

Bloomington Rotary Roundabout

July 23, 2024

Next week



Our speaker July 30 will be Steve Volan, discussing “The Power of Microphones,” in the Frangipani Room and on Zoom. Steve is the host and executive producer of *The 812*, a daily public-affairs podcast about city government. He interviews elected officials, appointed officials, members of boards and commissions, and people working for nonprofits that provide services or have some connection to the governance of the city.

The show, which began in January, draws heavily from his 20 years of experience as a member of the Bloomington city council. On January 1 he completed his fifth term representing the city's downtown.

In 2019, Steve received his master's degree in Geography from IU, where he has also taught for many years. In previous careers he started companies like BlueMarble DOT net, the city's first Internet access provider, and The Cinemat, an independent video store and venue. He has been a volunteer for both WFHB and the Lotus Festival since their beginnings in 1993 and 1994, respectively. He has lived in Bloomington since 1986.

News of the Week

News of Our Members

Caleb Poer will be featured in “Lucent, an Exhibition by Caleb Poer,” at The I Fell Gallery, 415 W 4th Street, at the corner of 4th and Rogers Street. The opening reception is Friday, Aug. 2, from 5-8 pm.

John Armstrong is now a Director of Development for the College of Arts and Sciences, where he joins fellow Rotarian Sue Sgambelluri.

Jeff Baldwin, who has served as Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington since 2006, plans to retire from that position December 31.

New Rotary Board



The new board met July 18.

Back row: Alain Barker, Steve Wickes, Mark Peterson, Traci Jovanovic, Claire Kest, Amy Osajima, Andrea Murray, Jim Sims

Front row: Jim Bright, Liz Feitl, Lynn Schwartzberg, Ron Barnes

July 23 Program:



Earon Davis introduced our speakers. William Ellis and Don Byrd have worked together for years with Braver Angels, an organization whose goal is to unify a divided nation. They spoke

briefly about A + AI, which is Algorithms and Artificial Intelligence. Both can be used to fool people into believing that a deep fake is real. People must learn to question what they are seeing or hearing.

Braver Angels does not try to get people to compromise with the other side. They try to get people to find common ground. They don't assume both sides are equally to blame for problems or that both sides are equally responsible for the polarization we are experiencing.

William suggested that we need to police ourselves to a degree. We don't want the government to infringe on free speech, so we must take responsibility for thinking about where information comes from and consider other perspectives.



Photo of Jim Bright, Don Byrd, William Ellis, and Earon Davis

The July 23 celebration of service is available at https://youtu.be/XT2Bsz_yFHY.

Updates: Our July 23 Celebration of Service

Reflection

Roy Graham told us that awareness is the key to success and gave examples.

Thanks to our Greeter, **Dick McKaig**; **Roy Graham** for the reflection; Audio Producer **Tylar Martin-Nichols**; Zoom Host **Joy Harter**; Camera/Mic Operator **Lexi Walters**; **Natalie Blais**, Executive Assistant. **Sue Sgambelluri** introduced our guests. Roundabout Reporter for this week is **Glenda Murray**.

Sue Sgambelluri introduced guests:

- Jean Santi, guest and long-time friend of Charlotte Zietlow

- Jacob Wood, grandson of Marilyn Wood
- Joseph Grott, guest of Roy Graham
- Amina Mohammadi, guest of Dave Meyer
- Mohammad Hussain Jawid, guest of Dave Meyer

Birthdays this week:

- Dick McKaig, July 25
- Scott Walters, July 26
- Tylar Martin Nichols, July 26

Member Anniversaries this week.

- Connie Shakalis, 4 years

Happy Dollars

We celebrated Happy Dollars with a number of comments. Chloe, our new Exchange student, will arrive next week. Charlotte Zietlow celebrated the visit of her long-time friend Jean Sani.

Reporter: Glenda Murray

Photographer: Jim Bright and others