



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES  
CLUB PRESIDENT  
Janet Bantz Glavin



# THE GREEN LIGHT

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PEORIA — Club 3238  
P.O. Box 5639 • Peoria, IL 61601  
Website: [www.peoriarotary.org](http://www.peoriarotary.org)  
Email: [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org)  
309-676-5432



CHARTERED 1913  
CLUB NO. 76

## Weekly Meeting at First United Methodist Church

Friday, December 10, 2021 at 12:00 PM

Speaker: Anna Chumbley

Topic: WCBU Radio Changes

Can't make it to the In-Person Meeting? [CLICK HERE TO JOIN VIA ZOOM](#)  
Meeting ID: 897 6608 1791 Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799

## Club Assembly - Election of Officers

The Peoria Rotary Club Assembly was held on December 16th. Among the highlights: Treasurer Scott Fisher reports an overall solid financial standing for the club. Martha Herm, standing in for Foundation Chair Emily Jacob Rudesill reports Diane Blumenthal has once again donated \$10,000 to fund the Blumenthal scholarships. We have again reached the "Every Rotarian, Every Year" status and we will receive a banner from Rotary Foundation District Chair Brian Barstead at the December 17th meeting.

The 2022-2023 Proposed Slate of Officers and Directors was approved as presented by the Nominations committee and presented to members for election. Attending members approved unanimously.

Congratulations to our 2022-2023 Elected Officers and Directors: President-Elect Randy Neff, Secretary Katherine Coyle, Treasurer Scott Fisher and Directors Jana Stevens and Melissa Entzminger.

The Highlights of the member survey showed the following as major positives of Rotary:

- Networking/Friendships
- Programs/Speakers
- Giving Back to Community

There was, however, opportunity for members to comment on what they liked least:

- Speaker Diversification/Lack of Interest in Program Topic
- A desire for more networking opportunities

The Rotary Board will be going over comments made about the club in small groups at the meeting. Members who could not attend are invited to answer questions and submit their responses by December 12th to the following questions:

- Membership – Who do you know who would benefit from being a Rotarian?
- Programs – Who or what do you know that other members would be interested in?  
Would you or they be good presenters to the club for programs?
- Service – What type of services projects that we haven't done might you enjoy?  
Would you be willing to lead them or coordinate these projects?

Please email responses to [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org)

Congratulations to Survey Participant Kari Gabbert whose name was drawn from members who completed the survey. She will receive a \$50 Visa Gift Card.

## Writers Needed

"Writers Sought for So You Thought You Knew" "Sought" by Edie Barnard  
Rotarians, You are cordially invited to take over writing my Green Light column, "So You Thought You Knew!" As you know, I have been on hiatus since last June. Melissa has kindly been delving into my Archives and choosing articles to place in the Green Light. I love seeing which column she has chosen when the Green Light arrives. I plan to write an occasional column and look forward to reading the ones that our new columnist will write. What a joyous eight years I've had "Getting to know you" this way!!! Look forward to hearing from you. Please contact me at (309) 922-9058 or [Edith@BarnardCommunications.com](mailto:Edith@BarnardCommunications.com)

## Upcoming Meetings

**December 10<sup>th</sup>** - Meeting at First United Methodist Church

**Speaker:** Anna Chumbley

**Topic:** WCBU Radio Changes

**Invocation:** Janā Stevens | **Greeter(s):** Nick Vespa

**Attendance Prize:** Jerry Jackson

**December 17<sup>th</sup>** - Meeting at First United Methodist Church

### HOLIDAY PARTY

**Special Performance By:** The Morton Madrigals

**Invocation:** John Kelly | **Greeter(s):** Janā Stevens

**Attendance Prize:** Janā Stevens

**NO MEETING ON DECEMBER 24<sup>th</sup> & DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>**

**January 7<sup>th</sup>** - Meeting at First United Methodist Church

**Speaker:** Maestro George Stelluto

**Topic:** Peoria Symphony Orchestra

**Invocation:** TBD | **Greeter(s):** TBD

**Attendance Prize:** TBD

### Meeting Location Reminder

Please remember the club is holding weekly meetings at the First United Methodist Church.

