



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

Rotary Heroes Recognition

Saturday, April 21, 2018

District Conference
Grand Haven-Spring Lake, Michigan

Rotary
District 6360





**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

**LEAD
WITH YOUR
HEAD,
HEART
AND
HANDS.**

Rotary
District 6360





Albion

Kelly Rice - "Energizer Bunny"

Kelly is always very energetic and thinking of new activities for our Rotary club. She is involved in the Highway pick up, and is always trying to think of different fundraisers for a way to raise money for our Rotary club and give back to others. She was brought into Rotary by her father-in-law and has been an active member since she started with her club. Kelly is our Energizer Bunny and is always looking for new ways to help!



Battle Creek

John Godfrey - "Service with a Smile"

A member of the Rotary Club of Battle Creek for over three decades, John Godfrey started out as a junior Rotarian, when he was sponsored by the Rotary to attend Boys State at Michigan State University. His interest in joining was in part influenced by his father, who was a Lions Club member. John describes Rotary as the premiere service club in the world that serves as an excellent avenue in meeting and networking with members from within the community. A connection to the world and Rotary's motto *Service Above Self* are both life-long inspirations for how John lives his life. One aspect of embracing the Rotary motto is the opportunity to participate in a wide array of community service projects sponsored by Rotary in Battle Creek. To that end, John has volunteered in such projects as the Conservation Day river clean up, ramp building projects with Habitat, the back-pack program at the Foodbank of South Central Michigan and the Annual Rotary Children's Christmas party. His efforts continue by supporting the club's grants program for local non-profit organizations. Along with providing grants, Rotary has taken on a leadership role in mentoring and enhancing many community organizations. He also spoke of the very critical role that Rotary International has eradicating polio around the world.

A former business owner in Battle Creek, John served on the city commission for ten years and as mayor of Battle Creek for four of those years. John serves on the board for the Rotary Club of Battle Creek, Habitat for Humanity and the Calhoun County Spartan Club. John's *Service Above Self* always includes a genuine smile. John and his wife, Jean, have been married 51 years. They have three children, Amy, Jim, and Kathy and six grandchildren. John is a veteran having served 5 years as an officer in the United States Army in Europe and Vietnam.



Benton Harbor Sunrise

Mike Kinney - "Get 'Er Done"

Working behind the scenes, making a difference, and getting it done for the Benton Harbor Sunrise Club, Mike Kinney is our 2018 Rotary Hero. A member since 1996, Mike makes sure the work gets done, whether it's a work project requiring lots of coordination and detailed planning or one of our fun fellowship events. He supports the Club providing storage space for thousands of books distributed throughout Benton Harbor, manages relationships with the city for our projects and the Elks as host of our weekly meetings, and plans with the help of his wife, and our President Nominee, Cindy all our fun fellowship events. *Service Above Self* extends beyond Rotary as Mike volunteers at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Benton Harbor, Elks Lodge #541, the St. Joseph Junior Sailing Foundation, and St. Joseph River Yacht Club, all while running a property management business guided by the Rotary Four-Way Test. Mike is making a difference in our club, the community, and as a businessman exemplifying Rotary service and values.



Berrien Springs-Eau Claire

Frank Noble - "Able Leader"

Frank jumped in to serve a 2nd term as President in 2017-18 when the Berrien Springs - Eau Claire Club unexpectedly lost its President-Elect near the end of the prior year. Frank had served as Club President in 2004-05, and he willingly devoted time and energy to fill the vacancy and ably lead the Club this year. Frank has been a Rotarian for more than 17 years and is a Paul Harris Fellow. He is always there for community service projects and fundraising activities, particularly as one of our hard-working BBQ pit masters every August. Frank Noble exemplifies *Service Above Self*.



Cereal City Sunrise (Battle Creek)

John Hallacy - "Unassuming Leadership"

John is one of the founding members of our club which last year celebrated our 25th anniversary. John is very active in the community and does it very quietly and unassumingly and has made many charitable connections for the club over the years.



Charlotte

John Newland - "All-In"

John has been a distinguished member of the Charlotte Rotary Club for the last 21 years and has had perfect attendance for the last 15 years. Following the *Four Way Test*, John has put Rotary before himself by being a sustaining member, a three-time Paul Harris recipient, and also a Rotary Benefactor.

