



# ROTARY NOTARY

## DARRON BOATRIGHT ON WICHITA STATE ATHLETICS

### Member Birthdays:

<i>Shane Pullman</i>	4/30
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### At Rotary Today:

**Greeter:** Donna Kennedy

**Invocation, Flag Salute, and Four-way test:**  
Robin McGonigle

### Rotary Anniversaries:

Jim Boone—34 years  
John Alefs—30 years  
John Vetter—28 years  
Joe Sullivan—25 years

### RYLA Update:

RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) camp will take place this summer. Our club will sponsor two students to attend, but if you know an up-and-coming high school student that you'd like to sponsor for \$300, please let **Fred Heismeyer** know.

### Quote of the Week:

What you lack in talent can be made up with desire, hustle and giving 110% all the time.  
— Don Zimmer



Darron Boatright joined the WSU staff in September 2010, where he began as Senior Associate Athletic Director for External Operations. He was named Director of Athletics in August 2016 after serving as COO and then Interim Director beginning in April 2015.

**D**arron Boatright remembers the last time he spoke to East Wichita Rotary. The big question he was wrestling with then was “Will WSU bring back football?” At that time, there was nothing on his radar about the possibility of changing athletic conferences.

But we all know how quickly priorities can change in college athletics. Football hasn't returned to WSU and meanwhile, the university is completing a second academic year as a member of the American Athletic Conference.

Boatright shared some of the backstory behind the conference move. It was a process not only of studying, but selling other conference members on what WSU had to offer. It helped to have the support of conference member UConn, whose president

championed WSU's entry into the conference.

Boatright pointed out that joining the AAC has brought many positive changes to WSU, especially if you think frequent travel to the East Coast is a positive! All kidding aside, the new conference affiliation means the opportunity for Wichitans to see college athletics at its best. He pointed out that track and field star Carl Lewis is the sprints coach at the University of Houston. Athletes come from all over the world to be coached by him.

“Spend time on the WSU campus—watch the students there compete at their highest levels of competition,” he urged. Tennis, golf, volleyball, softball, and track and field are among the many sports he encouraged us to come out and support as Shocker fans.

Of course you can't mention the Shockers without discussing the men's basketball team. “I'm proud of where we are and where we're going,” Boatright stated. “What Coach Marshall was able to do with that group from November 1 through March was incredible.” Although the team went for 38 days without a win, from mid-December through mid-January, the fans came, cheered, and supported both the staff and players through a tough time.

On the horizon are two construction projects—one at Eck Stadium and the other at Koch Arena—that will give athletes more space for strength and conditioning. The Koch addition includes space for a computer lab and rooms for academics and tutoring.

School isn't over yet—get out and enjoy the spring weather by attending a sporting event at WSU soon!

**Upcoming Events:**

**May 18** —Help distribute hygiene items to people in need. If you've ever run out of shampoo while standing in the shower or used the last of your toothpaste without stocking up, you may have a slight understanding of what it's like not to have basic toiletries when you need them.

The **Head-to-Toe Hygiene Pantry**, a ministry of University Congregational Church where our own **Robin McGonigle** serves as Senior Minister, is a place where families can obtain these much-needed items at no cost.

Nearly all recipients are people with limited incomes, including the elderly, those with disabilities, unemployed individuals, and immigrants.

**May 31 and June 6**—Another opportunity for Service Above Self! Sell Wichita Riverfest Food Court tickets in the comfort of an air-conditioned booth. More information on how to sign up coming soon!

**Next Week:**

Microsoft Office Specialist Master Dawn Monroe will present "Empowered by PowerPoint" (tips on how to produce *great* presentations using PowerPoint).

# MAP PAINTING: FUN AND FULFILLING



Several EWR members volunteered on Saturday morning to create a map of the U.S. on the outdoor basketball court at Caldwell Elementary.

Step One: Using a template, **Lynn Jeane**, Map Project Co-Chair, makes chalk marks onto the concrete. After the template is lifted, Rotarians draw chalk lines and connect the dots.

Step Two: **Brian Blackerby** and **Craig Wulf** paint over the chalk lines to create the borders of all 50 U.S. states.



Step Three: Paint inside the lines! Newest EWR member **Michael Caffrey** paints Idaho. Rotarians divided into teams of two to paint all the states.

Below: All 50 U.S. states, along with a Rotary logo (courtesy of **Ely Luna**), are painted and ready for the students at Caldwell Elementary to enjoy. Thank you, **Eileen Kludt**, Map Project Co-Chair, participating EWR members, and other volunteers for your part in this project's success!

