

# Rotary



## Club of Carmel GEARBOX Newsletter

### Club Meeting

Carmel  
Woodland Country Club  
Friday at 11:45 AM

### In This Issue

[Doug Willard is Our Speaker on February 6th](#)

[Join Us February 5th for Our 5:31](#)

[Michael Klitzing Updated the Club About Carmel's Award-winning Parks](#)

[Carmel Rotary and Carmel High School Interact - Coburn Place Volunteer Impact](#)

[Volunteer Opportunity!](#)

[Join US](#)

[Christian Gray is awarded the 2026-2027 All-Indiana Global Grant Scholarship](#)

[Check Request Form](#)

[February 13th Speaker is Kevin](#)

[Rotary Members - Are You New to DACdb?](#)

[Important Links](#)

[Carmel Rotary Zoom Link](#)

[Gearbox Sponsors](#)

### Events & Speakers

February 6th  
**[WEEKLY MEETING - Doug Willard](#)**

February 11th  
**[Stem Connection Service Event](#)**

February 13th  
**[WEEKLY MEETING - Kevin Bowen](#)**

February 19th  
**[Board Meeting](#)**

February 20th  
**[WEEKLY MEETING - Dr. Thomas Oestreich](#)**

February 23rd  
**[Cheftacular Community Impact](#)**

## Doug Willard is Our Speaker on February 6th



We're excited to welcome Doug as our speaker, where he'll walk us through updates on our club and highlight key elements of the strategic plan. It's an important moment to reflect on progress and look ahead together.

---

## Join Us February 5th for Our 5:31

Join US!

# Rotary

## Club of Carmel



# 5:31 Club Thursday

## February 5th



**BIER BREWERY CARMEL**

**13720 N Meridian St, Carmel, IN 46032, United States**

*Everyone is welcome to join*

### Michael Klitzing Updated the Club About Carmel's Award-winning Parks

Michael Klitzing, Director and CEO of Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation, addressed Carmel Rotarians on January 30<sup>th</sup> and shared information about Carmel's outstanding public parks, one of only 222 nationally accredited park systems. Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation has twice received the prestigious National Gold Medal for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management, the highest honor for any park and recreation system.

With over 5.7 million visitors annually, Klitzing said if Carmel's park system were a national park, it would be second only to the Great Smokey Mountains as the most visited park system, and ahead of Zion National Park in number of annual visitors. He highlighted Carmel park's growth and future plans and remarked that Carmel's parks' annual \$20 million operating budget is 80% funded by user fees and non-tax dollars and is recognized as one of the best and most innovative park and recreation agencies in the United States.

**Event - Reserve your seat by Feb 13**

February 24th  
**Merciful Help**  
Center: Food Pantry

February 27th  
**WEEKLY MEETING -**  
Dr. Lindsay Weaver

#### Club Leaders



Doug Willard  
President



Nancy S. Heck  
President-Elect



Dubbie Buckler  
Secretary



Tyler E. Smith  
President-Nominee  
Vice President

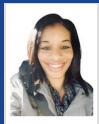
Greg Pilling  
Treasurer



Donna Gray  
Club Comm. Officer  
Club Public Image Chair  
Webmaster



Monica Frauhiger  
Club Admin Chair



David I. Hollander  
Membership Chair



Louise M. Jackson  
Leadership Connection Chair



Robert Wright  
Swanay Sergeant-at-Arms



Sue M. Westemeier  
Rotary Foundation Chair



Stanley Lebron  
CarmelFest Chair



Natalie O'Hara  
Webmaster



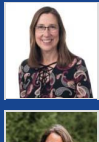
Peter Primason  
Community Grants Chair



Katie L. Smardo  
CarmelFest Treasurer



Beth Sexton  
Community Service Chair



Carolyn M. Shaw  
Community Service Chair



Julie Standish  
Club Youth Services Chair



Arnold Elston  
Past President  
iPast President



Lyra Lee  
Club Social Chair



Klitzing, a Fellow in the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration, has received numerous state and national awards for his excellent leadership, including the National Distinguished Professional Award from the National Recreation and Park Association, presented for his outstanding contributions to the parks and recreation field. Following his presentation, the club presented Klitzing with "Spy Camp" books for him to autograph for presentation to Carmel area grade schools.



