

## OPENING

Time: 6:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance: President Bob

Invocation: Steve McMillan

## GUESTS

Cindy Eggleton, Brilliant Detroit.

## VISITING ROTARIANS

Nancy Riker, William Dent, and Diane Simmons from the (Washington) DC Rotary Club. Diane Simmons and Mary Ellen Zander, guests of Jackie Dale.

## BIRTHDAYS

Richard O'Neill (2/16).

## ANNIVERSARIES

Sherry McRill, 1 year since rejoining.

## ROVING REPORTER

Susan Mozena

-- It was nice to see a combination of GP Rotarians and GP Memorial Church members (some who are both) working at last weekend's very cold food drop-off.

-- Judy Masserang's bird feeder has attracted a hawk, which will noisily scatter the smaller birds and Judy believes that, recently, one of the birds was not able to elude it. As Judy noted, hawks have to eat, too.

## SUNSHINE NEWS

-- As Susan brought up in her report, and President Bob previously e-mailed to the Club, John and Carrie Maliszewski daughter, Annie, has passed away due to cancer. Please keep John, Carrie, and Annie's family in your thoughts and prayers.

-- Murray Davis reported that, per his oncologist, his cancer treatment is going well.

## OIL CAN

-- Fred Ollison passed it to Dick Allison for all of his work on the community service committee, finding hands-on projects that are safe to do in today's environment.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

-- The 2/6 food drop-off at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church was the largest one to date, with 4 SUVs filled with over 4,000 donated items.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

-- This year's District Conference has been changed to a virtual conference to take place on May 4 & 5. If registered, you can transfer your fee to the 2022 conference on Mackinac Island, donate it to Rotary, or request a refund.

-- Hybrid meetings. An ad hoc committee is experimenting with combination in-person/virtual meetings, with the first one taking place on 2/28. The idea is that when the Club returns to in-person meetings that it can retain a virtual component so members can attend electronically and/or our speakers can present from remote locations.

## TODAY'S PROGRAM

Alister Chang – Working to Advance Literacy. (With assists from Nancy Riker and William Dent).

Mr. Chang is a literacy educator, researcher, and advocate. He is a member of the DC Rotary Club and is on the DC State Board of Education. His presentation began with a video about Wash and Learn pop-up learning programs in Detroit laundromats. Through an organization called Libraries Without Borders, laundromats partner with local libraries, where librarians supply books and computers, read to the

children, and do arts and crafts. [Wash & Learn in Detroit - YouTube](#)

Mr. Chang's idea is to promote literacy in creative ways. Books, teachers, and a curriculum are all necessary, but there also needs to be outreach and relevancy. The programs must appeal to the children/parents, and it has to meet them where they are and when they are available. It can't just be structured times at the local library.

The DC Club is fortunate to have a trust fund to fund their activities, one of which is the annual handing out of dictionaries to every third-grade student in Washington D.C. They are hand deliver at the schools which allows the teachers to incorporate them into their lesson plans. Often, this is the first book these children have ever received so they are very excited.

The most effective way to bring children to grade-level reading is through one-on-one tutoring. The ideal situation is ½ hour sessions, 2-3 days a week. The DC Club is looking to work with an organization called Reading Partners to match Club members with students.

## CALENDAR

Feb 17: Mark Heppner – Edsel & Eleanor Ford House

Feb 24: Cindy Eggleton – Brilliant Detroit

Mar 03: Nina Gazel – Vocational Talk