John has served his local club and district by serving as club President, and serving 6 years as Assistant District Governor. John is very active in Rotary by chairing our Read-To-Me Committee, and serving on many club committees such as Adopt-A-Highway (rumor has it, John has only missed 1 clean up since our program began), Environmental Committee, Sergeant-a-arms Committee and many more.

John loves to participate in outdoor activities, such as mountain climbing, ice climbing, skiing, and hunting and fishing.

John is a true role model for Rotary. Our club is lucky to have him as a member.



Climax

Bill Smith - "Rotary Champion"

Our club is pleased to nominate Bill Smith as a Rotary Hero. Bill has been very active in our club and District promoting Rotary. He truly exemplifies *Service Above Self*. We feel that Bill is truly deserving of the Hero award. Every week Bill reminds us of the importance of Rotary to both our community and the world at large. Bill is our link to the district and to Rotary International. Bill keeps us on track for our goals and helps guide us for future projects. He is just a great example of what it is to be a Rotarian.



Coldwater Township Sunrise

Sarah Headley - "Our Inspiration"

Sarah is truly an inspiration to the club. She has a quiet decisive manner and a big heart. She is the level head when the rest of us have ideas that are not so level. Not only is she the top seller of items for the club but she also sells the club because she believes in Rotary and our concept of a family-friendly club. Sarah is our Rotary hero because she truly exemplifies the *Service Above Self* motto. Woman, mother, wife, business woman, Rotarian, friend. Winston Churchill said, "I never worry about action, but only inaction." We never have to worry about this with Sarah . . . Action is what she does . . . encouraging and inspiring others. Thank you Sarah for being Our Rotary Hero!



Constantine

Mark Honeysett - "Officer & Gentleman"

To know Mark Honeysett is an honor. He exemplifies what Rotary stands for--that service and duty to others far outweigh personal ambitions. It is not surprising this sort of man chose to go into law enforcement.

He is the police chief/village manager in the Village of Constantine, serving as a police officer for over 35 years before he assumed the duties of police chief and village manager in May, 2014.

Mark has been a member since 1987, is a past Rotary president and is always willing to fill that role in the event someone else cannot.



Delta-Waverly

Mike Curley- "Active Participant"

Mike Curley is actively involved in pretty much every Rotary event we hold including the Backpack Program, Woldumar Garden Clean up, manning the booth at the Delta Side Business Expo, management of the Ball Drop at our annual Golf Outing and regularly provides us with a meaningful invocation before our meal at our weekly meeting. Basically, he encompasses every aspect of what it means to be a Rotarian. He puts *Service Above Self* and is a true role model for our Club.



Delton Area

David Stoll - "Imagination Man"

David Stoll, has been nominated as Delton's Rotary Hero. David has been a member of the Delton Rotary since 2014 and has demonstrated enthusiasm for all of Rotary's endeavors. He was the Delton president in 2016-17 and will be serving as the new assistant governor for Rotary District 6360 beginning in July 2018.

David helped launch Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in October 2016 for Barry County. The Imagination Library sends any child, ages 0-5 years old, a book each month at no cost to the family. He was inspired to start the project in Barry County after seeing how excited his own children became when they received a special book each month in the mail. David soon discovered that the program did not exist in Barry County. He originally invited both the Hastings and Middleville Rotary clubs to be a part of this important reading program. Since then, the Barry County ISD, Barry County United Way, Kiwanis Club of Hastings, and other organizations have also contributed financially to the program. He has also helped raise young child literacy awareness and has facilitated the raising of funds to help cover the costs for the program. As of March 2018, there are over 950 students enrolled in the Barry County program. David's selfless gifts of time and talent have made a significant contribution to the success of this project.

David lives in Plainwell with his wife Kathi and his two sons Lucas (8) and Matthew (6). In his free time he enjoys scuba diving, geocaching, photography, camping, swimming, traveling, spending time with his family and is also a Cub Scout den leader.



