



# 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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February 24, 2021



## TODAY IN OPRF ROTARY February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

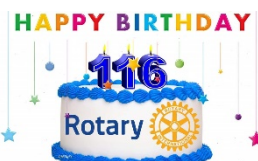
### Shannon Hackett The Emerging Pathogens Project

Shannon Hackett is Associate Curator in the Department of Zoology, and Head of the Field Museum's Bird Division. Her research focuses on describing patterns of avian diversity from different perspectives, across multiple time frames, throughout the taxonomic hierarchy and spanning geography.

Her talk will relate to her new research and COVID-19, The Emerging Pathogens Project. The project studies birds and small mammals and the parasites and pathogens that live in and on them from a genomics and evolutionary perspective. DNA extracted from these animals, as well as the viruses, bacteria, parasites, and other pathogens affecting them, will allow us to create an extensive database of emerging animal and pathogen diversity. Through these DNA data, we can begin to understand how diseases have evolved and what might happen as infectious organisms jump between animal species, allowing us to form a basis from which genomic changes in emerging pathogens can be discovered.

Also, This Week in OPRF Rotary . . .

February 23



Feb. 25 - Scholarship

Committee - 4:30 PM via Zoom

Feb. 28 - Interact Meeting - 1:00 PM via Zoom

## NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS

We are delighted to announce that the following people have submitted membership applications to the Rotary Club of OP-RF. Per Club rules their names must be published in three consecutive issues of the RAZZ before the Rotary Board may vote on the membership request. This is the third of three notices. Any concerns, please contact Sue Quinn or any current OPRF Board Member.



NAME: Gregory "Greg" Sawyer

BUSINESS: Retired

SPONSOR: Sue Quinn

PROFESSION: Mktg/Merchandising Mgmt.



NAME: Deborah Sawyer

BUSINESS: The Palmer House

SPONSOR: Sue Quinn

PROFESSION: Hotels

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Trouble logging on to OPRF's Zoom,

For now, reach out to:

Eric Van Ness - Cell: 517-414-8397

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

Sue Quinn - Cell: 312-342-1750

[Sue.quinn7777@gmail.com](mailto:Sue.quinn7777@gmail.com)

Lesley Gottlinger - Cell: 708-751-2821

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## The President's Corner . . .



News from RI and D6450 . . .



TRF Chair K.R. Ravindran Tweets:

"Happy to announce that the Trustees agreed to establish a new Peace Centre in the Middle East with a fully funded gift of over \$10m from Otto & Fran Walter Foundation. This is a massive boost to our Peace program. The center will be named The Otto & Fran Walter Rotary Peace Centre."

The country has not been selected. It will take a couple of years to be established.

[#rotarypehace](#) [#positivepeace](#) [#rotary](#) [#peacefellows](#)

Additionally, Ravindran shared an inspiring message:

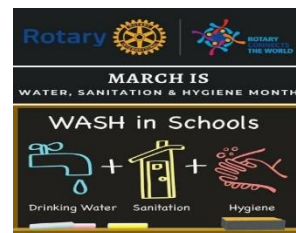
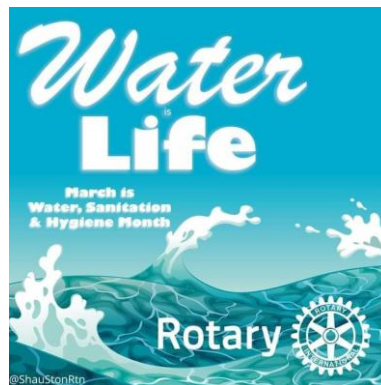
"This has perhaps been the most turbulent year of this generation — we faced a global health crisis, natural disasters, and economic turmoil all at the same time and the whole world was affected. Through it all, Rotary has stood tall. We have heard stories of some amazing acts of generosity and personal acts of service by clubs, Rotarians, and Rotaractors. The Rotary Foundation has been proud to support our members' efforts in serving their communities. **Since March 2020, we awarded \$32 million in global and disaster response grants for projects related to COVID-19.** In fact, we awarded 1,359 global grants worth \$95.6 million in 2019-20."

**Celebrate and sustain the Heartbeat of Rotary by giving to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund today!**

Your gifts are so important to Rotary's mission to Do Good in the World. They help us transform lives around the world through our service projects and Peace Centers.

