



The Madison, WI Rotary News for December 6, 2019

a publication of the Rotary Club of Madison

Upcoming Program at Park Hotel

(unless otherwise noted)

- December 18
Holiday Buffet
Regular business program followed by social time with no speaker
- December 25
No Meeting; no make-up required
- January 1
No Meeting; no make-up required



Dec. 11 Rotary Meeting at Park Hotel **Melvin Juette: The Opportunity of Adversity**

When **Melvin Juette** was 16 years old, he was a victim of gang violence. The bullet left him paralyzed from the waist down. At next week's December 11 Rotary meeting, he will talk about the transition he made from that experience to representing the United States in numerous international competitions as a wheelchair basketball player and a coach.

Since becoming paralyzed, Melvin has spent his life helping others see the opportunity of adversity and showing the inclusive use of sport to overcome obstacles and misperceptions in order to convey the message that it is ability not disability that counts.

He will also talk about his experience as a foster parent and having over 82 children in his home and adopting seven of them.

Melvin is the Director of the Dane County District Attorney's Office of Deferred Prosecution Program. He graduated from UW-Whitewater where he earned a bachelor's degree in Social Work with a minor in Criminal Justice.

In 2008 Melvin published his autobiography, *WHEELCHAIR WARRIOR: Gangs, Disability and Basketball*, in which he discussed his transition from being a victim of gang violence, adjusting to living life with a disability, overcoming adversity and fulfilling his life dreams. His favorite quote, "It's what you do when you don't have to do it that will determine what you will be when you can no longer help it. It's not doing what you like to do, but liking what you have to do that makes the world of difference and good things come to those who wait." But he has a rule that is slicker: "It's what you do while you wait that gets you there much quicker."

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 (608-255-9164 or rotaryoffice@rotarymadison.org).

Democracy Found

Sara Eskrich, Executive Director of Democracy Found, spoke to us this week. She has herself been in electoral politics, as a Madison alder, and she is concerned that policy decisions are often stymied by politics. There is an inability to get anything done, even when a large percentage of the electorate favors a particular policy. Elected officeholders believe that there is no connection between acting in the public interest and getting reelected. One of the major problems lies in the two-party system today, which in business terms is a duopoly, able to eliminate third-party and independent competition. This is done through legislation that makes it very hard to offer substantial money to independent candidates. This makes it extremely important for officeholders to ask themselves not whether a policy is good but rather whether support for that policy will lead to opposition in their partisan primary. Another practice that hinders effective governance is plurality voting, in which the candidate with the highest number of votes is the winner, even if the vote total is less than a majority.

Ms. Eskrich's preferred solution to this situation is two-fold: a top-four primary election and non-partisan-ranked choice voting in the general election. This will allow voters to vote for candidates they really prefer, even if they are not from the major parties. Officeholders will now be beholden to larger constituencies, rather than just their partisans. Democracy Found is working on the state level to get this system adopted. She feels it is not a silver bullet, but it will make a difference.

Our thanks to Sara Eskrich for her presentation to our club this week and to Rich Leffler for this review article. If you missed our meeting this week, you can watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/T2cQjkbqUnQ>.

Meet our New Members



Nathan J. Boebel has been loaned the classification of Financial Institutions and is senior vice president of Private Wealth Management at US Bank. He was born in Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania, and moved to Madison from Milwaukee in 2006. Nate is married to Sarah, and they live on Westbridge Trail in Waunakee with their 5-year-old son, Noah. Nate holds a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Illinois-Urbana and a JD degree from the University of Utah. He serves as treasurer and on the board of directors for the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra and is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin. Nate enjoys spending time with his family and being in the outdoors at their log cabin near Wisconsin Dells. Nate's sponsor is Darrell Behnke.



Tom L. Fox has been loaned the classification of Business Services & Supplies and is president of Connect Search, LLC. He was born in Columbus, Ohio, and moved to Madison from Chicago this past February. Tom is married to Katie, and they live on Champions Run in Middleton with their three sons. Tom holds a bachelor's degree in marketing with a minor in finance from the University of Scranton. He serves on the board of Catholic Charities and is a member of the Society of Human Resources Management and the Chambers of Commerce in Madison and Middleton. Tom enjoys outdoor activities. Tom's sponsor is Jackson Fonder.



Christian W. Overland has been loaned the classification of Government-State and is the Ruth and Hartley Barker Director and CEO for the Wisconsin Historical Society. He was born in Minneapolis and came to Madison last year. Christian now makes his home with his wife, Maura, in Fitchburg. They have three children. Christian holds a bachelor's degree in American Studies and Art History from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree in American History and Material Culture from the Cooperstown Graduate Program. He has received several awards including the Themed Entertainment Association's THEA Award for Outstanding Achievement for Manufacturing Innovation for the "Ford Rouge Factory Tour" and the Dibner Award for Excellence in Museum Exhibitions by the Society for the History of Technology for "Driving America." He received both awards during his career at The Henry Ford. Angela Bartell and Susan Schmitz are his sponsors.



