



# Flint Rotary World

Charter No. 220 – **Rotary Club of Flint, Michigan** – Organized April 7, 1916  
*Rotary theme for 2020-2021 “Rotary Opens Opportunities”*

Holger Knaack from the Rotary Club of Herzogtum Lauenburg--Mölln, Germany, Rotary International President  
David Elliot from the London, Ontario Rotary Club, Ontario, Governor, District 6330

**Coming up Lynn Williams, Community Engagement Officer for CFGF  
Meet us on Zoom – the link is in the President’s weekly email.**

## Speaker Round-Up:

Mark Young, the chairman of the Genesee County Board of Commissioners, addressed the club last week. Related to finances – He highlighted the change in the fund balance from 2009 when it was \$4.8 million through 2020, when it rose to \$40.8 million. This year they are running approximately \$10.2 million deficit in their operating budget, but hope to make some improvements by year-end (September 30), reducing the deficit to \$5 million. This would leave the fund balance to approximately \$35 million at year-end. He noted that a higher fund balance helps them get a lower interest rate when they have to float a bond issue.

Regarding Capital Projects, Young reported that the

- \$72 million water treatment plant is completed. The cost should be paid by fees from users.
- \$6 million to renovate the McCree parking ramp in lieu of rebuilding it at a cost of \$8-\$10 million. They also added 300 parking spots behind the County building.

- \$1 million to improve the Genesee County Park in Atlas Township.
- \$4 million to consolidate Friend of Court operations in one building.
- \$8 million to redo the Genesee County Animal Control building. A new director has improved the operation to decrease animal euthanasia from approximately 50% to zero.
- \$13 million to extend the Dort Extension to Baldwin Road (in process). Mostly federal and state money.
- \$36 million total cost for the Flint River restoration. This will be completed over 3 to 5 more years and paid for mostly with grants.
- \$22 million for a new Juvenile Justice Center (in process).

Regarding COVID, Commissioner Young admitted that the county made a slow start in vaccinations, although a large part of the problem was a low allocation from the State of Michigan.

*Continued*

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS 2020-2021

- President – Ray Gist
- President-Elect – Kyle McCree
- Vice President – Elizabeth Jordan
- Vice President – Ann Marie Van Duyne
- Director – Patrick Naswell
- Director – Ellen Brothers
- Director – Mia McNeil
- Director – Joe Martin
- Director - Christina Church
- Past President – George Ananich
- Club Administrator – Amy van der Putte
- Treasurer – Stu Kelly

## MEET YOU ON ZOOM!

While we are dealing with the Corona Virus, the Rotary Club of Flint will continue meeting via Zoom. There is another meeting scheduled for this Friday Aug. 21, 2020.



### More Speaker Round-Up:

They have improved their delivery substantially and are now dispensing approximately 7,000 doses per week, with the capacity to double that when doses become available. The County Health Department only has control of around one third of the doses which have been administered in the county. The balance of the doses apparently is being delivered through pharmacies, grocery stores, and various other means. The control of these doses rests either at the state or federal level.

*Submitted by Howard Downing*

Guests speakers Feb. 26 for the continuation of the Flint Rotary Club's Governance Month were State Representative Cynthia Neely, 34th House District and State Representative John Cherry, 49th House District.

Representative Neely was only able to spend a few minutes with the club due to family health obligations but was able to give a quick self-introduction and a few comments relative to her on-going work. This is her first term as an elected representative. She filled her husband's seat (Sheldon Neely) when he was elected as the mayor of the City of Flint. She pointed out that she was the better looking of the two. To fill in the gaps, Sharon Reeves, from the Representative's office was on hand to help. They noted that Rep. Neely had 2 bills passed into law and was working on 6 others. Being a small business owner, she is sensitive to the issues facing small business and has worked in supporting them, as well as being an advocate for the community.

Representative John Cherry, 49th whose district, is a familiar name to the Flint Rotary Club too. He is the son for former Flint Rotarian and former State Representative Pam Faris and father, John Cherry, former Lieutenant Governor of the State of Michigan. John is an avid outdoorsman. He is a UM grad and worked for the Michigan DNR prior to his political career. Rep Cherry has been working on unemployment reform and energy and environmental issues.

