



# THE ROTARY RAZZ

Rotary Club of Oak Park - River Forest, Illinois

No in-person meetings until further notice

Club 3190  
District 6450

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January 20, 2021

## TODAY IN OPRF ROTARY

January 20, 2021

We meet at 5:00 PM

PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE

Social Hour and Social Justice Discussion:  
Project Suggestions - a Time to Consider  
How do we advance peach in our communities?

This will allow those interested in following the  
Presidential Inauguration Proceedings  
to do so mid-day Wednesday

### PLUS

In response to the activities of last week in both our nation's capital as well as our own community, President Sue Quinn stated: "... listening and learning are important. ... But that is not enough. The status quo will simply continue if all of us do nothing more than acknowledge the tragedy of this festering disease. ... To counteract racism, we need to become anti-racist. We need to actively champion the cause. Our club is well-resourced. We have a healthy budget and we have an incredible amount of knowledge and wisdom in our collective membership. I would like each of you to consider and offer up some specific actions we might take as a club this year to work for peace and justice in our local community."

## Also, This Week in Rotary

January 20 - Board Meeting - 10:30 AM

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Social Justice Book Club

Sunday, January 24th

1-2:30 PM

Trevor Noah: Born a Crime  
[Adapted for Young Readers]

RSVP to [arcabo@live.com](mailto:arcabo@live.com) to receive  
the meeting ID and password.



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Trouble logging on to OPRF's Zoom,  
For now, reach out to:

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[evanness@wradvisors.com](mailto:evanness@wradvisors.com)

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### PLATINUM



### GOLD



forest insurance

OakPark Apartments.com

### SILVER



### BRONZE



# The President's Corner . . .



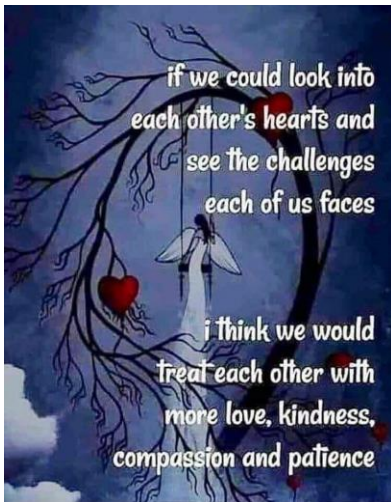
Dear Fellow Rotarians-

We have finalized our 2020-21 membership list and would like to provide our members with an updated Club Directory of members and their contact information.

Charles Wells has graciously agreed to oversee the task of compiling any changes to member listings, and Phil Barry will make the changes and create a simplified version of our Directory.

If you have any changes to your directory listing (such as new phone or email address) please email the new information to Charles at [Chauncey@wells1.com](mailto:Chauncey@wells1.com) by February 4th.

Also, take some time especially during this week to consider the following . . .



If we could look into each other's hearts and see the challenges each of us faces

I think we would treat each other with more love, kindness, compassion, and patience.

*Yours in Rotary,  
Sue Quinn  
President 2020-21*



P.S. Congratulations to the Rotary Foundation. For 13 consecutive years, they received the highest rating 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, an independent evaluator of U.S. charities.

## January 2021 Vocational Service Month



27 - Kim Lorenz Tireless  
Timely Tips for Business  
Success

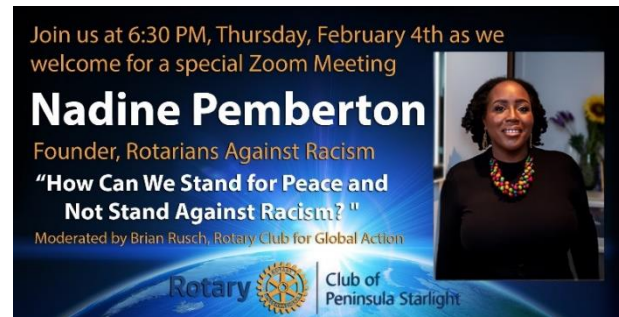
## February 2021



3 - Scott Eggerding:  
La Grange RC Simple  
Schools GG -  
Honduras  
4 - Nadine  
Pemberton: "How Can  
We Stand for Peace  
and Not Stand  
Against Racism?"

10 - Peter Kyle: Rotary as a Peacebuilding Organization  
14 - Interact Meeting - 1:00 PM  
14 - HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY  
17 - Board Meeting - 10:30 AM  
17 - Program: TBD  
23 - Paul Harris's Birthday  
24 - Program: TBD  
28 - Interact Meeting - 1:00 PM

## UPCOMING EVENT OF NOTE



"How Can We Stand for Peace and Not Stand Against Racism?" Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 6:30 - 8:00 PM

The Rotary Club of Peninsula Starlight welcomes Nadine Pemberton as part of our speaker series on Thursday, February 4th, at 6:30 pm, (Pacific Standard Time). This event will be conducted via Zoom, and we welcome guests and Rotarians from other clubs to join us for this special event. This event will be moderated by Brian Rusch and co-sponsored by the Rotary Club for Global Action.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This meeting will be conducted via Zoom. In order to attend you must register in advance: <https://zoom.us/j/9474242424>



## Reminders for All OPRF Rotarians . . .

February celebrates Paul Harris's Birthday and is a PERFECT time to contribute to the Foundation.