Robert C. Procter has been loaned the classification of Law and is a partner at Axley Brynson, LLP. He was born in Milwaukee and moved to Madison from Boston in 2000. Robert is married to Aimee, and they live on Gateway Green in Monona with their four children. He earned his undergraduate degree from UW-Madison and holds a JD degree, cum laude, from the Boston University School of Law. Robert is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Builders Association and the Wisconsin REALTORS Association. He enjoys spending time with his family and pheasant hunting. His sponsor is Dewey Bredeson.



Jonathan C. Solari has been loaned the classification of Arts-Performing and is CEO for the Madison Ballet. He was born in San Francisco, California, and came to Madison from Boston in 2016. Jonathan and his wife, Courtney Nelson, make their home on Skimore Road in Stoughton. He holds a bachelor of fine arts degree from New York University and a master of fine arts degree from Boston University. Jonathan organizes annual trips to Houston, Texas, to help rebuild homes after Hurricane Harvey devastated the area in 2017. He loves to travel, attend concerts and support his friends' passions. His sponsor is Martha Vukelich-Austin.



Genia Stevens has been loaned the classification of Business Services & Supplies and a managing partner of Belwah Media. She was born in Waynesboro, Georgia, and currently lives with her wife, Andrea, on Spruce Street in Beloit. Genia has two adult sons. Genia holds a bachelor's degree from Beloit College and an MBA degree from Cardinal Stritch University. She is among the Top 100 Black Women to Watch in Marketing, and she is listed in Who's Who in Social Media. Belwah Media has also received the LGBT Business of the Year Award. Genia says, "I enjoy spending time with my granddaughter playing Old Maid and UNO, and geocaching with my wife, traveling and dinner cruises on the Mississippi River." Boris Frank is her sponsor.

Fund Drive Update

Fund Drive Chair **Herman Baumann** is emphasizing the *Fellowship of Giving* which makes our community a better place for this year's campaign to raise money for our Madison Rotary Foundation. Together, we are helping countless children and families with projects and programs that provide food, shelter, clothing, health care and other services to those in need.



We have a goal of \$150,000. We have raised \$119,649.26 to date.

Make your contribution to the Madison Rotary Foundation today – mail your gift or visit our website to make a donation online.

Thank you!

Recommended Updates to our Club Constitution

A committee was formed to review the Report on Action of the 2019 Council on Legislation of Rotary International issued in May, 2019. Committee members included **Terry Anderson, Jeff Bartell, Ellsworth Brown, Rob Stroud** and **Virginia Bartelt** (Bylaws Advisor for our Club & chair of the committee).

The task of the Committee was to prepare recommendations to the Club Board of Directors regarding the action of the Council on Legislation. As our club constitution predates the formation of Rotary International, we retain control over our own Constitution and are not required to adopt all changes.

In keeping with our tradition, the committee recommended that the Club amend the Club's Constitution to conform with an action of the Council on Legislation when the amendment would improve our Constitution or if the amendment would afford our Club greater scope to control our Club's own requirements and procedures.

The Council adopted 46 enactments and one position statement. Many of the enactments apply to Districts and RI rather than to the Clubs and their constitutions.

After reviewing all of the enactments that apply to Club constitutions, the committee recommended and the Club Board of Directors approved forwarding these recommendations to our club membership for a vote as follows:

At our December 11 Rotary meeting, our Bylaws Advisor **Virginia Bartelt** will overview the recommended updates to our Club's Constitution, and President Andrea Kaminski will call for a vote to amend the Rotary Club of Madison's Constitution as follows:

- Approve Council 19-35 which provides that make-ups be during the same year rather than within 14 days before or after the regular meeting.
- Approve Council 19-39 which addresses Constitution provisions relating to membership as follows: a) To remove from the Standard Rotary Club Constitution the provisions making holders of public office ineligible for membership under the classification of such office; b) Council 19-39 inserts "occupation" in reference to classification and membership.

A copy of the text of the enactments being recommended for approval will be available at the club meetings, or you can view them as well as the full Council on Legislation Actions here: <https://my.rotary.org/en/learning-reference/about-rotary/councils>. Scroll down and click on ARCHIVE and "2019 Council of Legislation documents." Then click on "2019 Report of Action."

Rotary Friendship Exchanges Planned for Brazil March 14-24, 2020

Our Rotary District 6250 Friendship Exchange Committee has arranged an exchange with **Rotary District 4760 in Brazil**. This district is northeast of Sao Paulo, north of Rio de Janeiro and southeast of Brazilia. We will send a group of Rotarians and guests to their district from March 14-24, 2020. We will host an inbound group from their district from June 13-23, 2020.

Anticipated expenses per person for participants:

- Round trip airfare
- In-country air, rail or bus travel
- Meals when not at host homes
- Travel insurance
- Personal costs, such as gifts and souvenirs
- Admission charges to museums or other entertainment/events



Hosts on each end of the exchange program support the visitors with room, board and some entertainment/activities and local transportation while in host city.