Dowagiac

Barbara Groner - "Remarkable Rotarian"

The Rotary Club of Dowagiac would like to nominate Barbara "Remarkable Rotarian" Groner for our Rotary Hero. I am pleased to say Barbara is a unanimous selection from our club. All members, whether fledgling or experienced, recognize the value she brings to our organization. Barb's vast knowledge of the workings of various parts of Rotary has proved invaluable. Always willing to step up and help (whether asked or not), Barbara is a beacon of light in our community. I am confident in saying our chapter would not be nearly as strong as it is without Barbara's continuous contributions.



East Lansing

Amy Jarrad-Wibert - "Character & Commitment"

Amy has stepped up in a very selfless way to take charge of the Club's treasury several years ago. At the time the club had a significant financial arrears on the books due to a variety of reasons. Despite holding a full time executive-level position at her firm, Amy spent dozens of late hours bringing our financial records to a very solid standard.

Amy was approved a leave of absence for maternity leave - however she continued to work with an interim treasurer during her leave as well—always *Can Do* to every question and every request, her generous time beyond the call of duty and commitment to deliver a high professional standard with the accounting reports to our board and our Club—exemplifies *Service Above Self*.



Grand Ledge

Chris Feazel - "Rooftop Feaz"

Chris graduated from high school and immediately enlisted into the Army where he served four years in the infantry. Soon after his discharge, 11 days to be exact, Chris received employment at Big L Lumber Corporation. He has climbed the ladder for 31 years and manages the Grand Ledge location.

Chris has two daughters, Leanna and Christa, along with his "little pride and joy", granddaughter Addi. In his spare time, Chris likes to build houses and really enjoys traveling. He joined the Grand Ledge Rotary Club 4 years ago. He has been a key Rotarian by taking on community projects such as re-roofing park pavilions by donating his time and materials to get them completed. This is why we chose him as our 2018 GL Rotary Club Hero! Thanks for your service Chris!!



Gull Lake Area

Bill Brandenberger - "Done it All"

Bill (Billy Bob to his closest friends) represents the very heart and soul of what it means to be a Rotarian. He has done it all. He has been a Rotarian for a total of 47 years (Danville, Illinois and Gull Lake), with perfect attendance for 36 of those years. He's served as President of both clubs and has been involved in just about every one of our club's committees and projects. He is one of the best promoters of Rotary and a fundraiser extraordinaire. He has been the driving force in organizing and selling tickets for our annual Spaghetti Dinner and 4th of July Raffle, and inspires others to follow his lead. He livens our meetings with humor, welcomes guests with his charm, and surprises us each year with a new calendar filled with his beautiful outdoor photography. We are honored to have Bill as our Rotary Hero.



Haslett-Okemos

Betty Mercer-Bolger - "Compassionate Volunteer"

Betty is our hero because she is a compassionate volunteer. Betty has used her considerable management, organizational and detail-oriented planning skills to assist our club in many ways during her 14 years in the club. She also is currently serving our district as the grants committee chair. While a member and chair of our foundation, Betty helped our club contribute to a number of different valuable community projects including the Harris Nature Center gathering circle, the Meridian Township Fire Station Community Room as well as the Okemos and Haslett Library Reading Rooms.

Betty also helped with a variety of humanitarian projects including feeding hungry children through the weekend survival kits, clean water projects and ending polio worldwide. Ms. Mercer-Bolger has exemplified the motto of Rotary, *Service Above Self*, throughout her years in our club. Betty's technical assistance helped us obtain numerous grants for our club foundation. We have been able to assist our community in many different ways because of her excellent long range planning with a focus on the important details that contribute to her success. Betty also is a compassionate person, evident in her successful assistance with our locally and international humanitarian projects, of course always in keeping with the tenants of the four way test.

Haslett-Okemos Rotary Club has been fortunate to call Betty Mercer-Bolger a member since 2004 and she is very deserving of the 2018 Hero Award!



Hastings

Rob Deming - "Volunteer Extraordinaire"

When anything needs to be done for Rotary, Rob always is ready to serve! In addition to Rob being an active member of the Hastings Club's Board of Directors, Rob has cheerfully and effectively always been among the first persons to volunteer for countless Club projects and activities over the years. Rob also been responsible for leading two of the Club's major projects for several years - as a sponsor of the Hastings High School Interact Club, and as the chairperson of the Club's yearly *Highway Clean-up* project. Rob's leadership in both areas of responsibility has been exemplary, especially in terms of Rob successfully encouraging other Club members to also take an active part in the projects.



