Sept. 19 Rotary Meeting at Concourse Hotel
25 Years of Great Music with John DeMain

As Music Director of the Madison Symphony Orchestra for the past 25 years, John DeMain has led the organization through significant transformation and growth. Join us next week on September 19 at the Concourse Hotel when DeMain will share highlights from these 25 years, and will discuss the Symphony’s relationships within the Madison community.

Conductor John DeMain is noted for his dynamic performances on concert and opera stages throughout the world. During his distinguished 17-year tenure with Houston Grand Opera, he led a history-making production of Porgy and Bess, winning a Grammy Award and a Tony Award. John came to Madison 25 years ago to become the Madison Symphony Orchestra’s music director. Since then, he has raised the quality of the Orchestra and has continuously expanded the repertoire to encompass ever more challenging and virtuosic works. He began his career as a pianist and conductor in his native Youngstown, Ohio, and went on to earn his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at The Juilliard School in New York City. In addition to his role with the Madison Symphony Orchestra, he also serves as artistic director for Madison Opera.

To plan for sufficient seating, members bringing guests to our weekly meetings are asked to contact the Rotary office with the number of guests you plan to bring by Tuesday noon (rotaryoffice@rotarymadison.org or phone 255-9164).

Parking for Sept. 19: There is very limited parking available at the Madison Concourse Hotel at $1.50 per hour. If the Madison Concourse ramp is full, the closest public ramp is located at 214 N. Carroll Street directly across the street. The hourly parking rate at the city ramp is $1.20 per hour. At either gate, please take a ticket upon entering. You can pay using a credit card when exiting. Another option: Even though the Park Hotel has a large conference that is bumping us from our regular meeting space, you can still park your car at the Park Hotel on Sept. 19 at the usual cost of $5 during our luncheon.

Wisconsin Obesity Prevention Initiative Targets Neighborhoods

“Virtually every organ in the body is adversely affected by obesity,” Dr. Vincent Cryns, the Marian A. and Rodney P. Burgenske Chair and Chief, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, told Rotarians on September 12.

Not only are people’s individual bodies affected negatively by obesity, according to Dr. Cryns, but obesity also has a negative effect on society as a whole. The cost of the obesity epidemic to American society is equal to 4 to 8 percent of our Gross Domestic Product, with disadvantaged communities affected disproportionately. The even more discouraging news is that there have been three-fold increases of obesity and overweight in the past forty years. Dr. Cryns cited several causes, including less physical activity due to factors like increasing screen time and the marketing of “tasty inexpensive calorie-dense foods.”
Dr. Cryns is involved with the Wisconsin Obesity Prevention Initiative (OPI), which is compiling and analyzing “zip-code-level data” to design positive interventions and coaching to help deal with this crisis. OPI is currently working with two community partners, the Menominee Nation and Marathon County, to come up with place-based solutions to the problems posed by widespread obesity. Possible solutions include incorporating nutritious foods like wild rice into traditional activities like community feasts and improving pedestrian and bike access so that people who would like to walk and bike more can do so safely. Dr. Cryns encouraged his audience to find out their individual Body Mass Index (BMI; weight divided by height squared) and modify eating and exercise until it reaches healthy levels.

*Our thanks to Dr. Cryns for speaking to our club this week; to Jocelyn Riley for preparing this review article; and to WisconsinEye for videotaping our meeting.*

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**Get Involved With Our UW-Madison Rotaract Club**  
*Submitted by Moses Altsech, Rotaract Advisory Committee Chair*

Our Rotary Club sponsors a Rotaract chapter at UW, which is essentially a college-level Rotary Club, built on the same ideals of Service Above Self and the Four-Way Test. Rotaract members are students of many majors, freshmen through seniors, who not only want to make a difference in our community, but also benefit from the formidable network provided by Rotary. If you truly believe in Service Above Self, there’s no better way to show it—and we won’t have future Rotarians unless we groom and mentor future Rotarians.

Rotaract only meets 4-5 times a semester, so the time commitment is not great, and being a mentor to our extraordinary students is one of the most rewarding things you’ll ever do in your life! Come to a meeting and strike up a conversation with a student; invite them to have coffee or tour your office; attend or host a social event for Rotaract.

Our first meeting is on Monday, September 24, at 7:15pm at 1295 at Grainger Hall, with Rotarian Roberta Gassman as the speaker (there’s even underground parking!)

