

Roundabout ~ September 15, 2020

Next week's program



District Governor Jessika Hane will join us for our fall club assembly. Jessika is the Human Resources Director at Oliver Winery and a 2020 City of Bloomington Woman of the Year. She has been a Rotarian for 13 years with the Bloomington Sunrise Club. The mother of four will join us on her birthday. DG Jessika and President Ashley Sullivan will give us Rotary updates, and Ashley promises some surprises.

We will meet by Zoom on Tuesday, September 22. Join us at 11:45 for a visit in a breakout room before the program starts about noon.

This week's news

Rotary Toast Will Be Fun

Sara Laughlin gave us four reasons to sign up for the Rotary Toast November 6:

- the Toast is the signature event for all three clubs,
- the Toast is an opportunity to showcase Service Above Self,
- the Toast will support the Hoosier Hills Food Bank, and
- the Toast will be FUN!

The Rotary Toast will occur on Zoom on Friday, November 6, when we will honor Bob Hammel, who chose the Hoosier Hills Food Bank as his charity. To make your reservations, go to <https://rotarytoast.com>.

Virtual Rotary Zone Summit

Attend the Rotary Zone Summit free, from the comfort of your home, on Saturday, October 10, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. In the morning, we'll get updates on our final push to end polio, timely thoughts on diversity, an energetic pitch on "Do Goodery," and learn how to be better leaders in times of crisis and disaster. For first-timers, there will be quick overviews of Rotary's Membership, Public Image, and Foundation initiatives.

Afternoon breakouts include in-depth discussions about our new Area of Focus, Supporting the Environment, grant ideas for your club or district, engaging younger members, continuity in planning from year-to-year, public speaking, and more.

Register here: <https://3031summit.vfairs.com/en/registration>

Rotarians in the News

Earon Davis will speak on “Rotary and Peace” on Sept. 24 at the North Rotary Club Zoom meeting.

Vincennes Rotarians hosted a free lunch for first responders on September 8:

https://www.suncommercial.com/news/image_16137ff0-0357-5e41-98a0-36cd16a02302.html

Redistricting in Indiana

UnCivil War: U.S. Elections Under Siege will be shown Tuesday, September 22, at 7 p.m. This 45-minute documentary exposes the web of threats facing our elections today and includes a segment on Indiana’s fight to reform redistricting. The League of Women Voters is hosting the film on Zoom. It will be followed by Q&A session that will include Rotarian Hal Turner, chair of the Monroe County Election Board. The film is free, but you must register in advance at <https://www.lwv-bmc.org/films>. Once you register, you will receive an email with your link to the event.

Volunteer Opportunities

-Adopt-A-Road. Our club manages Pete Ellis Drive from E. Third Street to E. SR 45. We will have a cleanup day on Saturday, October 24, from 9 to 11 a.m. Natalie Blais will send a sign-up so we can volunteer.

-Helping Hands. Helping Hands opportunities are still available and will be ongoing. Visit helpinghands.civicchamps.com or call (812) 727-0838.

-Friends of Lake Monroe. Water sampling blitz volunteer spots still available for Sept. 18. Sign up at their website friendsoflakemonroe.org.

-Wheeler Mission serves three meals a day every day and needs volunteer support through either directly serving meals or providing sack meals for the shelter. They also have three “virtual” opportunities that would fill a great need. Anyone who feels these would be a good fit can reach out to Josie at josierice@wheelermission.org or check out Wheelervolunteer.org.

-Teachers Warehouse volunteers are needed almost every day Monday through Friday. Please volunteer by emailing volunteers@teacherswarehouse.org.

-My Sister’s Closet will have a tent at 414 S. College on September 22, **National Voter Registration Day**, and needs volunteers to help attendees register to vote and educate them on their voter rights. MSC will provide a 30 percent discount on regular and sale merchandise to anyone who registers to vote during the event and will keep the tent open until Friday.