Hillsdale

Rachel Doty - "Always Prepared"

Rachel is our Rotary Club Hero this year due to the tremendous leadership she provides our club. Rachel was our Club Secretary last year, Club President this year, and will be Club Secretary next year. At the same time, she has been our club's lead and driving force for our annual Children's Christmas Party for local economically disadvantaged elementary school kids. Rachel is an excellent organizer of meetings and events and is *Always Prepared*.



Ionia

Jon Caswell - "Ionia Bulldog"

The membership has chosen long-time member Jon Caswell as its Rotary Hero. The Bulldogs are the official mascot of the Ionia School District. Jon Caswell is an Ionia Bulldog because he has worked his entire life to lift up the town of Ionia. Jon's tenacity over the years has enriched the lives of Ionians in many ways. He has been a member of Rotary for 32 years and served on the board of directors and scholarship committee for many decades. Jon has been a willing worker at our various fund raisers and community events over the years.

Jon stands for education. He has always been very committed to the school system and is a member of the Library Board and is very involved with United Way.

In his business life, Jon is a long-time Ford and RV dealer and has employed many people in Ionia, some of them current Rotary members.

In his spiritual life, he has been a long-time member of Sts. Peter and Paul and served in many roles there, including head of the Financial Council.

Jon, who is currently undergoing treatment for pancreatic cancer, is carrying out his fight with a fantastic attitude and Spirit. He is a true Ionia Bulldog!



Jackson Breakfast

Jon Hart - "Kid's First"

In addition to him having been the first member to serve two consecutive terms as Club President, his passion for helping and educating children is beyond measure. He launched the first ever (to our knowledge) middle school Interact Club and has continued his commitment to its success by guiding that club on an ongoing basis. He has also taken responsibility for organizing the annual Big Brothers Big Sisters skating party that our club sponsors and it has grown to its most recent total of 140 "littles". In addition, he is the club representative that participates in organizing the eight-week Junior Achievement teaching program that both Jackson Rotary Clubs partnership in. And lastly, his involvement in the annual Halloween Trunk-or-Treat has not gone unnoticed. His consistency and follow-through have been an example of what every Rotarian should inspire to possess.



Jackson

Manya Otis - "Perpetual Mentor"

Manya Otis has been a longtime member of the Rotary Club of Jackson. She has served in multiple roles. Of significance, she was the first woman President of the Rotary Club of Jackson and is an integral part of ramp building. She knows her stuff and has her overalls and straw hat on to show that she means business when at a ramp. In every facet of our Rotary world she shows great leadership. She is always kind and funny. She is particularly helpful with new members. Perpetual Mentor was chosen to best describe her because even when she isn't a new member's mentor, she is always there to help and give advice. She also is a great recruiter for our club — but be prepared because she tells you not only all the good things about Rotary, but also what Rotary's true expectations for you as a member are as well. Whether it is the club in general or ramp building, she has a great way to make everyone feel welcome and wanted. On ramps, she excels with first time or newbie ramp builders by giving them productive tasks with guidance to make them feel like their participation is appreciated and meaningful. She is our hero!



Jonesville

Dr. Raymond Leising- "Student Mentor"

Dr. Leising is a retired science teacher who has continued to remain involved in the community and schools from which he retired, Jonesville, Michigan. He has participated in every service project that our Club has taken on, and also worked with Jonesville Community Schools to develop a project that allowed him to continue his passions: working with students, woodworking and the outdoors. Through his leadership, a small group of Rotarians began working with middle school students to build Cedar-strip canoes and kayaks during the school day and after school a few times each week. 2018 marks the third year the group has provided this opportunity for students to come in and work-hands on with Rotarians to take on this project. During this time, Rotarians have worked with students during Industrial Arts classes, WIN classes and after school to allow a large variety of kids to take part. Rotarians have taken this opportunity to build relationships with students and mentor them through positive activities and interactions. Once built, Dr. Leising displayed the final project during the largest festival in the Jonesville Community, Riverfest. For his continued efforts and selfless giving, the Jonesville Rotary Club would like to nominate Dr. Leising as our Rotary Hero!



