

June 2017 - volume 103 - number 12

Farewell from President Nancy Sennett

By Nancy Sennett



What a year it has been! Our Rotary Club of Milwaukee is a very special Club. Our members are impressive, our activities are diverse and meaningful, and our future is bright.

Our membership: We are strong in our numbers with 370 members. But more importantly, we are strong in our diversity with 30% women and 70% men, ranging in ages from 26 to 102 and representing all professions and callings from accountant to zoo director. It is what makes our Club “the place to be and connect” and allows us to engage in meaningful activities that make an impact.

Our activities: Focused on the operations and growth of the Club, our finance, personnel, membership, recruitment, marketing, programs, social and Tyrotarian committees keep us going every week. We were informed and challenged by a long list of speakers, including among others, Governor Scott Walker, Chancellors Blank and Mone of the University of Wisconsin, Charlie Sykes, Todd Teske of Briggs & Stratton, Chris Abele, our County Executive and John Gurda, our favorite Milwaukee historian. We were well fed and entertained at Home Hosted Dinners and morning coffees. Afternoon drinks were shared as we toured the Pabst Brewery, Milwaukee Blacksmith and Milwaukee City Hall. With the arrival of summer, we will again share fellowship at the Rotary Amphitheater for Live at the Lakefront and at activities at the Rotary Arboretum.

Focused on our local community, Done in a Day, Environment and Ecology, golf and RCM Scholarship, Partners in Education, Reading is Fundamental, Inclusion, Racial Equity & Jobs, Military, Maritime, and Rotary Person of the Year were all lead by engaged Rotarians. This past year, all in, we raised over \$175,000 for present and future scholarships. Most impressively, 60 Rotarians engaged with our Rotary Scholars to mentor them in their college pursuits. At Brown Street Academy we read to the students and presented bicycles to the most improved readers. We distributed over 30,000 books to students at nine elementary schools. Our Rotary Person of the Year, Bob Hillis, wowed us all with his story of how his success in business has improved the lives of senior citizens.

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Beth Heller Visits Rotary Tel Aviv-Yafo

By Beth Heller

This Spring, the Urban Ecology Center sent a small delegation to a city on the Sea of Galilee, Tiberias, on an exploratory mission. Our trip was packed with conversation, tours and warm hospitality: all revolving around assessing opportunities, needs and gaps in the ecological literacy of the region.

I took the opportunity to attend Rotary Tel Aviv-Yafo luncheon. Established in 1935, this club is a group of about 35 highly engaged members. They recently have launched an effort to recruit young and early career leaders, who now make up about 1/3 of the club. I sat with two past presidents and was warmly welcomed. They also invited me to give a short presentation on our eco-delegation. After my presentation, the club presented me with their Rotary flag: designed by world-renowned artist, Yaacov Agam!



*Beth Heller
pictured with the
President of the
Rotary Club of
Tel Aviv.*

The program, unlike the opening comments, was in Hebrew. While I don't speak Hebrew, I still was able to get a sense of the club and the conversation. The presentation was about the housing crisis in Tel Aviv (extremely high costs/limited affordable housing). There was great energy in the room, and I am grateful to Rotary and its international reach in providing me this opportunity.

I now encourage you to visit another Rotary that is local, in the United States or abroad. Check out Rotary International's website at Rotary.org and search 'Club Finder' to explore its 34,000 clubs around the world. 🌐

2017-18 Board and Officers

The Board of Directors recommends the following officer slate and director nominees for the Rotary year commencing on July 1, 2017. The vote to elect the new board will be held on the June 6th meeting.

President: JoAnne Anton, Herb Kohl Philanthropies

President-Elect: Ed Krishok, Harley-Davidson (retired)

Secretary: Mary McCormick, Rotary Club of Milwaukee

Treasurer: William Coleman, Coleman & Williams

Sergeant-at-Arms: Scott Haag, Lube-Tech and Partners

Immediate Past President: Nancy Sennett, Foley & Lardner

Trustee of the RCM Community Trust: Todd Bentley, Bentley World Packaging

Board of Director Nominees – Term Ends 2020

Jessica Dean, The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation

Joe Kresl, Hawks Landscape

Paul Mathews, Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

Theresa Reagan, Nonprofit Consultant

Jamie Reeve, Northern Trust Company

Board of Director Nominee-Term End 2019

Doug MacNeil, MacNeil Associates

Board of Director Nominee-Term End 2018

Pam Evason, Windermere Wealth Advisors

The following directors will complete terms to which they were previously elected.

