

Illuminate the Rock

Rotary
La Petite Roche 

Rotary Club 99: Tuesday, October 25, 2022

About the Program:

On Tuesday, please join us for an insightful presentation from renowned journalist and author Sam Quinones, a nationally recognized expert on the subject of immigration, gangs, drug trafficking and the opioid epidemic. Scheduled just days before October 29's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, Sam will also be featured in the upcoming Six Bridges Book Festival organized by Club 99er Nate Coulter and his team at the Central Arkansas Library System. Sam's appearance at the festival is sponsored by the Arkansas Municipal League and Club 99er Whitnee Buellerwell.

Club 99er Greg Ramon will share details on how to participate in the 2022 AR Drug Take Back Day. Championed by late Past President Sam Chaffin, Club 99 has been a proponent of the movement since 2013. Club 99 has purchased and installed several take-back boxes in various locations in the area, including the main Little Rock Police Station and the Arkansas State Police Headquarters. Past President Sharon Tallach Vogelpohl and her team designed the current AR Drug Take Back website: <https://artakeback.org/>. Check it out for drop-off locations and information.

The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic

DREAMLAND

THE LEAST OF US

True Tales of
America and Hope
in the Time of
Fentanyl
and Meth



Sam Quinones: Author, Journalist, Reporter

Sam Quinones (pronounced Kin-YOH-Ness) is a Los Angeles-based freelance journalist, a reporter for 35 years, and author of four acclaimed books of narrative nonfiction. He is a veteran reporter on immigration, gangs, drug trafficking, the border. He is formerly a reporter with the *L.A. Times*, where he worked for 10 years. Before that, he made a living as a freelance writer residing in Mexico for a decade.

His latest book, released in November 2021, is *The Least of Us: True Tales of America and Hope in the Time of Fentanyl and Meth*. In *The Least of Us* (published October 2021), Quinones chronicles the emergence of a drug-trafficking world producing massive supplies of dope cheaper and deadlier than ever, marketing to the population of addicts created by the nation's opioid epidemic, as the backdrop to tales of Americans' quiet attempts to recover community through simple acts of helping the vulnerable. In January 2022, *The Least of Us* was nominated for a National Book Critics Circle (NBCC) award for Best Nonfiction Book of 2021.

The Least of Us follows his landmark *Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic* (Bloomsbury, 2015), which ignited awareness of the epidemic that has cost the United States hundreds of thousands of lives and become the deadliest drug scourge in the nation's history. *Dreamland* won a National Book Critics Circle award for the Best Nonfiction Book of 2015. It was also selected as one of the Best Books of 2015 by Amazon.com, the Daily Beast, BuzzFeed, Seattle Times, Boston Globe, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Entertainment Weekly, Audible, and in the Wall Street Journal and Bloomberg Business by Nobel economics laureate, Prof. Angus Deaton, of Princeton University.

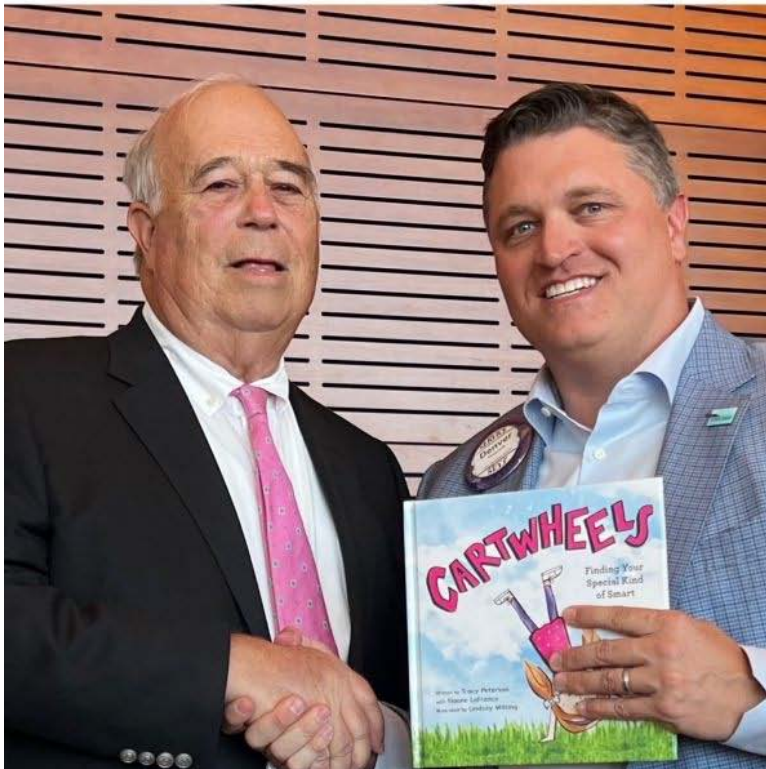
In 2019, *Dreamland* was selected as one of the Best 10 True-Crime Books of all time based on lists, surveys, and ratings of more than 90 million Goodread.com readers. Also in 2019, Slate.com selected *Dreamland* as one of the 50 best nonfiction books of the last 25 years. In 2021, GQ Magazine selected *Dreamland* as one of the "50 Best Books of Literary Journalism of the 21st Century." For *Dreamland*, Quinones has testified before the US Senate's Health Committee, numerous professional conferences of judges, doctors, librarians, hospital administrators and at more than two-dozen town hall meetings in small towns across the country. A Young Adult version of *Dreamland* – for 7th through 12th graders -- was released in July of 2019.

