



## Scuttlebutt

Friday, March 12, 2021

### President Gavin's notes

Greetings friends,

It was great seeing so many of you last Friday for a fantastic meeting. Omar Zinn provided an informative and entertaining sergeant at arms presentation, and David Gessner offered an interesting program. A special thanks to William Bunch for sharing his member minute. Our goal is to continue to offer insights into the unique lives of the exceptional people who make up our group. I am excited about the speakers we have scheduled over the next several months, and I encourage you to keep tuning in.

I continue to be impressed by all of the good works that our members do in our community and beyond.

I am also reminded of what a strong and wonderful network of friends our club is, and am proud of the support that our members offer one another during difficult times. I appreciate your willingness to remain engaged in our club meetings in a virtual format, and continue to look forward to a time when we can safely resume our in person meetings.

I appreciate all that you do to serve East Chapel Hill Rotary. Together we will strive to thrive despite these uncertain times. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Yours in Rotary,

Gavin Heymann  
 President 2020-2021

### Announcements

- Our next meal service date at the SECU Family House is 3/18/21. If you are able to serve please use this [Sign-Up Sheet](#).
- I learned yesterday that Bud Harper passed away on Monday. He was a charter member and served as the third president of East Chapel Hill Rotary. He started Chapel Hill Internal Medicine and was a well-respected member of our community. He and his wife moved to Pinehurst to be closer to family some years back. See his obituary here: <https://legacy.co/3vfjPHn>
- You should have received a dues notice recently via email. The DACdb payment portal had been deactivated temporarily last month while DACdb and IPPay worked to upgrade security to prevent breaches from happening in the future. The portal is now operational and we have been assured that the security issue has been resolved.
- While we had hoped to be transitioning to limited in-person meetings early in the new year, recent COVID trends have hampered those plans. Guidance from our district still strongly discourages in-person meeting, and we agree with this prudent advice. We continue to monitor the situation, and will be poised to meet again physically when it is safe to do so. In the meantime, I ask that you do your best to attend virtually, and reach out to others who may have been absent to encourage them to do the same.

[Read More](#)

### Sergeant-at-Arms Omar Zinn

The wonderful "Lil Mr. Rotary" was his usual self in providing our Club with a look into the future. He showed vignettes of future members, ages 3 to 19, solving all the world's and Rotary's current and future problems. We are a club of old white men; 40% are above 70, and the average age of 110 of our members is 59. We need to recruit younger individuals, more females, and more persons of color, all of whom to be intellectually curious. Omar's prayer was for a future, better time without COVID-19. Amen to that.

### March 5, 2021 Speaker - David Gessner

By Richard G. Cashwell

Professor David Gessner teaches creative writing at UNC-Wilmington. Professor Gessner started his professional life as a political cartoonist. He has been honored with several writing awards. He is better known for his work as an environmentalist. His was inspired by Henry David Thoreau and by visits to Walden Pond. He says he grew into his current role as a nature writer by writing about ospreys. He has written a book about the Gulf Oil Spill; the name of the book is Tar Ball Chronicles. He says we don't have to go to Katmandu to become

### Speakers

**March 12, 2021**

[Aaron Nelson](#)  
 Growth & Development in a time of COVID-19

**March 19, 2021**

[Gary Crunkleton](#)  
 Scotch Whiskey for Lunch, Anyone?

**April 09, 2021**

[Anne Jones & Dan Gonzalez](#)  
 A new model to meet the education challenge of our time.

### Birthdays

- Vannie Kay Hodges  
March 13th
- Bruce Todd Granger  
March 15th
- Jon K. Jester  
March 20th
- R. David Kimball  
March 21st
- Ghislaine Duhamel  
March 27th
- Thomas Leuchtenburg  
March 30th
- Mathew R. Groseclose  
March 30th
- Brian Kileff  
March 31st
- Michael Maxwell  
April 7th
- Walter W. Mallett  
April 9th
- Paul Milam  
April 9th
- Dan Jared Deacon  
April 10th

### Club Leaders



[Gavin Christopher Heymann](#)  
 President



[Patrick Phelan](#)  
 President-Elect



[Omar Zinn](#)  
 Secretary



[Courtney H. Knoll](#)  
 Treasurer



[Christine Diane Jones](#)  
 Club Director



[Laurie Paolicelli](#)  
 Public Image Chair



[William B. Aycock II](#)  
 Service Projects Chair



more involved with nature, and suggests we look in our own back yards. His take on climate change is not so much "doom and gloom," but the "end of the world might be interesting." He says Rachel Carson is his hero. His most recent book is Leave It As It Is, which is about Teddy Roosevelt and his life as an environmentalist. He calls himself a reluctant activist.

To view the recording click the below link.

<https://youtu.be/ViIF4QBDDNM>

## Our next Speaker Aaron Nelson

Aaron joined The Chamber as President and CEO in 2001 after working at his alma mater, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, as Coordinator of Local Relations. In his role at the Chamber, Aaron is a successful advocate for local business and community interests that serves a membership network of more than 700 enterprises employing more than 95,000 people in our region. Aaron has served on the Board of Directors for more than 25 local, state, and national nonprofits and currently, he serves on the boards for the Piedmont Electric Helping Hand Foundation and Chambers for Innovation and Clean Energy, which he founded and now chairs. Aaron speaks both nationally and internationally on economic and community development strategy, but what he loves most is his local and regional collaboration that helps keep the Chapel Hill-Carrboro community one of the best places in the world to live, work, play, and raise a family. A 1997 graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill with a degree in philosophy, Aaron also served as the elected student body president. Aaron leaps at each day enjoying all Greater Chapel Hill has to offer with his wife, Sonja, and their children, Max (17) and Atlee (14).



## Zoom Information

Topic: East Chapel Hill Rotary Club Meeting  
Time: Mar 12, 2021 12:45 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86262381331?pwd=TmhKKzhYnkNiZlorR3lMdTY5bUo0dz09>

Meeting ID: 862 6238 1331  
Passcode: 221630  
One tap mobile  
+19294362866,,86262381331#,,,,\*221630# US (New York)  
+13017158592,,86262381331#,,,,\*221630# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location  
+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)  
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)  
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)  
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)  
Meeting ID: 862 6238 1331  
Passcode: 221630  
Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86262381331>

East Chapel Hill  
Meets at Chapel Hill Country Club

Time: Friday at 12:45 PM



[David Baddour](#)  
Club Fellowship Chair



[Gregory E. Bradbury](#)  
Membership Chair



[Will Bunch](#)  
CCO-Club Comm. Offer



[Mike Clayton](#)  
Rotary Foundation Chair



[Timothy Dalton](#)  
Club Fundraising Chair



[David Grier Martin](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[John A Perry](#)  
Club Admin Chair



[Nicholas Matthew Vaughn](#)  
Club Programs Chair



[Lorenzo Mejia](#)  
Youth Services Chair



[Matthew Arnold](#)  
iPast President



[Carol J. Rives](#)  
Asst Governor