If you have not already done so, please join our District 6450's Rotary Foundation Annual Fund Giving Campaign. [Rotary.org/donate](https://www.rotary.org/donate)

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



March 2021

- 3 - Program: Chris Evans
- 8-14 - World Rotaract Week
- 10 - Program: Ed Redd & Hasani Cannon - YEMBA
- 13/14 - Daylight Savings Returns - Change Clocks
- 14 - Interact Meeting - 1PM
- 17 - Board Mtg - 10:45 AM
- 17 - Program: Evening St. Patrick's Day Party
- 24 - Program: Gary Cuneen - Seven Generations Ahead
- 28 - Interact Meeting - 1PM
- 26 - RYLA Application Deadline
- 31 - Program: Dr. Nabil Saleh - Update on Covid-19
- 31 - Preregistration discount ends for RI Convention

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Interactors still need your recipes for their cookbook. Please don't forget them!! Anyone interested in becoming a cookbook sponsor, please let Ade or Lesley know.



**Sunrise Rotary Naperville St. Paddy's Day 5K is Virtual to support Naperville Youth COVID-19 Needs and Downtown Naperville Merchants**



**Naperville, IL**--The Rotary Club of Naperville Sunrise 2021 St. Paddy's Day 5K will be held as a virtual run welcoming individual runners and families from age under 10 and up. The Club has teamed up with Downtown Naperville to support local restaurants and retailers during this challenging time.

All registered runners will be eligible to win gift cards to Downtown Naperville stores, including a "Golden Ticket" \$100 Downtown Naperville gift card courtesy of the Downtown Naperville Alliance. A second "Golden Ticket" will include two \$50 Athleta gifts cards. The DNA has donated 100 additional Downtown Gift Cards and several other merchants are donating gift cards, all of which will be randomly included in runner Swag Packets.

Runners will receive a link to log their race time via email from 3/1/2021 - 3/31/2021. Runners may run the traditional St. Paddy's Day 5K route through Downtown Naperville or a 5K course of their own choice. All participant details are at [www.stpaddysday5k.org](https://www.stpaddysday5k.org). Race results will be posted at the website after March 31, 2021.



"Welcome Everybody. We just came off a very good Board Meeting. We'll start by saying the Pledge of Allegiance." President Sue led the Pledge.

A few updates from the Board Meeting. Anybody is welcome to join us every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday; we use the same regular Zoom link we use for the



weekly meeting. We're preparing for the transition to the next president. Eric Van Ness had attended the pre-PETS [President Elect Training Seminar]. Some of the things they want Eric to think about before attending the 3-day PETS training include goals for Membership numbers as well as the giving amounts of the Annual Fund and Polio Plus both of which are part of The Rotary Foundation. Those are not just Eric's goals; rather, they are CLUB GOALS.

We also talked about Community Service, and Jim is going to fill us in on the Community Grants cycle as our program today. We are really hoping we will be able to hold our Food Truck Rally. That is the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in August. We had to cancel that this year due to COVID-19. If we can't do the REALLY BIG event, we are hoping to be able to do some type of modified version. I want to ensure everyone has that date saved, since it is typically an "all-hands-on-deck" event - **Saturday, August 28, 2021**. It is our main fundraising event. We'll start planning some time mid to late April.

Normally in May we have our Annual Service Above Self Awards Breakfast at the Oak Park Country

Club. This year, that will be a virtual event, **May 19**, probably not a breakfast. More details to come. This is important to our club in terms of visibility and connection to and with the community.

At that point, Nabil congratulated Sue on such a smooth transition!!!

President Sue also answered the question about our current membership numbers. We are at 56, with two more coming next week: Greg and Deborah Sawyer. Sue mentioned the goal Eric would be submitting is somewhere between 62 and 65. Sue is hoping that once we begin to return to in-person meetings, after everyone is vaccinated and it is safe to do so, we will see the return of some of our members and bring our numbers back up. Sue then turned the meeting over to Jim Lencioni to talk to us about the Community Grants program and process.

### Program Notes . . .

Jim began by sharing that the Community Grants, International Services, and the Scholarships are three ways OPRF Rotary works to give back to our community. We raise those funds through things like our Food Truck Rally, the annual golf outing, and other things like sponsorships. Jim also mentioned that this year we have \$25,000 to be distributed.

