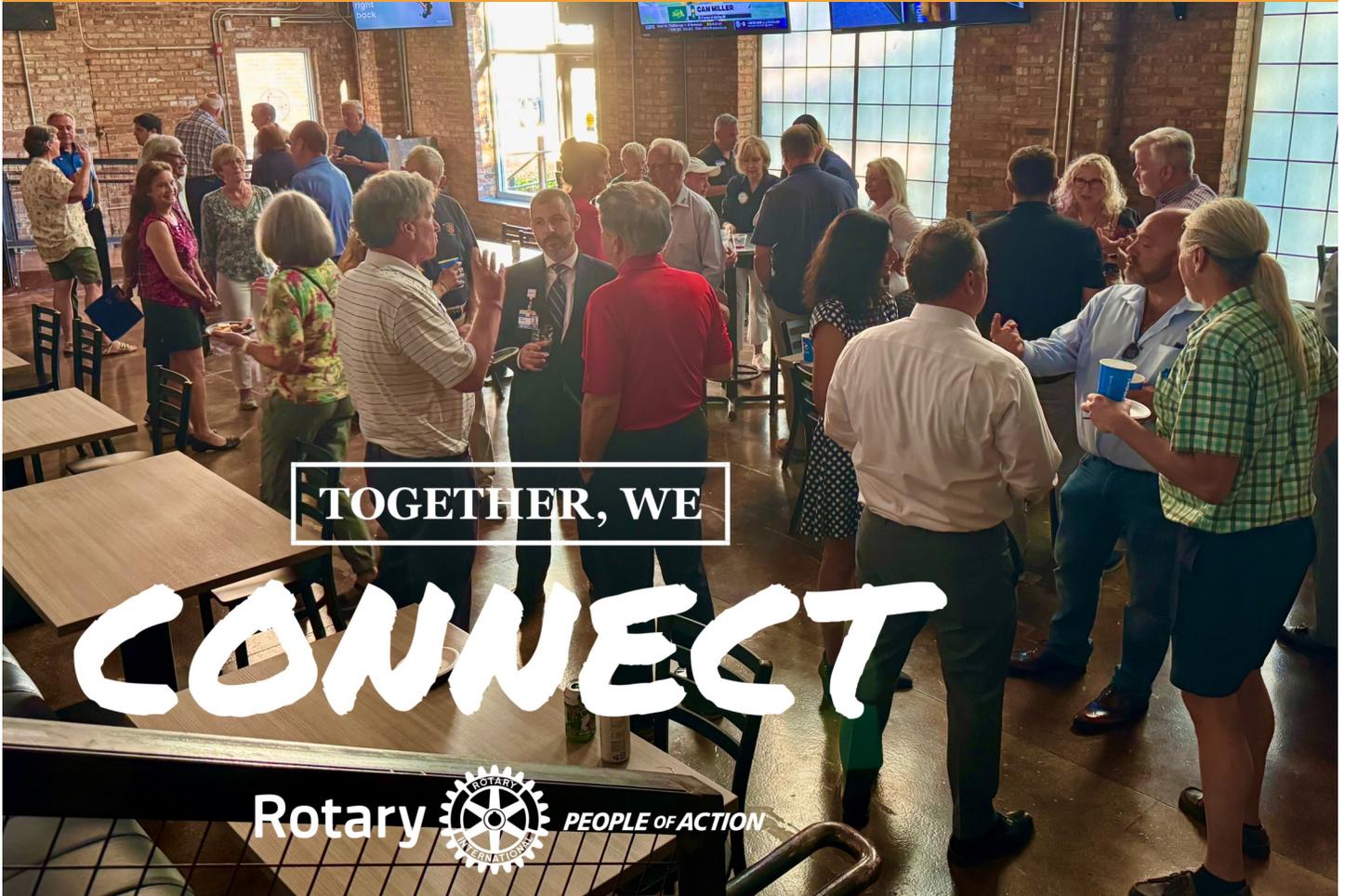


September 2024

The
Rotary
Club of Naperville



Leadership Through
Community Service
Since 1941



TOGETHER, WE

CONNECT

Rotary  PEOPLE OF ACTION

THE WHEELHOUSE

The Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Naperville

Keeping House

Catch Up on Our Meetings

Couldn't make a meeting? Here's what you missed.

August 1, 2024

Our Thursday Club meeting at Meson Sabika featured District Governor Rachel Ossyra presenting her goals and opportunities for 2024-2025. Her discussion featured a presentation of the opportunities for growth and building membership through the magic of Rotary

August 8, 2024

The Alzheimer's Association presented an enlightening program on an opportunity to help fight a disease that affects ten percent of Naperville residents. Participation in the Alzheimer's Walk and donations were encouraged. We also inducted our newest member, Meghna Bansal, who will be highlighted in a member spotlight soon.