*Pictured L to R: Rotarian and Carmel Clay Parks Board Treasurer Mark Westemeier, Tammy Haney, Michael Klitzing, Carmel Rotary Past President and Carmel Clay Parks Immediate Past President Judy Hagan*

## Carmel Rotary and Carmel High School Interact - Coburn Place Volunteer Impact

Volunteers made a direct impact on two off-site families. These new families (both with multiple children) are starting from scratch in their own homes in the community. These volunteers took the time and care to select, box up, and separate furniture and homewares for these families newly entering Coburn Place assistance. With the cleaning supply donations, you all still help survivors indirectly with maintaining their units with dignity and respect. Self-sufficiency and control over your own environment can be one small step towards healing, and donating those cleaning supplies makes it that much easier for a survivor to get their journey off on the right foot. Thank you!

## Volunteer Opportunity!

If you wanted to join the STEM Connection Service day, but couldn't make it, you're in luck. Due to the weather, it has been rescheduled to Wednesday February 11.

Come join fellow Rotarians the evening of Wednesday, February 11 from 5pm-7pm for a service opportunity. We will be building STEM kits for the STEM Connection. Weather permitting, a facilitated hike around our property will also be available. We will be assembling take-home STEM kits for students.

Wear your outdoor 'work' clothes and comfortable walking shoes as we will be assembling in the barn and have the opportunity for a nature hike throughout the property to see first hand all the awesome opportunities The STEM Connection offers opportunities for kids who might not normally be exposed to cool applications of math and science. This is a working farm that offers day camps, summer camps, and special camps aimed at middle school kids who are underrepresented in STEM education and careers.

Please use this link to register for the event so they know how many to expect! <https://www.thestemconnection.org/volunteer-registration>

*When: Wednesday, February 11, from 5pm-7pm*



TANAKA  
Pasipamire  
Kaleso  
Club Social  
Chair

Where: 8407 Moore Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46278



---

[Join US](#)

**Rotary**

Club of Carmel



**FELLOWSHIPING**  
FOR A GREAT CAUSE

**CHEFTACULAR 2026**  
**AN EVENING OF**  
**CULINARY EXCELLENCE**

**Tasting Event and Culinary Competition**  
**Supporting Carmel High School Culinary Arts &**  
**The Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank**

**16+ Top Local Chefs**  
**16+ CHS Culinary Arts Students**  
**16+ Tasting Dishes to Delight**

**Monday February 23, 2026**  
**6:30 - 8:30 PM**  
**Carmel High School Fieldhouse**

The poster features a background image of various fresh vegetables like bell peppers, broccoli, and carrots. At the top center of the poster is a logo for "POST-TECHNICS CULINARY ARTS" which includes a stylized yellow 'C' with a white horse silhouette inside it.

**Carmel High School Fieldhouse**  
**520 E Main Street**  
**Carmel, IN 46032**

**Door 17**

**\$25**

Limited Discounted Tickets

**Christian Gray is awarded the 2026-2027 All-Indiana Global Grant  
Scholarship**

Indiana Rotary Districts 6540, 6560, and 6580 are proud to announce that Christian Gray was selected from a field of five candidates as the recipient of the 2026-2027 All-Indiana Global Grant Scholarship. This award is made annually for graduate level study at a university outside of North America. Eligible candidates must have graduated from a four-year college in Indiana or have legal residency in Indiana and present a plan of study and a career commitment that align with one of Rotary's seven areas of focus.



Growing up on the west side of Indianapolis, Christian developed a passion for community economic development watching the vibrancy of his neighborhood fade as businesses left the area. Today, those once vacant storefronts are home to markets, local mechanics, hair salons, and restaurants offering a variety of international cuisine. That renaissance happened when residents rose up to meet the needs of their community, aided with support from a non-profit comprised of community leaders, business owners, and neighbors.

Christian attended Wabash College where he earned a B.A. degree in Psychology in a program that included a study abroad segment at Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam.

