



Club Leaders



[Christopher A. Lewis](#)
President



[Earl K Wolf](#)
President-Elect



[Sharon L LaPointe](#)
President-Nominee



[Wanda Bloomquist](#)
Treasurer
Past President



[Gene Kico](#)
Assistant Secretary
Webmaster
Secretary



[Mark Steinberg](#)
Rotary Foundation
Chair



[Robert Stephenson](#)
Club Director

Speakers

June 11, 2024

No Regular Meeting
Just Committee meetings

June 18, 2024

Eric Olmschied (with Wharton Center)

Be sure to bring all your Duck Race tickets - sold or not!

June 22, 2024

Duck Race Day
Help all you can

June 25, 2024

Social Meeting at Zynda's
Officer Exchange night

06/04/24-Adam Spina-Bond Proposals

June 4, 2024

- President Chris started the meeting with a Pledge of Allegiance
- Attendance: Members=23, Guests=3
- He introduced our guests:
 - David Indiss (Chris invited)
 - Rodney Ray "back to Williamston" former member
 - Tammy Lemmer via Zoom, from the Haslett/Okemos Club
- Chris then showed to infomercials that Peter Clay did with Jim Conroy's help for showing on WLNS TV & WLAJ TV
 - One 15 seconds and the other 30 seconds long
- Speaker "Adam Spina



- Adam thanked Rotary for the grant for Faculty regalia
 - At the HS Graduation they were all on stage dressed up
 - It started a new tradition
- He also mentioned that turnout he saw for the HS baseball game at the Diamond Classic at MSU's McLane Stadium
 - About 80% of the fans in the packed stadium were from Williamston
 - We have had great attendance at Williamston sporting events
- Adam talked about a couple upcoming bond issues
 - Proposal 2
 - To restore the operating millage back up to 18 mils
 - Reduced due to property value increases
 - 3 districts in the area are affected by this loss
 - We get less than the 18 mils now
 - Most single family homes will see no increase
 - Paid by businesses
 - Proposal 1
 - For no increase in millage from the current rate,
 - \$38.5M in renovations for schools
 - Elementary Campus Renovations
 - Drop off/pickup traffic improvements
 - 3rd, 4th, 5th grade classroom additions
 - Outdoor accessible restrooms
 - Renovations at Explorer elementary
 - Full size gym addition
 - Elementary campus kitchen upgrades
 - Planned Facility upgrades

- HVAC upgrades
 - Custodial & maintenance equipment
 - Technology infrastructure upgrades
 - Flooring & locker replacement
 - Sidewalk & parking lot improvements
 - Athletic improvements
 - Softball field press box improvements
 - Tennis court revisions
 - He noted that a NO vote will not reduce taxes
 - If the bond issue passes, they will still need community input
 - It was in 2005 when the last bond issue was passed
- Treasurer Wanda Bloomquist
 - She passed out a sheet listing a draft budget that the board was to consider at their next board meeting
 - She walked us through the budget
 - Dues budget at \$8700
 - Duck Race â€” Sponsors, ticket sales, expenses
 - About \$18,500 net
 - Misc â€” meals, database, district/RI dues, storage unit
 - Committee budgets, etc
 - About \$15,400
 - Expenses at about \$18,000
 - Balance of -\$400
 - Two years ago we had the Rockinâ€™™ Rotary Raffle
 - It netted about \$27,000
 - We need a second fundraiser
 - Dues just cover the District/RI dues
 - Raise dues to \$60/qtr? Raise about another \$3200/yr
 - Jim Miller suggested not to raise dues â€” makes it easier to convince one to join
 - Suggest adding \$10 for Murphs meals â€” 3x per year to dues statement
 - Not charge at door
 - All pay whether attend or not
 - Denise White asked what the target amount needs to be left in the bank? \$20,000
 - Gene â€” Are you asking to do the Rockinâ€™™ Rotary Raffle? possibly
 - Narda â€” It feels good to spend money for the community
 - The finance committee checked 6-7 Rotary clubs in the district
 - How do we compare?
 - Narda â€” with grants how well do the requesters follow our goals?
 - Paul â€” question on Murphs costs
 - \$4500 guest costs for meals
 - Grant of \$2050 has been requested from the District to support this
 - Fund Raising
 - Taste of Williamston
 - Community has been asking for it again
 - Senior Center would like to have it in their new building
 - What will ToW raise?
 - Live auction money goes to Foundation
 - Will Senior Center be ready to host in October?
 - Trying to get there
 - Need to clean up main room
 - Then update the kitchen
 - More community support and desire than Raffle
- Raj Wiener gave us her bio and family history