His first two books grew from his 10 years living and working as a freelance writer in Mexico (1994-2004). **True Tales From Another Mexico: The Lynch Mob, the Popsicle Kings, Chalino and the Bronx** was released in 2001. It is a cult classic of a book from Mexico's vital margins – stories of drag queens and Oaxacan Indian basketball players, popsicle makers and telenovela stars, migrants, farm workers, a narcosaint, a slain drug balladeer, a slum boss, and a doomed tough guy.

In 2007, he came out with **Antonio's Gun and Delfino's Dream: True Tales of Mexican Migration**. In it, Quinones narrates the saga of the Henry Ford of Velvet Painting, and of how an opera scene emerged in Tijuana, and how a Zacatecan taco empire formed in Chicago. He tells the tale of the Tomato King, of a high-school soccer season in Kansas, and of Mexican corruption in a small L.A. County town. Threading through the book are three tales of Delfino Juarez, a modern Mexican Huck Finn. Quinones ends the collection in a chapter called "Leaving Mexico" with his harrowing tangle with the Narco-Mennonites of Chihuahua.

Dagoberto Gilb, reviewing **Antonio's Gun** in the San Francisco Chronicle, called him "the most original writer on Mexico and the border."

Did You Miss District Governor David Menz?



District Governor (and Club 99 Past President) David Menz and wife Evelyn were a hit at Rotary! An excellent storyteller, Menz entertained us with stories of traveling with Rotary around the world and through District 6150. When Barbara Graves asked him to be president of Club 99, she noted "just a couple of things that might need attention" in the coming year. First, the executive director of 18 years, Kathy Hudson had recently announced her retirement, and it was Club 99's "turn" to host the Large Club Conference, a conference of the executive directors and presidents-elect from the largest clubs in North America. Right - just a couple of notes for his presidential year! Past President Graves stepped up to chair the conference, while Karen Fetzer was hired as our newest executive director, now the longest-serving executive director in our club's history! Watch the meeting [Link](#)



Congratulations, Past President Gary Parrish, Our Newest Sid Brooks Fellow!

President Peacock and Governor Menz presented a Sid Brooks Fellow to Past President Gary Parrish upon the 20th anniversary of the club's Farmers Feed The Children of Romania project, the largest and last of the Rotary International-funded 3H Grants. On October 27, our project partners from Romania will be in Little Rock to talk about and celebrate its success at the District 6150 Foundation Banquet (more below).



In Memory

Maxwell "Mac" Joseph Lyons, II, 1926-2022

Having previously remembered Mac with a traditional moment of silence shortly after his recent passing, Jana Cohen, whose father was a lifelong friend of Mac, shared her thoughts about his remarkable life. She reflected fondly about him as a faithful Rotarian until the age of 96, active member of Temple B'nai Israel, loving husband and father.

Jay French Hill, 1926-2022

At the beginning of the meeting, we remembered the life of second-generation Rotarian, investment banker, veteran, community volunteer and father of Past President Congressman French Hill with the traditional moment of silence. Later in the meeting, Club 99er Howard Hurst, a long-time friend of the Hill family and of "JayBird," shared personal reflections of his time together with Mr. Hill, including his love of the outdoors, the military, enjoyment of Lakeside Country Club, and so much more.

Rotary Traditional Banner Exchange

Club 99 was treated to a traditional Rotary Banner Exchange. Two Rotarians from Rotary Ivory City Mysuru, Dr. M.K. Sachidanandran (Sachi) and his wife Latha Sachi are spending time with their son in Little Rock. Arriving in July, they will be here until December. President Nominee Jason Chacko connected with the Rotarian couple and hosted them at the meeting Tuesday. Chacko introduced them, while President Peacock and Governor Menz participated in the banner exchange.

