

Rotary



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.

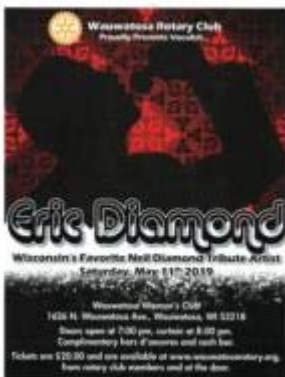
Rotary club membership represents a cross-section of the community's business and professional men and women. The world's Rotary clubs meet weekly and are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds.

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.



BE THE INSPIRATION

Eric Diamond Concert



Rotary Club of Wauwatosa Proudly Presents

ERIC DIAMOND, WISCONSIN'S FAVORITE NEIL DIAMOND TRIBUTE

ARTIST

Experience the music of Neil Diamond as well as the nostalgic tunes of the 60s, 70s & 80s you thought you forgot...

May 11, 2019
Wauwatosa Woman's Club
1626 N. Wauwatosa Avenue
Doors open at 7:00 pm, curtain at 8:00 pm.
Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and cash bar available.
Tickets are \$20.00

Club of Wauwatosa

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 10th
[Cristina Crogan, VP of Development & Communication, Next Door Fo](#)

April 24th
[Edumakono Zetho, Zetho Foundation Chairman](#)

Club Leaders



[Michele Grall](#)
President



[John Edward Bauer](#)
President-Elect



[Rick David Steinberg](#)
Vice President



[Robert P. Niedermann CPA](#)
Treasurer



[James M Del Balso DDS](#)
Bulletin Editor



[Charles Albert Stollenwerk](#)
Public Relations Chair



[Kevin E Festerling](#)
Membership Chair



[John Markel](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Pat Meylor](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms

[Tom Simon](#)
Membership Chair

[Click Here to Purchase Tickets](#)

Newsletter - April 3, 2019

By John Edward Bauer

Rotary Bulletin

April 3, 2019

President Grall called our rowdy and august (meaning really old and curmudgeony) group to order.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, former member Ron Pruhs offered an *invocatio ex corde*.

We welcomed Joe Becker, as well as Hugh Nelson, 7-year-old first grade son of Bob Nelson.

Ron shared a story about Haiti. When Ron began working with NPH in Haiti 12 -years ago, he was accompanied by a physical therapist, Kathy McCormick, who worked with 25 severely handicapped children. She learned that equine therapy can be very helpful to those with disabilities. She met a lady in Port-au-Prince who owned horses who was willing to offer such therapy. Twelve years later, one of those disabled girls from Haiti competed in the recent Special Olympics in Abu Dhabi and won the gold medal in equestrian competition.

The first order of business was to note the following celebrations and observances:

- Birthdays ♦ Pat Meylor (he of indeterminate age) observed his birthday on April 1 ♦ no foolin♦ - so we regaled him with a song.
- Rotary Anniversaries ♦ Bob Nelson, Rick Steinberg, Paul Vandeveld and Ed Ward all celebrated milestones of membership.
- Wedding Anniversaries ♦ There were none to celebrate.

Under the heading of ♦Good News/Bad News,♦ the following incidents and circumstances were cited:

- Richard Frenn had an infected tooth tended to by our own good Dr. Jim Del Balso. We think Richard must have been one of Jim♦s very last patients before Jim retired, but we hesitate to draw a causal connection.
- Bill Makal♦s cancer treatment is progressing. Unfortunately, his oxygen levels are not high enough to support the preferred chemo therapy. However, the good news is that an alternative therapy has reduced cancer by 90%. We hope he is able to return soon ♦ hale and hearty.