Kalamazoo

Susan Sondag - "Selfless & Reliable"

Why is Susan our *Rotary Hero*? Susan has stepped up in so many ways this year. After the Club's longtime music leader stepped into the President role, Susan answered the call to become the new chair of the Music Committee and primary song leader. When President Tim challenged the Club to participate in the bike ride supporting efforts to End Polio, Susan stepped up and took this project on without hesitation. She organized an indoor bike ride at a local health club to coincide with the ride sponsored by the Tucson, Ariz. Rotary Club. Because of her efforts in this, an additional \$1,200 was raised in the fight to end Polio, which was over and above what our Club had already raised. Thanks to her, after the Gates match, another 6,000 children will be safe from Polio. As if those things weren't enough, Susan organized this year's "Bell Ringing Campaign" with our local Salvation Army. Susan is always ready to take on a challenge, organize, participate and help with our Club's activities. She truly exemplifies *Service Above Self*.



Lakeshore

Larry Klett - "Bulldog"

The Lakeshore Rotary Club would like to nominate Mr. Larry "Bulldog" Klett as our Rotary hero. He is our Sergeant-at-Arms, is a past president, and chairs numerous committees, such as our Senior Citizen Night, one of our signature projects, which he has chaired for about 30 years. Please find attachment with picture and information.



Lansing

John "Irv" Nichols - "Dependable Gentleman"

Irv Nichols is our Lansing 2018 Rotary Hero. Irv's work and fundraising on behalf of numerous local charities is outstanding. Irv was instrumental in raising money to fund Rotary's leadership of the Lansing 150 project. Irv defines the term "Gentleman" and treats everyone he meets with a kindness that is remarkable. Irv has been a Rotarian since April 18, 1958 and was President 1972-1973. He is also a Paul Harris +2 Fellow.



Marshall

Martin Overhiser - "Able Leader"

Marty has been a member since 1993, was our Club president in 1997, and is a Paul Harris Fellow. He is retired from a career in city administration, most recently in Ann Arbor. He is currently our membership chair, in which he's been doing an outstanding job.



Mason

Ingrid Nova - "Energizer Rotarian"

Ingrid Nova has been an exceptionally active member of the Mason Club for eight years with perfect attendance throughout her tenure. She has served as President one term, Youth Exchange Office for three years, Secretary for four years and Board Member for eight years. She has contributed to New Generations and service project committees and annually assists with the Duck Race and Golf Outing.

She introduced the Club to "Buddy Benches" and facilitated the Club's purchase of one for a local elementary school. At a time when "bullying" is a problem in our schools, provision of "Buddy Benches" becomes an important response to the problem. The Club recently received a District Foundation Grant coauthored by Ingrid to fund a Buddy Bench in every Mason area elementary school.

Ingrid was a Rotary Exchange Student to Japan and Sweden. One of her greatest contributions to the Mason Club has been hosting five of our Exchange Students from Belgium, Denmark, Japan, Sweden and Croatia. She has volunteered to support and host the incoming student from Thailand.

The Rotary Club of Mason is pleased to name Ingrid Nova as its 2018 Rotary Hero based on her significant contributions.



Middleville

Michael Bremer - "Faithful & Energetic"

Michael Bremer is our Middleville Rotary Hero because he loves his community and is very active in keeping Middleville a friendly, caring and attractive place to live. Mike sets up the room almost every Tuesday for our Middleville Rotary Club meetings and puts our Rotary sign by the road. With his preparing for the Rotary meetings, the meetings go so much smoother. Without his help, it feels like the wheels might fall off. He is totally shameless, often wearing a duck costume in Middleville's Heritage Day parade to promote our Rotary's Duck Race fundraiser. Mike never hesitates to take on or help with projects: spaghetti suppers, art auction, supporting the Imagination Library, duck race, and he has created and driven floats promoting Rotary in many local parades. Mike went to the Dominican Republic to install BioSand water filters in 2015, attended the Rotary International Peace Conference in Ann Arbor in 2017, is the current Chairman of the District 6360 Children's Safe Water Committee, and has made numerous presentations to District 6360 clubs regarding the work on the Children's Safe Water Committee. Middleville Rotary is blessed to have Mike as a member, past-president and friend. Mike moved into Thornapple Township in 1952 and worked at local farms through high school. He graduated from Thornapple Kellogg High School in 1968 and University of Montana in 1974. Mike has 5 children and 8 grandchildren, works as the Thornapple Township Supervisor and lives with his wife, Janette, in Middleville.



