

Rotary



Club of Wauwatosa

Welcome to the Rotary Club of Wauwatosa

Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

Rotary club membership represents a cross-section of the community's business and professional men and women. The world's Rotary clubs meet weekly and are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds.

Rotary membership provides the opportunity to: Become connected to your community. Work with others in addressing community needs. Interact with other professionals in your community; assist with RI's international humanitarian service efforts. Establish contacts with an international network of professionals. Develop leadership skills. Involve family in promoting service efforts.



Club History

The History of the Wauwatosa Rotary Club

Our club was chartered in 1952 and is one of the oldest in the area. We meet every Wednesday noon at the Radisson Hotel Milwaukee West. This is a very good time to join our club as we are striving to reinvent ourselves. You would be able to play

Club Meeting

Wauwatosa
Meets at Radisson Hotel Milwaukee West
2303 N. Mayfair Road
Wauwatosa, WI 53226
Time: Wednesday at 12:00 PM

Events / Speakers

March 24th

[Wauwatosa Health Commissioner](#)

March 31st

[Francesca Johnson - State of WI Bureau of Consumer Protection](#)

April 7th

[Dan Beihoff, Jr. - Eagle River Roasters](#)

Club Leaders



[Rick David Steinberg](#)
President



[Anne Ruttger Neafie](#)
President - Elect



[John A Sebald](#)
Vice President



[Robert P. Niedermann CPA](#)
Treasurer



[Peter M. Skanavis](#)
Public Relations Chair



[Richard Frenn](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Jonathan Lorenzen](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Aaron D. Sebald](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms

[John C. Ericson](#)

an exciting and significant role in defining the club's objectives. We recently went through a very intense strategic planning process and are committed to serving the Wauwatosa community.

On a global level Rotary International is very proud to have virtually eradicated Polio through our Polio Plus program. Through its foundation and large international membership base, Rotary offers a great deal of help to the disadvantaged throughout the world.

Our social committee arranges a number of very nice events throughout the year. Each event presents an opportune time to get to know members and spouses, all of which can be invaluable networking opportunities!

Rotary membership does require a member's dedicated participation in club meetings and functions. You need to know that Rotary is a commitment and we are looking for dedicated members who can be away from work for approximately two hours each Wednesday. In other words, your boss needs to understand your devotion to community service.

Take a look at Rotary International's website at www.rotary.org for much more information.

Newsletter - March 17, 2021

By John Edward Bauer

Unofficial and Fabricated Minutes of a Meeting of
THE ROTARY CLUB OF WAUWATOSA
March 17, 2021

Our meeting was called to order by our very own Leprechaun, Rick Steinberg, who led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. In honor of St. Patrick's Day, your humble note-taker shared a traditional Irish blessing instead of an invocation.

It is duly recorded that Roger Walsh celebrated his birthday yesterday, March 16. Because he was absent, and because we have already sung to him twice before, we refrained from straining our vocal cords in his honor.

However, we did have a visiting Rotarian from the downtown Milwaukee Rotary Club, Susan Roth. She is an attorney in private practice who was invited by our President. We regaled her with our traditional welcome song. This exposed the sad fact that many of our newer members do not know the lyrics to this song. Your humble scribe has included the text below so they can commit it to memory.

Among items of happy/sad/and otherwise news, several members announced that they are now fully vaccinated against the COVID virus. Wisely, they are still wearing masks, per CDC guidelines.

Anne Neafie recently attended the District's President-Elect Training Seminary albeit virtually. Those who have attended in the past in person know what great fellowship and camaraderie are developed (usually over cocktails) among incoming presidents. Your humble note-taker is confident, however, that Anne will find her ways to build connections with her fellow presidents.

The Big Leprechaun announced that the Membership Committee has set June 17 for the visitors' day event. He emphasized the importance of having EVERY MEMBER SUBMIT THE NAMES AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF **AT LEAST TWO** INDIVIDUALS WITHIN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS.

There being no other business, Rick turned the meeting over to your humbleness to introduce the program for the day. Sarah Verardo is the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of The Independence Fund, a wounded veterans support agency headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina. She spoke to the group from her own experience as the wife and caregiver of a wounded veteran who was the victim of two improvised explosive



Club Executive Secretary
Webmaster



Craig Schmutzer
Club Programs Chair



John Edward Bauer
iPast President

Years of Service

Paul Alan Vandeveld
04-02-2014
7 Years

devices in 2009. In the first incident, Mike was blown out of the turret of a truck and suffered some brain damage. However, he was cleared to return to active duty and rejoined his unit in Southern Afghanistan. He was catastrophically injured by a Russian land mine connected to improvised explosives, losing his left leg, part of an arm, and suffering an additional traumatic brain injury. After being in a coma for weeks, he regained consciousness at Walter Reed Medical Center.

Sarah pointed out that with advancements in medical treatment, soldiers who even a decade ago would not have survived such injuries are now being saved. At the same time, most of them return to civilian life with huge physical and mental challenges.

Sarah described the difficulties she and other survivor's families had in trying to navigate a broken Veterans Administration. Although things have gotten much better, this huge bureau of the government still makes access to effective care and treatment difficult.

The primary service provided by The Independence Fund is equipping wounded veterans with mobility devices, usually in the form of tracked wheelchairs. They will be awarding their 2,501st track chair next month. Because the need for these chairs has slowly declined due to the greatly diminished presence of American troops in the Middle East, The Independence Fund has expanded its mission to include several other lines of service to veterans and their families.

Caregiver and family retreats not only provide respite for stressed families but also provide tools, resources, and networks of support. Case managers work to connect families to resources and support networks.

Adaptive sports equipment and events provide healthy outlets for veterans and opportunities to reunite with fellow soldiers.

Advocacy and public policy lobbying have been directed at improving the VA's services, providing greater access to health care, and helping to improve efficiency at the VA.

Most recently, TIF has joined other veterans' organizations, including the Veterans Administration in Operation Resilience to address the high rate of suicide among returning veterans. One startling statistic is that a veteran will die from suicide every 65 minutes.

We thank Sarah for her commitment to serving America's wounded veterans and for sharing this important organization with us.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, your non-Gaelic recorder of myth and merriment,
John E. Bauer, Secretary *pro tempore*

UPCOMING COMMITMENTS

Invocations 3-24 John Bauer
3-31 Gerv Rose
4-7 Pat Meylor

Speakers 3-24 Paul Vandeveld will introduce Wauwatosa's Health Officer, Laura Stephens
3-31 Rick Steinberg will introduce Francesca Johnson from the Wisconsin Bureau of Consumer Protection
4-7 Tom Kirchen will introduce Dan Beihoff from Eagle River Roasters, our Rotary Club coffee supplier

THE ROTARY CLUB WELCOMING SONG

Oh, friends from Rotary we greet you.
Oh, friends from Rotary we greet you.
We want you to feel that our friendship is real,
We're glad you're here today! <clink, clink>
So, take back home a bit of cheer.
Regards from all the members here.
And when once more you are near our door,

Come again, Rotarians, come again!

