

Rotary



Club of Dayton



Rotary Opens Opportunities

Club Leaders



Brian O. Martin
President



Shaun Yu
President - Elect



Kimberly M. Bramlage
Secretary



Walter A. Hibner
Vice President



Randall K. Domigan
Treasurer



Jean L. Maychack
iPast President



Megan Manuel
Assistant Governor

Birthdays



Richard W. Schwartz
March 15th

Stephen Keyes
March 18th

This Week at Rotary

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021

"Restaurateur's Roundtable Discussion"



featuring Archer's Dan Apolitio, Liz Valenti from Wheat Penny, Caussaundra Saziano of Giovanni's and Bill Castro of El Meson

SPEAKERS: Dan Apolitio from Archer's, Liz Valenti from Wheat Penny, Caussaundra Saziano of Giovanni's and Bill Castro of El Meson

We invite four local restaurateurs to join us and share a state of the industry from the viewpoint of these local entrepreneurs.

Chair of the Day: Lisa Grigsby

This Happened Last Monday...

Pre-meeting chat rooms ended and we were brought back together at 12:10 pm and President Brian Martin with 80 Rotarians and guests online. Bill Nance gave the invocation and led the group in the 4-Way Test and Pledge to the Flag.

Secretary Kim Bramlage welcomed guests Gloria Skurski (wife of speaker) and Holly DiFlora guests of John Lyman, Joanna McCord (guest of Evelyn Davidson). Kim then recognized birthdayites for the week: Merle Wilberding, Kate Vriner, Evelyn Davidson, Ken May, Terry Offenberger, Bob Daley and Carl Moyler. Next on the agenda was Day-Tens and Kim started those off with a Day-10 to announce that 1C Covid vaccines and that there were openings tomorrow for appointments at Five Rivers Health Center. Gerry Chadwick gave a Day-100 for his daughter's (Kate Vriner) birthday. Evelyn Davidson gave a Day-150 for her birthday and being vaccinated today and for her daughter who works in the Covid Unite and her father who survived being in that unit. Suren Singhvi gave a Day-10 for his daughter and grandson. Heath MacAlpine gave a Day-50 because 50 years ago he started his DDN paper route and he received his first vaccination last week. Luke Dennis gave a Day-50 for missing meetings recently and because he is a big fan of our speaker, Stu, as well as to announce the WYSO pledge drive starts tomorrow. Holly Wiggins gave a Day-10 for a fellow coworker who have been in the ICU for 2 weeks. Fran Rickenbach gave a Day-10 as it has been 1 year ago that she was last on a plane in Vegas for a client conference which will be held virtually this year with 800 participants next week. Merle Wilberding gave a Day-100 for his birthday and getting vaccinated. Wendy Lewis gave a Day-100 to celebrate The Hub at the Arcade opening. Penny Wolff gave a Day-10 for International Women's Day.

President Brian then called on Shaun Yu to present a \$3000 grant check from the Dayton Rotary Foundation to



Gerard T. Chadwick
March 20th



Speakers

March 15, 2021
[Restaurateur's Roundtable](#)

March 22, 2021
[General Lester Lyles Ret.](#)

March 29, 2021
[Tom Morrow](#)
150th Anniversary of Public Transportation

April 05, 2021
[Mark Murdock](#)
Dayton VA Medical Center

April 12, 2021
[Exchange Student Roundtable](#)

April 19, 2021
[Jonathan McNeal](#)
Oscars Preview

April 26, 2021
[Bing Davis, Local Artist](#)

May 03, 2021
[Laura Estandia, Executive Director](#)
Bike Miami Valley

May 24, 2021
[Red Ribbon Takeover Meeting](#)

Joe Oliveri representing St. Vincent De Paul. The funds will be used to purchase necessary clothing for their clients which provides dignity for their guests.



Sarah Hippensteel-Hall
Paul Harris Fellowship



Greg Robinson
3rd Fellowship



Merle Wilberding
3rd Fellowship

Paul Harris Fellowship Recognitions

Brian then called on Frank Scott to make Paul Harris Fellowship presentations to Sarah Hippensteel-Hall (1st), Merle Wilberding (3rd), Greg Robinson (3rd), Jim Deuser (4th) and Mike Houser (5th). Congratulations to all and thank you for your generosity.

