

NEXT MEETING – SEPTEMBER 1 SANDY KELLER, MY SISTER’S CLOSET



In 1998 **Sandy Keller** founded “My Sister’s Closet” (<https://sisterscloset.org/>), aimed at helping low-income and at-risk women to move beyond major hardships and economic disparity.

Today, 22 years later, Sandy and her nonprofit agency have helped more than 2,000 clients overcome situations of homelessness, long-term joblessness, domestic violence and displacement.

With a small staff and more than 300 volunteers, “My Sister’s Closet” programs include job skills training, life skills community workshops, one-to-one interview skills mentoring and training, clothing vouchers and image consulting.

Sandy, who joined the Bloomington Rotary Club in March 2019, looks forward to sharing the “My Sister’s Closet” story with her fellow Rotarians.

This Week's News



Charcuterie, everyone!

Join **Mike and Bev Baker** and other Bloomington Rotary friends for delicious charcuterie during the virtual Friday, November 6, Rotary Toast (<https://rotarytoast.com>).

Together, we will honor longtime sports writer and author **Bob Hammel**, raise much needed money for Hoosier Hills Food Bank, and enjoy a beautiful charcuterie tray from BloomingBoards (<https://www.facebook.com/BloomingBoards812/>) as we watch the livestreaming of the Toast. Donations of \$100 or more qualify for a charcuterie tray. View only: \$25.

To make your reservations, go to: <https://rotarytoast.com>. Or you can contact Mike Baker, 2020 Toast Sponsorship Chair, at mbaker@bluemarble.net (Cell 812 327 7339)

Karst Farms Social Gathering

Join us at Karst Farms Shelter #9 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. this Thursday, August 27, for our social gathering. Wear a mask, bring lawn chairs and “catch up” with your Rotary friends.

For those who ordered a Rotary mask, Natalie will have them – and a few extras – on hand. They’re \$10 each, and she can add that to your quarterly statement. If you ordered one and cannot attend, Natalie will find another way to get the masks to you.

Update: The Pledge

Thank you to all who completed the survey. Since there was no consensus, the board has decided to continue with respectful personal reflection. The board will reevaluate this decision when our club resumes meeting in person. If you would like to recite the Pledge, of course, that's your decision. We ask that all remain muted during that time.

Judy Bush Memorial Service

There will be an online memorial service for Past District Governor **Judy Bush** of the Bedford club on Saturday, August 29, at 11 a.m. on the St. Thomas Lutheran Church YouTube Channel. The link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsZYJspofu3RT1YfCuzi0hw>

There will be another link on the site for viewing or printing the bulletin to follow during the service. Judy, 77, passed away August 10 following a three-year battle with cancer.

Volunteer Opportunities

Helping Hands opportunities are ongoing. Visit helpinghands.civicchamps.com or call (812) 727-0838 to sign up!

Community Kitchen needs one Rotary volunteer this Friday, August 28, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. To volunteer, click here:

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

Wheeler Mission Virtual Opportunities is putting together teams of volunteers to tell share their story through social media, videos, and newsletters. Do you have skills in these areas? They would love to hear from you. Wheeler Mission also needs volunteers to serve and provide carryout meals for the shelter. Contact Josie Rice at josierice@wheelermission.org or check out <https://WheelerVolunteer.org>.

Friends of Lake Monroe needs volunteers for a number of outdoor projects. For more info, go to: <https://friendsoflakemonroe.org>.

Teachers Warehouse volunteers are needed almost every day Monday through Friday. To volunteer, go to: volunteers@teacherswarehouse.org.

Rotarians in the News

In his August 22 Herald-Times column, **Tim Jessen** writes about how Wheeler Mission and fellow Rotarian **Sandy Keller**/My Sister's Closet made a difference in the life of a young mother. Sadly, Wheeler Mission has had to close its women's shelter. Sandy Keller will be our September 1 speaker. **Chris-Michael Morrison** and Wheeler Mission are organizational members of our club. See

https://www.hoosiertimes.com/herald_times_online/life/religion/columns/column-still-there-to-fill-the-gaps-despite-ongoing-challenges/article_b7b8b888-e2ed-11ea-bca5-e7a155ac5c87.html

AUGUST 25 MEETING:

Janine Giordano Drake

The Other Suffragettes: Rethinking Our Narrative



In a wide-ranging discussion, IU history professor Janine Giordano Drake says people worked for women's suffrage for decades before the ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1920.

