

Rotary Meeting, March 18, 2019**Editorian:** David Reid

The meeting was called to order by *President Jeannie Brandenberger*.

Invocation: *Rotarian Sid Ellis* asked for a moment of silence in observance of the recent New Zealand tragedy. The invocation was delivered.

Art News- *Rotarian D. Terry Williams* shared numerous upcoming events, including the Carol King Story at Miller beginning March 19, the Lafayette String Quartet and Jazz Invitational at Dalton Center/WMU, Women in Hip at Bell's March 22, Peter and Wendy All Ears Theatre March 23 at First Baptist, and upcoming events at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum.

Visiting Rotarians- *Rotarian Bill Rose* introduced Past District Governor Sharon Wherry and Past President Dan Wherry, of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Guests- Jon Han/*John Dillworth*, Dee Velfoff/*Amy Remmert*, Kelly Doyle/*Chen Bell*, Robert Hemilky/*Deb Harris*, Bret Wagner/*Donald Phillips*, Audris Teh/*John Dillworth*, Kelli Redman/*Denise Hartsough*, Joe Kiser/*Brian Mick*, Sandra Houston/*Nick Boyd*, Sarah Hutchinson/*John Dillworth*, Sandy Derby, Martin Velten/*Dan Ingles*, Greg Ayers/*Joe Brogger*, Juan Salinas/*Mary Zoeller*.

Songs- *Rotarian Tim Kilmartin* led in signing the WMU fight song.

Announcements-

President Jeannie had the following announcements:

- *Rotarian Dan Sytsma's* mother Diane recently passed away; visitation and funeral info was provided
- Ten year anniversary for Rotoract Rotary celebration will be in April at the Stamped Robin
- The next 501 Event will be May 9 at Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center
- Rotary for Reading meeting taking place after today's meeting
- *Rotarian Don Phillips* has been nominated to attend the Eisenhower School of National Security

Membership Minute- *Rotarian Mary Zoeller* thanked Rob Peterson and Zach for the work with Rotary Satellite and Volunteer Programs.

Happy Bucks- numerous Happy Bucks were shared.

Program- *Rotarian Bob Miller* introduced today's speaker, Dr. Edward Montgomery, President of Western Michigan University.

Dr. Montgomery reviewed the school's historically strong ties and partnership with the community of Kalamazoo. He highlighted a number of WMU Programs that are currently nationally recognized or ranked.

Dr. Montgomery discussed the University's economic impact on the community, reaching approximately \$1.6 billion annually.

He spoke about the Business Technology Research (BTR) Park and its programs, and announced that there will be a second BTR Park located south of Stadium Drive off of Drake Road. He also talked about the various WMU clinics that provide both educational opportunities to students, as well as services to the public.

Dr. Montgomery shared a number of on-going and future projects on campus. The 'temporary'/family residence housing located off of Stadium Drive will be removed in place of updated housing facilities. Additionally, McCracken Hall will be removed to make room for a new Student Center.

Dr. Montgomery fielded a number of questions.

President Jeannie reminded all of the upcoming schedule before leading the Rotary pledge and adjourning the meeting.