More recently, he deepened his community involvement by volunteering at the local MLK Center. Work there addresses peoples' wholistic needs that starts by breaking down basic barriers to education, food, and shelter and continues through offering them a palpable sense of community.

Christian will use the \$40,000 scholarship and return to Amsterdam this autumn to pursue a Masters in International Development Studies at Universiteit van Amsterdam. After completing a one-year graduate program, he plans to work for a non-profit organization in the Netherlands focused on community self-empowerment, developing and assisting with programs for basic literacy and financial independence.

Long-term, Christian's goal is to lead a non-profit organization that creates a network of communities working to solve challenges using resources they already possess. Ultimately, he wants to develop a knowledge base of successful solutions and common barriers that can be leveraged for use at both a grassroots and global level.

Susan E. Albrecht, Wabash College Fellowship Advisor, submitted an enthusiastic recommendation. Included in her letter she stated, "Armed with the support of Rotary and its network of individuals who are dedicated to addressing massive global needs such as peace and conflict resolution, maternal and child health, education, and economic and community development, Christian will be able to significantly expand the impact he would have been able to make without the network, the graduate degree, and the life experiences the Global Scholarship affords. I am excited to consider the possibilities of what he will do with all of this under his belt!"

The All-Indiana Rotary Global Scholar program is part of the three Indiana districts' ongoing commitment to supporting education and developing future leaders. More information can be found at: <https://rotaryglobalscholar.com/>.

Rotary International is a global network of community volunteers and leaders dedicated to promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, saving mothers and children, supporting education, and growing local economies.

Rotary International's overall goal is to help build goodwill, understanding and peace. <https://www.rotary.org/en>

**The Rotary Club of Carmel is honored to serve as the sponsor and host club for Christian.**

---

## Check Request Form

<https://forms.gle/WnHuUVemxDZGdiwe6>

---

## February 13th Speaker is Kevin

We're excited to welcome Kevin Bowen from ESPN Radio as our upcoming speaker.

Kevin grew up in Carmel and attended IU before beginning his career in sports journalism and broadcasting. He loves Notre Dame - he's brilliant.

Kevin will share insights from his career in sports media, the role local sports play in shaping community identity, and what it means to connect authentically with audiences every day on ESPN in the AM. He'll also reflect on the influence of his parents as teachers, who instilled in him strong values around work ethic, humility, and community service, principles that closely align with Rotary's commitment to service above self.



Kevin's presentation offers an engaging look at how storytelling, leadership, and values intersect both on and off the air.

---

## Rotary Members - Are You New to DACdb?

DACdb is the database that houses details for Carmel Rotarians, the Carmel club, and District 6560. If you are new to DACdb or need a refresher, then go to the newly created link titled 'How to's on DACdb' on the website's left navigation bar, under Club Links.

From here you can learn how to:

- Login
- Change Your Password
- Update Your Contact Information
- Enter a Make Up

\*\*\*If you have previously logged into DACdb but don't remember your password, then contact Andrea Rice to have your password reset. You can directly email her by clicking on the 'Member Directory' link on the left navigation bar of the website. Once the page opens, scroll to Andrea's name and click on it. Fill out the requested information, including a note to reset your password. Click 'Send Mail'.

---

## Important Links

[Carmel Rotary Website](#)

[District 6560 Website](#)

[Carmel Rotary Facebook Page](#)

[Rotary International Website](#)

---

## Carmel Rotary Zoom Link

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87091303825?pwd=ZjBGekNaYkkszTOVZdnhDYjhidUtsQT09>

**Meeting ID: 870 9130 3825**

**Passcode: 4waytest**

**One tap mobile**

+16465588656,,87091303825#,,,,\*73005176# US (New York)

+13017158592,,87091303825#,,,,\*73005176# US (Washington DC)

**Dial USING YOUR ACTUAL PHONE by your location**

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

**Meeting ID: 870 9130 3825**

**Passcode: 73005176**

**Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kH5bJHKI5>**

---

## Gearbox Sponsors



**Greg Pilling**

NMLS # 873570 317-495-8042  
greg@currentmortgage.ai



**CURRENT  
MORTGAGE**

Tech Driven. Client Centered.

