

# 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.

## Western Great Lakes Rotary District Conference

### "Tricon"



April 18 - 20, 2024

Learn more and register: <https://www.rotarywglconf.org/>

## Wauwatosa Rotary Foundation Gourmet Nuts Fundraiser



It's *still* that nutty time of the year! That's right, nuts continue to be available for purchase

### 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 13th  
[Wauwatosa Weekly Club Meeting](#)

March 20th  
[Wauwatosa Weekly Club Meeting](#)

**Speaker:** Kristi Sebald  
**Subject:** Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity

March 27th  
[Wauwatosa Weekly Club Meeting](#)

April 3rd  
[Wauwatosa Weekly Club Meeting](#)

### Club Leaders



[William Carl Makal](#)  
President



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



[Jerry Broitzman](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms  
Vice President



[Jonathan Lorenzen](#)  
Secretary



[Robert P. Niedermann CPA](#)  
Treasurer



[Dale A Yerkes](#)  
Treasurer-Elect



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



[Richard Todd Mannisto](#)  
Rotary Foundation Chair



[Peter M. Skanavis](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Rick David Steinberg](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms

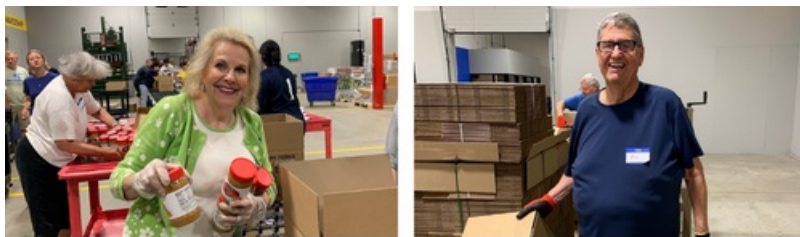
into the holiday season! Please consider supporting the Wauwatosa Rotary Foundation by placing an order for delicious gourmet nuts from the A.L. Schutzman Co. These sweet and savory treats are perfect for holiday gifts or any special occasion. Most of all, your participation in this fundraiser supports 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](#).

**Minimum order of three (3) items.**



## Serving Our Community



[Paul Alan Vandeveld](#)  
Club Programs Chair



[Robert Hugh Nelson](#)  
Past President

### Years of Service

Amber M Donovan  
03-08-2023  
2 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](http://www.rotary.org) for much more information.

## Newsletter - March 6, 2024

By Jonathan Lorenzen

Convention in the Cream City  
A Host's Checklist for a Meeting of the  
Rotary Club of Wauwatosa

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Always punctual President Makal took the podium right on schedule and began by leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. We then bowed our heads for a perfectly-proclaimed prayer by invocator Anne Neafie. Thank you, Anne!

We had just one birthday to recognize, that of Foundation Chair Rich Mannisto, the actual date having occurred on Monday 3/4. Happy Birthday, Rich! We also celebrated the one-year Rotary Anniversary of Amber Donovan. Congratulations, Amber! No partner birthdays or wedding anniversaries appeared on today's agenda.

Sad and happy conversation included the following communications:

- We were delighted to welcome several guests at today's meeting:
  - Neal Solanki, husband of fellow Rotarian Alex Solanki
  - Rev. Julie Sheridan-Smith, pastor of First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa (guest of Rotarian Rev. Kate Jones)
  - Proposed member Mark Spiegelhoff (Mark has since submitted a membership application)
  - Assistant District Governor Mark Zalewski of the Elmbrook Club. Mark delivered a brief update about the upcoming Rotary Western Great Lakes District Conference (TriCon).
  - Thanks for joining us, all!
- Rose Murack showed us the basket she is assembling for the charity auction at the upcoming TriCon event. She thanked WLC, Horicon Bank, Paul Roller, and all other donors for their generous contributions. Additional items will be accepted until just before the conference in April. Thanks for your service and leadership, Rose!
- President-Elect Aaron Sebald reported that he had attended the Rotary President-Elect Training Seminar in Itasca, Illinois. Aaron discovered that our district (6270) has a large inflatable sign that may be borrowed for club events.
- Ann Guagliardo made us aware of another free workshop at Connect Chiropractic titled "The Perfect Storm." The event, which takes place on Wednesday, March 20, will include a diaper drive in support of needy families. See Ann for details.
- President Makal was happy at UWM men's basketball's win in the first round of the Horizon League Tournament. Go Panthers!



With no additional briefings to broadcast, we turned our attention to Dale Yerkes who introduced program speaker Alli Delano, Director of External Affairs for the Milwaukee 2024 Host Committee. The committee was organized after Milwaukee was selected as the city that would host the 2024 Republican National Convention. And while the committee is facilitating a partisan event, they themselves are a non-political and not-for-profit organization. The convention will take place

 downtown July 15-18, and will draw no fewer than 50,000 visitors to the Cream City. Deer District crown jewel Fiserv Forum will serve as the main hub of activity, hosting the most important meetings, ceremonies, and speeches.

Delano played for us a promo video produced by the Host Committee in which prominent leaders such as Mayor Cavalier Johnson, County Executive David Crowley, and Host Committee Chairman (and former RNC chair) Reince Priebus extolled the virtues of our fair city.

