



ROTARY NOTARY

Birthdays:

Kim Pennington

10/22

At Rotary Today:

Greeter: Nancy Wiebe

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

Member News:
Dave Clothier

Special Guests:
Ben Burrus, GRIT Virtual
Sindy Ho, Hong Kong
Shawna Lebeda, Legacy Bank
Melisa Sorenson, Legacy Bank

You Heard It Here First

"Why don't they pass a constitutional amendment prohibiting anybody from learning anything? If it works as well as prohibition did, in five years Americans would be the smartest race of people on Earth." Will Rogers, quoted by Dave Clothier during Member News.

Quote of the Week:

Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.

—Carl Bard

IMPROVED CONSTRUCTION PLANNING WITH VIRTUAL REALITY



Chris Callen (L) is the CEO of GRIT Virtual and Ben Burrus is the Chief Technical Officer. The firm takes construction planning to the granular level, breaking complex construction plans to create daily task lists based on information provided by all team members.

Henry Ford is widely quoted as having said, "If I had asked people what they wanted, they would have said faster horses."

Whether Ford actually said that is disputed. The point, according to our speaker, Chris Callen, is sometimes the solution to a problem is to rethink, not rework, *everything*. In other words, learn and let go of what you've learned before.

Growing up with Builder's Plus, his family's concrete subcontracting company, Callen knew the industry was ripe for improvement in its processes, particularly planning. That's how GRIT Virtual was born.

Callen compared the model he sought to upend the construction process with

Wikipedia, which completely rethought the way encyclopedias are created and distributed. Using the knowledge of thousands of subject matter experts who collaborate, rather than a short list of writers, Wikipedia creates a constantly growing and changing encyclopedia accessible on the internet.

In the same way, Callen and his firm seek to meld technology and the expertise of every team member to reduce the amount of time spent planning by 90%.

Why is this necessary? Consider how many subcontractors work at a building site at the same time. The HVAC installer knows he can finish his job in four days. But then the subcontractor pouring the concrete arrives, delaying completion of the HVAC

system until the concrete is dry. Work isn't completed on time and costs go up.

Employing technical solutions such as Building Information Modeling (BIM), GRIT Virtual creates a digital prototype of the building prior to construction. This lowers the team's learning curve and preps them for the work site.

Also, GRIT Virtual's user interface allows dozens of non "tech-savvy" users to plan their work. Once they've input their data, algorithms update and create more effective work flows.

The prestigious Kansas City Accelerator Techstars selected GRIT Virtual as part of its first cohort, providing it with a 90-day business accelerator program. Keep your eye on this company. It has huge potential to reinvent the way construction companies work all over the world.

Next Mixer:

Have you ever been to **Bricktown Brewery** on N. Rock Road? If not, come check it out at our next mixer there **Wednesday, October 25**. Join your fellow Rotarians for great food and fun starting at 5:15 pm! Bring your spouse, bring a friend!

Host a RITE Teacher:

Rotarians from Argentina and Panama will arrive in Wichita in January, staying for a month to visit and learn from area schools. You may remember the delightful group of RITE teachers who visited and spoke to our club earlier this year.

We are looking for 20 homes to host these visitors, providing meals, transportation, and fellowship. For more information, contact: Shelli Kadel at: kadelshelli@gmail.com or [316.644.8573](tel:316.644.8573).

Talking Turkey:

One of our most popular projects is purchasing a turkey dinner for a family in need. Rotarians purchased 100 dinners last year; let's make it at least 101 this year. Each dinner, which serves 6, costs \$57. Consider making a donation to purchase one dinner, but contributions in any amount are welcome and appreciated. Delivery day is **Tuesday, November 21**.

Next Week:

Our speaker next Wednesday will be **Gregg Marshall**, head coach of the WSU Shockers Men's Basketball team.

MORE AT ROTARY TODAY



Susan Addington introduced Sindy Ho, a visitor through the State Department exchange program with China. Sindy is from Hong Kong and is here in Wichita for the next several weeks. Saint Francis Community Services is her host organization while Susan and Chris Addington are currently her host family. We hope Sindy's stay here is educational as well as fun!

GREGG MARSHALL NEXT WEEK

He's transformed Wichita State's Men's Basketball from a Cinderella story into a powerhouse, ranked Number One this summer by ESPN's Basketball Power Index. And he'll be our speaker on **Wednesday, October 25**.

Get the inside scoop on the Shockers and bring a friend who might be interested in joining our club. Let Kim Hurtig know—we don't want to run out of food or space for this much-anticipated presentation.



Gregg Marshall has been the head coach of the WSU Shockers since 2007, taking them to the NCAA Final Four in 2013.

NATIONAL CHOCOLATE CUPCAKE DAY



Sweetmeats in Eliza Leslie's *Receipts* cookbook.

Every day is national chocolate cupcake day for those of us who wouldn't hesitate to eat one of these delicious round cakes, topped with even more chocolatey goodness.

According to the National Calendar of Days, cupcakes have also been called "fairy cakes," "patty cakes," and "cup cakes" (two words). Their history can be traced back to 1796 when there was a recipe notation of "a cake to be baked in small cups" written in *American Cookery*, by Amelia Simmons. The earliest known documentation of the term cupcake was in 1828 in *Seventy-five Receipts for Pastry, Cakes, and*

Cupcakes were originally baked in heavy pottery cups. Today, some bakers still use individual ramekins, small coffee mugs, large teacups, or other small ovenproof pottery-type dishes for baking their cupcakes.

And in case you've never watched it, there's a televised competition to see who can bake the most delicious cupcakes and then crank out a thousand of them in two hours. The winner takes home a \$10,000 prize. "Cupcake Wars" airs on the Cooking Channel. So buy or bake a batch of cupcakes, watch "Cupcake Wars," and celebrate the sweet things in life.