NMLS # 2554422

## proud to protect Carmel



**Ranj Puthran**

**317-844-4683**

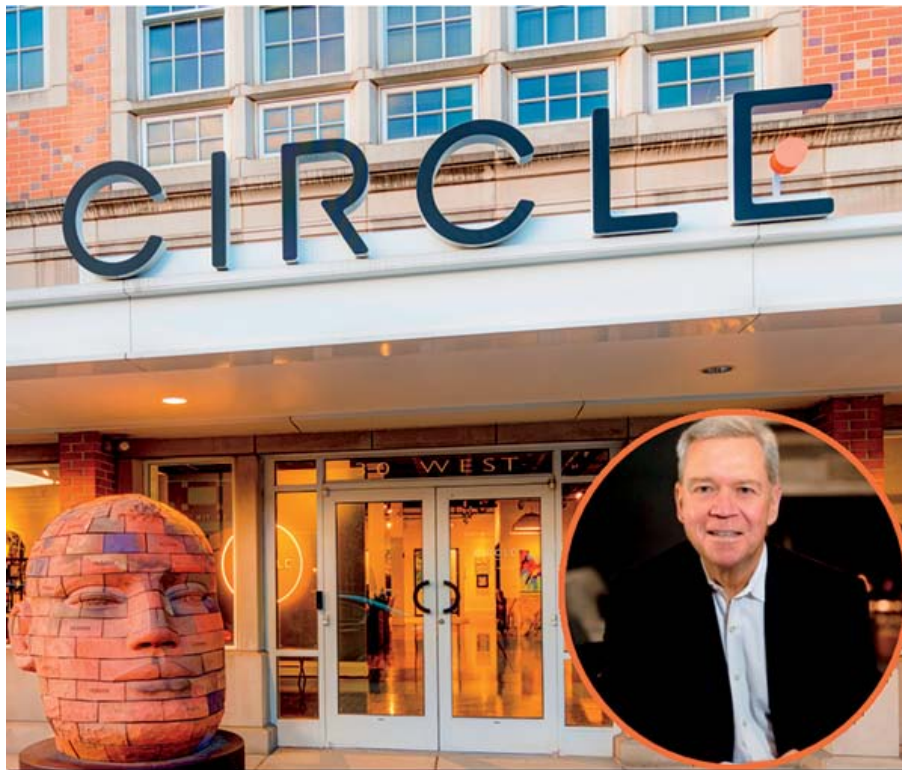
718 Adams St Ste B

Carmel

ranjitputhran@allstate.com



Subject to terms, conditions & availability. Allstate Fire and Casualty Ins. Co. & affiliates:  
3100 Sanders Rd. Northbrook, IL. © 2023 Allstate Insurance Co. GM20140



**JAY O'NEIL**

jay@circle-re.com

+1 317 848 0008

Your *Trusted* Realtor &  
Carmel Rotarian for *36* Years

## Club Member Anniversaries



[Phillip G. Anderson](#)  
37 Years



[Sharleen Miller](#)  
14 Years



[Monica Frauhiger](#)  
3 Years



[Nam Mokwunye](#)  
2 Years



[Kumiko K. Brunson](#)  
25 Years



[Kwan Hui](#)  
7 Years



[Greg Pilling](#)  
3 Years



[David Pencak](#)  
19 Years



[Robert Wright Swanay](#)  
7 Years



[Jess A. Lawhead](#)  
2 Years

## Birthdays

[Mark Satz](#)  
February 4th

[Kelvin T. Okamoto](#)  
February 11th

[Peggy A. Powell](#)  
February 17th

[James H. Tannehill](#)  
February 29th

[Winston Long](#)  
February 5th

[Tyler E. Smith](#)  
February 11th

[Cristina Mazza Piccolo](#)  
February 20th

[Lyndsey M. Brown](#)  
March 2nd

[Jason Randlett](#)  
February 7th

[Ramesh K. Joshi](#)  
February 14th

[Elizabeth Hamilton](#)  
February 26th

[Lyra Lee](#)  
March 2nd

## Wedding Anniversaries

[Elyas F. Musleh](#)  
February 17th

[Subhash C. Khanna](#)  
February 19th

[Gerald M. Hughes](#)  
February 19th