With its national headquarters and principal leader, Eugene Debs, in Terre Haute, the Socialist Party should be recognized for its key role in the history of women's suffrage.

Key points:

- In 1851 Amanda Way of Randolph County and others founded the Indiana Women's Rights Association. The organization was still active when the 19th Amendment was ratified, but it had declined in influence.
- Also, in 1851, Article 2 of the Indiana Constitution denied women and Blacks the right to vote. The Constitution also prohibited the selling of property to African Americans.
- Why didn't Indiana women suffragists talk more about race? "The Indiana Suffrage Association thought that, if they had any chance of convincing the State of Indiana, they had to focus on the single issue of women's suffrage ... They were unsuccessful in getting women the right to vote."
- In 1898 the Social Democratic Party, which later became the Socialist Party, dedicated itself to suffrage for all people, including women and African Americans. "I'm convinced it was the Socialist Party, particularly the Women's National Committee, that put the pressure on state leaders to ratify the 19th Amendment," she said.

Professor Drake cites the work of three Indiana women, in particular:

- Lilith Martin of Dublin, Indiana, chief women's correspondent for the Progressive Woman Monthly newspaper, who collected 5,000 signatures to take to Indiana legislators;
- Rose Lehnert of Indianapolis, who attended the Socialist Party's convention and advocated for women's suffrage and equal pay for equal work; and
- Florence Wattles of Elwood, credited with getting the United Mine Workers to endorse women's suffrage. "Grassroots organizing actually worked," she said.

For more information on Professor Giordano Drake, go to:
https://history.indiana.edu/faculty_staff/faculty/drake_janinegiordano.html)

To hear Janine's remarks and view her images, go to the YouTube record of the August 25 meeting. At
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DyKCdgZlItE>

To provide helpful feedback on our speaker, go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/BtownRotarySpkrFdbck>.



Glenda Murray recommends “We Must Be Fearless: The Woman Suffrage Movement in Indiana,” by Anita Morgan, historian.

AUGUST 25 CELEBRATION OF SERVICE

President **Ashley Sullivan** presided. **Michael Shermis** and **Sally Gaskill** were our producers.

Judy Schroeder reflected on “Women's Equality Day,” celebrated August 26 in the U.S. to commemorate the 1920 adoption of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution.

While the 19th Amendment prohibits states and the federal government from denying the right to vote to citizens of the United States on the basis of sex, Judy

notes that “we’re still fighting over voting, citizenship and women’s rights.

“We still have our work cut out for us,” Judy says.

Jim Bright introduced our guests:

- **Mary Morgan**, Chamber of Commerce
- **Regina Moore**, former City Clerk
- **Suzann Owen**, independent writer and wife of late Bloomington Rotarian **Kent Owen**
- **Dina Kellams**, IU Archivist (guest of **Kate Cruikshank**)
- **Randy Wheeler**, District Secretary, Rotary Club of Evansville
- **Mary Ann Williams**
- **Megan Gearhart**, IU Rotaract
- **Doris Wittenberg**
- **Ilene Schaeffer**, German American Bank, guest of **Jean Emery**

Happy Dollars

Among those who contributed “happy dollars” were **Mike Baker** in anticipation of the Friday, November 6, Toast honoring Bob Hammel; Dr. **Raj Haddawi** and **Charlotte Zietlow**, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of women’s right to vote; **Katie Beck**, who is happy that her husband will perform at the Switchyard Park September 4 at 5:30 p.m.; **Steve Ingle**, whose musical neighbors play everything from bagpipes to bass fiddles on their porches; **David Meyer**, whose youngest grandchild has a healthy appetite; and **Glenda Murray**, who invites Rotarians to attend a commemorative march for the Indiana Women’s Suffrage Centennial on Saturday,

August 29. Participants can register for the event at monroehistory.org/suffrage-march/.

Note: August “happy dollars” can go directly to Teachers Warehouse by clicking on the following link: https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=QQ934RDMD9D2J&source=url.

Birthdays:

- **Kevin Hopper Knutstrom**, Aug. 28
- Past President **Winston Shindell**, Aug. 29
- **Mike Hoff**, Aug. 30
- **Shelli Yoder**, Aug. 30

Membership Anniversaries:

- Past President **Leslie Green**, Aug. 28, 19 years
- **Katie Beck**, Aug. 28, 2 years

*Reporter: **Jim Bright***