This week's speaker: Girls and Coding



Nichelle Whitney is chair of the Monroe County Women's Commission, is Senior Assistant Director for Diversity Recruitment and Outreach for Indiana University Admissions Office and manages Girls Coding Week in Monroe County. Nichelle spoke to us about Girls Coding Camp: A Program and Partnership. The program started in 2016 with 11 middle-school girls for a week-long coding camp. The program was free, with free transportation provided by Girls Inc. In 2017 they had two week-long camps. By 2018 the program added college readiness information and mentoring by women from the Center of Excellence for Women & Technology (CEW&T). The partnership for the camps involved the Monroe County Women's Commission, Girl Scouts of Central Indiana, IU Admissions, and Ivy Tech.

This pandemic year required changes, so the coding team created an after-school program, which will run from October 12 to November 13 in a virtual classroom. This year the program is open to all 700 girls in middle school in MCCSC and Richland-Bean Blossom CSC. Nichelle is hoping lots of the girls participate. Monday will involve motivational information from women in industry, IU, and Ivy Tech. Tuesday and Thursday will be coding from Ivy Tech professors and CEW&T mentors. Wednesday will be a break. Friday will include mentor meetings with CEW&T and college and career mentors.

This year more funding is available. Ivy Tech was invited to apply for a \$25,000 grant from Verizon but was awarded \$50,000 instead. They are starting another program within the coding after-school program, called Brown Girls Who Code. Each student gets a raspberry pi, which is a small computer with a monitor, designed for educational purposes. R-BBCSC students will use Scratch curriculum, a visual programming language designed by MIT. MCCSC students will use the Swift Playground app for iPads. The partners this year for the online version of the coding program are the Monroe County Women's Commission, IU Admissions, Ivy Tech, R-BBCSC, MCCSC, Girl Scouts, and Verizon.

Nichelle mentioned that mentorship is an essential part of the program. The goal is to create access to coding and technical literacy for junior high girls. For more information, contact Nichelle at whitneyn@indiana.edu. Liz Feitl introduced Nichelle.

To hear the YouTube recording of the September 15 meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9apIEQDUbx7V4oPH-FWEkg>. To provide helpful feedback on our speaker, go to <https://tinyurl.com/BtownRotarySpkrFdbck>.

Updates

President **Ashley Sullivan** presided.

Thanks to our producers **Michael Shermis**, **Sally Gaskill**, and **Natalie Blais**.

Henk Haitjema offered our reflection. Henk explained that the Netherlands has 15 political parties, with 150 seats in the House of Representatives. Various parties support platforms from very liberal to very conservative, and the government is a coalition of cooperating parties. Henk believes the U.S. is more politically diverse than we seem, but because we can choose between basically only two parties, we seem split. We don't see the continuum of beliefs that are more evident in a number of parties.

Jim Bright welcomed our guests:

- Sue Wright, Past District Governor, Clarksville Rotary
- Maureen Biggers, Executive Director of the Center of Excellence for Women & Technology, IU, guest of Judy Schroeder. Maureen was a Youth Exchange student to Ecuador when she was in high school.
- Former Bloomington Rotarian Del Brinkman, now in Lawrence, Kansas
- Regina Moore, former City Clerk, guest of Liz Fietl
- Organizational representative Tina Peterson, from the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County
- Organizational representative Dierdre Sheets, WonderLab education director

A number of people offered Happy Dollars to raise funds for Teachers Warehouse. Celebrations included **Charlotte Zietlow** sending her book off to be published; support for direct support staff at Stone Belt; support for teachers who are teaching in person or online; and WonderLab's successful fundraiser.

Birthdays this week

- Past President Tim Thrasher, Sept. 19
- Past President Bryan Price, Sept. 20
- Past President Ron Jensen, Sept. 21

Membership anniversary:

- Chris-Michael Morrison, Sept. 17, one year

Glenda Murray, Reporter

Martha Foster, Photographer