

## ROTARY MEETING FEBRUARY 16, 2021

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Our next Celebration of Service, February 23, on Zoom, will feature Past President **Joy Harter**, whose talk, *Folding Death into Our Lives: A Rotarian's Journey*, will explore her voyage of discovery as she recently trained to become a certified end-of-life doula.

### THIS WEEK'S NEWS

**Welcome, Geoff Bradley!**



Monroe County Judge **Geoff Bradley** is our newest Rotarian. After 14 years in the Monroe County Prosecutor's Office, he was elected to the bench in 2020. He is deeply involved in community organizations, including Arlington Heights Elementary PTO, Real Men Read, Lotus Education and Arts Foundation, and Second Baptist Church. Before returning to Bloomington, where he earned his degrees, he worked as an assistant prosecutor in Clinton County, Ohio, where he was a member of the Wilmington Rotary Club and served on the boards of the Clinton County YMCA and Rural Legal Aid Society. Sponsored by **Jim Sims**, he was welcomed by **Dave Meyer**, chair of the club's membership committee.

### Hyper Happy Dollars To Support Scholarships

Next week's meeting will include Hyper-Happy-Dollars to support the club's scholarship program. Mike Baker reports that this year's plan is to offer four scholarships to worthy graduating high school seniors. One scholarship will be named in memory of **Keith Klein**. The Bloomington Rotary Foundation, our club's not-for-profit arm, collects funds from the annual Toast and other income-generating events, as well as

contributions from members. Those contributions include the 80/20 Fund, which gathers the \$20-per-quarter donations from club members to support scholarships. Ways to support the club include planned estate giving and 401(k) account contributions.

### **District Rotary Foundation Event Scheduled**

You're invited to join the Friends of the District Rotary Foundation for an information session and social gathering on February 26 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. How will you create your Rotary legacy? There are many options to learn about, including giving through the year, becoming a Paul Harris Fellow or member of the Paul Harris Society, or becoming a benefactor, major donor, or Bequest Society member. Here's the [link to Register for this event >](#)

### **Record a Reading**

**Monroe County Civic Theater** invites you to participate in an upcoming podcast that focuses on Black History Month. You are invited to record and submit a favorite speech, poem, or monologue. Deadline is Feb. 21. Follow this [link for more information on the initiative >](#)

### **Rotarians In the News**

To promote this year's "Be More Awards," the *Herald-Times* ran a photo of **Sara Laughlin** with her 2020 award.

**Hank Walter** is quoted in a front-page *H-T* story about the renovation of the main dining area at the Indiana Memorial Union.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

A collection of *Rotary banners* has been found at the IMU, and **Kate Cruikshank** and **Sara Laughlin** are leading an effort to restore them. If you're interested in participating, please send a note to Kate: [kcruik7@gmail.com](mailto:kcruik7@gmail.com)

*Hoosier Hills Food Bank*. Contact Manager of Volunteer Services and Community Engagement Ryan Jochim, at (812) 334-8374 or [volunteer@hhfoodbank.org](mailto:volunteer@hhfoodbank.org) for more information or to schedule a volunteer shift.

*Wheeler Mission* needs volunteers to purchase and prepare sack meals. Sign up for a date and deliver to the Center for Men at 215 S. Westplex Ave. Use the main entrance. See website for more details. [www.wheelervolunteer.org](http://www.wheelervolunteer.org)

*Helping Hands*. Visit [helpinghands.civicchamps.com](http://helpinghands.civicchamps.com) or call (812) 727-0838 to sign up to help make deliveries and assist with various activities for individuals in the community.

## OUR PROGRAM: Tom Roznowski



*Today's Meeting Link on the Rotary YouTube Channel - [https://youtu.be/9X6GU\\_GgG-c](https://youtu.be/9X6GU_GgG-c)*

**Charlotte Zietlow** introduced storyteller and media content creator Tom Roznowski. Originally from upstate New York, Tom came across Bloomington almost accidentally, fell in love with the town, and, with his wife, Trisha Bracken, settled in for the long run. Tom is a troubadour at heart, and his presence in this region blends with his talent for storytelling, music making, and a richly developed sense of Indiana. Currently, Tom creates and hosts *PorchLight with Tom Roznowski*, a weekly Saturday night special on WFIU public radio.

In his unique style, Tom led us through a rich tapestry of thoughts that weaved back and forth, first sketching and then detailing his belief in the power of public radio, a medium that is woven into our lives. With the winds of change, especially at this time of the pandemic, radio provides a safe haven, a home where we all gather to share our stories, play or listen to music together. Saturday nights on WFIU public radio, especially, are times for us to revisit our core sense of belonging through programs such as *The Folk Sampler with Mike Flynn*, *Thistle & Shamrock*, *Afropop Worldwide*, and Tom's own *PorchLight*. In the tradition of *A Prairie Home Companion*, started in 1974 by Garrison Keillor, Saturday night programs create a restful place, a refuge for contemplation, companionship, and deep listening. Tom spoke of first encountering *A Prairie Home Companion* while visiting friends in a rustic Brown County cabin – a formative experience that influenced his own programming.

With us at today's celebration were Brad Kimmel, newly appointed executive director of both WFIU and WTIU, as well as WFIU Station Operations Manager John Bailey. Tom thanked them both for their commitment to public media and their recognition of the value of public broadcasting.

Tom spoke of his *Porchlight* episodes, "Visit with Bish", with WFIU legend Dick Bishop, who was on air for more than 50 years and died in 2016 at the age of 78. Best known for *Afterglow* a program, Dick joined WFIU as a student announcer in 1975.

Subtlety, curiosity, and a focus on small details make the difference in so much of public radio. Tom mentioned Malcolm Gladwell's book, *The Tipping Point* to illustrate "How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference." A second element in public radio is the magical, the way in which storytelling can create the illusion of an entire world with just audio.

Tom ended his presentation with a wonderful rendition of a song from *Wilderness Plots*, a WFIU concert special inspired by the book of the same name by Scott Russell Sanders. Music collaborators in this powerful production represent so much of Bloomington's music traditions. They were Tom Roznowski with Krista Detor, Tim Grimm, Carrie Newcomer, and Michael White. More about this production can be found at <https://indianapublicmedia.org/wildernessplots/>.

## UPDATES

President **Ashley Wesley** presided. Event producers were **Natalie Blais, Michael Shermis, Sally Gaskill,** and **Earon Davis**.

**Martha Wailes** gave a lovely reflection on the power of doing good, how it helps us and even sometimes encourages a healthy dose of 'happy' hormones serotonin, dopamine, and oxytocin to improve our mood and feelings. Time in Bloomington's Community Kitchen has given her an opportunity to meet people from all walks of life, some with delightful, quirky, and amazing stories. Doing something outside the home makes the world a better place. She says, "I've gained a lot" through the experiences.

## This Week's Guests

### Guests of **Becky Jessmer**

Brad Kimmel, executive director of Radio & TV Services

John Bailey, WFIU Station Operations Director

### Guests of **Jim Bright**

Randy Wheeler, Evansville Rotary

Bob Hammel, 2020 Rotary Toast honoree

### Guest of **Judy Schroeder**

Ramsay Harik

### Guests of **Tim Jessen**

Tom and Bernie Zoss

### Guest of **Glenda Murray**

Spyridon "Strats" Stratigos

### Guest of the Club

Carolyn Frey from Bloomington Sunrise Club

## Birthdays

- **Kyla Cox Deckard**, February 18
- **Jim Kryway**, February 18
- **Owen Johnson**, February 22

Reporter: **Alain Barker**