FYI . . . The Paul Harris Fellow recognition acknowledges individuals who contribute, or who have contributions made in their name, of \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation. They are acknowledged for "Doing Good in the World."

\*\*\*\*\*

Interactors still need your recipes for their cookbook. Please don't forget them!! Also, any Rotarian, individual, group, or other organization interested in becoming a sponsor for our cookbook, please let Ade or Lesley know.



Welcome Annie Madelyn Hoppe  
Born Jan. 8, 2021  
8:30 PM  
6# 9 oz. - 20" long

Nichole Hoppe reports: "Annie Madelyn made us a family of four Born

1/8/21, 6 lb. 9 oz. and 20 in.

Our hearts our exploding with all the new joys of being parents of 2."



\*\*\*\*\*



President Sue called the meeting to order, noted that the flag means many things. To her, it represents the ideals of democracy. With the flag appearing on everyone's screens, Sue asked John Hedges to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

"It's been a crazy week. Little did we know when we met last week that just an hour later our

capitol would be stormed. . . As noted in the RAZZ, next Wednesday is the inauguration. . . and we didn't want to compete with any inaugural activities. Our board will still meet at 10:30AM, but we will move our regular meeting to a 5PM meeting." All are welcome to join us with your favorite beverage if you want, but "I did want to discuss how we as Rotarians who believe in peace can advance peace in our own communities. There's been a lot of unrest . . . I just feel like there's a lot going on . . . [locally and nationally] . . . knowing we are not a political organization, but we do have Rotary values, and I think it's important that we find some tangible way to share with out community what our values are in terms of promoting peace and justice within our communities." Please email Sue with any ideas and/or suggestions.

## Announcements . . .

- Nadine Pemberton, founder of Rotarians Against Racism, will be giving a special presentation: "How Can We Stand for Peace and Not Stand Against Racism?" Thursday, February 4, 2021 - 6:30 - 8:00 PM. Sue has registered and is encouraging other Rotarians to do the same. "We can't dance around it!"

- We have successfully established a fund known as the Virginia Cassin & Sister Michelle Germanson Fund with the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation. The charitable purpose of the Fund is to provide scholarships and enrichment grants for girls ages 10-13 to allow them to explore emerging areas of interest as they grow into young women. We're still working on the guidelines, but it's a brand, new tax year, and we need to get that balance up to \$10,000. Linda Sahagian, Cathy Hall, and Sue along with one additional member will be working out the details.



the Virginia Cassin & Sister Michelle Germanson Fund with the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation. The charitable purpose of



Make checks payable to The Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation which is a 501 (c)(3). Donations are deductible to the full amount of the law. While the year 2020 may be over, the time for gift-giving is not. Click on the link below to make a gift to honor Ginie and Sister Michelle.

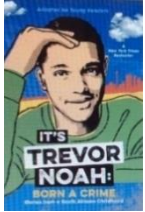
<http://bit.ly/3rGSXyu>

- **Congratulations** to John Hedges who celebrates 40 years in Rotary this month, and Jerry Lordan who celebrates 23 years [but cannot be with us because he is currently teaching.]



- We also had/have some birthdays this month: Nabil Saleh [4<sup>th</sup>], Tony Ambrose [7<sup>th</sup>], and Rick Hibbert [28<sup>th</sup>] along with Eric Palm [27<sup>th</sup>] who has since moved on from his River Forest job. So, Happy Birthday to all.

- Sue then reminded folks they still have time to read the upcoming book - **Trevor Noah: Born a Crime**. For the Interact Social Justice Book Club scheduled for January 24, from 1:00 - 2:30 PM. [Lesley has an extra copy of the book for anyone who might need to borrow it.]



## Speaker Introduction . . .

Patty Eggerding introduced our day's speaker **Linda Rio**, **Executive Director of Pro Bono Network** since April 2017. began her legal career as a staff attorney on the U.S. Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. She then went into private practice at Sidley & Austin, having an extensive pro bono practice and serving on the firm's Pro Bono Committee. Moving her career to public interest law, she became the first Community Services Director at the Chicago Bar Association and Foundation. In 2001, she became the founding Director of the American Bar Association Child Custody and Adoption Pro Bono Project. Linda also had a consulting practice focused on children's legal issues. Linda was the Chair of the CBA Young Lawyers Section, and she has been a board member and volunteer at numerous organizations, including the Center for Conflict Resolution, Prevent Child Abuse Illinois, Chicago Legal Aid to Incarcerated Mothers, and the Immigrant Child Advocacy Project. Linda served on the Hinsdale/Clarendon Hills District 181 School Board. Linda has a B.A. in American Studies [Northwestern] and a J.D. [UCLA.] She has three young adult children and lives in the western suburbs.



