

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.

Wauwatosa Rotary Foundation Gourmet Nuts Fundraiser



It is that nutty time of the year! Please consider supporting the Wauwatosa Rotary Foundation by placing an order for delicious gourmet nuts from the A.L. Schutzman Co. These sweet and savory treats are perfect for holiday gifts or any special occasion. Most of all, your participation in this fundraiser supports the service and outreach efforts of our club and Rotary International.

Orders may be placed [online](#) or by [printing and submitting](#) an order form. For questions, please contact [Tom Kirchen](#).

Club Meeting

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

Events / Speakers

January 4th
[Wauwatosa Weekly Club Meeting](#)
January 11th
[Wauwatosa Weekly Club Meeting](#)
January 18th
[Wauwatosa Weekly Club Meeting](#)
January 25th
[Wauwatosa Weekly Club Meeting](#)

Club Leaders



[Robert Hugh Nelson](#)
President



[William Carl Makal](#)
President-Elect
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Jonathan Lorenzen](#)
Secretary



[Aaron D. Sebald](#)
Vice President
Membership Chair



[Robert P. Niedermann CPA](#)
Treasurer



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



[Richard Todd Mannisto](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair

[Peter M. Skanavis](#)

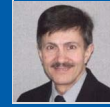
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Serving Our Community



Sergeant-at-Arms



[Paul Alan Vandeveld](#)
Club Programs Chair



[Anne Ruttger Neafie](#)
iPast President

Years of Service

Thomas L Kirchen
01-01-1976
47 Years

Kevin E Festerling
01-03-2018
5 Years



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 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 - December 28, 2022

By Craig Schmutzer

Bulletin for a Meeting of the
Rotary Club of Wauwatosa

Wednesday, December 28, 2022

A comparatively small but enthusiastic group of Wauwatosa Rotarians participated in the final meeting of 2022. Subbing in for our reputed club President (Bob Nelson) was erstwhile Wauwatosa Rotary Club President as well as President Elect, Bill Makal. For whatever reason, Bill seemed in a hurry to end today's festivities early as he promptly rang the Rotary Bell at 12:20:33pm and began club business. Of note:

1. There were no Club member or Club member partner's birthdays to celebrate. No Rotary anniversaries noted.
2. Gerv Rose introduced his sister Sue who hails from Minneapolis but was in town for Christmas. Sue recently retired after 35 years as an educator in the Twin Cities.
3. While that "nutty time of year" is now in the rearview mirror, the ever-enterprising Mr. Kirchen offered that he does have coffee available for purchase. (Similar to nut sales, proceeds of coffee sales benefit our Club's Foundation, so drink up!) A recent purchase of 15lbs. was made by Bill Bode. Thank you, Bill!

4. By way of happy news, Tom and Mary Pat Kirchen are celebrating their 59th wedding anniversary today. What a wonderful milestone. Congratulations Tom and Mary Pat! The Club wishes you many more happy, healthy years of wedded bliss together. (Tom mentioned he invited Mary Pat to attend today's meeting, but she apparently had a better offer and was not in attendance. Tom mentioned he would use this "found time" to secure an appropriate anniversary gift!)
5. Further happy news: The Club's annual Christmas party at Blue Mound Golf and Country Club was a resounding success and enjoyed by all in attendance. Blue Mound G&CC was beautifully decorated for all to enjoy, the food was terrific, and JJ Anshus did a marvelous job providing pre-dinner music and leading a post-dinner Christmas Carol sing-along. Massive thanks to Tom Kirchen for making the venue possible, negotiating great value in the dinner offerings, and coordinating JJ's participation.
6. Bob Niedermann mentioned the Foundation received thank you notes from Tosa Cares, The Tosa Community Food Pantry and Habitat for Humanity for the support our Club's Foundation has provided to these organizations.
7. While we won't dwell on sad news, please consider holding Bill Makal's brother and Bob Niedermann's grandson in your prayers as they work to recover from health challenges they have been experiencing.

Today's guest speaker, Mike Zabel, was introduced by Gerv Rose. Mike works in the Milwaukee office of HNTB, a national infrastructure design firm. HNTB is working with Milwaukee County on establishing the East West Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line. The 9-mile line will run from downtown Milwaukee (transit station at the Couture development on East Michigan Street) to the Park and Ride on the County Grounds in Wauwatosa.

BRT is used in 182 cities globally and located in Latin America, North America, and Europe. Cities in the United States which are comparable to Milwaukee and use BRT include Kansas City, MO, Cleveland, OH, Grand Rapids, MI and Jacksonville, FLA. The objective of BRT is to provide a high-quality, cost-effective bus-based transit system with features such as specialized vehicles (initially, Milwaukee will have 11 electric buses), off-board fare collection, transit-only lanes, traffic signal priority and enhanced stations. The initial Milwaukee line will have a dedicated traffic lane along Wisconsin Avenue from downtown to Hawley Road. At Hawley Road, the line will shift over to Bluemound. At 95th and Bluemound, the line will work its way north through the Medical Campus to the Park and Ride on the County Grounds. All total, 33 stations will be constructed over the 9-mile line. The project has been proceeding in phases beginning with final design activities in 2020. It is projected that the start of revenue service will begin in June 2023. The in-service timeframe may slip due to supply chain issues associated with procuring component parts.

As is the case with public transportation systems, government subsidy (i.e., taxpayer money) is critical to funding both infrastructure and operations. Milwaukee's East West BRT is no different. The infrastructure cost is projected at \$55,000,000 with federal funding providing \$40,000,000 of the tab. Ticket revenue is only projected to cover 40% of annual operating costs.

All aboard!
Maintaining his tight schedule, President-elect Makal called the meeting to a conclusion at 12:53:45.

Wishing everyone a very Happy New Year!
Craig Schmutzer

Upcoming Commitments

Program

January 4: Craig Schmutzer
January 11: Aaron Sebald
January 18: John Sebald
January 25: Peter Skanavis

Invoker/Greeter

January 4: Bill Bode
January 11: Peter Skanavis
January 18: Dale Yerkes
January 25: TBD