



# Rotary Club of Kalamazoo

September 28, 2020

Editarian: Amy Remmert

**Today's** meeting was called to order by Past President, Steve Kreider at 12:15 p.m.

**National Anthem:** Tim Kilmartin played a version of the National Anthem. A rousing version.

**Invocation:** President Elect Syd Ellis gave the invocation. Focused on the Autumn gathering.

Steve Kreider Piere Vandersalbs father died

**Arts News:** Dan Sytsma Art News presenter. History 92 anniversary penicillin years old. Allow your mold to grow where ever it may. Arts new Mona Lisa stolen remained missing for two years, someone threw a teacup at it. Protect our arts. Make sure your arts remain well by your patronage. Bates alley a base presentation. Vicksburg presentation on Venezuela. Keep arts in mind and support them financially.

**Happy Bucks:** Steve kick it off. Jane and Steve community drinking thing in downtown. Jane didn't care for her drink they drove off with alcoholic drinks in his care. Deb Harris, granddaughter and her horseback riding. Sunday in the Park with George in the plaza at WMU, beautiful. D Terry urging people to see it on its last weekend.

**District Raffle: We are getting close to our goal of 150 tickets sold but we still need your help.** Please consider purchasing a ticket for the District Foundation Raffle. Information will be coming via email this Monday evening. We need your support and there are only 10 days left to meet our goal of selling 150 tickets. Money from this sale supports youth programs district wide and some of the proceeds are returned to the local club for use with its own programs like Strive, Interact Club and more. Deadline has been extended. Last day for checks to be in Amy's hand is October 14<sup>th</sup> as well as Credit Card Purchases. Visit the Kalamazoo Rotary Website to get to the link for Credit Card Option.

**Satellite Club:** Duane Powell announced Truck or Treat at Frosty Boys families across Kalamazoo. Members are encouraged to come out with their vehicle trunks decorated and provide candy. Contact Duane for more information. (419) 315-0438

**The Program:** Greg Ayers, intro 6360 WASH program (water sanitation and hygiene). Tony McCrumb chair of the WASH and Jose Lopez.

Tony turned the program over to Jose for a video presentation. WASH provides clean water sanitation and hygiene in the Dominican Republic. There is room for more participation in this district wide committee. The idea began with five Rotarians from the Benton Harbor St. Joseph club with a \$5,000 start-up fund for a project in the Dominican Republic for clean water. They

became the “Water Boys”. They started building concrete bio sand filters for the people and training a few there to carry on the project. We remember the days when people from our club traveled to DR to help build and install water filters.

More recently, a group in District 6360 formed a new group to take on the work of the “Water Boys” and in 2015 viewed the existing project first hand and began plans to expand their goal. Replacing latrines with more safe facilities became the goal and tagging on to that including education on handwashing.

If you want to join in the efforts of this group you can reach out to volunteer. Our local representative to this project is Keith Mumma who recently published a photo book focused on the need for clean water (available for \$60). Clean water has improved the health of children in the DR and woman are more able to get into the workforce to improve their lives.

The expansion of the latrine project currently is to build 120 and they have \$12,000 towards a goal of \$30,000. This may end up being done in phases and our current situation with the pandemic has complicated efforts. WASH is making a bigger impact than the previous single focus of clean water. The work is not done but with continued work it will make a huge impact on the daily lives of the people of the Dominican Republic.

Steve emphasized that this project is such a great effort on our part to improve lives.