



ROTARY NOTARY

JOSEPH MCCOY'S BIG GAMBLE: LESSONS IN WICHITA HISTORY

Member Birthdays:

Barry Purdy	5/25
Greg Ek	5/27

At Rotary Today:

Greeter: Joanne Rogers

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

Robin McGonigle

Special Guest:

Carson Randle

Member News: Britt Fulmer

Wedding Anniversaries:

Stewart & Ann Crow—47 years

Paul & Gay Dahlke—34 years

Tom & Jennifer Morris—

32 years

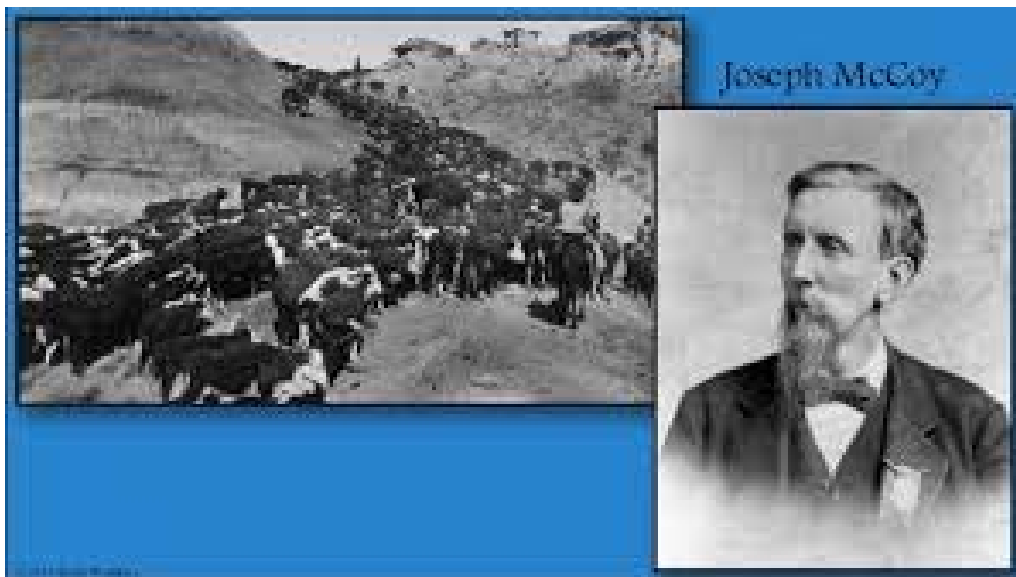
Dues Are Due:

Later this week you should receive your invoice for the upcoming Rotary year's dues. If either your email or membership status are changing, please let Kim know as soon as possible.

Quote of the Week:

Things work out best for those who make the best of how things work out.

— John Wooden



“Joseph McCoy was a gambling man, willing to take risks, always looking for the next big opportunity in the field of business that he knew best: the cattle trade,” from *The Chisholm Trail*, authored by today's speaker, Dr. James Sherow.

Whether your idea of a feast is steak on the grill or a juicy burger, you probably have Joseph McCoy to thank.

Today's speaker, Dr. James Sherow, shared the history of the visionary, Joseph McCoy, who created the system for transporting cattle from Texas to the crowded streets of New York City. The growth of the large cities on the East Coast during the 1860s led to a demand for beef that could not be satisfied solely with the cattle raised there.

McCoy envisioned a system that would bring Texas cattle to New York butchers while making a sizeable profit. The key was creating the system to deliver the cattle while

using the natural resources of the prairie grasslands along the way.

Together with his older brothers William and James, McCoy developed this system to deliver Texas Longhorns to the East Coast, transforming the farm land and economy. That system put all the critical pieces together—telegraph, rail transport, hotel, and cattle pens—and did so away from the heart of the city, where driving herds through town was both dangerous and messy.

And where was this system developed? Abilene, KS, which “offered the sine qua non for linking together into one gigantic system the rapidly growing national and international beef markets,

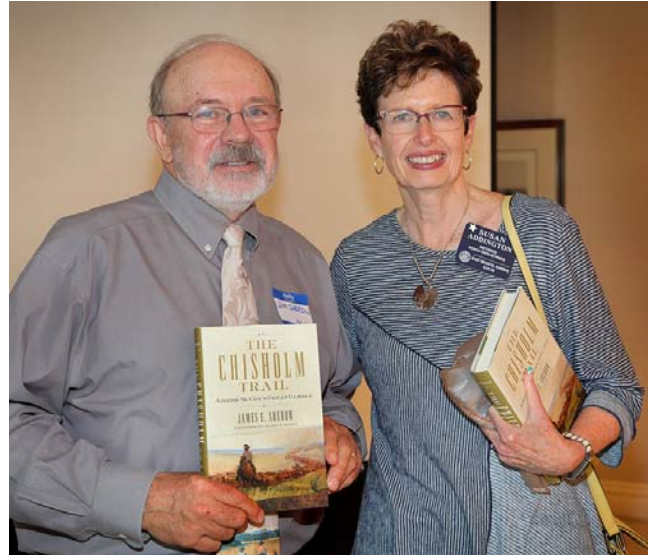
millions of cattle in Texas, the ecology of the open grasslands in the public domain, and the technological advances in railroads and shipping.” (*The Chisholm Trail*, p. 32). The McCoy brothers built their stock yard in Abilene in 1867 and began shipping cattle by rail car later that year.

McCoy's fortunes as a stockman would ebb and flow over the years as he dealt with ticks, drought, blizzards, and farmers, who closed off the open prairie land where the cattle grazed. He moved on from Abilene to Wichita, establishing the cattle trade here. McCoy died in 1915 and is buried here in Wichita with his wife Sarah. If you're grilling over the holiday weekend, raise a toast to the man who helped make it possible.

Upcoming Events:

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. **Please check this week's pre-meeting email for an online link to sign up for this worthy and fun service to our community!**

MORE AT ROTARY TODAY



Today's speaker, **Professor Jim Sherow**, brought copies of his book *The Chisholm Trail*. Book club member and bibliophile **Susan Addington**, along with several other Rotarians, purchased copies to read during summer vacation.

Congratulations!

Tom Morris and his wife Jennifer are the proud grandparents of little Samantha Downing Gebert, born on Wednesday, May 22, to parents Sarah and A.J. Gebert, who live here in Wichita. Both mother and baby are doing fine!

Thank you, Tom, for sharing this good news with all of us!

SERIOUS SWAG FROM SARAH!

EWR members helped **Sarah Wine** collect \$357 for Puzzle Pals, a mini-fundraiser to assist Heartspring clients who live with autism. Donors' names were entered into a drawing for a swag bag. The lucky winner was **Dave Sproul!**



SMILE FOR THE CAMERA!

Next Week:

NO MEETING due to the Memorial Day holiday.

In two weeks, **Michael Andrusak** will discuss winning strategies to grow membership.



Is it time to update your business headshot? You can, and support our own East Wichita Rotary Foundation at the same time. Professional photographer **Ric Wolford** and enthusiastic amateur **Anne Schneider** will take your photo prior to and after the EWR meeting on Wednesday, June 12. The suggested donation is \$30 to the EWR Foundation.

We'll also include your updated photo in the annual directory of EWR members that's published every year. More details, and sign up sheets, will be available at the June 5 meeting.