

# SPOTLIGHT

## Leslie Hauser

*(Member since 2011)*



Rotarian Leslie Hauser recently retired to an active life after a career as a tax specialist with a variety of firms, most recently KPMG.

Originally from San Rafael, CA, Leslie came to Wisconsin to attend Marquette University. Wisconsin felt like home to this Californian as both her parents grew up in central and northern Wisconsin and plenty of extended family were around.

Leslie's husband, Karl Wuesthoff, also recently retired after selling the family business, Concours Motors. They do not let any grass grow under their feet, however, as this energetic couple have been checking off their bucket list. For example, Leslie has always wanted to learn how to downhill ski and last winter she did. And she wanted to perfect her golf game so took lessons. She's a regular participant in the RCM Golf Classic,

but this coming year, she'll now know all the clubs, but, "having taken lessons makes me really appreciate the best ball game."

This past late summer early Fall they spent six weeks in Europe including participating in the Berlin Marathon in Germany. But that wasn't the only high-energy aspect of this adventure. In September they hiked through the Alps with a group of 12, logging a total of 100 miles. They stayed in mountain huts and Swiss villages along the way. It was an exhilarating experience as they had the opportunity to talk and sleep (mountain huts are big rooms with lots of beds and shared bathrooms) with people throughout the world. They used an outfitter and guide to help them navigate altitudes of upwards of 9,000 feet. "The outfitter/guides think it through for you and transport the larger luggage pieces, so all we carried were daypacks."

Other trips on the horizon include hiking the Himalayans, something in South America and the family will spend Christmas in Costa Rica.

Leslie and Karl's blended family include five adult children, a daughter lives in Chicago, another in LaCrosse and another in Nashville. One son is in California and the oldest boy shares their love of the outdoors and is a guide in Alaska. A family tradition is the entire clan gathers for at least one Packer game each season. Depending upon the timing of the get-together, they either travel to Green Bay or watch it in the comfort of their home.

In addition to retiring, the couple also downsized their home a few years ago and live in a condo on Milwaukee's east side. "I love living in the city, it's the best decision we made when we downsized. It's so easy to get around and Milwaukee has so much to offer."

Retirement has been busy for Leslie and the door to rejoining the workforce is not entirely closed. However, she would be most interested in an independent contractor, or special project arrangement, rather than a fulltime stint. She is also looking outside the narrow field of tax; perhaps something in project management. A thorough and thoughtful person, Leslie is currently thinking those ideas through before embarking on a more serious exploration.

Leslie really enjoys the Tuesday speakers at Rotary. "I get to listen to a dynamic set of speakers I'd very seldom have the opportunity to hear. I may not always agree with a speaker's point of view, but it's always good to hear another opinion. It's also great to come on Tuesdays and have lunch with friends and meet new people."



**Editor's Note:**

*Next week this column will feature Harry Drake, Consultant for Key Benefit Concepts. Rotary Spotlight is written by RCM Board Member (and its Sergeant at Arms) Barbara Velez.*