Steve Chevalier, Zilber Ltd.

Leslie Hauser, KPMG

Eric Isbister, GenMet

Michael Kellman, North Shore Bank

Darren Miller, JM Construction

Paula Penebaker, YWCA Southeast Wisconsin

Jeff Tredo, Tredo Group

Barbara Velez, Velez & Associates

The Board extends thanks and appreciation to Past President Dan Vliet and to board members Larry Bonney, Ryan Daniels, Kurt Mueller and Jill Pelisek who will be completing their service to the Board this June.

Last Chance to Join Us at Our 2017 Scholarship Golf Classic

Want to have fun while making a difference? Join us at our 2017 Scholarship Golf Classic to help students who have the desire, but not necessarily the means attend college. This annual event will be held on Monday, June 19th at the Wisconsin Club Country Club. Rates are \$1,200 for a foursome and \$300 for an individual golfer.

If golf isn't your sport, you can join us for the open bar cocktail hour with silent auction, followed by dinner and a live auction for \$60 per person. We have many great items and experiences available to bid on or to win!

For more information and to register, please visit our website or contact the Rotary office. ☎



*Rotarians
Theresa
Reagan,
Joanne
MacInnes
Grunau, Jean
Casey and
Lynda Kohler
at our 2016
Scholarship
Golf Classic.*

Rotarians Show Huge Support for Rotary's Polio Eradication Efforts

Rotarians around the world are known for their perseverance and there's no better example than our commitment to eradicate polio. Over the past three decades, more than 2.5 billion children have been immunized against this dread disease. As we do each spring, we asked you to support this vital Rotary initiative – Polio Plus.

And we have exciting news to share! We received a total of \$17,150 from 70 Rotarians in our club. And in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Rotary Foundation, Zilber Ltd. offered to match the first \$12,500 of our gifts. Added to a \$2,000 contribution from the Club, our total contribution to Polio will be \$31,650. Special thank you to everyone listed below for donating to help to support this important initiative of Rotary.

\$12,500 <i>Zilber Ltd.</i>	\$500-\$999 <i>Steve Chevalier</i> <i>William Levit Jr.</i>	<i>Karl Koenig</i> <i>George Mosher</i> <i>Kurt Mueller</i> <i>George Solveson</i> <i>Dan Vliet</i>	<i>Buffy Duback</i> <i>Steven Duback</i> <i>Sr. Edna Lonergan</i> <i>Kathie Eilers</i> <i>John Emory</i> <i>Leah Fiasca</i> <i>Richard Frank</i> <i>Joanne Grunau</i> <i>Richard Hackl</i> <i>John Hein</i> <i>Peter Hitler</i> <i>Pete Holsen</i> <i>Tim Hunter</i> <i>Ted Hutton</i>	<i>Charlie James</i> <i>Amy Jensen</i> <i>Sarah Kimball</i> <i>Ed Krishok</i> <i>Rick Luedke</i> <i>Jack Marringa</i> <i>Jeff Martinka</i> <i>Mary McCormick</i> <i>Charles McLimans</i> <i>Henry Monaco</i> <i>Jim Miller</i> <i>Darren Miller</i> <i>Ann Navin</i> <i>William Piernot</i>	<i>Jamie Reeve</i> <i>Mike Robertson</i> <i>Bill Robison</i> <i>Tom Sattler</i> <i>Jon Scholz</i> <i>Nancy Sennett</i> <i>John Thiel</i> <i>Barbara Velez</i> <i>Phil Vollrath</i> <i>Anne Wal</i>
\$1,000 Plus <i>William Coleman</i> <i>Jim Dorman</i> <i>Joe Goode</i> <i>Eric Isbister</i> <i>Kurt Janavitz</i> <i>Quinn Martin</i> <i>Phil Shultz</i> <i>Jude Werra</i>	\$250 to \$499 <i>Kristin Bergstrom</i> <i>Larry Bonney</i> <i>David Buck</i> <i>Tom Gale</i> <i>Michael Graverson</i> <i>Leslie Hauser</i> <i>Paul Hundt</i>	Up to \$249 <i>JoAnne Anton</i> <i>Kevin Carr</i> <i>Joseph Caruso</i> <i>Mario Costantini</i> <i>Margaret Crawford</i> <i>Larry Clancy</i> <i>Bill Delind</i>			

Farewell from President Nancy Sennett *continued from page 1*

Focused on our Global Community, the A.D. Robertson Fund for the United Nations, the Global Milwaukee Committee, the Group Study Exchange, our Rotary Foundation, and World Community Service committees, made a lasting contribution to the health and well-being of those in distant places. Our Club's response to eradicating polio was truly remarkable as we raised \$31,550! And in May, nine of our fellow Rotarians traveled to Guatemala to assist with building pedestrian bridges that opened access to basic services for families.

