



Rotary  
Little Rock



Rotary Club 99: Tuesday, September 5, 2023

**NO LUNCH MEETING, BUT JOIN US FOR AN EVENING SOCIAL!**



**Wright's Barbecue**

1311 Rebsamen Park Road (in the Quonset hut behind Town Pump)

99ers you are in for a treat! **Jordan Wright** of Arkansas favorite [Wright's Barbecue](#) will be opening his new (and only) location in Little Rock for a Club 99 Private Event. We won't see you at lunch at the Clinton Library next Tuesday, but we sure hope to see you at Wright's in the evening!

If you want to know a bit more about Wright's Barbecue and the journey from NWA to Little Rock, click [here](#) for a recent *Arkansas Times* article on the new location. *Texas Monthly* Barbecue Editor (yes, that's really a thing!) Daniel Vaughn traveled to NWA to try Wright's BBQ and claimed the brisket to be "the best brisket I've ever found in Arkansas." Now's your opportunity to see if you agree!

Come anytime next Tuesday starting at 5:30 p.m. until Jordan kicks us out! 😊

Enjoy a Wright's "2-Meal Plate" with fellow Rotarians.

Active "prepaid lunch" members - Included

R85, Emeritus, Lifetime - \$25 pp

Guests are encouraged and welcome - \$25 pp

Beer and wine will be available for purchase.

**PLEASE HELP US with planning numbers and use the link below to RSVP for you and your guests:**

**This Week at Club 99**

**A Conversation: Early Impressions from Our Visiting German Ottenheimer Scholars: Florian Ketterl and Robert Quack, Moderated by 99er Chris Mangum**



What a great meeting we had this week hearing from our visiting Ottenheimer Scholars, **Robert Quack** of Plön, Germany, and **Florian Ketterl** of Eichstätt, Germany. Huge thanks to Club 99er and Ottenheimer Committee member **Chris Mangum** of [Servato](#), who moderated a fascinating discussion on expectations of America from our German scholars vs what they actually experienced. Robert and Florian discussed everything from their observations of the U.S. gun culture to the natural beauty of Arkansas and differences in the German and American political systems. It truly was an interesting and engaging discussion, and we're thankful for Robert and Florian's open and honest thoughts on their experiences. It was clear they have enjoyed their time here due to the many Club 99ers who have hosted and entertained our German friends.

Thank you to **T.Martin Davis**, **Cindy Van Veckhoven**, the **Ottenheimer Committee** and a host of other Club 99ers who made Robert and Florian's three weeks here in Arkansas so special. Be sure to join us on Saturday at the Club 99 Razorback tailgate to send our scholars off in true Arkansas style before they head to Washington, D.C., for a few days and then home to Germany.

If you missed this week's meeting, you can find it [here](#).

**Welcome New Member**



Susan Blair, Principal, DD&F Consulting Group  
*Sponsored by Elizabeth Small*

### Who's Having Fun This Week?

Each week we will feature a member and what they do for fun! **Pamela Smith** is up this week, and she shares her love of cooking and traveling and how her skydiving experience was fun - but only for a brief moment! [Click here to view it!](#)

### Members "Caught Having Fun" This Week





**The 5th Test: Is It Fun?**

**President Ghidotti's Power of Fun Tip of the Week**

*"People don't want to have a boring life, or even a boring conversation. They're just risk-averse. If you create an environment where there's no reason to be afraid, all of a sudden things loosen up."*

*- Michael Lewis, bestselling author*

All of you, I assume (and hope), have played on a playground at some point. We think of these areas as contained areas for kids usually featuring monkey bars, swings and – for some of us of a certain age – those metal slides that would burn the skin off your legs!

But playgrounds are actually all around us. They are structures, either metaphorical or literal, that foster fun by encouraging playfulness, connection and flow and signal to people that it's OK to let down their guard.