Paw Paw Lake

Art Anderson - "Mr. Dependable"

Art is a charter member of our club and a Paul Harris Fellow. He has served as Club Assembly set up and take down for many years. Over the 35 years as a member he has helped other members stay as members by helping pay their dues when needed. Art has been a great part of our fundraising projects. His help in our fundraising projects has kept our club going. Art is the meaning of a *Rotarian* as he does more for the club than anyone realizes and wants no recognition.



Plainwell

Ron Norland - "The Patriarch"

Plainwell Rotary recognizes Ron Norland as our Rotary Hero. Ron is "The Patriarch" of our club. Ron has been a member of Plainwell Rotary for 29 years (1989), is a Paul Harris Fellow, and past club president. Ron provides a gentle guiding hand to our club on what we should be doing and what is right. He often bridges the gap between the days of yore and the present in how we approach our business. Even though Ron is not able to make all our meetings anymore, his mere presence brings joy and a spirit to the meetings. His wisdom, humor, and perseverance are qualities that shine through that are so respected and loved by all.

For all this, and even more, we recognize Ron Norland as our Rotary Hero for being "The Patriarch" of Plainwell Rotary.



Portage

Bill Crown - "A Real Doer"

Bill is a doer. He is in the top five of community service hours on an annual basis. He participates in all community service events, and volunteers his time at all of our fundraisers. Bill is passionate about the success of the club and its sustainability, and leads by example in all avenues. Bill spends a lot of his free time in woodworking, and the club has been the beneficiary of many of his projects, including our podium and Paul Harris plaque. He is a "Rotarian's Rotarian," in that he puts *Service Above Self* and lives the motto of Rotary on a daily basis.



South Haven

Art Ayers - "Leader by Example"

When Art Ayers' term as club president concluded a year ago, he could easily have taken a step back to catch his breath. Not this Rotarian. His year as immediate past president has been chock-full of *Service Above Self*. Art delivers a thoughtful invocation at every meeting. He accepted the chairmanship of the Grants Committee—our club's busiest committee. He didn't miss an opportunity to be involved in the club's many service projects, including the weekly community dinners served at his church. He also mentored an Eagle Scout candidate and when one of our snowbird Rotarians sought a volunteer to write the weekly newsletter, Art raised his hand. He is an amazing example of the servant leader.



St. Johns

Chris Brewbaker - "Go-To Person"

When we talk about the Rotarian who exemplifies *Service Above Self* from our St. Johns Rotary Club, it has to be Chris Brewbaker. Chris has chaired several important programs for our club such as, 4th of July Fireworks Program, Maple Rapids Cub Scout assistance, St. Johns Elementary Summer Reading Program, and our Helping Hands Event. Whenever our club needs something or a volunteer, Chris gets the call or is first to say "I will do it." I wished our club had at least four more individuals just like him—it would be amazing to see what our club could accomplish. As the current president I cannot thank him enough for the guidance and leadership he has provided me and our club. Chris Brewbaker is our "Go-To Person" if you want to get things done. It is with great honor on behalf of our club that I submit Chris Brewbaker as our Rotary Hero.



St. Joseph & Benton Harbor

Emily Kirchner - "Difference Maker"

The Rotary Club of St. Joseph & Benton Harbor is proud to nominate Emily Kirchner as our Hero for 2017-2018 based on the following comments: Emily hit the ground running when she joined Rotary, being one of the first to volunteer where she can help, and certainly not afraid of hard work. She took our weekly electronic newsletter, the eWheel, to a new level of excellence in communications. Emily has taken our external media and public relations to a new high for our club and our multiple Interact clubs, and keeps our website up to date. She is an extremely active Board member.

She doesn't stop at Rotary, or her role at Whirlpool Corporation! Her "hobby job" is choreographing for local musicals: Lake Michigan College, Children's Music Workshop, South Bend Civic, St. Joseph High School, TeenStock, Twin City Players, and Whirlpool.