Our future: Soon we will announce a Next Big Project for the Club. Following our success with the Arboretum and Johnsons Park, once again, we will leverage our resources with others in the community to make an impact. Thank you to all who have participated in the project proposals and selections process. It is an important piece of who we are.

I am humbled to have served as your President. Your support and confidence in me has been unequalled—not only those who serve on the Board, and as Committee chairs—but also each of

you who lead and participate in our many volunteer activities and programs, recruit new members and proudly represent Rotary in the greater Milwaukee community.

I conclude my term as your President, with the same words I used one year ago when I began my presidency: “the state of the Rotary Club of Milwaukee is strong. In fact it is healthy and growing. Focused on the Four Way Test—is it the truth; is it fair to all concerned; will it build good will and better friendships; will it be beneficial to all concerned—our members are engaged and truly embrace our purpose...’leaders making a difference.”

I extend my heartfelt thanks to Mary and Rita who work tirelessly to make our Club the best of Rotary.

It is with great confidence in the future of this impressive and very special Club that I hand the gavel to President JoAnne Anton. 🌟

Board Approves New Members

At its recent meeting, the Board of Directors welcomed five new members.

Ralph Bruno
Foamation
Cheesehead Factory
Manufacturing
Proposer: Dave Carter

Mary Edwards
Coakley Brothers
Moving & Storage
Proposer: Tom Sattler

Elizabeth Ragalie
Betty Ragalie LLC
Consultant
Proposer: Kate Raab

Bart Reuter
Foley & Lardner
Law Practice
Proposer: Larry Bonney

Angie Tornes
National Park Service
Environment & Animals
Proposer: Beth Heller

SPEAKER *schedule*

JUNE 6th - Although never formally identified as such, the Scholarship program has become one of RCM's "big things". Now as we begin interviewing applicants for our ninth scholarship year, it is fitting time to bring to the membership a brief account of progress. **Eric Isbister**, Chair of the Scholarship Committee since its inception, will review the program's origin, how it is structured, and most importantly, how it has made a difference to many of Milwaukee's college-bound students. You will come away with a heightened sense of pride in how the Club's membership has been engaged in supporting, and sustaining, this Scholarship program.

JUNE 13th - Defending civil liberties isn't only a matter of personal rights—it's good for business. Companies and customers depend on strong digital privacy, without government interference. The Muslim travel ban threatened to separate valuable employees from their workplaces. Mass incarceration imposes a heavy burden on taxpayers. States that tax and regulate marijuana enjoy new revenue. The boycott in response to North Carolina's "bathroom bill" cost the state more than \$3 billion. **Chris Ott**, new executive director of the ACLU of Wisconsin, will discuss how dedication to liberty and justice can benefit the bottom line.

JUNE 20th - Rotarians will enjoy a Bartolotta lunch in the Pilot House and learn first-hand from fellow Rotarian and Discovery World CEO **Joel Brennan** about plans to develop a major addition and convert one of its theaters into new exhibit space as part of an \$18 million improvement project at the museum on downtown Milwaukee's lakefront. And, of course, there will be time to explore the fascinating exhibits currently on display. You can park Discovery World or the War Memorial and stroll down the lakefront to Discovery World.

JUNE 27th - **Michael Scott** is the director of the Center for Problem-Oriented Policing at the University of Arizona that produces and shares information about how police can effectively address specific public-safety problems. He was formerly a clinical professor at the University of Wisconsin Law School; chief of police in Lauderhill, Florida; special assistant to the chief of the St. Louis, Missouri, Metropolitan Police Department; director of administration of the Fort Pierce, Florida, Police Department; legal assistant to the police commissioner of the New York City Police Department; and a police officer in the Madison, Wisconsin, Police Department.

WELCOME *new members*



Jeff Garretson
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Jeff Garretson is a Director at Findorff, a leading commercial builder with offices in Milwaukee and Madison. He has been in the construction industry for 15 years, and is delighted to be involved in the industry at a time when we are transforming the skyline and neighborhoods of Milwaukee. Jeff was raised in rural Kansas and attended North Park University in Chicago. He lives in Waukesha with his wife Shannon and two teenagers. In the community, Jeff is involved with his church and serves on the board of Lutheran Special School. He is honored to now add Rotary to that list.



