

Rotary Notary Week of January 8th

<u>At Rotary Today:</u>

Greeter: Jaren Johnson Invocation, Flag Salute & 4-Way Test: Scott Jensen

Member News: Britt Fulmer

Note: For last week's meeting with the Mayor we had 43 guests!

This combined with 56 EWR members made for 99 in attendance for last week's lunch!

Quote of the Year:

"Let's accomplish great things together."

-Anne Schneider

The New Mayor

For last week, our esteemed President-Elect, Michael Moeder was able to secure the brand new Mayor of Wichita before he was even sworn in! Brandon Whipple, sworn in yesterday, is the 102nd Mayor of Wichita. Mr. Whipple came to Wichita at age 21 while serving in an education-service mission for at-risk youth with AmeriCorps at South High School. Brandon attended WSU where he would get his undergrad and Masters. He would later receive his doctorate in leadership studies from Franklin Pierce University in New Hampshire. His



wife, and treasurer of his mayoral campaign, Chelsea, went to Bishop Carroll before, herself, going to WSU. Before running for mayor, Brandon spent 7 years serving in the Kansas Legislature; experience that he believes will be valuable when building coalitions within the city.

As luck would have it, the recent news of issues with the Boeing 737 MAX, and the explosion at Beechcraft will assure an interesting first month on the job for Mayor Whipple. When it comes to leadership style, Whipple believes it's important to approach each issue with an "un-madeup" mind rather than attacking them from the posture of defending a pre-determined position. The partisan nature of the State-House, although good for voter turnout, does not translate well to City Hall, where there are no teams, and Mayor Whipple intends on attacking every issue with that in mind.

Brandon said that he understands that leaders take the blame when things go wrong and share in the successes. Acknowldeging the positive momentum with Wichita's downtown development and the improved quality of living, Brandon also believes that there must be more. "Public perception can be separate from the economic data" at times, and he aims to improve the Wichita economy in a way that will align the two.

When it comes to a vision of the future for Wichita, he believes it's important not to try and mold Wichita into "the next Austin for tech" or "the next Houston for Art", but to make Wichita the next Wichita. That said, Brandon does view tech as an area of real potential for the city of Wichita; "We build parts for airplanes, we can build them for other forms of tech as well."

With all of the labs and resources at the college, Mayor Whipple sees a great opportunity for Wichita to create products for the international market; bringing outside money back to Wichita.

In addition to diversifying the Wichita portfolio, Mayor Whipple would like to look into the re-purposing of historical buildings and landmarks in the city and plans on keeping, and even expanding, Longwell's public facing schedule for radio and local TV spots in order to always have a good read on public opinion.



Catching Up

Week of December 18th

Transforming the Riverfront

On December 18th, the East Wichita Rotary welcomed Evan Rosell from the Greater Wichita Partnership to speak about the work being done on the Riverfront Legacy Master Plan. Evan is a Wichita native and, prior to joing the Greater Wichita Partnership in 2018, practiced law in Kansas City.

When it came to crafting a plan for the Riverfront, Evan and his team, with help from

the community, settled on 5 key factors to consider for the project.

- Attracting Young People
 - Addressing the need for life long learning
 - Addressing Mental Health
 - Attractiveness to present & future residents
 - How do we create gathering space in our community.

The project began with the realization that there was lots of potential within the Riverfront Area; (70 acres from Douglas to Kellogg and from the River to Main). The question to be addressed? "How do we give more families a place to live and gather?

Greater Wichita Partnership and 7 sponsors began work on the Legacy Plan. With nearly a Billion dollars in downtown development since 2010, they knew the appetite for development was there, but they needed the communities input to determine exactly what they were hungry for. Through the gathering of public input and re-visiting previous research they found that many of the public comments matched, almost identically, the public sentiments of 1922 when there was a city plan proposed that never got off the ground. They wanted more homes, more green spaces, and more gathering places.

Public sentiment, along with the added consideration of "what to do with Century 2" led to a list of parameters being set. 1. The site must include green spaces and places for public gathering. 2. Convention center(whatever it becomes) must be connected to the Hyatt. 3. The performing arts cannot be interrupted. 4. It must all be connected to the street grid and the river. and 5. There must be an effort to maximize mixed-use development.

Brainstorming began in July at The Boathouse and by October, the plan was starting to come into view and the economics of the situation were beginning to materialize. The plan generated would cost between \$970 million and \$1.5 Billion with most of it being re-cooped within the first 10 years after completion according to their economic impact study.

In all, they believe they have created a plan that will maintain Wichita's authenticity, improve the streets for everyone, re-purpose Century 2, and increase overall engagement with the Riverfront. January 14th is pegged as the day that they will be presenting their plan to the community.

December Member Birthdays:

Tom Morris - 8th Tammie Rhea - 12th Joe Goetz - 13th Jim Boone - 14th Lindsay McClellan - 27th John McEwan - 29th Bob Morris - 29th Schoen Fitzgerald - 31st

December Wedding Anniversaries: Scott & Diane Post 12/18 - **48 years**

Susan & Chris Addington 12/28 - **45 years**

December Rotary Anniversaries: Ric Woldford 12/14 - **25 years**





Catching Up



Right: Stacy and Torrey Lattin from the Hoping Gnome Brewery speak at EWR on December 4th.

Left: President Anne awards Fred Heismeyer with his 4th Paul Harris pin for his extensive support of Rotary International





serving staff for the

On December 18th, Anne recognized Joe, Adrienne, and Nancy from the WCC wonderful work they do serving lunch every week



Right: Michael Moeder dawning his typical Wednesday attire

Left: Britt Fulmer delivering Member News at last week's Rotary Meeting



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Announcements



Thank You East Wichita Rotary FOR HOSTING

We are pleased to inform you that the schedule for the week is mostly planned.

Now here is how you can be engaged in this project and were we need YOUR help!

Hosting a delegate for the week-long stay (February 28 or 29 – March 7).
Help with driving delegates to various learning sites throughout the week.
Help us find a van to use to transport delegates throughout the week (daytime only).
Help identify someone associated with the Wichita Young Professional group as speaker.
Help identify someone associated with the Wichita Chamber of Commerce as speaker.

Fred, Joyce, and Robin are still in need of volunteers to help out with the Open World delegate. Contact any of them if you are able to help out.

Contact Robin McGonigle, Joyce Heismeyer or Fred Heismeyer if you can help with any of the above.

Register to attend a special Luncheon with the the RI President-Elect. Link below the image.



Fellow EWB Botarians YOU'RE INVITED TO A SPECIAL LUNCHEON WITH RI PRESIDENT-ELECT HOLGER KNAACK

Saturday, March 28 at 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Wichita Marriott in Wichita, Kansas

Enjoy meeting a very special RI Leader Hear an inspiring message Join fellow D5680 Rotarian Leaders in fellowship Perhaps even get a picture with RIPE Holger

Learn how our international leadership brings the RI vision to life

"Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves."

Register at: http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=zpax4ohab&oeidk=a07egu5ugu95fb6bda5

U WILL NOT WANT TO MISS THIS VERY SPECIAL ROTARY EVENT!

Register Here

Tomorrow: Damon Young from The Mahaney Group