

Rotary



Club of Wauwatosa

Newsletter - February 17, 2021

By John Edward Bauer

The Rotary Club of Wauwatosa
Jetsam and Flotsam

From the Wreckage of a Meeting Held on February 17, 2021

The official ship's log of the Rotary Club of Wauwatosa, scribbled by your faithful and humble boatswain. We were again graced by the virtual appearance of members Gordie Bills, Tom Kirchen, and John Ericson. Between those present in person and the digital images on the screen, we had 21 in attendance today!

The meeting was convened today by His Royal Admiral-ness, Rick Steinberg, who led our stalwart group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Peter Skanavis offered a tightly constructed, succinct, and poignant invocation.

Member birthdays ♦ Christine Merritt celebrated her birthday on the 16th and, even though his birthday isn't until next week, John Ericson was serenaded with ♦Happy Birthday. He will observe his milestone on the 22nd.

Club anniversaries ♦ We also noted that Christine Merritt notched 4 years as a Rotarian on the 15th and Anne Neafie will log 12 years on the 18th.

We were shocked to learn of John Sebald's scare and wish him a speedy recovery. Sampling something you are preparing for your Sweetheart's Valentine's Day dinner isn't a good idea. John remains in the hospital but is said to be recovering.

Rich Mannisto mentioned that thanks to WLC needing an internet streaming service for a meeting at the Radisson, the hotel's internet service will be significantly upgraded.

Captain Rick provided further explanation of the machinations of the Membership Committee and its plans to host a visitor's gathering. The first task he laid upon all members was to identify at least two people who could be invited to attend.

Rick also mentioned that an imminent Board Meeting is being planned. The date has yet to be announced but will be held from 11:00 to noon on the day of a regular meeting.

President Rick then introduced the speaker for today, erstwhile member Kevin Festerling, principal and Grand Poobah of Kingdom Prep Lutheran High School. (Actually, Kevin was responsible for the program today, so he could have introduced himself, but being the self-effacing dude that he is, he allowed Rick to do the honors!)

Kingdom Prep was established in 2019 as a college-preparatory high school for boys with a special emphasis on educating minority youth from Milwaukee. Located in the former Pius XI elementary school, Kingdom Prep now has three classes of students. From the first 55 ♦Founder♦ freshmen (of whom, 51 have returned as juniors) the current freshman enrollment is 75, the maximum they can accommodate.

The mission of KPLHS is ♦Building a brotherhood in Christ for lives of purpose. ♦ Kevin described how building the concept of

Club Meeting

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

Events / Speakers

February 17th
[Kevin Festerling](#)

March 17th
[Sarah Verardo, CEO of The Independence Fund, \(Via Zoom\)](#)

Club Leaders



[Rick David Steinberg](#)
President



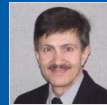
[Anne Ruttger Neafie](#)
President-Elect



[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

brotherhood begins with a three-week required leadership term in which students get to know each other, work through challenges, and build bonds based on acceptance, affirmation, and accountability for each other.

The vision of the school is for its graduates to lead in the home, serve in the Church, engage in meaningful work, and transform their communities.

The school has added athletic teams in wrestling and football and has adopted the mascot **wolfpack** to denote how the strength of a pack is the wolf and the strength of the individual wolf is in the pack. This PACK system is actualized as groups of 10 to 11 students meet each day with a staff member to discuss real-world issues, problems facing any member of the pack, and how they can be of help to each other.

Executing the school's programs is very challenging and requires many partners. Four or five seminary students volunteer entire days on campus to work with students. Counseling services from Christian Family Solutions are provided for students dealing with a range of emotional issues. Volunteer and servant leader opportunities are provided for residents in the neighborhood such as raking and snow shoveling. One large project entailed the construction of a two-car garage for a neighbor whose husband had died before it could be built.

Kevin described the importance of internships for juniors so these young men can gain some real-world work experience. Members were encouraged to think of business opportunities that might lend themselves to such paid internships.

Kevin thanked our Rotary Club for its support, not only for sponsoring the high school's Rotary Interact Club but also for being the second donor to support the school.

We thanked Kevin for an interesting update on this vitally important school in our city and wished him continued success. We also wish he would make his attendance a more frequent phenomenon.

Before adjourning the meeting, a paltry \$10 bill from Rich Mannisto was sufficient to fend off an acknowledged bad joke from our Skipper.

Respectfully Submitted,

This sinking ship's boss, chief petty officer, and collector of meeting detritus,

John E. Bauer

NEXT WEEK:

Invocation Paul Vandeveld
Speaker Aaron Sebald will introduce Mr. Jeffrey Gilane from Elite Hearing Centers

UPCOMING COMMITMENTS:

Invocations 3-3 (Volunteer Needed)
3-10 Bill Makal
3-17 John Ericksen

Speakers 3-3 Richard Frenn TBA
3-10 Robert Niedermann TBA
3-17 John Bauer will introduce Sarah Verardo, Executive Director of The Independence Fund, a wounded veteran's assistance agency headquartered in Charlotte, NC.
3-24 Paul Vandeveld - TBA



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

Anne Ruttger Neafie
02-17-2021
0 Years

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.



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