## Program Notes . . .

Linda began by sharing a brief video, and then she provided a history of Pro Bon Network.



In 2011, a group of attorney moms on career breaks wanted meaningful pro bono work but couldn't find workable opportunities. As a result, they started small and grew very quickly because of attorney response. They quickly expanded to include other attorneys with similar needs: retired, part-time, solo, and inactive attorneys. The concept was to remove barriers to and by providing pro bono services.

There are three constituencies:

- attorneys wanting to volunteer,
- low-income clients needing legal services,
- legal aid agencies wanting to serve more clients

The Mission is quite simple really:  
**Transforming Lives by Transforming Access to Legal Representation**

Currently, there are 400+ Volunteer Lawyers and 30+ Translators who have provided 24,000 Hours of Free Legal Service to those in need, having served 4,300+ Clients. This converts to more than \$6 Million in Free Legal Services.

How has the Rotary Club of Oak Park River Forest helped and participated? Basically, through **Grant Support . . .**

- In 2017, \$5,000 was awarded for the Order of Protection project through and with the Maybrook courthouse, and
- In 2019, a \$3,000 grant was awarded for the Lawyers in the Classroom project.

**Linda noted their model includes:**

- Untapped attorney volunteers who
- Couldn't volunteer without Pro Bono Network, and who need support, training, backup, office space, and malpractice insurance
- PBN removes the barriers to them volunteering by providing those things
- The attorneys work in teams utilizing project managers, subject matter experts, and staff

**Pro Bono Network's services** currently include:

- Domestic Violence Orders of Protection
- Immigration U-Visas
- Children of Incarcerated Mothers
- Tenant assistance
- Expungement
- Disabled Adult Guardianships
- Lawyers in the Classroom
- Online Legal Counseling Clinics

- Senior Clinics- Wills, powers of attorney
- Social Security Reconsiderations
- Divorce

Linda then introduced Pro Bono's Staff [via slides] and shared some Volunteer stories.

### So . . . what did 2020 look like?

PBN entered its third year of a 3-year Strategic Plan. In March, the pandemic changed the way things were done:

- Staff worked virtually, as did most others
- Clients services needed to be delivered in new ways
- Courts shut down, so that, too, became virtual
- New legal needs became apparent

Racial inequality and injustices highlighted during the late spring and summer also brought about new changes and additions to/for PBN:

- Programming committee was formed
- Pro Bono received an OPRF Community Foundation grant
- PBN hired a Consultant
- PBN reached out to work on the Westside and in the Austin area
- Community Outreach
- PBN addressed likely areas of need

### What about 2021? What will it bring?

PBN will celebrate its 10th Anniversary. They will also work on:

- Racial Equity Programming
- DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals)
- HIV/AIDS-Legal Center for Health Justice
- Strategic Planning



Linda can be contacted via email or phone for questions, or log onto the Pro Bon Network website:

[linda.rio@pro-bono-network.org](mailto:linda.rio@pro-bono-network.org)  
708-613-0842  
[www.pro-bono-network.org](http://www.pro-bono-network.org)

Ms. Rio then opened the floor to questions from members which included topics and questions such as:

- Are you finding that the people of the courts are able to/educated in dealing with the new situations and new client needs? How do your attorneys feel

about where the court system is and how it assists you?

- How do you get the outreach? How do people get to know about your services?

**Note:** Pro Bono Network does not actually take clients directly. They go through the larger legal aid organizations. One of the biggest mechanisms for intake - and a number Linda hands out frequently, is:

**312-738-9200 - CARPLS**

### Coordinated Advice for Referrals & Legal Services

They are a wonderful triage service, and they can directly get a client into the legal system.

- How do volunteers find you?
- In terms of tenant assistance and evictions, what do you anticipate at the end of the moratorium? And what will it look like?

Patty thanked Linda for her presentation and what Pro Bono Network does. We will be contribution to Polio Plus to inoculate 50 children against polio in her name.

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DGN Ade shared that D6440 and D6450 have numerous ads on cable networks. So, while you're watching television, don't be surprised, but do be prepared to answer questions people may ask you about Rotary. Our District has lost 68 members during this Covid-a9 year. This number is spread over about 8 or so clubs, and unfortunately, one of those clubs is ours.



Quick reminder/request for recipes for the 'Kids' Cookbook.

Martha Murphy led the group in The Four-Way Test of the Things we Think, Say and Do, and sent us on our way.

### A Few Photos . . .



Congratulations to Friend of OPRF Rotary Emanuel Chris Welch on his new position as Speaker of the House - IL State House of Representatives

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Rotarians  
Pam Mahn  
and Jimmy  
DeMay at  
last week's  
meeting