In other bits of informational jetsam and flotsam, the following were noted:

- Tickets have been distributed for the Neil Diamond tribute event to be held at the Wauwatosa Women♦s Club on May 11. Those who need tickets should see Rick Steinberg or Paul Vandeveld. The capacity of the venue is 250 and exactly 250 tickets were printed.
- The Club offered a shout out to Anne Neafie for organizing the meal at Kathy♦s House, March 27. Becker Ritter donated the food and three young men from Kingdom Prep High School helped out as well.
- John Bauer updated the Club on plans for hosting the premiere performance of Kids from Wisconsin on June 20 at Wisconsin Lutheran High School. The online ticketing system has been set up and will be available by the end of the week. Publicity posters and cards have been ordered. The greatest need right now is for every single Rotarian to review their business contacts and identify potential event sponsors. Information and application materials have been distributed. John will be happy to accompany any member on a visit to ask for support.
- John also reported on a meeting he President Grall had



[John C. Ericson](#)
Club Executive Secretary
Webmaster



[Craig Schmutzer](#)
Club Programs Chair



[Paul Alan Vandeveld](#)
iPast President



Years of Service

Sallie Meyer
02-01-2012
8 Years

with Mayor Cathy Ehley this morning. The purpose of the meeting was to affirm our Club's commitment to service in Wauwatosa and to discuss relevant and impactful ways our Club can help address perceived social needs in the community.

The program for the day was introduced by our own leprechaun, Mike Mitchell. Carl Baehr is the author of *From the Emerald Isle to the Cream City: A History of the Irish in Milwaukee*.

The Irish started coming to America after the Napoleonic Wars in 1815. About one million Irish immigrated to the United States between 1815 to 1845. By 1845 about 1000 were living in Milwaukee. They tended to be very poor, uneducated and Catholic. There were many social problems among the Irish in young Milwaukee, including alcoholism and violence. Most of them settled in what is now called the Third Ward which some referred to as "bloody" and "Sodom and Gomorrah." Others settled in Tory Hill which was located where the Marquette interchange now stands.

Because they were mostly uneducated, many men were hired for manual labor. For example, it was Irish laborers who worked to knock down the bluffs along Milwaukee and Menomonee Rivers. They were also used to dig canals.

Immigration continued after the 1845 potato blight famine decimated Ireland. More than a million people died and about two million left the country. By 1850, 3000 Irish lived in Milwaukee. A backlash against Irish Catholics came from a number of sectors. The American (Know Nothing) Party in particular viewed the growing Irish immigrant population as an invasion that would pollute American society.

The Irish established numerous Catholic churches in the city. St. Luke's was the first Catholic church and was located at State and Juneau. Because it was the only Catholic church, Irish and Germans had to worship together. The language and cultural differences led the Germans to build what is now Old St. Mary's Catholic Church. St. Luke's later became St. Peter's which still later became St. John the Evangelist, now the Cathedral of the Diocese of Milwaukee.

By 1860, there were 4400 Irish-born residents in Milwaukee. These were fiercely loyal citizens and when the then Governor of Wisconsin considered seceding from the Union, the Irish militia in Milwaukee stood with the Union. The governor promptly decommissioned the militia, but it sought to raise money to arm itself anyway. A fund-raising excursion to Chicago was planned in on the steamship Lady Elgin. It left Milwaukee on September 6, 1868 with 300 Irish on board. After touring and having a wonderful time in Chicago, the Lady Elgin left for its return to Milwaukee on September 8th, but ran into a storm. It collided with a lumber ship and sank, taking 170 Irish residents of the 3rd ward with it.

Numerous Irish fought in the Civil War and the number of detractors began to wane. Some Irish became active in public service. One such Irishman, Edward O'Neill, was elected Milwaukee mayor for four terms.

A series of tragedies befell the Irish population of Milwaukee in the late 19th Century. In the Third Ward on the Milwaukee River, the Union Oil and Paint Company exploded on Oct. 28, 1882, and the resulting fire destroyed almost the entire residential homes, effectively displacing the Irish population. In 1883, a large hotel, the Newhall House, burned down. 72 people died, half of whom were Irish employees. Gradually, as the Third Ward was rebuilt, the population became increasingly Italian. The Irish moved west into the Merrill Park area.

Many famous Americans trace their Irish roots to Milwaukee. Local industrialist Patrick Cudahy has had a major impact on Milwaukee's economy. Two actors, Pat O'Brien and Spencer Tracy were both born in Milwaukee.

Today, Milwaukee celebrates Irish culture and the contributions the Irish made to the growth and development of the City as over 100,000 people attend Irish Fest, the largest Irish music and

culture festival in the world.

Thanks to Carl for a very informative presentation.

The greeting and invocation duties for next week have befallen Christine Merritt.

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Bauer, Ph.D., president-elect, secretary *pro tempore*, and *intellectualis simulare*.