If you want to become more involved with Rotaract, please email the Rotary office at rotaryoffice@rotarymadison.org and ask to have your name added to the Rotaract Advisory Committee. You may sign up because you believe in Service Above Self, but you’ll stay because you’ll just love the students you’ll meet and make some great new friends in the process.

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**Club Board of Directors**

Our Board of Directors is the governing body of the Rotary Club of Madison. The board has general control over all officers and committees. Directors are familiar with the club’s by-laws and policy. As issues are brought to the board, knowing the bylaws and policies aids in discussions. The main activity of the Board is conducted during the regular monthly meetings. The monthly meeting is normally held on the first Monday of each month beginning at 5 pm and is followed by dinner which ends at approximately 7 pm. Shown here is a photo from our September 4 board meeting. Current board members are: Jason Beren (President), Pat Jenkins (Secretary), Greg Frank (Treasurer), Dan Larson (Asst. Treasurer), Mike Engelberger (Sgt. At Arms), Jorge Hidalgo, Donna Hurd, Andrea Kaminski, Stan Kitson, Mike May, Sandy Morales, Stacy Nemeth, Beth Prochaska, Jeff Tews, Nasra Weheliie & Nancy Young.
Annual Swarsensky Humanitarian Award Nominations Due Oct. 1
Downtown Rotary Announces Nominations for Club’s Prestigious Manfred E.
Swarzensky Humanitarian Service Award & $2500 Grant: Due to Rotary office on Oct.
1 2018; to be presented at club luncheon this November

The Rotary Club of Madison, also known as Downtown Rotary, has announced that nominations for its prestigious annual Manfred E. Swarsensky Humanitarian Service Award are now being accepted.

Rabbi Swarsensky was a beloved member of Downtown Rotary for 22 years, served as rabbi of Madison’s Temple Beth El and on the faculty of Edgewood College. He died in 1981 at the age of 75. Inspired by his remarkable life, the club established the award in 1982 to honor his memory. Its purpose is to identify and honor individuals who have, through their voluntary efforts, made a particularly outstanding contribution to humanitarian service in the greater Madison community and beyond, in the tradition so well exemplified by Rabbi Swarsensky. The award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated a broad community interest as advanced by the rabbi, whether through a single community agency or service, or many. The club seeks nominees who, like Rabbi Swarsensky, have helped build bridges and sought reconciliation between groups and individuals.

The award will be presented at a Wednesday luncheon meeting of the club’s large membership this November and will include a $2500 grant to one or more of the charitable organizations in the greater Madison area selected by the awardee.

RABBI MANFRED SWARSENSKY: LIFELONG HUMANITARIAN: Born in Prussia in 1906, Manfred Swarsensky was a young rabbi known for his brilliant sermons at one of Berlin’s leading synagogues when the Nazis burned it down, as they did most Jewish institutions and businesses, and imprisoned him in a concentration camp in 1938. After most of his family perished in the Holocaust, he settled in Madison to lead the then new Temple Beth El. Rather than retreat into bitterness, he dedicated the rest of his life to peacemaking, forgiveness and building bridges. “The power of love is stronger and more enduring that the forces of hate,” said Rabbi Swarsensky.

Rabbi Swarsensky’s life is a testimony to what one person can do to better the lives of others. He was known statewide for his commitments to social justice, civil rights, religious tolerance, inter-faith dialogue and furthering forgiveness and reconciliation.

His funeral was attended by hundreds from Madison and beyond. Both of Madison’s daily newspapers ran editorials and numerous news stories praising his life. Sermons in his memory were delivered at numerous churches across the city. The Capital Times called him, “a voice of conscience.” The Wisconsin State Journal, calling him “a symbol of tolerance,” said, “he vaulted the barriers of faith, of class, of age, of any and all bias to help others.”

To learn more about Rabbi Swarsensky and to prepare the strongest submission possible, nominators are encouraged to watch this award-winning 9-minute video about his life and work which may be found online on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51xmORreEUs

The award nomination form is located on our website: https://rotarymadison.org/wp-content/forms/Swarzensky%20Nomination%20FILL%20IN%20Form%202018.docx

Completed forms are due by Oct. 1, 2018, to Rotary Club of Madison’s office.

Interact Clubs at Memorial and East High Schools

During our September 12th luncheon, Stan Kitson provided an update on our club’s two Interact Clubs. Since 2014, our club has sponsored an Interact Club at Memorial and East High Schools. The clubs have been active with a beads fundraising project to support scholarships for students in Ghana (as part of our club’s global grant for the Change HERstory project).

