

Johnsons Park Fundraising Reaches Important Milestone

On his last day at Rotary before returning to his North Carolina roots, Past President Rick White announced that the Johnsons Park Initiative had reached an important fundraising milestone: nearly \$1 million in funds and pledges.



Diane Buck speaks about the Buck Foundation gift to the Johnsons Park Initiative

While there is still some progress to be made toward the total goal of \$1,230,000, the positive momentum achieved since the first of the year allows the Center for Resilient Cities to move into the project management phase to ensure an expeditious rehabilitation of the park. Some capital improvements will be made this year with completion of the project scheduled for 2015.

In his announcement, Past President Rick revealed the name of a previously anonymous family foundation whose pledge of \$330,000 has contributed greatly to the fundraising momentum: The Buck Foundation. Diane Buck, wife of Rotarian David Buck, took the podium to deliver the following remarks:

David and I want to congratulate Rotary for its dedicated work to improve one of Milwaukee's most challenged neighborhoods. The club completed work at the Brown Street Academy and several Rotarians remain engaged at the school. Now Rotary is wrapping up the fund raising for Johnsons Park.

You might ask why David and I, through our family foundation, are willing to make a significant financial commitment to Johnsons Park. Forty years ago when we arrived here from the west coast, we were smitten with Milwaukee's parks, although they seemed under used and underappreciated. Through the years we have enjoyed Milwaukee's parks for both active and passive recreation.

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Guatemala Global Grant Project Update

The work is nearly complete on RCM's Global Grant project to install a water filter in Joyabaj, Guatemala that will improve water quality for approximately 25,000 people. This project is a partnership between Rotary and Engineers Without Borders.

Over the last six months, Engineers Without Borders has overseen the construction of a roughing filter on a water source pipeline to reduce sediment contamination and allow ordinary treatment to be effective, improving the water quality for the residents of Joyabaj and reducing illness. Rotarian Mike Paddock provided a recent progress update:

"The tank has been backfilled and the valve boxes constructed. The drainage canal has been completed along with the discharge box and the 6" discharge pipes to the ditch. We needed to do a little work to control the erosion, but it appears to be in good shape now."



The roughing filter in Joyabaj, Guatemala. *Photo by Mike Paddock.*

Recent hard rains have nearly doubled the water flow compared to measurements taken in July 2013. The extra water requires the filter to be cleaned twice a day instead of once a day. The Engineers Without Borders team is experimenting with shutting off half of the water flow during heavy rains by closing some of the

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Bill Adams Scholarship Fund Reaches Endowment Level

July marks the first anniversary of the passing of longtime Rotarian Bill Adams, a founding member of the RCM scholarship committee. Before Bill passed away, Peter Hitler, a longtime Rotarian and friend of Bill's, pledged \$2,500 to open a scholarship in Bill's name. Other Rotarians quickly came forward and the fund grew to almost \$15,000 by the time of Bill's passing. Bill was very touched to find that his friends were honoring him with this scholarship fund.

Over the last year, the RCM Scholarship committee was committed to bringing the Bill Adams Scholarship Fund up to the level required to create an endowed, named scholarship. Just days before the anniversary of Bill's passing, the fund reached \$50,000 due to the generous contributions of members. On August 5th, when we acknowledge the 2014-15 RCM Scholars, we will award the first Bill Adams Scholarship. Thank you to all the donors and the committee members who made this named scholarship possible. ☺



Bill Adams (left) with the scholar he mentored until his passing, Kelsey Wilkerson, and RCM Scholarship Committee chair Eric Isbister, at a Scholarship brunch in 2013. *Photo by Sue Vliet.*

Johnsons Park Fundraising Reaches Important Milestone *continued from page 1*

My own interest and concern for Milwaukee County Parks is long standing. Over the years I have worked with the Park People, Preserve Our Parks, and continue being committed to the restoration of Milwaukee's historic monuments. These experiences make me painfully aware of the multitude of challenges our parks confront. From eroding budgets to increased public use, Milwaukee County Parks must meet these challenges with increased public/private partnerships.

Johnsons Park is a wonderful example of the best of these partnerships. Although this park project had its starts and stops, thanks to Rotary it will now be completed.