Welcome to Club 99, Mallory McClure!

Continuing with our new membership marathon, Membership Recruitment Chair Molly McNulty introduced Mallory McClure, area manager with Amazon. We're now up to 14 straight weeks of introducing at least one new member and 29th overall. Mallory was sponsored by Past President Aaron Lubin. Thank you, Aaron, and welcome to Club 99, Mallory!

World Polio Day 2022 and Beyond: A Healthier Future for Mothers and Children

In partnership with the World Health Organization, Rotary International will host a discussion on the work the two organizations have done to eradicate polio and how they will continue to work together on a healthier future for mothers and children as part of World Polio Day on October 21 and 22. Experts in polio, vaccines, and maternal and child health will present the many opportunities for children who have been saved from polio. Click here [Link](#) to watch a video from Rotary International President Jennifer Jones.

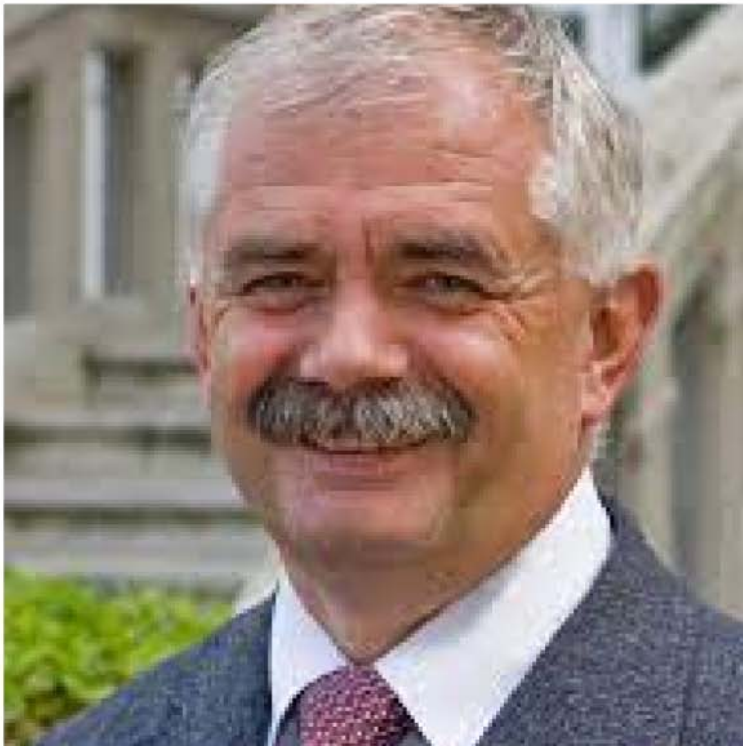




Camp Aldersgate Fish Fry: Thank You!

Led by Club 99er Wendy Wood, our club helped Camp Aldersgate exceed its goal of raising more than \$75,000 for the camp for special needs kids. We're very grateful to so many of you that volunteered and purchased tickets! Thank you, Paul and Anna Wood, John and Carol Scholten (parents of Wendy Wood), Tammie, Mark and Abigail (Miss Natural State) Davis, Rick Fleetwood, Pamela Smith, Melissa Hendricks, Laura and Caroline Nick, Jason and Kristen Chacko, Ed Owens, Pam Hathaway, Beth Barnes, Mary Baker, Beth Mason, Kelley Bass, Bobbi McDaniel, Jessica Burrow, Past President Kristina Bolhouse, Don Cole, Alex Talley, Mark Murphy, Lael Foster, and Karen and Jerry Fetzer.

District 6150 Foundation Banquet



The
Rotary
Foundation 

**FEATURED
SPEAKER:
BETH STUBBS**

RI Director Elect,
Asst. Regional Rotary
Foundation Coordinator
Zone 30

**ANNUAL
FOUNDATION
BANQUET**

27 OCTOBER 2022
6:00pm

Heifer International
1 World Avenue
Little Rock, AR

**SPONSORSHIPS
AVAILABLE**

MORE INFORMATION

rotary6150@gmail.com

TICKETS: \$100 EA

TABLE OF 8: \$720

REGISTER NOW

2023 Rotary International Director-Elect Beth Stubbs will be the keynote speaker. Stubbs currently serves as Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator for Zone 30 and District 6780 Trainer. A member of the Rotary Club of Maryville, Tennessee, for 31 years, Stubbs served as District 6780 Governor in Rotary year 2015-16, leading 65 clubs in East Tennessee. She was recently elected to the Rotary International board of directors. She will be one of 17 international Rotarians leading the largest civic club in the world. Professionally, Stubbs owns the Knoxville-based Beth Stubbs, CPA firm.

