

# Rotary



# Club of Wauwatosa

## Newsletter - January 27, 2021

By John Edward Bauer

The Rotary Club of Wauwatosa  
Record of a Meeting  
January 27, 2021

President-elect Anne Neafie again stood in for our wayward president who was in court today. Those lawyers! You ♦♦ think they had an obligation to their clients or something! At any rate, Anne capably chaired our meeting, beginning with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Your humble recorder pulled an invocation out of his sleeve invoking God to restore peace in our nation and our communities.

Among items of interest ♦♦ both happy and sad ♦♦ your humble bulletin editor noted that a conversation with Peter Holz, president of the Tosa Tonight Board of Directors, has confirmed our desire to host the Kids from Wisconsin for their premiere performance on July 4 at the Rotary Stage in Hart Park. While many details remain to be worked out, not the least of which will be restrictions imposed by the City ♦♦s Health Department, we are proceeding on the assumption that the event will take place.

Robert Niedermann announced that with the decline in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations, the State Fair Park emergency ICU facility may be restored for use and that the annual TrainFest will take place after a one-year hiatus.

Various concerns were expressed about fellow Rotarian Craig Schmutzer, noting that he is on the schedule to do the invocation next week. [Editor ♦♦s note: Actually, Craig is scheduled for March 3, not February 3. Paul Roller is up for next week. See assignments below.] We continue to wish for peace and comfort for Craig and his family.

Speaking of Bill Bode, it was reported in the Waukesha Freeman that Bill and his partners are going to begin construction on a 24-unit apartment building off Brookfield Road, North of Galleria West. Lucky for Bill our club does not charge fines for appearing in the paper!

And speaking of apartment buildings, Peter Skanavis will introduce Johnny Vassallo, owner of Mo ♦♦s Irish Pub, who will speak about his proposal to build a large apartment complex on the site of the former Eduardo ♦♦s Pizza at Hwy. 100 and Bluemound Road. Hopefully, we will be able to understand the difference between ♦♦density ♦♦ and ♦♦height. ♦♦

Lastly, Anne reported that the funeral for Bob Nelson ♦♦s father will take place on February 5 at St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Brookfield with the visitation beginning at 10:00 and the service taking place at 11:00.

Anne introduced our speaker for the day, fellow member Aaron Sebald, who passed his ♦♦rite of initiation ♦♦ by offering up his classification talk. Using a slick PowerPoint presentation produced by his youngest daughter, Aaron walked us through the high points of his life. Born in 1966 in Tawas City, Michigan, Aaron ♦♦s parents moved to Wauwatosa when he was but one year old so his father could serve as the librarian at Wisconsin Lutheran High School, a post he held for decades until retiring.

## 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. Ericsen](#)  
Club Executive Secretary  
Webmaster

[Craig Schmutzer](#)

Aaron is the youngest of eight children. His parents' legacy includes 23 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren. Aaron's family resided in the home adjacent to Wisconsin Lutheran College on Bluemound Road and he shared a few anecdotes about the residents of the predecessor institution smoking cigarettes on the wall and throwing eggs. Later, after the College acquired the property, Aaron and his siblings would scale the wall at night to go swimming in the College's pool. His parents eventually sold their home to WLC in 1989 so it could be torn down to make way for new freshmen dormitories.

Aaron's education began at St. John's Lutheran School where his mother Alice taught 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades. (Aside: Your humble gazetteer mentioned that his three sons were taught by Alice!) Aaron graduated from WISCO in 1984, proudly pointing the fact that he never set foot in the library. He attended Northwestern College in Watertown, graduating after five years, and attended Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Thiensville for a year and a half before deciding that pastoral ministry was not for him.

On December 30, 1989, Aaron married his wife Ann who, as his father opined, "Was the best thing that ever happened to him." Together, they have a son and two daughters. Recently, they became grandparents to Levi, their first grandchild.

Aaron went to work for Miller Brands where he held various jobs for over 23 years. Former boss Paul Roller sponsored Aaron as a member of our club. Rich Mannisto is his current boss at WLC where Aaron has worked since 2006, first in donor cultivation and since 2019, as the Director of Corporate Partnerships.

Aaron professes to have few outside interests other than music, Formula One racing, and hosting parties. Above all, he loves spending free time with his family.

At this stage of his life, Aaron has arrived at two significant realizations. First, that there is more to life than just self and second, having had to deal with the deaths of his mother, father, one brother, and a sister-in-law in the space of a year, that life is best spent in commitment to be of service to others.

Thanks, Aaron, for an interesting and inspiring presentation.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, your sesquipedalian scrivener,

John E. Bauer

#### UPCOMING COMMITMENTS

Invocations February 3 Paul Roller  
February 10 Bill Bode  
February 17 Peter Skanavis

Speakers February 3 Peter Skanavis (Johnny Vassallo)  
February 10 John Sebald TBA  
February 17 TBA

## Best Coffee In Town!

By John C Ericson on Saturday, August 29, 2020



Club Programs Chair



[John Edward Bauer](#)  
iPast President

## Years of Service

Paul Alan Vandeveld  
04-02-2014  
7 Years

Rick David Steinberg  
04-05-2017  
4 Years