Keith Lester
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A Milwaukee-area resident for 40 years, Keith manages corporate communications for Rockwell Automation. Keith served as board chair for Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee for four years, and has been a Board member since 2010. He also serves as vice chair for the Public Policy Forum. He was a Big Brother for Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Milwaukee for 10 years. Keith holds a BA in journalism from Marquette University and a MBA from Keller Graduate School of Management. He and his wife Lori live in Whitefish Bay where they raised three daughters, Lauren, Stephanie and Danielle.



Chris Markgraf
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Chris Markgraf is a Director at Mason Wells and is responsible for initiating investment opportunities, conducting due diligence, and serving on the Board of Directors of portfolio companies. He has 20 years of private equity investing experience. Prior to joining Mason Wells, Chris worked for Stark Investments as the Director of Private Equity. Prior to Stark Investments, Chris was a Vice President at Summit Partners in Boston and a Financial Analyst at CIBC World Markets in New York.



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Francis Vogel is a seasoned nonprofit leader who is currently the Executive Director of EconomicsWisconsin, a statewide organization that promotes economics education and financial literacy for students, business professionals and opinion leaders. Francis has also led two other Milwaukee-area organizations, Polish Heritage Alliance and Wisconsin Clean Cities. A University of Wisconsin-Madison graduate, he is active at Saints Peter and Paul Parish, and was a Loaned Executive for two recent United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County Community Campaigns. Francis and his wife Carol Lynn reside in Shorewood with their daughters (three each) and three rescue pets.

Spotlight on the Good Works of the RCM Community Trust:

Six RCM Scholars Graduated in May

This May six of our scholars graduated after years of mentoring and financial support from the RCM Scholarship Program. Congratulations to the graduates below!



Mayra Alaniz

Georgetown University

Studied: Social Welfare/Public Policy/Pre-Law

Mentors: John Ridley and Susan Lloyd

After graduation: While Mayra will miss

Washington DC, she has returned to Milwaukee. She intends to work at the intersection of government, business and non-profit and positively impact the Milwaukee community. She also hopes to further her education in public policy and business. Mayra said her best college memories were learning from some of the greatest professors in social and business innovation.



Deja Hoskin

UW-Whitewater

Studied: Criminal Justice

Mentors: Christy Brown and Pam Evason

After graduation: Deja plans to work as a

paralegal while she studies for her LSAT/GRE exams and prepares to apply to law school and/or graduate school. She would like to be lawyer and has aspirations to become a District Attorney, an Attorney General, a Federal District Court Judge and then serve on the Supreme Court.



Amy Lavender

UW-Madison

Studied: Human Development/Family Studies

Mentor: Jon Dehlinger

After graduation: Amy is diligently looking for

a job where she can pursue her passion in helping children and families in Madison or Milwaukee. She hopes to find a job in social services or counseling at a children and family support agency.



Aaliyah Rodgers

UW-Madison

Studied: Nursing

Mentors: Jim Ford and Kathie Eilers

After graduation: Aaliyah plans to take a few

months off to study for her national nursing board exam. In fall she will begin working Columbia St. Mary's hospital in the medical and surgical unit. Aaliyah loves to travel and "wants to see as much of the world as a bird does."



Destiny Thomas

UW-Whitewater

Studied: Forensic Science/Criminal Justice

Mentor: John Beckwith

After graduation: Destiny plans to move to

Indiana over the summer and will look for a position in social work once she is settled. Her college experiences greatly broadened her world view. Her trip to South Africa was truly a dream come true.



Kelsey Wilkerson

UW-Madison

Studied: Textile & Fashion Design

Mentors: Eric Isbister and Art Wasserman

After graduation: Kelsey plans to pursue studies

in a two year specialty program that will give him the opportunity to strengthen his skills in menswear or accessories. He is considering fashion colleges in New York, United Kingdom, Hong Kong or Beijing.

Our graduating scholars would like to thank their mentors and Rotarians who support the scholarship program for investing their encouragement, time and professional talent to help them succeed.

The RCM Scholarship Program is supported by the proceeds of the Scholarship Golf Classic and endowed scholarships named for Betty and Gordy Smith, Jim and Judy Ford and James I. Miller III. Thank you! 🌟

