

Roundabout
January 26, 2021

Next meeting



At our next Celebration of Service, Cardinal Stage Company's Artistic Director Kate Galvin and Managing Director Gabe Gloden will share what it is like to manage a theater company during a global pandemic.

This Week's News

Remembering Keith Klein



Jim Bright shared the sad news that Rotarian and Past President **Keith Klein** passed away this week. He was recently named news director for WGCL following a long career in broadcasting and communications with organizations including NBC, WTIU, and Cook Group. Keith was a current member of the Monroe County Community School Corporation Board of Trustees. He had a great love for Ivy Tech Community College, where he served as chair of the communications department. He was emcee of many cherished community events, including the Fourth of July parade and Canopy of Lights celebration. He also mentored youth through his longstanding membership in the International Order of DeMolay. Keith touched the life of our club and truly embodied Service Above Self.

You can read more about Keith and his major impact on our community in these stories featured on [Indiana Public Media](#) and in the [Herald-Times](#). We will share services details when they are available.

Bill Brown Joins Our Club



David Meyer inducted **Bill Marshall Brown**, principal architect of Griffy Creek Studio. With a long career dedicated to environmentally friendly projects, Bill designed the first net-positive-energy public library in America--in Chrisney, Indiana--along with dozens of K-12 and higher education school projects. Bill was appointed the first director of sustainability at Indiana University in 2009, and today serves on the faculty of the J. Irwin Miller School of Architecture at IUPU-Columbus. Bill and his wife, Linda, enjoy sharing the beauty of their tree farm here in Monroe County, especially when their six grandchildren visit. Welcome, Bill!

Rotary Service Opportunities

Hoosier Hills Food Bank box packing for the mobile pantry program will take place on Wednesday, February 3, from 4-5:30 pm. There are only a few slots available. If there is sufficient interest, we can add an additional Wednesday shift. Claim a spot here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b054fabaa2da6fe3-hoosier>

There are many opportunities to serve at My Sister's Closet this month; visit <https://sisterscloset.org/mlk-volunteer/> for more information and to sign up for a shift. Feel free to reach out to **Sandy Keller** at (812) 333-7710 director@sisterscloset.org if you have questions.

The new winter shelter operated by Beacon is seeking people to bring snacks, chili, and soups. There are also openings for volunteers to work shifts from 8:30-11:30 p.m. and 5:30-7:30 a.m. Contact Sue Murphy at sue@beaconinc.org for more information.

Our club needs volunteers to give a reflection at the beginning of our Zoom meetings. Every Tuesday from February 23 until the end of March is open. Here's the link: [Third Quarter Reflection Sign Up](#)

Our Program

Ashley Wesley introduced **Sara Laughlin**, who gave an overview of the 2020 Rotary Toast. Early in the planning process, the Toast committee selected **Bob Hammel** as the Toast honoree, and he selected Hoosier Hills Food Bank as his benefiting organization. Then the pandemic hit. The committee quickly pivoted to planning a virtual event, employing Mandolin, a technology company formed in 2020 to help performing arts organizations adjust to virtual formats.

Sara introduced **Bryan Hane**, president of the Bloomington North Club. Bryan recognized Jo Throckmorton of Jo Throckmorton Filmworks and Blue Ace Media for his Service Above Self for his instrumental role in producing footage for the Rotary Toast this year. Jo said it was a privilege to be able to work with Rotary. Jo said one reason he was so willing to get involved is because he respects Rotary and what it does in the community and in the world. He thanked Bryan and **Jessika Hane** for their support and Sara for her invitation to be involved. He also thanked **Bob Zaltsberg** for being an incredible host, and Bob Hammel, for being a joy to work with.

The Rotary Toast raised \$25,096 for Hoosier Hills Food Bank. A check was presented to the organization earlier this month.



