

ROTARY NOTARY



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Education In Kansas: A Look Back at September Meetings

When looking for a theme for our September meetings, one word stood out to me right away, **EDUCATION**. Even as I transition to my new career, education continues to be my passion and something from which I cannot escape even if I wanted to. We are so fortunate at EWR to have such an outstanding speaker line-up this year. I never thought I would have the opportunity to hear from so many leaders of our Kansas universities and education-centered Wichita non-profits, and yet these speakers continue to come to us into October. Here is a look back at all of the educators we heard from in September:

Dr. Amy Bragg Carey, Friends University President, worked hard over the summer with the Friends University faculty and staff to provide a safe learning environment for returning students this fall. Their goal focused around having students return to campus. I loved her mission for community. If one could give a theme to her presentation, it would be, "There is Value in Community." She reiterated that higher education relationships matter. Her purpose for this large undertaking, students returning to school during a pandemic, centers around the educational philosophy, "We don't just deliver content." As a forever educator myself, I cannot agree anymore.



Katy Dorrah, Executive Director of Mark Arts, brings this non-profit focused on educating our community in the Arts into its next one hundred years. She shared with us the history of Marks Arts as the oldest cultural institution in Wichita. They help educate Wichitans of all ages in everything from sculpture to drawing and even culinary virtuositities. Perhaps the best part of all is their ability to showcase their students' art pieces. If you have never witnessed an amateur artist present their work and the pride revealed in their voice and face, you are missing out! Take an opportunity to visit Mark Arts for an art show or workshop. You will be glad you did!



Sean Jones, Communications Director of Wichita Public Library, excitedly talked about the transformation of our city's main public library when Wichita needed a media center for twenty-first century learners. He then became a bit melancholy as he shifted the conversation to the forced changes made to accommodate the pandemic. One might think that a library must shut down completely during a complete city shutdown. Yet they still provide wi-fi for patrons, who can "get connected" in their parking lot, and have curbside service making reading and learning accessible in a seemingly inaccessible time. They also expanded their services to help non-profits find funding to help meet their budgets. Isn't it amazing all of the creativity discovered during a time of crisis?

Junetta Everett, Chairman of the Wichita Area Chamber of Commerce, came to us with the latest from the Chamber. Their focus for the year is "Diversity & Inclusion." I could guess that some of us were uncomfortable with this topic since the media does such a wonderful job of highlighting any disparity in our world. However, I appreciated her sharing about her family's differences and the value that those differences give her family. I love to learn about people, their backgrounds, and their histories and hope that you do too. Perhaps my thoughts are best summed up by a quote from the late Walter Cronkite, "Whatever the cost of our libraries, the price is cheap compared to that of an ignorant nation." In other words, we can always learn something from one another...always.

FEED ONE

“If you can’t feed 100 people, feed just one.”—St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

We have begun collecting donations for our annual Turkey Dinner Drive and will continue collecting into the beginning of November. To donate, bring a check for **ANY AMOUNT** to a Wednesday meeting or TYPE the link below into your browser to donate with a credit/debit card.

https://www.sagepayments.net/eftcart/forms/donate.asp?M_id=621993125156

Disclaimer: I apologize for the lack of hyperlink. I tried “copy and paste” with the link into my browser, which did not work either.



DID YOU KNOW..

- ♣ Wichita Public Library cardholders can read the Wichita Eagle online for free?
- ♣ We practice social distancing at our in-person meetings by limiting the number of Rotarians at each table, and the WCC servers help us with the buffet?
- ♣ EWR President Moeder has updated our club's audio and video capabilities for our remote attendees?
- ♣ EWR exceeded our goal for the Polio Plus campaign?
- ♣ Club Executive Hurtig graduated from the University of Arkansas where she is presumed to have “Called the Hogs” but is now an unapologetic Kansas State University Wildcat?
- ♣ East Wichita Rotarian, Larry McNeill, became a two-time Paul Harris Fellow?



Comedy Corner

Because we need to laugh...

An Irishman had been drinking in the pub all night.

The bartender finally says that the bar is closing. So the Irishman stands up to leave and falls flat on his face. He tries to stand up once more, with the same result. He figures he'll crawl outside to get some fresh air to clear his head.

Once outside he tries to stand up and again falls flat on his face. So he decides to crawl the 2 blocks to his home.

He crawls through his front door and into his bed room. He manages to pull himself upright by the bed post and flops onto his bed where he quickly falls asleep.