President Brian then called on Lorna Dawes, Chair of the Day to introduce W. Stuart McDowell to present on his life in the theatre. He has been in theatre over 50 years and just retired last year from Wright State University as Chair of the Department of Theatre, Dance and Motion Pictures from 1994-2016. He



Jim Deuser
4th Fellowship



Mike Houser
5th Fellowship

Paul Harris Fellowship Recognitions

briefly reviewed what the topics of today's presentation would be. Why did he go in theatre?, What was it like in professional theatre in New York?, What was it like working with Tom Hanks in New York?, Why on earth did he come to Dayton Ohio? and how did Tom Hanks become involved the WSU Department. Stu got into theatre because of his legs having been cut from soccer team he auditioned for Midsummer Nights Dream but he had to show his legs to make sure they would look appropriate in the tunics they planned to use for costuming. He went into theatre at Berkeley, California the most important event at Berkeley was him meeting his now wife Gloria. He studied in Berlin from 1974-76 and then moved back to New York City in 1976 they produced a big show on a shoestring in 1977 (Romeo & Juliet). He took us through a series of productions that he and Gloria took turns producing through the Riverside Shakespeare Company. In 1979 The Mandrake featured Tom Hanks who auditioned for the play along with 400 other people. This is the performance that got Tom Hanks discovered by Ron Howard and he got into his first major role in the TV show Bosom Buddies. Stu and Gloria finally built a permanent theatre in the balcony of Westpark Presbyterian Church it was called a Showcase theatre which only have 99 seats. Over 8-9 years produced over 200 productions.

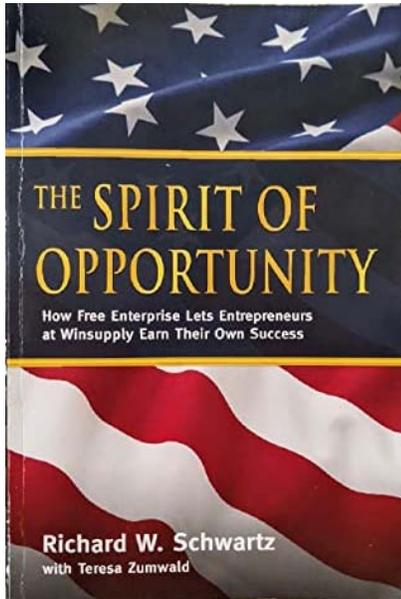
Stu then went into the final chapter how he ended up at Wright State University when he decided to finish his PhD which had been languishing. He sent out his resume to a number of prestigious Schools and applied to a little unheard of school and he came here first thinking he would try out his interview skills at Wright State. However, he fell in love with the facilities, the faculty, the students and the Dean. He gave a couple of examples of some of his favorite shows he directed while at Wright State. One he spoke about in detail was the 1913 The Great Dayton Flood and then in 2015 Fences with Sheila Ramsey. Another favorite was Cabaret in 2005 and Les Miserables in 2014 with a large revolving set. which he played a segment from the show.

The last subject that Stu covered was the Tom Hanks connection. He pursued Mr. Hanks at many locations often accompanied by his wife Gloria. Tom finally agreed to give his name to the Tom Hanks Motion Picture Center. They have also established Tom Hanks scholarships. Tom spoke in front of the entire student body

which was a highlight.

How do you measure a life in the theatre. Stu shared a video of highlights of his life at Wright State. Which can be found at this link. <https://youtu.be/8lmS8-b7qmY> The group then asked questions of Stuart via chat and President Brian thanked Stu for his awesome presentation and reminded all to come back next week for a local restaurant round table.

Rotary Book Club



Our next is book, written by a fellow Rotarian, Rick Schwartz, with Teresa Zumwald, *The Spirit of Opportunity: How Free Enterprise Lets Entrepreneurs at Winsupply Earn Their Own Success*.

Our next meeting is **Tuesday, April 13, 2021, from 6:30-8:00 PM via Zoom.**

6/8/21-Our book is In Search of Happiness, Peace, & Success by Surendra Singhvi, who wrote this book, and another, after a stroke in 2002. We will communicate how to get his book at a later date.

Additional meetings in 2021 are 8/10/21, 10/12/21, 12/14/21, 6:30 - 8:00 PM via Zoom

Please contact Susan Hayes for any questions. sm.hayes@me.com
