

Washington Rotary Club



February 7, 2023

The Washington Rotary Club met on February 7 at The Center on Strawberry in downtown Washington.

Guests:

Colleen and Steve Arnowitz from the Monongahela Club, and NAACP president and old walking buddy of President John Hopper, **Dave Gatling**.

The meeting began with an invocation by **Dave Hart** followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by **President John Hopper**

Announcements:

- **Dave Hart** stayed at the front and put in a plea for donations to the Rotary Foundation. He did not want to sound like the boy who cried wolf, but our club is way short of its goal. His request: "Send me some money." This writer followed up with him and can see why he is concerned. Our goal for this Rotary year, which ends in June, is \$4500. So far members have donated \$750. This is not good. An Easy contribution form to have your contribution added to your quarterly billing is available here. <https://forms.gle/q3z7zQYcrTW2TcNY8> Choose "other" to make a one-time donation!
- **Joe Piszczor** mentioned that the District Rotary Foundation event will be at the Rivers Casino on Sunday, March 26. Check it out on the District website.
- **Susan Price** asked if members were planning on attending the Membership Summit, and four people spoke up. Our club will be well represented.



Program: President John Hopper

Today's program was presented by **President John Hopper**. He spoke about the deterioration of civility in our country, and of his hope to restore peace and civility in our hometown. We have lost so much.

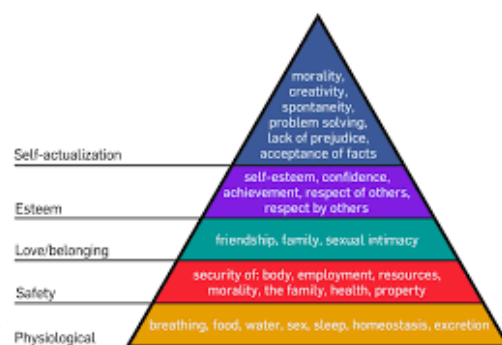
Rotarian **Brian Farr** has put together a booklet about steps Rotarians can take to increase peace and conflict resolution in our lives and communities,

"Living and Linking Your Piece of Peace" is compilation of Best Practices and is immediately actionable to deploy in our community. John further indicated that he has adopted this booklet and will insert one of the 8 Enrichment Exercises into each meeting. (After the meeting Rotarian Rachel Losowsky, who is the doing our next program on February 21, "The Rule of Law" an American Bar Association project indicated she will use one of 8 Enrichment Activities when she does the program.)

Further, John expressed that since Peace is an inside job, it would be good to get started right away check out the booklet Piece of Peace: [New-Primer-August-](#)

[w_AppendixTwo-1.pdf \(rotaryactiongroupforpeace.org\)](#)

One of the persons cited in this booklet, Peace activist Paul Chappell spoke on why peace is possible. Before John started the video, he suggested we watch out for Chappell's fundamental rethinking of Maslow's hierarchy of needs.



His new thinking is transformational in understanding where we are as a society. Why Peace is possible. DON'T MISS OUT on this video. <https://youtu.be/Ovqwrndx9bg>

At this point **President John** introduced NAACP **President Dave Gatling** who was visiting us today. Dave invited us all to the NAACP Open House at their headquarters on Highland Avenue. It will be held on Saturday, February 25 from 2 to 6.

President John then spoke about how our involvement in environmental clean-up is an excellent way to build relationships and model personal responsibility. Our club goal should be: Grow More, Do more. He also urged members to check out the Rotary group: Action for Peace. It has annual dues of \$20.

Joe Piszczor showed off the new club banners on their stands. One is about the mission of RI, one has information about our club meetings, and one has the Four-Way Test. In closing, **President John** led us all Four-Way Test, using our new banner as a visual aid.

Speakers

February 21st

Rachel Lozosky

"Rule of Law: Civil Discourse"