Interact clubs bring together young people ages 12-18 to develop leadership skills while discovering the power of Service Above Self. Stan Kitson helped to organize the clubs, and Rob Van den Berg is the current chair of our Interact Committee. We have a group of Rotarians who attend the Interact meetings and help provide guidance to the students.

If you are interested in becoming involved with one or both Interact Clubs, contact the Rotary office at 255-9164 or rotaryoffice@rotarymadison.org to become part of the committee.
Rotarians Help Clean Up James Madison Park August 30

Our thanks to Rotarians and friends who successfully completed a shoreline cleanup and litter pickup at James Madison Park on August 30. Clean Swell tracked 7.18 pounds of trash collected consisting of 25 plastic straws and over 100 pieces of plastic/foam. Thank you again for helping to beautify one of our city's most popular parks!

Members in the News

- **Meghan Ballard** was interviewed about new fall fashions for [back to school shopping](https://www.ebay.com/sch/i.html?_nkw=back+to+school) at East and West Towne Malls. **Sept. 8 NBC News**
- **Lynn Brady** was pictured and quoted in an article titled, “Partially Funded Journey.” **InBusiness 9/18**
- **Matt Brink** was featured in an executive profile article titled, “On the Brink of Change.” **InBusiness 9/18**
- **Kaleem Caire** was pictured and quoted in an article titled, “One City Schools Opens Its Charter School with a Kindergarten Class: Pursuing New Ways to Teach Excellence.” **TCCH 9/3**
- **Steve Fleischman** was quoted in an article titled, “Joel Shapiro's sculptures burst with life.” **TCT 9/5**
- **Rich Leffler** was pictured and quoted in an article titled, “Book club serves up an 'intellectual feast' for retired faculty members.” **UW-Madison News 9/11**
- **Dave Mollenhoff** was pictured and quoted in a recent article on the Madison lake levels. **WSJ 9/9**
- **Renee Moe** was pictured and quoted in an article titled, “2018 United Way of Dane County Season of Caring Kick-Off: Starting with Service.” **TCCH 9/3**
- **Sandy Morales** was pictured in an article titled, “Back to School Mobilization.” **TCCH 9/3**
- **Dick Pearson** was quoted in an article titled, “Watching the Water: Torrential rains and flooding have renewed a debate over Madison lake levels.” **TCT 9/5**

Happy Birthday!

- **Sept. 16 -- Loei Badreddine** -- Adm. Date: 04/02/2014 Engineering. GRAEF Formerly Rotarian in Milwaukee PHF (2)
- **Sept. 16 -- Mike Engelberger** -- Adm. Date: 07/13/2011 Consulting. MRE Employment Services, LLC PHF (2)
- **Sept. 17 -- Jim Taylor** -- Adm. Date: 07/25/1984 Colleges & Universities-Sciences-Retired. PHF (70)
- **Sept. 18 -- Majid Sarmadi** -- Adm. Date: 07/01/1998 Colleges & Universities-Sciences. UW-Madison Director 2005-07. PHF
- **Sept. 20 -- Anne Lucke** -- Adm. Date: 08/07/2013 Foundations. UW Foundation
- **Sept. 21 -- Jac Garner** -- Adm. Date: 05/27/1987 Printing & Publishing-Retired. PHF
- **Sept. 21 -- Karla Tennes** -- Adm. Date: 12/07/2016 Community Services. Porchlight, Inc.
- **Sept. 22 -- Londa Dewey** -- Adm. Date: 06/05/1996 Business Services & Supplies. QTI Group
Weekly Statistics

MakeUp Artists
Borland, Mary at Baraboo 9/5; Bromley, Joyce at Edgerton 9/4; Van den Berg, Rob at Edgerton 9/4

Guest List for Sept. 12, 2018
Divija Goel & John Kerns of Rotaract Advisory Committee; Jason Weitzman of Program Committee; Kristi Kavanagh of Charles McLimans; Tim Cullen of Moses Altsech; Julia Stanley of Jenni Collins; Amanda Sturm of Renee Frank; Lisa Nelson & Brad Paul of Nino Amato; Ken Krause & Lisa Lawrence of Stu Levitan; Kate Stein of Tom Grantham

Visiting Rotarian List for Sept. 12, 2018
Glenn Schmidt from Fort Collins, CO

Attendance Record

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Total Members</th>
<th>Total Active</th>
<th>Active Attending (incl. make-ups)</th>
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<td>367</td>
<td>403 (178)</td>
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<tr>
<td>09/12/2018</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>309 (103)</td>
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***Reminder: September 19 Rotary Luncheon is at The Concourse Hotel***