

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

April 21st

[Amanda Schienebeck - Midwest Renewable Energy Association \(MREA\)](#)

April 28th

[Pete Loeffel, Director of the Wauwatosa Public Library](#)

May 21st

[Blood Drive @ Radisson](#)

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 - April 21, 2021

By John Edward Bauer
A Loose Transcription of a Meeting
of
The Rotary Club of Wauwatosa
April 21, 2021

It appears that things are back to normal under the careful guidance of our esteemed leader. President Rick called the meeting to order and led our group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Your humble scribe noted with great appreciation that we had 17 Rotarians in the room, along with one caregiver and our speaker. Two wayward digital members also joined us on Zoom. Peter Skanavis offered a very succinct and socially conscious invocation.

We had no birthdays to celebrate this week. However, we were able to wish John and Andrea Ericson congratulations on their 42nd wedding anniversary today. And John didn't forget!

We also congratulated Bill Bode on marking 23 years as a member of our club.

Your humble bulletin editor distributed information packets regarding the Kids from Wisconsin performance we will be hosting on July 4 at Hart Park. Now is the time to be soliciting advertisers and sponsors. Forms were included to facilitate the process.

Anne Neafie reported on the slate of officers being recommended for next year. They are as follows:

President Anne Neafie
President Elect John Sebald
Vice President Bob Nelson
Secretary (TBA)
Treasurer Robert Niedermann
Bulletin Editor John Bauer
Sergeants-at-Arms Richard Frenn, Peter Skanavis, Bill Makal
Program Chair (TBA)

President Rick thanked those who have submitted names for the Visitors Day event to be held on June 17. The first tranche of invitation letters will be sent out on April 26. Additional names are needed.

Bill Bode introduced our speaker for the day, Amanda Scheinbeck, director of the Solar on Schools program of the Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA). This 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization provides education, training, and facilitation to



Club Executive Secretary
Webmaster



Craig Schmutzer
Club Programs Chair



John Edward Bauer
iPast President

Years of Service

Patrick W. Meylor
05-01-1996
25 Years

William B. Bode
04-22-1998
23 Years

Michael Mitchell
04-16-2018
3 Years

implement renewable energy projects. Founded in 1990, MREA provides accredited education, hosts an annual Energy Fair, and supports solar projects in schools.

Amanda's focus is on helping schools around the State of Wisconsin to install solar energy systems. In addition to reducing our carbon footprint, there are numerous reasons for schools to consider solar energy. These include financial and operational savings, environmental benefits, job creation, and student engagement in environmental education and action. Also, MREA has provided grants for individual school buildings valued at up to \$20,000 per school.

For those skeptics who think Wisconsin isn't sunny enough to support solar energy efforts, Germany has far less average sunlight than Wisconsin. It outperforms in terms of solar generation by more than 6.5 times.

Today, there are about 7,500 schools with solar arrays across the country, representing approximately 5.5% of all schools in the U.S. Almost 10% of all students in the U.S. attend a school with solar energy. While these may seem like minimal numbers, the growth rate has picked up rapidly in the last several years. Schools are ideal consumers because their hours are predictable, with the highest occupancy during the highest sunlight intensity and energy demand. The cost of solar panels and installation has also dramatically decreased over the past decade, making the payback on investment much shorter in duration.

Finally, the solar industry provides many employment opportunities and added jobs at a rate 70% faster than the overall economy between 2015 and 2019. Amanda illustrated the multiple career paths available to those entering the field, even at the entry-level.

Thanks, Amanda, for a most enlightening presentation.

Our esteemed leader attempted to illuminate our group with a joke in no other business. Still, alas, a \$25 contribution from one dour member to our Foundation was sufficient to dim his efforts.

The bell sounded instead, and we stood adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Your humble bulletin editor, polemical pundit and PowerPoint plagiarizer,
John E. Bauer

UPCOMING COMMITMENTS

Invocations

April 28 John Sebald
May 5 Tom Kirchen
May 12 TBA
May 19 TBA

Programs

April 28 Roger Walsh will introduce Pete Loeffel, Director of the Wauwatosa Public Library
May 5 Robert Nelson - TBA
May 12 Anne Neafie - TBA
May 19 Pat Meylor - TBA
May 26 Paul Roller will introduce Joel Brennan, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Administration
June 16 Anne Neafie will introduce member Mike Mitchell to talk about Irish Fest 2021