Bob Hammel introduced Julio Alonso (above), executive director of the Hoosier Hills Food Bank. Bob said Julio is a day-to-day symbol of the Rotary motto, Service Above Self. Bob said that he was grateful to have been part of supporting Hoosier Hills Food Bank in the midst of the pandemic. Not only did the virus add to the need, but it also subtracted substantially from its annual income. The October book sale, recently rescued by the HHFB, had to be canceled this year. Rotarians and the Toast event helped to offset that loss. Bob said he sees the check as a way to thank Julio and recognize the valuable work the food bank does for the community.

Julio thanked Bob for his ongoing support. Julio said this was the most unusual year he has experienced. It started in March, with the canceling of the annual meeting, where he had planned to announce that HHFB had distributed five million pounds of food in 2019. In the early days of the pandemic, everything was confusing and everyone was worried and scared. Julio said the Food Bank knew it would be an essential service and would need to do more than ever. "It required completely reinventing ourselves," Julio said.

HHFB relies on eight interns from IU every semester, and “they were gone overnight,” Julio said. HHFB received assistance from National Guard troops. HHFB purchased more than \$1.1 million in food in 2020 when food donations decreased by 25 percent.

At the start of the pandemic, HHFB distributed directly to 465 households, and this grew to 1,100 households. In November 2020, 1,500 households were served in collaboration with Pantry 279. More than 10,000 households in all were served by direct distribution.

In 2020, HHFB distributed more than 7 million pounds of food. The pandemic caused untold amounts of stress among the HHFB staff as they worked on the front lines, but the community’s support propelled them forward. Julio said he would like to move forward to a “better normal.”

A virtual Soup Bowl fundraising event will be held on February 21. There will be bowls for pickup. Tickets are available at hhfoodbank.org.

Sara said the 2021 Toast planning is under way. Please put November 5 on your calendar. Many more details will come.

Watch this week’s meeting at <https://youtu.be/IUyxoR5qT0Q>.

Our January 26 Weekly Gathering

President Ashley Wesley presided.

Charlotte Zietlow offered the reflection. Charlotte said she has lived in the U.S. most of her life, but also lived in Switzerland, Germany, and Czechoslovakia, as well as Vienna. Our country has a Constitution, and the best part is the preamble: “We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union ...” Our perfect union has been strained, and on January 6 it came under attack. Charlotte said her parents-in-law devoted themselves to social issues, and she has been looking at content from their files from the 1930s. Some of their advice is relevant today:

“Make it your business to make friends with others.”

“Study your community.”

“Cooperate with other groups.”

“Do not approach anyone with suspicion.”

“Refuse to spread rumors.”

“Make it your business to understand your government.”

Her father-in-law was a Rotarian, and those were his principles. Charlotte quoted the Inaugural Poet Amanda Gorman saying that there is light “if we are brave enough to see it, and we are brave enough to be it.” We have the ability to form a more perfect union. Our country has always been working on this.

Ashley Wesley welcomed guests:

- Bob Hammel
- Julie Hammel
- Julio Alonso, Director, Hoosier Hills Food Bank (HHFB)
- Cary and Julie Curry
- Robert Meitus
- Jessika Hane, District Governor
- Bryan Hane, President, Bloomington North Rotary Club
- Jean Dayton, Bloomington North Rotary Club
- Gary Taylor, Bloomington North Rotary Club
- Julie Maloney-Beasley, Bloomington Sunrise Club
- Ron Thompson, Bloomington Sunrise Club
- Kristina Hunter Mills, Bloomington Sunrise Club
- Brian Beall, Bloomington Sunrise Club
- Carolyn Frey, Bloomington Sunrise Club
- Alex Tedrow, guest of Alain Barker
- Ann Marie Thomson, former Rotary member
- Mary Morgan, guest of Jim Bright
- John Hamilton, Mayor of Bloomington
- Kate Lipa
- Jo Throckmorton

Birthdays

- **Jennifer Abrams**, January 26
- **Past President Leslie Green**, January 27
- **Judy DeMuth**, January 30

Reporter: **Kyla Cox Deckard**