August 15, 2024

At a Zoom program, we heard from Rotary Action Group against Slavery (Ragas). Amelia Stanselli, DG District 716 and member of Rotary Club of Warrenton, VA spoke on Unleashing Your Power to End Slavery and spotlighted the many forms of slavery still present in our world.

August 22, 2024

Our Vocational Program was presented by Rotarian Dave Della Terza. We learned about his career and the great services of our Naperville Public Library while enjoying a pizza lunch.

August 29, 2024

At our Raise the Bar at Benedictine in the Pub at the Coal Ben, a good time was had by all old, new, and prospective members.



Window View

What's Coming Up?

Here's a peek at what's coming up this month.

September 5, 2024

At our Thursday Club meeting at Meson Sabika, we will feature NCTV17 - the television station that covers local elections, puts viewers curbside at parades, and showcases various community events, performances, and presentations. They are a trusted local information source that empowers and connects our community.

September 12, 2024

This month, the second meeting of the month will be on Zoom. Charlotte Israel, a Rotarian from Palm Harbor Rotary Club, will present a report on a global grant that our Club is supporting: Helping Babies Breathe in Sierra Leone. You won't want to miss this presentation about assistance programs educating caregivers and saving lives in rural and urban areas in Sierra Leone.

September 19, 2024

We'll be back at Meson Sabika to hear the DuPage County Health Department Crisis Recovery Center presenting the ways that they impact lives in our local communities and how we might be able to help.

September 28, 2024

Our Thursday Raise the Bar will be at 5:30 pm in Frankie's Blue Room, 16 Chicago Avenue in Naperville. You won't be blue or fined by the Sergeant if you wear Rotary Colors and your pin.



Housework

What Our Club is Up To

We're a busy Club, and here's how we were making an impact this month.

Community Service Committee

The Community Service Committee is currently developing plans for the following upcoming events: October Fall Clean up, October November Blood Drive, November Coat Drive, November RSVP Rotary Salutes Veterans Program and December Gift Mart. New members and volunteers are always needed.

International Service Committee

The International Service committee projects include: refugee assistance for a family fleeing gang attacks in Honduras, a fundraiser planning for school improvements in Uganda, completion of follow up reports on several schools in Honduras and a clinic in India, a medical project in Mexico and assistance with a blood donation center in a district grant in Nigeria. Two additional grants for educational equipment in Honduras are in draft state. A district grant to support mechanical equipment in a Chicago refugee education center is in development. A sustainable agriculture project in Haiti is under study and the NGO made a presentation to the committee about needed supplies and farm animals.

Several members of our Club went to Rotary Madison on August 28 to talk about potential collaboration opportunities, particularly around Global grants. Club members might recognize the guy in the middle - Charles McLimans! He's Madison's Past President and used to be part of our Naperville Club. He was the Executive Director for Loaves and Fishes.

Parade

Our fundraiser, Naperville's Holiday Parade of Lights, is coming up fast - the Friday after Thanksgiving.

Contact [Rich Tatara](#) for a position to assist in this event. Volunteers are needed now to find business sponsors, arrange the program, signs, and arrange the participants march. Santa will be there. You do not want to find coal in your stocking for being naughty and missing your opportunity to serve!

Basic Literacy and Education Month

September is Basic Education and Literacy month. Janet Derrick coordinated the successful collection of funds for school supplies to be given to children in need in Districts 203 and 204.



Housework

What Our Club is Up To

Last Fling

A dozen Naperville Rotary members poured beer to customers of the Last Fling on Saturday, August 31 to raise money for local charities.

Senior Smiles

The Senior Smiles program continued in August. This program is a great opportunity to meet active seniors at St. Patrick's Residence and learn the history of their accomplishments.

Riverwalk Adult Day Services Fundraiser

On Saturday, August 17, seven Rotarians had a blast at the Riverwalk Adult Day Services Fundraiser at Aspen Lane Winery in Aurora. Enjoying games of skill and knowledge, the Rotary contingent was front and center in the fun. Mary Kerbs was the Name that Tune expert, but the prize was snatched from her by another player! Mary and Hunter were successful raffle basket winners, winning *Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me* tickets and the Prize Galore basket. Riverwalk Adult Day Services reached its fundraiser goal thanks to the Rotary support!



WASH

Congratulations to Pat Merryweather-Arges, WASH Rotary Action Group Board Chair. [Find out more about her work with WASH.](#)

Find out more about our current projects and how you can be involved.

Resilience Tactics Workshop

On September 7, 2024, we are combining with our local VFW, Support over Stigma Nonprofit Organization, and Little Friends to present the Resilience Tactics Workshop. This event will be held from 1:00 to 4:00 at Little Friends (27555 Diehl Rd., Warrenville) to support the military and first responders community. Issues such as PTSD, job stress, and emotional resilience will be discussed by speakers, with breakout sessions and opportunities to discover available community resources

Alzheimer's Walk

On Sunday, September 15, 2024, join us at North Central College for the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's. (455S Brainard St, Naperville)

[Click here](#) to learn more about the disease and how your participation and donations can help.