What Rotarians and friends say about Emily: Effervescent. Vibrant. Enthusiastic. Versatile. Expressive. Loyal. Earnest. Vivacious. Driven. Engaging. Energetic. Heroic. Energized. Unstoppable. Ebullient. Thorough. Extraordinary. Impactful. Exuberant. Reliable. Endearing. Trustworthy. Excels. Exemplary *Service Above Self*.



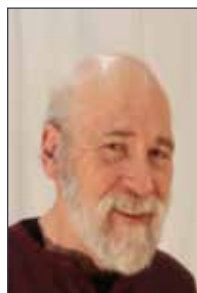
Union City

Ken Brooks - "Quiet Hero"

In a landslide vote, Union City Rotary has chosen Ken Brooks as their *Hero*. Ken has been a Rotarian since 1978 holding many positions such as Past President, Treasurer twice, currently Sergeant-at-Arms, and served on the board of Directors.

Although now retired, with 38 years experience as Vice President of Union City's Southern Michigan Bank and Trust, Ken has provided our club with financial advice on numerous occasions.

A family man, Ken has been married to his lovely wife Jan going on 41 years this May. He has 2 children and 6 grandchildren. When not providing community service, Ken enjoys hunting, fishing, bowling and golf.



Vicksburg

David Aubry - "Quiet Contributor"

David quietly goes about honoring his commitment to Rotary. He has served as President, continues to serve on the Board, is a Strive mentor and regularly and quietly purchases cups, coffee, and lemonade for our lunches. David oversees the stage crew management for the annual Vicksburg Rotary Showboat and has selflessly worked to identify supplementary fundraising activities, e.g. Pancake Breakfasts and 50/50 for our endowment. David is also active in the Vicksburg community. He is a volunteer van driver for South County Community Services, does monthly supply deliveries, helps pack food baskets, and assisted with fundraising to build a pavilion. He is active with the Vicksburg Historical Society, assisting with painting, Historic Village cleanup, and many other tasks. David has been on the Schoolcraft Township Planning Commission, Vicksburg District Library board, Kalamazoo County Election Inspector, and local credit union board. David has taught a variety of community classes, and mentored students and Boy Scouts.

David and his wife, Kristina, supported and assisted one of the Vicksburg Rotarians for several years whose health continued to decline, allowing him to continue living in his home.

The Vicksburg Club is honored to recognize David as our Hero who lives the Rotary concept of *Service Above Self*.



Williamston Sunrise

Raj Wiener - "Vision & Outreach"

Placing *Service Above Self* is one of the guiding principles of Rotarians around the world and the Williamston Sunrise Rotary is fortunate to have one of the most dedicated and hardworking Rotarians that symbolizes just that.

Raj Wiener is not just the 2017-2018 president of the Williamston Sunrise Rotary. Her list of accomplishments and the impacts she makes on the club and community are far reaching. When we asked our club who embodies the characteristics of the Rotary Hero there was no debate and in fact we only had to take one nomination to know it was Raj. The nomination was met with an outpouring and unanimous vote for Raj.

Raj is dedicated to ensuring that the club is constantly moving forward at all times and maintaining and developing a positive public image. She has been an integral part in helping us reestablish our 501c non profit status, which has allowed us to receive tax deductible donations from our community to fund our projects. She also was responsible for the collaboration of the Haslett-Okemos, East Lansing, and Williamston Sunrise Rotary clubs matching grant proposal that went to fund the "Many Hands Weekend Survival Kits," a grant that has fed hundreds of children who otherwise would be malnourished on the weekends. In addition she leads our group in the preparation and cooking for food for the Haven House, a place that supports and shelters families who are homeless or displaced, in our neighboring community. The list does not stop there—in fact that is just the beginning as Raj also has hosted events to teach the community about Polio—and many other topics and projects over the year.

Williamston Sunrise Rotary is proud to nominate our 2017-2018 President, Raj Wiener. We look forward to the impacts that all of her hard work over the last year has and will provide.

- > **SMART**
- > **COMPASSIONATE**
- > **PERSERVERING**
- > **INSPIRING**

Rotary
District 6360