**Unless noted otherwise.** For security reasons the church doors will only be unlocked from 11:00am - 12:15pm.

For any members arriving after 12:15pm, please use the church intercom system and the receptionist will buzz you in.

THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
PATIENCE AND  
UNDERSTANDING

### Holiday Social

The Club's Holiday Social event was held at JK Williams Distilling on December 1<sup>st</sup> from 5pm-7pm. We had close to 50 people in attendance at the social.

**THANK YOU** to everyone that attended!!



## Volunteer Opportunities

### Central Illinois Agency on Aging (CIAA)

### Annual New Year's Day Meals Program

**Date:** 01/01/2022 (Sat.) New Year's Day

**Time:** 9:30AM | **Location:** TBD

**Details:** The Rotary Club of Peoria is joining forces with (CIA) to help deliver meals for the Annual New Year's Day Meals Program.

Several churches are volunteering to cook and prepare the meals, but assistance is needed in delivering the meals.

If you would like to volunteer, please [click here](#) to be added to list. A sign-up sheet will also be available at the weekly meeting

### Trewyn Food Pantry

#### Donations Needed for Trewyn Food Pantry

We are collecting food items such as: Peanut or almond butter, dried goods such as:

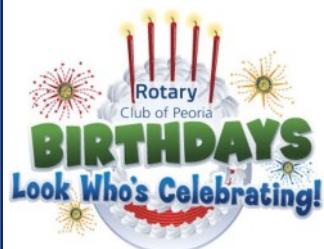
Oatmeal, Cereal, Rice, Pasta, Ramen Noodles,

Granola Bars and Hormel Completes.

Melissa can come and pick up items from you, please call **676-5432** or send an email to [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org) to arrange a time. If you would like to donate money, we will buy non-perishables on your behalf!



### Member Celebrations



Member	Date
Timothy Newlin	12/2
Robert Brandfass	12/3
Christell Yosunni Frausto	12/4
John Kelly	12/5
Steve Bash	12/6
Marty Collier	12/6
Ray LaHood	12/6
Tonda Thompson	12/7
Nick Vespa	12/16
Evan Moore	12/17
Mindy Nolte	12/18
Peter Wong	12/19
Randall Yelverton	12/20
Jerry Jackson	12/25
Jana' Stevens	12/27

Member	Years
Diane Blumenthal	2
Tracy Geisz	2
Peter Wong	4
Janet Bantz Glavin	15
Jerry Jackson	27
Marty Collier	30
Steve Van Winkle	39



## Air Force Brig. Gen. William P. Robertson



Tiny hands reach to grab the control wheel while his eyes dance around the flight deck, filling with wonder. Control panel switches are just within fingertip's reach. He can't see over the dash, but the boy imagines what it might feel like to soar through the air. He is in love with the dream of flying. This is how Air Force Brig. Gen. William P. Robertson described his first time sitting in the flight deck of a C-47 Skytrain while on a base tour as a young child. Robertson would go on to command the 182nd Airlift Wing for 13 years, then serve as the Chief of Staff for the Illinois Air National Guard. He retired on Nov. 11, Veterans Day, after serving as the Air National Guard Assistant to the Commander, 12th Air Force (Air Forces Southern) since November 2018.

Most recently, in addition to his duties for 12th Air Force, Robertson played an integral part in setting up the Air Force's first joint task force at Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina in 2019. The task force's first mission was to help manage the flow of military

medical personnel and equipment to some cities hit hardest by COVID-19. While the effort was led by 9th Air Force and Northern Command, Robertson was "offered up" by then 12th Air Force Commander Maj. Gen. Andrew Croft to the 9th Air Force Commander Maj. Gen. Chad Franks. "They really needed someone who had experience with the emergency response request process and working with local and state agencies. The National Guard are the experts within the DOD in that area," Robertson said. He had led the Illinois Emergency Management Agency for several months under former Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner. "General Croft thought I was the right officer with the right experience at the right time to help that effort." While his experience with the Air Force's joint task force helped put a cap on a long and successful military career, Robertson admits that he's still adjusting to life out of uniform.