- Raj joined Rotary after Merlin asked
 - She walked into the Black Barn (Last meeting the month was at the Clay Black Barn in 2013)

- She saw Tom Clay with another side of him she never knew
 - Saw others she knew as well
 - Friendly atmosphere
- She is a 3rd generation Rotarian
- 6th generation Methodist (ancestors were Hindu and Muslim)
- Married for 40 years
 - Rick â€œ eastern European & Jewish
- First Indian immigrant to a State Cabinet
 - First Indian Head of Public Health at State of Michigan
 - Grandfather first elected Methodist Indian Bishop
 - Both involved as peace seekers, using inclusion, respect and belonging.
- Grandma â€œ Missionary dedicated to feed and help other, Raj involved in feeding programs.
- Dad a visionary â€œ â€œGo for it!â€ Raj gets confidence to try
- Brother â€œ her hero
 - Star Student athlete who kicked alcoholism and helped countless student athletes. Raj helps youth sports guiding student athletes
- Mother is 95 years old, courageous, graceful, and intelligent.
- Her husband, Rick, is a mench â€œ wise partner and love for 40 years
 - 2 children graduated from WHS
- Raj spends time with university students, and Saginaw Valley State University, International students at MSU, and Medical Research for Women at UM
- Helps Michigan victims of heavy storm damage caused by climate change through After the Storm,
- Promotes policies to secure the care infrastructure, in Michigan and globally through Oxfam International. Seeing a positive shift in businessâ€™ support due to lack of workers in every arena.
- Ukraine â€œ collects and sends medical supplies to hospitals and docs in Dnipro City through Rotary connection.
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- Gene announced the Rotarian of the Year
 - The process:
 - Nominations requested and collected
 - List of nominees & reasons given to past RoYs
 - Past RoYs voted on their choice
 - The first vote ended in a tie from 6 nominees
 - Second Vote of top 2 â€œ end in another tie
 - So, Rotarian of the Year for 2024:
 - **Chris Lewis & Jim & Naomi Miller**
 - Congrats!
 - All will be present plaques at the Citizen of the Year Dinner
 - On June 17th at the Brookshire Inn
 - A signup sheet was passed around for those planning to attend
 - And ride in the Red Cedar Jubilee Parade
 - For the Parade:
 - Paul can take one person in his car
 - Also worried about kids running up to car to get the candy
 - Suggest we have walkers carry bags of candy to throw to the crowds â€œ not off the cars
 - Can wear Rotarians at Work vests too
 - Denise White suggestion
 - Paul take Janet â€œ our Rotary Hero
 - Have tractor and trailer â€œ make like a float
 - Have RoYs on trailer float with Duckies
 - Suggest we have a group come up with the best plan
 - Denise passed around a sign-up sheet for the day of the race
 - Has names of people who did jobs in the past â€œ mark OK if true
 - ALL TICKETS must be turned in at the June 18th meeting â€œ sold or not
 - Happy \$s
 - Concluded with the 4-Way Test (+1)

Thought for the Week

By Gene Kico on Saturday, July 1, 2023

â€œHappiness is not the absence of conflict, but the ability to cope with it.â€

Joke of the Week

By Gene Klco (from Jim Conroy)

If you watched last week's spelling bee and thought "I could do that," then here's your chance.

Below is a list of seven words. Some are spelled correctly, and others are misspelled. Can you identify which ones are the mistakes?

1. Febuary
2. Definitley
3. Renaissance
4. Bycicle
5. Bureaucracy
6. Neccessary
7. Vaccuum

ANSWERS

1. Wrong. It should be "February."
2. Wrong. It should be "definitely."
3. This is correct.
4. Wrong. It's "bicycle."
5. This is correct.
6. Wrong. There's an extra "C."
7. Wrong "one too many "C"s again.

June Birthdays

By Gene Klco on Saturday, June 1, 2024

Wishes for a **Happy Birthday** in **June** go out to:

Sharon LaPointe June 6

Steve Terry June 16

Jim Conroy June 29