

ROTARY NOTARY



Birthdays:

<i>Fred Heismeyer</i>	10/31
<i>John Hurst</i>	11/6
<i>Steve Peterson</i>	11/6

At Rotary Today:

Greeter: Craig Wulf

Invocation, Flag Salute, and Four-way test:
Bill McConnell

Special Guests:

Bill Bennett
Barbara Crawford
Bob Janzen
Shannon Wedge

Rotary Anniversaries:

Craig Burns—25 years
John McEwen—22 years
Joyce Heismeyer—7 years
Anthony Ndungu—1 year

Wedding Anniversary:

Scott and Amanda Holder—13 years

Quote of the Week:

Whatever you do, do it well. Do it so well that when people see you do it they will want to come back and see you do it again and they will want to bring others and show them how well you do what you do.

—Walt Disney

MASTER STORYTELLER LARRY HATTEBERG MESMERIZES EWR

Larry Hatteberg retired from KAKE-TV in 2014 after working there for 51 years. He's best known for his long-running series "Hatteberg's People," which profiles Kansans who make our state an interesting place to live. Today he enjoys traveling to Europe to meet, and photograph, fascinating people there.



Fortunately for us Kansans as well as other fans of *Hatteberg's People* all over the globe, Larry Hatteberg ignored the advice of a school counselor who told him he had no aptitude for either journalism or photojournalism. Viewers have been richly rewarded by his observations about ordinary people whose stories illuminate larger issues ever since he joined KAKE-TV in 1963 as a part-time film technician.

Hatteberg sees that our lives are changed every day by the people we meet. Everyone becomes a teacher in some way. Even a man who hadn't bathed in years, a man who lived in a hole in the ground for 30 years, yet who was one of the happiest and most content persons Hatteberg had ever met: Ernie Dittimore.

Google "Ernie Dittimore YouTube" and you'll find the

original story. But it was the opportunity to hear the back story from Hatteberg today showed how a man who was avoided and discounted in life can teach all of us some profound lessons.

Dittimore lived on 80 mostly wooded acres in Doniphan County, located in northeast Kansas. A journalist from the Topeka Capitol-Journal contacted Hatteberg about the eccentric old man, who had thrown the journalist off his land. Hatteberg might have better luck getting a story.

It was a rare case of being unable to learn much about his subject through research. Wary-eyed townspeople didn't offer much more than a funny look when Hatteberg asked them about Dittimore.

After reaching the property's borders Hatteberg called out to Dittimore, who responded, perhaps after

determining that Hatteberg was an okay guy. And that began a captivating look into the world of a man who lived very primitively with little human contact, yet who was at peace because of the treasures he found all around him—treasures like watching the rain fall and drip from the leaves of his trees, observing a night sky blazing with stars, or watching a sunrise transform everything it touches.

Hatteberg produced the story during the summer of 1995. Ernie Dittimore passed away just six months later. Sadly, relatives who had shunned Dittimore during his lifetime came out of the woodwork to claim a share of his estate.

"We write people off," Hatteberg told us. "Ernie Dittimore changed my life. Whenever I look at a sunrise or a sunset, I still see his face beside it." Thanks to Larry Hatteberg's storytelling, Ernie Dittimore lives on and changes us, too.

Upcoming Events:

November 20—Following the EWR Turkey Dinner Delivery event we'll meet around 5:15 at Dempsey's Burger Pub at Central and Rock, formerly known as Ernie Biggs Piano Bar. Join your EWR friends for a little pre-Thanksgiving libations and non-turkey appetizers!

November 21—NO EWR due to Thanksgiving holiday.

December 19—Mark your calendars for the annual EWR Christmas party. This year we'll meet for a luncheon at the Wichita Country Club! Bring a guest or a spouse—this year, EWR buys your tickets! More details to follow!

Let's Talk Turkey!

It's hard to believe but Thanksgiving is in 3 weeks! We'll collect donations through **November 11** for turkey dinners that EWR members will deliver to families in need on November 20. Every dollar brings us closer to our goal of delivering 102 dinners!



Next Week:

District Attorney Marc Bennett will be our speaker.

LARRY HATTEBERG (CONT'D)



"I like people. I like to know people's stories," Larry Hatteberg said at today's meeting. This is a screen capture of Ernie Dittimore from the story Hatteberg produced in 1995. Dittimore is still one of Hatteberg's all-time favorite people. The story can be viewed on Hatteberg's YouTube channel.

In 1957 nine African-American students attempted to enroll at Little Rock Central High School but were prohibited from doing so by the Arkansas governor, Orval Faubus. While watching the live news coverage, Hatteberg, then a seventh grader, knew he wanted to become a journalist.



SPOOKTACULAR COSTUMES!



One of these two has a birthday today! Is it Wily Witch Deb Brinegar or Fred Heismeyer the Ape-Man? To find out see Page 1! And thanks to both of you for making today's EWR Halloween meeting "bootiful"!