"The military and the National Guard have been such a huge part of my life, so retiring has been a little surreal. "After more than 41 years of military service, Robertson looked back on his journey and legacy. Inspired by his father who served as an armorer on the North American P-51 Mustang in the Air National Guard, Robertson enlisted on June 7, 1980, at the age of 20 as a security policeman with the 182nd Tactical Air Support Group. "I always looked to my father as a really good leader, teacher, mentor and warrior," said Robertson. "My dad really was the guy that I looked to for a lot of advice. He was just an outstanding leader. " That apple didn't fall far from the tree. After serving in roles including weapons and tactics officer and chief of current operations, Robertson was selected to be the 182nd Operations Group commander. During his tenure, the unit conducted a monumental Operation Iraqi Freedom deployment of six aircraft and more than 350 wing personnel to a bare base in Minhad, United Arab Emirates. In late December 2003, the C-130s flew in earthquake relief supplies to Iran, making Peoria's C-130s the first U.S. aircraft to land in Iran since 1981.

Robertson became the 182nd Airlift Wing commander in 2004, serving in the role for an unprecedented 13 years. He led the wing to six outstanding unit awards and the first Consolidated Unit Inspection "Outstanding" rating that Air Mobility Command had given in 17 years. Robertson's journey to the top began with a decision to cross-train from the Security Police to the flying world in 1983. He originally planned to be a Peoria police officer as a traditional Guardsman, but others suggested he fly as a pilot in the Air National Guard. "It was one of those things where the chips just fell into place and all of the sudden 'Hey, there's this big dream out there that you've always wanted to fly,' and that door kind of just opened up for me," said Robertson. There was work that needed to be done to reach his dream, but that didn't stop him.

He strove to finish his 4-year college degree at Bradley University in the ambition of being a pilot. "I crammed two years of college into a year and a half. The next thing I know is I was off to officer school, and then I was off to pilot training," said Robertson. After being a pilot for 34 years, Robertson has more than 4,800 flight hours and has flown eight different types of aircraft, including the T-41 Mescalero, T-37 Tweet, T-38 Talon, OA-37B Dragonfly, C-26 Metroliner, AT-38B Talon, F-16 Fighting Falcon and C-130 Hercules. "It truly became a commitment for me," said Robertson. His command pilot career isn't the only thing Robertson cherishes from serving in the Air National Guard.

He also gained a great military family. "The Guard's family, and that's how it is. It's generation after generation serving," said Robertson. "You meet a whole melting pot of Americans, and they all are going for the same thing: the defense of the county, community and state. We are all here for the same reasons. "Robertson's daughter, Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Robertson, enlisted in the Air National Guard with her father by her side. When looking back on all of those years, Robertson said he appreciated the great teammates alongside him and was grateful for their support throughout his career. "What an honor and privilege it is to serve your country," he said.



Seen at the Retirement party for Brig. General William "Robbie" Robertson on Saturday. Rotarians Todd Davis, Randy Neff, Gene Olson, General Robertson, Sally Robertson, Martha Herm, Tom McIntyre, Susie Stockman and Chuck Gabbert. Not pictured: Art & Judy Oakford

### Club Officers

President - Janet Bantz Glavin  
President-Elect - Tom McIntyre  
Secretary - Katherine Coyle  
Treasurer - Scott Fisher  
Immediate Past President - Brad Stegall

### Board Members

William Albers  
Emily Jacob-Rudesill  
Aaron Kilgore  
Randy Neff  
Kathy Shishilla  
Jana' Stevens

### Contact Us

Melissa Brewer  
Executive Secretary  
CELL: 309-635-7377  
OFFICE: 309-676-5432  
EMAIL: [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org)  
**Office Hours: By Appointment**  
Website: [www.peoriarotary.org](http://www.peoriarotary.org)

### Rotary Club of Peoria, IL



Rotary 

Photo Courtesy of the Journal Star