



February 12, 2024 Bulletin
Milestone Senior Center

The February 12 meeting of the Rotary Club of Kalamazoo took place at Milestone Senior Services in Kalamazoo, Michigan and was called to order by President Martin Velten at 12: p.m.

Rotarian Jeff Ross gave the invocation.

Arts News

The Arts News was presented by Rotarian Dann Sytsma.

Rotary Arts Minute for 2/12/2024 Information provided by the



LITERATURE & POETRY



[Poets in Print Reading](#)

Saturday, February 17, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Presented by [Kalamazoo Book Arts Center](#) at ZOOM

MUSIC



[Nickel Creek](#)

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 7:30 pm

Presented by [Kalamazoo State Theatre](#), 404 S. Burdick, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Doors: 6:30PM | Show: 7:30PM



[Free Community Concert | Kalamazoo Symphony](#)

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Presented by [Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra](#) at [First Presbyterian Church](#), 321 W. South St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007



VISUAL ARTS [ONLINE + IN PERSON Kirk Newman Exhibit and Art Sale](#)

Tuesday – Friday, Dec 12, 2023 - Feb 27, 2024 from 8 am – 1 pm

[GO TO ONLINE SALE](#)

[American Realism: Visions of America, 1900-1950](#)

Jan 20, 2024 - Apr 14, 2024 at 11:00 am

Presented by [Kalamazoo Institute of Arts](#), 314 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007



[Kyungmi Shin: A Story to Finding Us](#)

Jan 20, 2024 - May 12, 2024 at 11:00 am

Presented by [Kalamazoo Institute of Arts](#), 314 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007



[The Illustrated Accordion 2024 Exhibition](#)

Feb 2, 2024 - Mar 15, 2024 at 10:00 am

Presented by [Kalamazoo Book Arts Center](#), 326 W Kalamazoo Ave # 103A, Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Guests

Kelly Leversee from Kalamazoo Communities in Schools was introduced by PDG Jim Cupper.

Jennifer Jackson, Pres. Jackson Insurance was introduced by Jack Hopkins.

Jeff Ross introduced Matt Claus, new Executive Director of of KNAC.

Visiting Rotarians

None.

Announcements

Aaron Bradford will secure programs. The program committee's criteria include: "Will it create hope, will it be interesting and will it benefit servant leaders."

Jeff Ross Satellite Club meets on the second. Tuesday. On March 12, will meet at KNAC 5:01 meeting.

Jeff Murphy announced the Red Rose Citation. "We need nominations as soon as possible." Every year since 1945, this award has been given to a suitable person in Kalamazoo. Nomination forms were provided. A link to download the nomination form is available on the homepage of our website. (www.kalamazoorary.org)

Keith Mumma awarded a Paul Harris Fellow to his late son, Chris Mumma.

Maria Newhouse exchanged new member badge for permanent member badge.

April 20 is the date for the Kalamazoo River Clean-up. More info to follow.

Happy Bucks

Maria exchanged new member badge for permanent member badge.

Program

Michelle Skedgell, Hastings Rotary Club, and District Environmental Chair spoke on Operation Polination. 2020 Environment became our 7th avenue of focus. ESRAG involved in all sorts of environmental causes, including operation polination. 2021 Operation polination committee now has 20 members. 10 Rotarians and 10 non-Rotarians. Pollinators have declined over 40% in the past 10-20 years or so. You may contact Michelle at skedgellm@cedarcreekinstitute.org for more information.

What is...



MISSION/PURPOSE

The goal of Operation Pollination is to increase and improve habitat areas on public and private lands that will support increased pollinator species populations. This goal will be completed through two main areas:

1. Education, and 2. Habitat Restoration/Expansion.

HISTORY

In 2015, various governmental groups and for-profit and nonprofit organizations in Wisconsin and Minnesota partnered to sign a Pollinator Resolution to protect pollinator habitat. The National Park Service's National Heritage Areas took the lead on this project and, in 2018, re-branded it as Operation Pollination. Currently, 35 of the 55 NHAs across the USA have expressed interest in joining.

In June 2020, Rotary International added a 7th Area of Focus, supporting the environment. The Operation Pollination initiative was adopted as part of the Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG). This partnership took Operation Pollination global.

STRUCTURE

Operation Pollination is an international initiative that has been adopted locally. Its strength is the support structure provided by Rotary and its collaborative efforts to include individuals and organizations interested in improving environmental sustainability. Many partners have come together to engage in pollinator habitat restoration and educational efforts. The Hastings Rotary Club signed its pledge form in April 2022.



VALUE OF POLLINATORS

Pollinators are essential for life on Earth; therefore, it is critically important to protect them. Bees, wasps, ants, butterflies, moths, beetles, flies, and even some birds and bats pollinate the plants in our environment. Unfortunately, pollinator numbers have declined by more than 40% in the past 50 years. Operation Pollination is how we can make a difference in our community, building a pollinator support network across the continent and the globe.



RESOURCES/REFERENCES

Operation Pollination website: <https://operationpollination.net/>

ESRAG website: <https://esrag.org/>

Hastings Rotary Club website: <http://www.hastingsrotary.com/>



Adjournment

President Martin then adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m. by leading us in the FourWay Test.

Submitted by: Jim Cupper