Our group will fly into Rio de Janeiro, then a short flight to **Confins International Airport**. Those who want, can stay together for a few days at Rio de Janeiro to see the city. Detailed in country itineraries will be determined closer to the travel dates.

If you are interested in participating in this exchange, please contact Mark Etrheim, mark@mchlax.com.

Action By Directors

The following, proposed as new members, were favorably considered by the Directors at a recent meeting. Members are accorded a period of ten days within which objections may be filed in writing, stating the specific reason for the objection and signed by the objecting member, and sent to the Executive Director in the Rotary office. Consideration of a membership proposal is to be kept confidential, and members should not discuss membership with any listed candidate at this time. After the ten-day period, the sponsors will be notified of the status of the candidate.

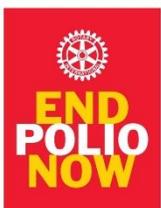
NAME	ORGANIZATION	CLASSIFICATION	SPONSOR
Boudreau, Jeff	Old National Bank	Financial institutions	Melanie Ramey
Kratz, Maggi Porter	Madison College Foundation	Foundations	Melanie Ramey
Orge, Michelle	Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin	Community Services	Nasra Wehelie



December Rotary District Newsletter

The December edition of the Rotary District 6250 Newsletter, the new *Rotary District 6250 eBulletin*, is now available. To read about happenings within our Rotary District, click on the following link:

<https://rotary6250.org/bulletin/viewsent/f2d3a5ce-5caa-4e2e-b126-c7c0bb6457e5/4a89eb36-9dd4-49b2-b1ac-5de15be0b4d7?mid=08WlheYeFx5GWt7MmRnEYw==&type=m>



\$2.6 Billion Pledged for Polio Eradication

On November 19th, global leaders announced their commitment to help eradicate polio and pledged \$2.6 billion as part of the first phase of the funding needed to implement the Global Polio Eradication Initiative's Polio Endgame Strategy 2019-2023. For more information on Rotary's Polio Eradication efforts, view the links at the end of the December Rotary District 6250 eBulletin (see previous article).



Members in the News

- **Reena Chandra Rajpal** was featured in *Madison Magazine's* article titled, "Dispatch: Person of Interest." *Dec 19*
- **Renee Moe** was pictured with her family in an article titled, "Celebrating Community Service Leaders: 10th Anniversary of Madison Metropolitan Links Jazz Lunch." *TCCH 11/18*
- **Carmen Porco** was pictured in an article titled, "Promoting Excellence from Within: Northport/Packers 2019 Scholars Banquet." *TCCH 11/18*



OUR SYMPATHIES...

Mary Romolino's father, Ben Romolino, passed away on November 24 in Fort Myers, FL. We extend our condolences to Mary and to her family.



Happy Birthday!

- **Dec. 8 -- Kay Schwichtenberg** -- Adm. Date: 2/6/2013 Manufacturing. Central Life Sciences PHF
- **Dec. 8 -- Ken Yuska** -- Adm. Date: 6/3/1992 Physician-Retired. Sgt.-at-Arms 2019-20 Formerly Rotarian at Menominee, MI PHF (3)
- **Dec. 11 -- Charles McLimans** -- Adm. Date: 7/5/2017 Community Services. The River Food Pantry Formerly Rotarian at Naperville (2009-15) & Milwaukee (2015-17) PHF (5)
- **Dec. 11 -- Roger Phelps** -- Adm. Date: 10/2/2002 Consulting. Phelps Research Services
- **Dec. 11 -- Mary Rouse** -- Adm. Date: 4/6/1988 Colleges & Universities-Professional School-Retired. Director 1993-95 PHF
- **Dec. 12 -- Jen Bauer** -- Adm. Date: 6/5/2019 Community Services. Alzheimer's & Dementia Alliance of WI
- **Dec. 12 -- Jim Ebben** -- Adm. Date: 11/4/1987 Education-Retired. MRF President 2006-07. Formerly Rotarian at Adrian, MI
- **Dec. 12 -- Joe Meagher** -- Adm. Date: 4/24/1981 Retail-Services & Products-Retired.
- **Dec. 12 -- Jen Savino** -- Adm. Date: 3/7/2018 Advertising, Publicity & Public Relations. KW2 Former member of club 2014 -17

Weekly Statistics

MakeUp Artist

Dinndorf, Bob at Waunakee 11/21

Guest List for December 4, 2019

Roy Waldren & Janet Brandt of Paul Olsen; Denise DMarb of Susan Schmitz; Ian Abston of Jason Ilstrup; Robert Fanning of Majid Sarmadi; LaVar Charleston of Bob Graebner; Ramie Zelenkova of Program Committee

Visiting Rotarian List for December 4, 2019

Vince Iosso from Carmichael, CA with guest Vincent Iosso

Attendance Record

Date	Total Members	Total Active	Active Attending (incl. make-ups)	Percentage
12/05/2018	476	360	392 (173)	108.89%
12/04/2019	465	357	391 (164)	109.52%