He awakens the next morning to find his wife standing over him and shouting. “So you’ve been drinking again haven’t you,” she says.

“What makes you say that” he replies innocently.

“The pub just called, and you left your wheelchair there last night.”

<https://www.auroratoastmasters.com/jokes.html>

Rotarian Rundown



I love the variety of personalities and backgrounds represented by East Wichita Rotary Club members. Since we haven't been meeting at our mixers, aren't in full tables on Wednesdays, or are more comfortable at home watching on Zoom, visiting and learning about our fellow Rotarians have suffered. A unique group of people, such as we, deserves to be highlighted despite the COVID blues. So, I decided to add a new column to the Rotary Notary, "The Rotarian Rundown," which will highlight one of our Rotarians each month making up for some of the 2020 shortcomings.

This month, I ran down Tammie Rhea, who celebrates her EWR anniversary this month. We met for lunch at Larkspur Bistro and Bar in Old Town. We enjoyed the lovely early fall day on the patio and talked about all sorts of things. I was excited to learn about her! Perhaps the most intriguing new "Tammie-ism" I learned occurred when I asked her my first question, "What is a quote you live and model your life by?" She answered without hesitation and recited from memory, "Leadership is the potent combination of strategy and character. If you have to be without one, be without strategy" (General Norman Schwarzkopf). I expected her to have to think about it for a minute, which did not happen. What I did not expect was for this petite Kentucky gal to throw out a quote from a modern-day military war hero. She values character over strategy because "strategy can be taught; character can't".



The statement fits her to a "T". But before getting to Tammie's "character", here is a bit of background. A Kentucky girl, Tammie moved with her family to the Wichita area about 18 years ago. She knew no one when she arrived and found herself a bit lost and without a "tribe." She joined EWR five years ago hoping to make connections and to get involved in the community. Even though moving to Wichita challenged her to find a friend network, she likes living here and considers this "home". She loves theater and breweries, and our small city has quite of bit of both. She even says she sees the southern hospitality of Kentucky here...something that makes me smile as a native Wichitan.

If I were to describe Tammie's character, I would use words like "active", "determined", "leader", "fun"...I guess I could go on and on. I bet you didn't know that she tries to travel out of the country at least once a year. Next up on her "bucket list", she wants to visit India and Cambodia. She said, "Not everyone grew up the way we did." She followed that up with telling me that traveling humbles her and keeps her compassionate. Of course, this year, she might not make it anywhere outside of the US. You guessed it...COVID. At the end of our conversation, she divulged that she walks or runs about thirty miles each week because she loves to be outside! That's quite a "love" that makes me tired just thinking about it!



We had so much fun visiting! Hopefully, you learned or were inspired by something new after reading this very brief biography about Tammie. I feel blessed to know someone who values others and works to make the world a better place each day. Next time you find yourself at a table with Tammie, try to guess what her irrational fear is. I laughed at the surprising answer!

Those Who Have Gone the Distance

October Birthdays

SUSAN ADDINGTON	OCT 3
CHRIS ENGLISH	OCT 5
MICHAEL CAFFREY	OCT 6
PAUL BARANIVSKY	OCT 15
SCOTT JENSEN	OCT 17
JOHN SCHLICHER	OCT 17
LARRY HUND	OCT 23
ERIC IRELAND	OCT 28
JADEN RANDLE	OCT 29
TOM CHURCH	OCT 30
FRED HEISMEYER	OCT 31

October Wedding Anniversaries

MARSHALL & JOANN MILLSAP	OCT 1, 1994
MICHAEL MOEDER & REBECCA TONG	OCT 14, 2017
PHIL & MAUREEN MAY	OCT 16, 2016
ANTHONY & EMMA NDUNGU	OCT 27, 2011

October Rotarian Anniversaries

LYNN JEANE	OCT 1, 1999
KEVIN RATHER	OCT 1, 1996
TAMMIE RHEA	OCT 16, 2015
DENISE HEARSON	OCT 30, 2014



A Look Ahead

Oct 20	Rotary Mixer @ The Belmont, 5:15 (The former Dean's Design on East Douglas)
Oct 21	Club Meeting with WPD Chief Gordon Ramsay
Oct 23	"Million Meal Packing Event" (District "Service Above Self" project)
Oct 28	Club Meeting with Rob Manes, Director of The Nature Conservancy of Kansas
Nov 11	Club Meeting with Elizabeth King, President of the WSU Foundation
Nov 18	Club Meeting with Karina Forrest-Perkins, CEO Heartspring

2020–2021 EWR Board

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