David and I would like to give a special thanks to Rotarians John Walker, Rick White, and Mary McCormick for their commitment to bring this fund raising project to fruition.

Past President Rick recognized all the donors which have brought the Johnsons Park fundraising to this milestone. In addition to RCM's \$100,000 pledge, which will be fulfilled through the Andrew Bell Grant, and the Buck Foundation contribution, the

initiative has received support from:

- Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation
- The Brico Fund
- Zilber Family Foundation
- Brewers Community Foundation & Rickie Weeks
- Anon Charitable Trust
- Fund for Lake Michigan
- Soref Charitable Trust
- Preserve our Parks

Fundraising is also ongoing from the Friends of John C. Walker, whose donations will support the creation of a performance stage bearing John's name in recognition of his commitment to this project up until the day of his passing. The Friends of John C. Walker include many Rotarians.

The club thanks all of the donors to the Johnsons Park Initiative, and all the Rotarians who worked to keep up the fundraising momentum. Past President Joe Caruso has stepped in to take the reins with Rick leaving, and he will keep us updated as the Johnsons Park vision becomes reality. ☺

PHOTO gallery



LIVE @ the Lakefront on opening night, July 9th, with reggae by R.A.S. Movement. *Photos by Chris Winters.*



Rotarians enjoyed a Tyrotarian tour of the Soldiers Home in June.



The Environment & Ecology committee held their June meeting at the Milwaukee Centennial Arboretum.

Guatemala Global Grant Project Update *continued from page 1*

filter catchments. If this practice does not negatively impact the water service in Joyabaj, residents might continue closing filter catchments during heavy rain to lessen filter maintenance.

Engineers Without Borders intern Elyse Cohen will be in Joyabaj for the next 7 months and will continue to monitor the filter to see if additional adjustments are needed.

Mike is already seeing the impact of the project on Guatemalans. On a recent night, the region experienced very heavy rains overnight. "The filter had over an inch of mud on top of the sand," Mike said, "It was good to know that all of that mud did not make it down to the people in Joyabaj!" ☀

SPEAKER *schedule*

AUGUST 5th - RCM's president-elect Dan Vliet will lead a conversation with the Republican candidate for Attorney General, **Brad Schimel**. Rotary will hold a conversation with the Democratic candidate in September.

AUGUST 12th - The future success of cities lie in the hands of the next generation of leaders, today's millenials. The cities that will come out ahead will adjust their thinking to attract, retain, and empower these millenials. To build a city for the next generation, it's important to understand the needs of millenials today, and the trends that will keep them here tomorrow. **Ian Abston**, Founder of NEWaukee, and **Corry Joe Biddle**, Executive Director of FUEL Milwaukee, run organizations that help attract this talent to Milwaukee. They will help us understand Milwaukee's need for talent, and how today's leaders can work together to keep them here.

AUGUST 19th - TBD

AUGUST 26th - **Matthew Wisla** spent nine years working in China helping American companies succeed in the world's most challenging and dynamic market. He will discuss what businesses large and small need to know in order to win in China today. Also, what it's like for businesses operating in China and engaging with government bureaucrats, the Communist Party and a host of competitors and challenges. Mr. Wisla co-founded the Marketing, Advertising and Public Relations forum for the American Chamber of Commerce in China and later become the organization's Vice President of Communications. Previously he led the Corporate and Government Relations practice in China for FleishmanHillard, a division of OmniCom, the world's second largest agency holding company.

BOARD APPROVES NEW MEMBERS

At its recent meeting, the Board of Directors welcomed three new members and expressed thanks to the proposers:

Ginger Duiven
Literacy Services of Wisconsin
Human Services
Proposer: Beth Fetterley Heller

Vicki Martin, PhD
Milwaukee Area Technical College
Education - Technical
Proposer: John Bernaden

Stacy Williams
Robert W. Baird
Investment - Wealth Management
Proposer: Beth Fetterley Heller

WELCOME *new members*



Jeff Brown

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Jeff Brown is a Vice President at Taylor Dynamometer responsible for all sales, marketing and service requirements. He is actively engaged in the international requirements of the business while ensuring that those supporting the domestic activities have the tools and information needed to ensure their success. In addition to the daily sales focus, Jeff spends his time building relationships with industry OEM contacts and listening to the voice of the customer. With his extensive international travel requirements, Jeff has found it difficult to get involved in the community. He is looking forward to a reduced travel schedule and the opportunities that he will have to participate in the greater Milwaukee community.



