



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.

Hunger Task Force Event

Wednesday, April 17

Wauwatosa Rotary
at the
Hunger Task Force

Wednesday, April 17
8:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

5000 W Electric Ave
West Milwaukee, WI 53219

Please join us!
Questions? Contact Roger Walsh
rwalsh76@wi.rr.com

HUNGER TASK FORCE
FREE & LOCAL

You are invited to join the Rotary Club of Wauwatosa as we help to feed families in partnership with Hunger Task Force!

When

Wednesday, April 17, 2024
8:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Location

5000 W Electric Ave
West Milwaukee, WI 53219

****This activity will take the place of our regular noon meeting on Wednesday, April 17.****

For questions and more information, please contact [Roger Walsh](mailto:Roger.Walsh@wi.rr.com).

Western Great Lakes Rotary District Conference

"Tricon"



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
Wauwatosa Weekly Club Meeting
Speaker: Dr. Ken Fisher
Subject: Wisconsin Lutheran High School

April 17th
Hunger Task Force Event

April 17th
NO NOON MEETING - Wauwatosa Weekly Club Meeting

April 24th
Wauwatosa Weekly Club Meeting
Speaker: John Ruggini
Subject: Finance Director, City of Wauwatosa

May 1st
Wauwatosa Weekly Club Meeting

Club Leaders



[William Carl Makal](#)
President



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



[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



April 18 - 20, 2024

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

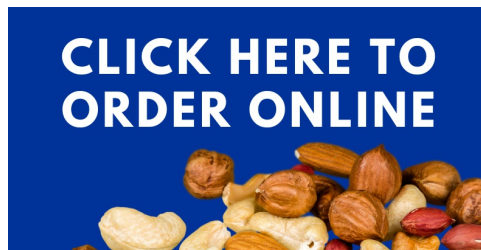
Wauwatosa Rotary Foundation Gourmet Nuts Fundraiser



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

Years of Service

Robert Hugh Nelson
04-07-2010
14 Years

Rick David Steinberg
04-05-2017
7 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 - April 3, 2024

By Craig Schmutzer

A Trip Down Memory Lane
Bulletin Notes for a Meeting of the
Rotary Club of Wauwatosa

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

A rather subdued group of 15 Rotarians gathered on a dreary (weatherwise) spring Wednesday for the fellowship, fraternization, and friendship of Rotary. Club members were happy to recognize two guests today—Mary Niedermann, wife of the amiable Robert Niedermann, and erstwhile club member (and today's guest speaker) Ron Pruhs (Ron's wife Ronni, who is also well known to many club members, was unable to join us today).

True to form, President Bill promptly called the meeting to order at 12:25:52 and proceeded to lead those gathered in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Four Way Test. Robert Niedermann provided today's invocation.

President Bill shared that a few Rotarians celebrate their Rotary anniversaries in early April including Paul Vandeveld on April 2nd, Rick (œBernieœ) Steinberg on April 5th, and Robert Niedermann on April 7th. Mr. Niedermann is both the oldest (chronologically) and

longest-tenured club member of this triumvirate (Paul Vandeveld thought he may have a longer tenure in the club, but he couldn't name the year he joined!).

Richie Frenn was especially ebullient today as the start of the Brewers season typically translates into a seasonal upturn in revenues for Bert's Beer and Liquor. Richie also thanked Paul Vandeveld and Ron Pruhs for their patronage and recent purchases.

President Elect Aaron shared that the club received a letter from a Margaret Kvale. Margaret is a first-year medical student at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Recounting a study abroad experience in Austria she had whilst in high school, she was inquiring if our club knew of any opportunities for adults to mentor high school-age students. Aaron will follow up with Demond Means to see if he is aware of any mentorship opportunities. Hopefully, Aaron will also follow up with Margaret as she could be an interesting guest speaker at a future meeting!



Our attention now turned to today's guest speaker, Ron Pruhs. Being a valued and long-time member of our club, Ron required no introduction.

In one sense, Ron's comments today seemed like a classification talk. In a far more important sense, Ron's comments reflected how he (and his wife, Ronni) truly embody the Rotary theme of, "Service above Self."

Following his education and training in pediatric and restorative dentistry, Ron became almost immediately involved in mission work as he firmly believed mission work represents a calling, a vocation. He donated his time and skills in many countries over 55 years including Malawi (where Ronni gave birth to the couple's fourth son. The baby was delivered by a cardiologist from Detroit who happened to be volunteering in Malawi at the same time!), Brazil, Uganda, Thailand and the Dominican Republic. However, his longest commitment was in Haiti

where the Pruhses established a dental clinic inside a hospital in 1994.

For decades, the World Health Organization has indicated that dentistry is the #1 healthcare-related need in developing countries. Ron shared that Haiti is really a "5th World Country" as it is not developing and has little hope for same. It is a country where a few well-off people dominate the poor. Little or no government, poor educational systems, lack of adequate electrical and plumbing services all combine to make for miserable living conditions. In addition to the lack of natural resources, the spoken language of "Creole" contributes to Haiti's lack of development. Creole is a version of French that is only spoken and understood in Haiti. The Pruhses learned to speak Creole out of necessity while in Haiti. Today, gangs control Haiti and violence and crime is rampant.

In summarizing his 55 years of mission work, Ron noted all six of his and Ronni's sons worked in missions overseas, his family had to deal with exposures to infectious diseases such as malaria and hepatitis, but that the inner sense of peace they felt from helping the poor made every day worth it.

Bob Nelson noted that Haiti and the Dominican Republic share a common border geographically, yet the Dominican Republic is developing economically and receives a great deal of tourism.

Ron noted that when the Spanish left the Dominican Republic, they put a government in place. However, when the French left Haiti, they did nothing to help propel Haiti's future including leaving no government in place.

Many people owe a debt of gratitude to Ron and Ronni for leaving the world a better place than they found it. Thank you for sharing your experiences with us, Ron. We genuinely miss having you as a club member.

Respectfully submitted,
Craig Schmutzer
Substitute Bulletin Editor

Upcoming Commitments

Program

April 10: John Sebald will present Dr. Ken Fisher, President of Wisconsin Lutheran High School

April 17: NO NOON MEETING "due" to Hunger Task Force Service Activity

April 24: Craig Schmutzer will present John Ruggini, Finance Director for the City of Wauwatosa

May 1: Bob Nelson

Invocator/Greeter

April 10: Bob Nelson

April 17: Kevin Festerling

April 24: Craig Schmutzer

May 1: Paul Vandeveld

