



The Sunrise

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November 2023

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Sunrise Calendar

(Subject to change)

November

- 3: Regular Club meeting, 7am, NCC
- 3: Move trailer to Naper Lights site
- 4: Naper Lights setup, 8am – 1pm
- 10: Regular Club meeting, 7am, NCC
- 10: Food drive for West Suburban Food Pantry
- 14: Club Board meeting, 7am, ZOOM
- 17: Regular Club meeting, 7am, NCC
- 24: No Club meeting this week

*please direct ideas for speakers and Club projects to **Bill Hassett***

“They never said ‘no’ to anyone”

Mary Ann Bobosky



President **Srinu** presents **Carmen DiGiovine** with her **Paul Harris** pin.

In conjunction with our **Carmen DiGiovine** Memorial Rotary Ride disbursements, we presented a **Paul Harris Fellowship** to **Jane DiGiovine**. It was given in honor of all she and her late husband, **Carmen** (at right), have done for Rotary and

the community. Carmen was a co-founder and principal of DiGiovine Hnilo Jordan + Johnson Ltd. and DiGiovine Hnilo Jordan + Johnson Financial Advisors Ltd. in Naperville. Also participating in the presentation were **Mary Ann Bobosky**, and Past President **Stephanie Randall**.

\$9,000 from Rotary Ride Disbursed

Vice-President **Bill Hassett** thanked all those who worked on this year’s Rotary Ride, with special recognition to **Jim Ensign** and **Stephanie Randall** for being “the leaders who made the ride a success.”

Jim also praised volunteers who filled a considerable number of manpower requirements. “Doing this takes energy and there no way Steph and I have the energy to do all that...and Sephanie’s great with paperwork which I purposefully suck at.” He said the success of this year’s ride gives us momentum to carry the event into 2024. Jim presented checks to:



Dan Jurjovec with Naperville Responds for Veterans, making home improvements and modifications for veterans in financial straits.

Scott Thurman, executive director of 360 Youth Services, providing mental health counseling, homeless services, and substance abuse programming.



Janet Derrick, executive vice-president for programs at Loaves & Fishes. Janet said the organization, which has 30,000 clients in their database, “moves people toward self-sufficiency and serves 80,000 people each week.”



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Foundation Chairman **Nikhil Gupta** accepted a donation to the Rotary International effort to eradicate polio. Nikhil said we're 99.9% down that road. "We're still seeing small clusters in Pakistan and Afghanistan.



Keith Druke (Noon Rotary Club) and **Gary Baumgartner** (Downtown Rotary Club) were among the Rotary Ride Sponsors recognized at our October 6 Club meeting.



President Srinivasam, Geoff Roehl, John Keough and **Lynne Nolan** urge Sunrise Rotarians to sign up for Naper Lights setup and weekend shifts. Setup volunteers to:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B4CAA-AA2FA75-naper2>.

Weekend shifts greeting visitors go to:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B4CAA-AA2FA75-naper3>.

Attracting Youth to Rotary



Youth Services Committee cochairs **Lynne Nolan** and **Alice Wood** reminded us that the Rotary experience is what keeps young people coming back.

Lynne said, "part of the challenge of the (Committee) is to get outside of ourselves and provide an experience for youth that makes them think 'here's a place of like-minded people who are...safe people to work with your whole life long."

A major impediment to this concept, she added, is that kids are exposed to constantly changing leadership and volunteer venues. "Every four years there's a 100% turnover in the Interact Club (and) a 100 percent turnover in Naper Lights, the Rotary 5K, coat drive and so-on." The result, Lynne said, is that "kids don't know how to take the initiative and reach out to adults; that path has to be paved for them. Part of what I see for our Youth Committee is to provide opportunities to learn those skills."

Alice said it's crucial that our Club support and reinforce local youth leadership groups like the Interact clubs at Naperville North High School and Neuqua Valley High school. "Hopefully we're (setting) a good example for all young people who get involved with us. You would like to think that some day they'll think, 'I'm in the business world - I'm going to be a Rotarian!'"

Lynne, who crafted a career working with high school kids, said teenagers are basically unsure and need to know that they are wanted and are not just underfoot...affirmation is something we can easily give."

"I'm here to close the gender gap in independent schools. I'm here to empower women. I'm here to start a movement."

Rebecca Melotke-Meslin comes with a dense resume, describing herself as "leadership coach, consultant, keynote speaker, podcast host, writer, mother, feminist, anti-racist, and fashionista." Her company, "Pleasantly Aggressive," reflects her approach "to helping schools and nonprofits determine who their female leaders are. And I support them on that journey."

A recent guest speaker, Rebecca noted that 41 companies in the S&P 500 have female CEOs, yet "women-led companies have out-performed male-led companies." Among the reasons: "Male executives who mentor women beneath them are pulling punches. They're afraid to give critical feedback - afraid it will be seen as discrimination.

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What you've actually done is denied those women opportunities for growth – for developing thick skin.” She added that male bosses should not treat their women executives any differently than they do men.

Rebecca, an independent school administrator for 14 years, has “witnessed smart, capable women doubt themselves, get frustrated, and burn out. Rampant imposter syndrome, lack of available mentors, and outdated structures are some of (what is) holding women back from achieving their potential.”

Turnaround at NCC

When **Jim Miller** took over as senior director of athletics at North Central College, his predecessor exhorted him to build a winning football program. “In 2005 we hadn’t won a conference title since 1960, and we had won only three conference titles overall,” Jim told our September 29 meeting. Now, 18 years later, NCC boasts three national championship games, including two wins.



“In the last 12 years we’ve won 21 Division Three national titles with 35 top four finishes and 43 national titles overall,” Jim said. “Last year we won national championships in football, women’s wrestling, and women’s track.”

Jim explained that the turnaround was accomplished without major staff changes. “You have to listen” to what those around you are saying, “and you have to have the right people,” he said, adding that the job of directing and coaching athletics “isn’t that hard if you can do four things: be organized, decisive, honest, and check your ego at the door.”

Annual Gift Giving



With Christmas around the corner, **Ginnie Moore** is steering our involvement in the annual District 203 Holiday Gift drive. The Naperville Education Foundation (NEF) is requesting a \$50 cash donation from each Rotarian. The proceeds will be used to purchase gift cards for junior high, high school, and Connections Transition Services students. To contribute, visit:

<https://nef203.org/rotary-holiday-giving.html>.

Or give cash directly to Ginnie. Checks should be payable to the Naperville Education Foundation and either given to Ginnie or mailed to Naperville School District 203, 203 W. Hillside, 60540. Note on the check that you belong to the Sunrise Rotary Club. If you mail your check, please let Ginnie know.



Tom Miers’ new granddaughter, **Luna**, opened her first bank account. Guess which bank?

(Photo by **Tom Miers**)

(End)