David (Dave) Clark

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David is a partner at Foley & Lardner LLP, where he is a member of the firm's Finance and Transactions & Securities practice groups. David's practice is focused primarily on the energy industry, in which he represents a number of public and private companies in both the renewable energy and traditional power generation sectors. In addition to his work in the energy industry, David represents various manufacturers and service providers in general commercial and corporate matters, with an emphasis on supply chain issues, transportation and logistics needs and the sale of goods and services. David is married to Sarah, and they are the proud parents of Bernadette and Haddie.



Jason Engledow

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Jason is the market president for Community Bank and Trust. Previously, he has held leadership positions with US Bank and Associated Bank. He is a graduate of Indiana University with an M.B.A. from Indiana Wesleyan. Jason is involved with the American Heart Association, United Way and the YMCA and received a YMCA National Leadership Award in 2013. He lives in Cedarburg with his wife Kjersti and their four children.



Alan Petelinsek

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Alan Petelinsek is CEO and Owner of Power Test, Inc, a specialized manufacture of engine, transmission, powertrain and hydraulic test systems. Power Test's products are exported globally. Alan's leadership style is often said to be passionate, visionary and determined. Under his guidance the employees of Power Test have earned numerous national, state and local awards for business success, operations, corporate wellness, community and non-profit support. Alan and his wife Lisa enjoy skiing, sailing, triathlon, their four adult children and using their blessings to help others.



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Nicole was born in northern Wisconsin, and has lived in Milwaukee for 14 years. She graduated with honors from undergraduate and law school from Marquette University. Nicole an assistant district attorney at the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office, currently assigned to the Homicide Unit. She is also one of the owners of a small family business, Sheldon's Inc., which manufactures and distributes fishing lures. Nicole enjoys outdoor activities, traveling, horse-riding, jogging, yoga, reading, spending time with her 'little sister,' and volunteering within the community.

Spotlight on the Good Works of the RCM Community Trust:

New Rotary Amphitheater Signage

Concert-goers and visitors to the lakefront will notice a shiny new addition to the Rotary Amphitheater at Discovery World – a bright new inlay in the Amphitheater flooring featuring the Rotary wheel.

In 2004, the Rotary Club of Milwaukee raised \$250,000 from members for the lakefront project that became Discovery World. Because RCM was one of the early major contributors, the club was given naming rights for the outdoor amphitheater overlooking Lake Michigan. Once the property was built, Discovery World realized they could use help with programming for the Rotary Amphitheater, so they approached the Maritime committee for ideas – which led RCM's highly acclaimed LIVE @ the Lakefront free original music series, just about to begin its seventh season.



Sign Effectz installs the new deck signage. *Photo by Bill DeLind.*

As the concert series has grown from year to year, the Maritime committee agreed that it was time to update Rotary's sponsorship signage at the Amphitheater to fit the grand surroundings. Production of the new signage was funded by a contribution from the RCM Community Trust.

New club and Maritime committee member Bill Robison, and his architecture firm Engberg Anderson, donated their time and talent to manage all design, subcontracting and installation.

“The RCM Maritime committee felt that the inlay design tastefully recognized our contribution in a way that ‘fits’ the outdoor marine environment and public facility, while also respecting the tremendous financial contributions others made to make Discovery World a reality,” said Maritime chair Dan Nelson.

LIVE @ the Lakefront supports the fundamental mission of the Maritime committee – to improve public access to the lakefront. The new Rotary signage at the amphitheater will strengthen Rotary's connection to public programming encouraging community gathering and involvement.

Dan and the LIVE @ the Lakefront crew unveiled the new design at the opening night of LIVE @ the Lakefront on Wednesday, July 9th. We hope many Rotarians will come out on Wednesday nights the rest of the summer to see the new signage and enjoy the concerts! For more information on this summer's line-up, go to the Rotary website or liveatthelakefront.com. 🌀



The finished deck signage. *Photo by Chris Winters.*