The Maryville club selected her as its Rotarian of the Year in 2002. She was honored with the Rotary International Avenues of Service Award in Club Service in 2020-2021. Her Rotary resume includes attending 20 international conventions, being in New York City for the U.N. National Day for Rotary, and traveling to Chandigarh, India, in 2009 for National Immunization Day, when she helped immunize numerous children against polio.

The program will be a celebration of the twentieth anniversary of Farmers Feed the Children of Romania, a Rotary International 3H grant-funded project in partnership with Club 99 and Heifer International. The project was the last and largest of the Rotary Foundation 3H grants. Club 99 Past President Gary Parrish started the project during his presidential year and served as the project chair throughout the life of the project. Parrish continues his service as a current board member of Open Fields in Romania. Rotarians Dr. Ovidiu Spinu and Viorel Bunea, who represented Heifer and Rotary in Romania, will be present at the banquet to describe the current state of the operation, its importance to Cluj-Napoca and Romania, and perhaps tell us what it's like living on the western border of Ukraine, where both are actively working to assist Ukrainian refugees. Learn more here at this [link to the Farmers Feed the Children video](#).

Dr. Ovidiu Spinu is the CEO of Open Fields Foundation – formerly Heifer Romania – based in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. He received a veterinarian certificate from USAMV Cluj, a Ph.D. in pathology from the Romanian Academy of Agriculture Science in Bucharest and a certificate in virology at the Medical School of Nates, France. After his fifteen-year career as a rural veterinarian, researcher and professor at the Veterinary School in Cluj, Dr. Spinu finds his vocation in the civil society sector. For more than two decades, he has been a powerful and inspirational leader for the charity and development sector of Romania and Central and Eastern Europe, with a special focus on rural and agricultural programs.

Viorel Bunea is an entrepreneur, expert and consultant in civil and industrial engineering. He runs his own construction company in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Viorel has worked in Ukraine between 1992-1995 to rebuild towns and villages in the aftermath of the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl. He has been a devoted and passionate member of Rotary since 1997. Starting in 2002, he has been the team leader of the Farmers Feed the Children 3H project. As a Rotary International extension chair, Viorel has founded 67 Rotary clubs in District 2241 throughout Romania and the Republic of Moldova. Viorel serves as president of the board of directors for the Open Fields Foundation.

Upcoming Programs and Events

October 2022

25 Author Sam Quinones, *Dreamland* and *Least of Us*

27 District 6150 Foundation Banquet featuring Club 99 Farmers Feed the Children project in Romania (with partners Ovidu Spinu and Viorel Bunea from Cluj-Napoca Romania) (evening social)

November 2022

1 Arkansas Cinema Society's Filmland program (TBD)

8 Election Day Panel with Rex Nelson, Robert Coon, Charles Blake and moderated by Roby Brock

15 Mary Streett, Senior Vice President, BP America

22 No Noon Meeting / Off for Thanksgiving Week

29 Angie Cooper and Blake Woolsey of Heartland Forward

December 2022

6 Broyles Award / Fireside Chats (option)

13 Steve Williams, Chairman and CEO, Maverick Transportation

20 Holiday Program

27 No Noon Meeting / Off for Holidays

Zoom Login for October 25, 2022

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81235025989?pwd=dUIYbHI4NVZlUjRfZDhHUEER2OGpyUT09>

Meeting ID: 812 3502 5989

Passcode: 156032

One tap mobile

+13092053325,,81235025989#,,,,*156032# US

+13126266799,,81235025989#,,,,*156032# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 564 217 2000 US

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 360 209 5623 US

Meeting ID: 812 3502 5989

Passcode: 156032

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/keDDoXu8Rp>

2022-2023 Club Leadership



President Denver Peacock
The Peacock Group



President Elect Natalie Ghidotti
Ghidotti Communications



President Nominee Jason Chacko
The Chacko Group at Morgan Stanley



Past President Kristina Bolhouse
Arkansas Financial Group, Inc.



Treasurer Leigh Ann Biernat
Stephens Public Finance



Treasurer Elect Don Cole
Methodist Family Health



Secretary Tammie Davis
BancorpSouth



Sergeant At Arms Greg McCarroll
Centennial Bank



Foundation Chair Bill Booker



Mitch Bettis
Arkansas Business Publishing Group



Eilon Cockrill



T. Martin Davis
Davis Law Firm



Lena Hayes
Baptist Health Foundation



Wanda Hoover
Bowen Law School



Tanya James
Arvest Bank



Kevin Newton
CBM Construction



Jessie Wilson
Dale Carnegie Training



Kenny Gibbs
Assistant District Governor