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month

Get ready for RYLA, October 11-13, with opportunities for our local students to participate in a weekend of team building. Click [here](#) for information about applications.

Fall Assembly

Fall Assembly will be a Grants Extravaganza on Saturday October 26. Plan to attend to learn ways to do good in our communities and in the world. Our donations to the Rotary Foundation fund these efforts. Become a Paul Harris Fellow and expand our reach!

2025 Rotary International Convention

Now is the time to sign up for the 2025 Rotary International Convention in Calgary, Canada. Get more information [here](#) on the convention. An informational meeting hosted by Barry McKeown and Rachel Ossyra on Tuesday, September 10 at 6:00 PM.

Veterans Coat Drive

For Veterans Stand Down Day 2024, we need your coats in size XL for distribution to homeless veterans. We will be collecting for the November 5 set up and November 6 Distribution, and volunteers are needed.

Cardiac Conscious Community

Currently our Club is partnering with the Naperville Fire Department, CAPS (Citizens Appreciate Public Safety), and the Naperville Chamber of Commerce to offer community businesses and nonprofits the opportunity to purchase AEDs and obtain CPR training for their staff. If your business does not have an AED, contact [Rich Tatara](#) to sign up for this opportunity. We encourage everyone to join Naperville's Cardiac Conscious Community and install an AED in your nonprofit or business.

In the House with Julie Berkowicz

This month, get to know Club member Julie Berkowicz.



When did you join Rotary and who sponsored you?

I believe it was 2016 and I was sponsored by John Knobloch. John and I worked together on the School Board and at many events at St. Raphael Catholic Parish and School.

Why did you want to join?

Many of the organizations that I am engaged with are frequently recognized by Rotary. It was evident that dedicating time through the Rotary community directly improves lives in the Community. It was very fulfilling to be nominated to become a Rotarian.

What is your profession?

I am an elected official and a Will County Board and Forest Preserve Commissioner. I am elected in District 10, but am very proud to actively represent the communities and organizations throughout the County. As a sitting member on 6 committees, I have an active role in many County functions, including the Judicial & legislative process, Capital, Finance, Land Use & Development and more. My service as a Director at the Nature Foundation of Will County also supports the operations and mission of the Forest Preserve District of Will County.

How have you been involved in Rotary?

I have participated in service projects and the International Service Committee. One of my favorite events has been the International Services Summit. This event brought Rotarians and community together from all over the world to network and learn how to make a greater impact in the community.

Can you share any details about your family life, background?

Our family has lived in Naperville for over 30 years. My husband Walter and I have 3 sons who are all Eagle Scouts. For over 2 decades I served as a Boy Scout leader in many different roles and as volunteer District staff. In addition to my dedication to the Scouting program, I serve on several non-profit boards, including the OPUS musical organization and the Riverwalk Adult Day Services board.

What hobbies do you enjoy?

Hobbies include volunteering at Habitat Restoration Days at Will County Forest Preserves, food events with the Naperville Newcomers and Neighbors Club and service opportunities with the Naperville Woman's Club.

Tell us one thing members may be surprised to learn about you.

I am a people person and could not survive in isolation! I am also very dedicated to all who have served our Country and the sacrifices that have been made through each generation. Being a member of the Naperville Judd Kendall VFW Post Auxiliary and the NSDAR (Daughters of the Revolution) is a priority in my life to continue to promote and educate the values of good citizenship and service. This is accomplished by volunteering with many programs and service projects throughout the year.

What do you enjoy most about Rotary?

I love Rotary's mission, its values and participation in the community. And most of all, I appreciate the friendships of my fellow Rotarians.

Rotary Celebrates

Congratulations to everyone celebrating a birthday or club anniversary in the month of September!

Birthdays

Dan Firks	September 6
John Gallagher	September 7
Rosemary Wisnosky	September 7
Sarah Andrusyna	September 10
Keith Druerk	September 10
Richard Joseph	September 12
Kim White	September 17
Hunter Byington	September 19
Staci Boyer	September 23
John Robbins	September 29
Melissa Kelley Black	September 30

Anniversaries

Bibhash Barua	September 12, 2019
Deepika Barua	September 12, 2019
Maria Caselli	September 18, 2014
Curt Stowers	September 18, 2014
Kathryn Hoffman	September 19, 2013
Ray Vogt	September 21, 2023
Paul Feith	September 22, 2016



We hope you enjoyed this edition of The Wheelhouse!

The Wheelhouse is created by Club members [Roger Iliff](#) and [Dave Della Terza](#). If you have any suggestions for future content, please feel free to e-mail us!