



The Sunrise

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August 2022

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Sunrise Calendar (subject to change)

August

- 5: Regular meeting, 7am, NCC – **Roger Breisch**
“provocateur”
- 9: Rotary Board meeting, 7am, ZOOM
- 12: Regular meeting, 7am, NCC – Avenues of Service
- 16: Foundation Committee meeting 6pm Quigley’s
- 19: Regular meeting, 7am, NCC – Know Your Rotarian
Ryan Siebert
- 26: No meeting

*please direct ideas for speakers
and club projects to **Marion Ruthig***

About Our New President



President Stephanie Randall with dad **Kevin** and mom **Susan**.

President **Stephanie Colbert Randall** moved to Naperville when her parents, **Kevin** and **Sue Colbert**, bought a custom picture framing shop from her grandparents. The Colberts welcomed numerous exchange students and live-in guests from around the world...a fruitful addition to Stephanie’s home schooling.

She began working in the family business in 2001, graduated from the College of Dupage in 2005, and from Purdue University in 2007. She bought a house in 2010 and volunteered with a church youth group and music programs as a violinist.

Stephanie met church musician and piano/organ instructor **Jason Randall** in 2016. The following year she bought the framing and art printing shop from her parents and got engaged during a trip to England. Stephanie and Jason were married the same year she joined Rotary – 2018. They now have three children: **Lydia Diane**, **Elizabeth Joy**, and **Chloe Grace**.

New Member



Sponsor **Deb Newman** presented a membership pin to **Jan Erickson** following Jan’s induction on June 10.

Jan Erickson knows her way around community service and business activities in Naperville. She was a Jaycee and a 30-year member of the Exchange Club, for which she ran Ribfest. She served as marketing director for the Chamber of Commerce while running her own special events company. Jan was the Riverwalk administrator for the city working with **Geoff Roehll** and was Commission chairman when she retired last year. Jan and husband **Bruce** have two daughters - **Betsy** and **Emily** - and Jan enjoys being a “full-time grandma” of two.



(More)



August 2022 (cont.)

Fiscal 2022 Community Service Funds Distributed

At our July 8 breakfast meeting, **Bill Hassett** and **Deb Newman** distributed our fiscal 2022 Community Service funds to three local charitable organizations:

- The Inside-Out Club “improves kids’ lives with good character and volunteerism.”
- Kids Matter, “empowering connecting, supporting and honoring kids and families;
- YMCA of Metro Chicago Safe ‘N Sound program, which provides a myriad of youth-centered enrichment programs;
- The West Suburban Community Pantry “offers food for the hungry and resources to empower people to improve their quality of life;”
- Indian Prairie Education Foundation, whose Background Track provides social and emotional support for at-risk students.



Bill Hassett with **Marion Ruthig** founder and executive director of the Inside-Out Club.

Deb Newman with **Nina Menis**, CEO and executive director at Kids Matter



Erika Wood, executive director at the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago.



Lisa Spaeth is director of development for the West Suburban Community Pantry.



Alica Johnson represented the Indian Prairie School District 204 Education Foundation.

Small Deck, Big Hearts

Under the command of **Tom Miers**, a handful of Rotarians and friends – including three “Johns” and two “Bruce’s” - turned out at the home of **Carol Sierzega**. Their weekend mission: raze her decaying deck and build a replacement. With help from Master Carpenter **Tim Walsh**, the mission was accomplished with only one trip to Home Depot and no amputations.



Left to right: **John Keough**, **John Tertel**, **Jonathan Miers**, **Carol Sierzega**, **Bruce Dixon**, **Bruce George**, **Dan Framberg**, **Tim Walsh**. Not shown: **Geoff Roehll**, **Tim Belgio**, **Paul DeKruif**, and photographer **Tom Miers**.

(More exciting photos)



August 2022 (cont.)



Tom and Geoff wreck the deck



Tim the Tool Man and assistant **Paul**



Tim put the screws to the screws.

Carol maintained a generous supply of home-baked goodies.



Going Out on a High Note



The city of Naperville’s financial situation is looking rosier, according to **Mayor Steve Chirico**, who has decided against running for a third term. Addressing our June 3 breakfast meeting, the Mayor explained that, as the millennium progressed, increasing debt and thin cash reserves were making it difficult to provide routine services. He called this a “bad trajectory.”

“Between 2000 and 2016 we took on about 60-million dollars of additional debt. We (spent down) about 120-million dollars of our reserves, and we were investing in our infrastructure at a rate of about half of what was needed to properly maintain it.”

So an earnest search for revenue was launched. “We approved a local sales tax, which has helped significantly; but the lion’s share of the funding came from our local economy, which has gained steam in the last several years.” He added that many vacant or non-productive buildings got new lives.

One victory was getting Patel Brothers into the long-vacant Menards building at the corner of Ogden and Jefferson Avenues. It took five years to land the city’s second Costco, which anchors a revived retail area along East Ogden Avenue.

“The Mall of India is now in the old Walmart building, and the Sam’s Club building will become the Matrix Club and Lounge...a 140-thousand foot event facility.”

Also, “City Gate West is expanding in north-west Naperville on the west side of Route 59 north of 88. That area is approved to become 400 apartment units, seven restaurants, a medical building and 60-thousand feet of office space.”

Ever present, Chirico said, is “our mother of all mandates...to undertake a complete rebuilding of the water treatment plant in south Naperville” by 2026.

(More)



August 2022 (cont.)

Covid In the Rear View Mirror



Brad Wilson

As far as outdoor activities are concerned, Naperville is golden, according to the new executive director of the Naperville Park District. Things weren't so rosy in 2020 when classes went virtual and many families avoided group settings, though most outdoor activities continued to be popular. **Brad Wilson** told our June 10 breakfast that 2021 was a rebound year which saw a total visitor figure of 127,000. "The average during normal times is about 130,000...we have numbers that are beyond what we had in 2018 and 2019." The World Health Organization declared Covid a pandemic on March 11, 2020.

"One of the ways the Pandemic challenged us was we had to shift...to continue offering services to the community (while) trying to avoid canceling programs. We downsized events at the Grand Pavillion...required reservations and appointments. Wilson said the Park District has a diverse offering of over 7,500 classes, events, performances, and teams" and has expanded trails, which are hugely popular.

All facilities that were closed due to Covid were reopened last year.



The return of our weekly breakfasts to the Naperville County Club prompted Sunshine Bucks from caterer **Tim Belgio**, who said he "appreciates the opportunity" to set up the Friday food service at the Rubin Center, but that it "makes for a long day. We're outta here!"

East African Swap



IdaLynn Wenhold (second from left) exchanges banners with the Rotary Club of Lavington Jioni Nairobi, who are partnering with us to help fund construction of a new Cheryl's Home & School in Kenya. The International Committee led by **Deb Newman** and **Dawn Newman** has sent \$34,000 over the past two years to help fund the school and school supplies.

Former Sunrise Rotarian **James (Jim) Dudley** died peacefully June 20 at Alden Nursing Home in Naperville. Jim's obituary states that he graduated from Naperville High School and then DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. After service in the United States Air Force, he worked for



Illinois Bell Telephone Co. in Maywood, La Grange and Chicago. Over the years he was president of our Club, president of Naperville Multiple Listing Service, DuPage Board of Realtors and was a trustee of LaGrange Methodist Church. Jim is survived by his wife, **Valerie Dudley**, children **Michael (Mary Kay) Dudley**, **Kenneth (JoAnn) Dudley**, **Lisa (Mark) Cooper** and **Lynn (James) Yarbrough**, 11 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, sister **Nancy (Darrell) Burgess** and many nieces and nephews.

(End)