*Submitted by George Ananich*

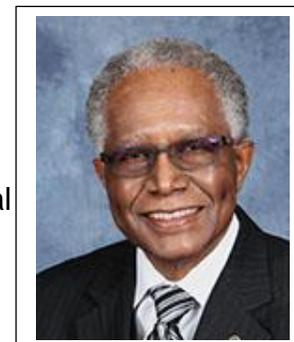
# KUDOS!

Congratulations to two of our own for earning high honors both locally and at the international level.

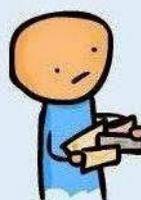
Rotarian Dr. Bobby Mukkamala received the 2021 Cybil Atwood award. The annual award is given in honor of Sybil Atwood who devoted her life to building a community filled with kindness, encouragement, and hope to those who exemplify the same dedication to their community.



Flint Rotary President Ray Gist has received the International College of Dentist's Leadership Award, a Top award in the Dental Profession.



## 10 YEARS AGO



## NOW



### Speaker Roundup continued again:

The February 12 speaker was Flint Mayor Sheldon Neeley who shared updates on the City's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as insights on a number of exciting initiatives designed to improve the quality of life for Flint residents and businesses. During his first year as Flint's 94th mayor, Neeley has faced a number of challenges including the ongoing water crisis, civil unrest and a global pandemic. But, Neeley says, he and his team have been hitting their marks.

When it comes to the City's COVID-19 response, no expense has been spared in order to save lives. Flint was one of the first communities in Michigan to declare a state of emergency, and the only to enact a citywide curfew – a bold move that drew criticism. City Hall has remained closed throughout the pandemic, however, a new walk-up window was added to the outside of the building so that residents could continue to access essential services. And water service has been restored to over 700 users so that those living in the properties can access clean water and practice recommended handwashing and hygiene to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

The City also put significant effort behind the 2020 U.S. Census, helping to ensure that every person was counted and that Flint receives its fair share of available resources moving forward. A new "Flint Born. Flint Raised. Flint Proud." campaign has been rolled out to encourage local residents to consider serving as police officers within the city. Officer pay has also been increased in an effort to engage the best officers who better represent the community. In January 2020, a "Fight Blight" campaign was implemented to improve and clean up neighborhoods by addressing illegal dumping. Neeley reported that over two million pounds of unwelcomed trash has since been removed from neighborhoods. Mayor Neeley praised local philanthropic partners such as the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Ruth Mott Foundation and Community Foundation of Greater Flint, who have graciously stepped forward to provide much-needed support and resources for many of the initiatives he outlined. He also encouraged others to join him at the table to help identify and solve issues that will make the City of Flint even stronger. *Submitted by Brian Sanderson*

### Coming Up –

03/12/21: Katherine Gonser, Director, Michigan Dyslexia Institute - Michigan Dyslexia Institute & Rotary Literacy Project Report  
03/19/21: District Governor Charles Sealy, District 7020 - Rotary in the Caribbean  
03/26/21: TBA

Newsletter Editor: Dawn Hibbard

Email: [dawnmhibbard@gmail.com](mailto:dawnmhibbard@gmail.com) Edition: COVID-19.17

### Where to make up:

#### AFTER COVID QUARANTINE

##### Monday

Saginaw Valley NOON  
*Horizons Conference Center*  
Grand Blanc (1st & 3rd Monday) NOON  
*Aubree's Pizzeria and Grill*

##### Tuesday

Clio 7:30 AM  
*Roger's Lodge*  
Durand 11:30 AM  
*Durand Union Station*  
Fenton 7:15 AM  
*Spring Meadows Country Club*  
Genesee Valley (Flint) 12:15 PM  
*Redwood Lodge, Hill Rd.*  
Lapeer 12:10 PM  
*Lapeer County Center Building*

##### Wednesday

Greater Flint Sunrise 7:00 AM  
*Foodbank of Eastern Michigan*  
Owosso 12:15 PM  
*Owosso Memorial Hosp. Annex*  
Saginaw NOON  
*Saginaw Club*

##### Thursday

Davisburg (1st & 3rd Thursday) 7:00 AM  
*4H Fair Grounds Community Room*  
Burton 12:15 PM  
*IMA Brookwood Golf Club*  
Corunna NOON  
*Corunna Community Center*  
Flushing 7:00 AM  
*Sorrento's Restaurant*  
Frankenmuth 12:10 PM  
*Zehnder's Restaurant*



### The Rotary Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?"