The Milwaukee Host Committee interacts with the RNC's Committee on Arrangements to coordinate the many facets of the massive event. Delano likened the MKE Committee to those formed by cities selected to host the Super Bowl. The MKE Host Committee's core responsibilities include:

- Raising \$68 million for event expenses
- Engaging local businesses to work with visitors, the Host Committee, and the RNC
- Recruiting 6,000+ volunteers

The Host Committee is also tasked with "weaving the Milwaukee story" into the fabric of the convention and the visitor experience. To do this, Delano and others have partnered with a vast network of local vendors to meet the many needs of the RNC, its delegates, media personnel, and other visiting constituents. The resulting business activity is expected to have a \$200 million impact on the local and regional economy. One example of the committee's commitment to local investment is that of its partner hotels: all lodging accommodations secured by the committee are within Wisconsin. "We're excited to tell the Milwaukee story *and* the Badger story."

While 50,000+ visitors will descend on Milwaukee *in-person*, millions more will be watching the convention on television. Delano compared national conventions to the "Super Bowls" of the political arena. In 2020, 17 million viewers tuned in to the first night of the Republican National Convention. Then-nominee Donald Trump's convention address garnered even more attention, with 24 million Americans watching the speech on TV. As a major media event, the convention expects to draw 15,000 journalists and reporters; these individuals are included in the anticipated 50,000 visitor headcount.

The convention will kick off on July 14 with a Wisconsin-themed "welcome party" of sorts. During each following day, delegate business will take place at locations scattered across the city. In the evening, everyone reports back to Fiserv Forum for the "big show" including plenary speeches and other main stage activities. The convention culminates on Thursday night with an acceptance speech by the Republican Party nominee.

Delano explained that the 2024 RNC will be the first in-person convention in eight years, as the coronavirus pandemic snarled normal proceedings in 2020. The last Republican National Convention took place in 2016 in Cleveland, Ohio "another Midwestern Great Lakes city."

Carrying out a monumentally complex event like the RNC requires an army of vendors, partners, volunteers, and public safety personnel. In fact, national conventions are one of a select few "National Special Security Events" which marshal the resources of numerous law enforcement agencies to maintain a secure perimeter around event venues.

Vendors and volunteers find essential resources on the MKE 2024 Host Committee website, providing a "one-stop shop" for these important partners. The Member Connection Portal delivers behind-the-scenes functionality for businesses and Host Committee staff, while the public-facing Vendor Directory connects visitors with locally-owned and vetted establishments. "It's an essential resource for folks coming to town." Participation in the vendor directory is voluntary, but opting in helps drive the economic impact of the convention.

One of Delano's jobs as Director of External Affairs is to recruit 6,000 volunteers to help throughout the convention. She's off to a strong start with 1,500 helpers already committed, but admits there's "a ways to go." Last Friday, the Host Committee launched a big push for volunteers, partnering with the YMCA, Visit Milwaukee, and MMAC. Volunteers are needed at visitor hot spots such as Mitchell International Airport, area hotels, and Fiserv Forum. She noted that individuals 16 and older may volunteer, but younger kids can still participate with a parent or guardian.

The Host Committee provides organizations recruiting volunteers on their behalf with a tool kit containing easy-to-use advertising and social media resources.

According to Delano, the 2024 Republican National Convention is sure to make a lasting impact in Milwaukee, noting that Cleveland is still realizing the benefits from its 2016 event.

Ms. Delano then proceeded to take questions from the floor:

- Mark Zalewski asked what volunteers are asked to do.
  - They welcome visitors, answer questions, staff hotel help desks, and serve as local guides. Volunteers will also be positioned at Fiserv Forum.
  - Volunteers serving inside the security perimeter will use a designated shuttle to access their respective posts. These volunteers will also be subject to a background check.
- John Sebald asked what types of entities are sought as donors toward the \$68 million fundraising goal.
  - Donors with a history of giving to national conventions are solicited along with any number of local and regional organizations and businesses.
- Aaron Sebald had heard that bar hours were to be extended during the convention, and wanted to know if that was true.
  - Yes, until 4:00 a.m.
- Alex Solanki wanted to know if there was a way of requesting to volunteer with friends and family.
  - Yes, upon registration, volunteers will be asked who they would like to serve with.
- Dale Yerkes asked the length of volunteer shifts.
  - 4-6 hours each, however many volunteers take back-to-back shifts.

- Robert Niedermann was curious how delegates got from their hotels to Fiserv Forum each day.
  - There are a fleet of buses for delegate transportation â€” dubbed the â€œGOP Express.â€
- Paul Vandeveld asked if Delano had worked on a national convention before.
  - No, this is her first one.
- Craig Schmutzer asked about the involvement of the Secret Service.
  - The Secret Service is in charge of coordinating security for the convention.
- Aaron Sebald asked about Delanoâ€™s professional background.
  - She is a political fundraiser when not helping to run a national convention.

After a robust and interesting round of Q&A, we adjourned our meeting with a peal of the Rotary Bell. Many thanks to Alli Delano for a thorough presentation on the 2024 MKE Host Committee!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dawdling Delegate of Dispatches and Disclosures  
Jonathan Lorenzen

#### **Upcoming Commitments**

##### **Program**

**March 13:** Roger Walsh

**March 20:** Anne Neafie will present Kristi Sebald of Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity

**March 27:** Amber Donovan

**April 3:** Bill Bode

##### **Invoker/Greeter**

**March 13:** Paul Roller

**March 20:** Jonathan Lorenzen

**March 27:** Bill Makal

**April 3:** Robert Niedermann