engineer working with the County on design and approval, joined us via ZOOM to talk about the East/West Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system that will be installed beginning this spring. This is a topic of particular interest since its route will travel down Bluemound Road from Hawley Road to 95th Street before turning into the Milwaukee Regional Medical Complex.

Mr. Locher described the BRT as not so much a new product but more as an enhancement to the existing bus system. Driven by the need to provide transportation to jobs, meeting the needs of a next-generation workforce, and the hope of economic development along the route, the BRT will be part of a multi-modal system.

Distinguishing features of the BRT include unique branding, specialized battery/electric buses, transit-only lanes on Wisconsin Avenue, raised station platforms, off-board fare collection, transit signal priority, fewer stops, and more frequent service.

The rationale for developing the BRT is grounded in its cost-effectiveness, efficiency, improved service, the fact that it will be part of a multi-modal system will spur economic development and will mitigate traffic congestion.

Mr. Zabel provided additional technical details about the BRT which has been fully designed and funded and is ready for construction bidding. The installation will begin this spring.



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

Throughout the design process, public comment was sought with over 150 meetings being held to obtain input.

The BRT will have 18 stations beginning at Wisconsin Avenue and Van Buren downtown, and ending at a recharging station on Watertown Plank Road after winding through the Medical Complex. The BRT will replace the current Gold Line and will run with more frequency (10-minute intervals during optimum hours), will reduce automobile congestion, and will provide more regular and predictable times because of its ability to affect traffic signals.

The cost of \$55.5 million will be covered by a federal grant that covers 80% with the County contributing the other 20% from County Transit funds. The money is in hand so the project can proceed. We look forward to seeing whether this new transit system will deliver what has been promised.

Thank you, gentlemen, for a most interesting presentation.

Our late-arriving President closed the meeting with an off-the-cuff joke about a husband and wife and a genie. (You'll have to ask Rick to retell the joke. At least it was better than some from his joke book!)

Respectfully Submitted,

John E. Bauer, your humble jotter and tittler.

UPCOMING COMMITMENTS:

Invocation Program

January 27 John Bauer John Ericson
February 3 Paul Roller Peter Skanavis
February 10 Bill Bode John Sebald
February 17 Peter Skanavis TBA
February 24 Paul Vandeveld TBA