There are playgrounds in many aspects of our lives; we just haven't labeled them that way. Playgrounds can be an arena, card table, stage, screen, pickleball court, you name it ... the key is that these playgrounds have special rules. Once you're inside the walls, you have given yourself permission to do things you might not otherwise do in ordinary life.

A good example that Catherine Price in "The Power of Fun" gives is pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey. At a kids' birthday party, it is totally normal to volunteer to have someone blindfold you, spin you in a circle, hand you a tack, and demand that you use it to pin a fake tail on a paper donkey as a group of people laugh at your attempts. Seems

weird out of context, but at a birthday party, no one bats an eye that this is going on. Once you have entered the “walls” of this playground, you are free to immerse yourself in the games’ absurdity with no need to feel self-conscious or dumb about it.

Playgrounds are everywhere once you start noticing them. In fact, our Club tailgate event on Saturday is definitely a playground. Tailgates are built for fun! Well-constructed playgrounds create a sense of safety and belonging that allows us to let go and be playful. And whenever that happens, we’re more likely to attract True Fun!

There is an entire section in Catherine’s book on building playgrounds. Of course, the easiest way to experience the fun-generating potential of playgrounds is to participate in playgrounds that already exist, such as classes or group activities or tailgate parties. But if you’re up for the challenge, you can look to create your own. A great example of this is last week when Club 99er Anna Beth Gorman told us about her love of themes and creating parties – or playgrounds – around these.

And if a playground is successful, it will likely turn into a tradition. Kind of like my annual Pumpkin Chunkin’ party, where the weekend after Halloween all our friends bring over their old pumpkins and hurl them off our deck at crazy targets in our backyard. I can tell you it’s pretty dang fun watching someone drop a pumpkin on a teeter totter and catch a beer that’s on the end of it in mid-air! Now that’s True Fun!

So this week, think about the playgrounds that you are a part of or that you could be a part of. Think about getting involved in one or even building your own and inviting others to create fun with you!

## Special Events and Meetings

### Club 99 Razorback Tailgate

Saturday, Sept. 2

9:30 a.m. through game time

War Memorial Stadium

Come out and support your Hogs with fellow Club 99ers on Saturday, Sept. 2! We will be calling the Hogs, enjoying mimosas and breakfast treats and sending our Ottenheimer Scholars Robert and Florian back home in full Arkansas style!

Join us at Club 99er **Rocky Goodman**’s spot for some Razorback fun - it will be right on Markham, just east of the creek on the 18th fairway. Look for the blue and yellow Rotary balloons! We’ll have plenty of snacks and treats and coolers full of your favorite tailgating beverage. Rocky will be all set up and welcoming members starting as early as 9:30 a.m., and will hang out throughout the game, which starts at noon.

Come hang out with the most FUN Rotary Club around and call those Hogs together!

The graphic features a vertical banner on the left with the text "Upcoming Events September 2023" in orange and yellow. The main content is a white rounded rectangle with a blue border, listing five events. Each event is preceded by a horizontal line and the date in large yellow font. A Rotary logo is in the bottom right corner.

Date	Event Name	Location/Details
Sept 02	Club 99 Tailgate	War Memorial 9:30 AM
Sept 05	Wright's BBQ Social	Wright's Barbecue 5:30 PM
Sept 13	New Member Orientation	Arkansas Business Publishing Group 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Sept 23	Miracle League Buddy Day	ML Field, Junior Deputy 12:00 PM
Sept 29	Women of Rotary Coffee Chat	Zoom 8:00 AM - 8:45 AM

## Upcoming Programs

### September 2023

5 No Lunch Meeting; Wright's Barbecue Evening Social

12 Marijuana in Arkansas: Big Business, New Laws

19 Paul Oakley Stovall, Tony Award-winning Actor and Former "George Washington" in Hamilton

26 Author Eli Cranor and CALS Six Bridges Book Festival

## 2023-2024 Club Leadership

Board of Directors



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