He shared the introductory letter that is sent out to various community organizations in River Forest, Forest Park and Oak Park inviting them to apply for Community grants. They are instructed that the grant must be for a **specific project**, and it must fall under one of the formerly-six-now seven **Areas of Focus** of RI.

- **Peacebuilding and conflict prevention**
- **Disease prevention and treatment**
- **Water, sanitation, and hygiene**
- **Maternal and child health**
- **Basic education and literacy**
- **Community economic development**
- **Environment [beginning July 2021]**

Additionally, each organization's project must be sponsored by an OPRF Rotarian. Sometimes, Jim noted, we see as many as 24-25 applications in any given year. Application deadline is March 15, 2021. Jim then reaches out to club members to serve on the selection committee. Typically grants range from \$2,500 to \$5,000. Checks are typically awarded at the Annual Service Above Self Awards Breakfast.



Jim also shared the actual application. They ask for both financial information and other sources of funding for their project. Another question is the number of people the project would serve.

Jim then screen-shared the rubric used to help determine the recipient projects. Typically, each of the five areas can earn up to 10 points. The areas include:

- Rotary Area of Focus
- Specific Project
- Other Funding Source[s]
- Recently Funded by OPRF Rotary
- # residents project will support

Jim went on to share the list of requests and organizations from the 2020 pool of grants:

|                         |                 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Boy Scouts of America   | \$5,000         |
| Housing Forward         | \$3,500         |
| West Cook YMCA          | \$5,000         |
| OP Education Foundation | \$5,000         |
| A House In Austin       | \$5,000         |
| Hephzibah               | \$5,000         |
| Wonder Works            | \$5,000         |
| Oak-Leyden Develop.     | \$3,500         |
| Cluster Tutoring        | \$3,000         |
| Sarah's Inn             | \$5,000         |
| Opportunity Knocks      | \$5,000         |
| YEMBA                   | \$5,000         |
| Maywood Fine Arts       | \$5,000         |
| Beat the Streets        | \$5,000         |
| <b>TOTAL REQUESTED</b>  | <b>\$65,000</b> |

Jim entertained questions during his presentation. If a grant was received the previous year, a report must be turned in to Jim before the organization is eligible to be considered for a grant this year. Jim also noted that the reports, or a summary of thereof, will be highlighted in the RAZZ and will be offered the opportunity to present a program to the Club.

The committee then meets to consider the applications and make its recommendations to the Board. Once the Board approves the recommendations, the checks are cut and presented.

Jaime asked a scholarship question. Community grants and Service Above Self awards [formerly known as scholarships] are two separate award categories. The answer to Jaime's question is as follows:

The **Service Above Self** [aka Scholarship] Awards are for high school seniors only who are residents of Oak Park, River Forest, and Forest Park.

Since the applications are judged blindly - in other words, we do not know the names of any of the applicants, children/grandchildren, etc. of Rotarians are certainly eligible to apply for these awards. These awards are based more on service as opposed to need or academics. The application form is available on the Oak Park - River Forest Community Foundation website. The deadline is February 22, 2021.

Jim once again took questions and comments one of which included a discussion of an OPRF Marketing package. It was noted we do have a marketing package created a few years ago which probably needs updating. According to Robert Stelletello, it is in electronic format. Originally, it was printed by Phil Barry at The Printing Store.



### 2021 COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT APPLICATION

- Must be submitted with Organization's most recently Audited Financial Statement.
- Must be submitted with a budget specific to the program for which you are requesting funds.
- Priority will be given to organizations not funded in the prior year.

### Other Announcements and Reminders . . .

Friday, February 19 is a full day of Rotary in case anyone needs a make-up.

- 11:15 AM - International Services via Zoom
- Noon: LaGrange Rotary Speakers from Department of State re Honduras
- 2:00 PM - Kidz Express Planning Comm. meets/Zoom

DGN Ade mentioned upcoming D6450 Rotary Network meetings coming up. Check the RAZZ for future dates.

President Elect Eric Van Ness led the group in The Four-Way Test of the Things we Think, Say and Do, and sent us on our way.

## Update: International Services Committee ...

As of February 19, 2021, the **International Services Committee** has spent \$3,650 and is holding \$3,150 for commitments made to projects from clubs that participated in our Kidz Express Global Grant. If those projects do not come in this Rotary fiscal year, those amounts will be set aside from next year's budget and the funds will be spent on other projects during this year. At this time, the committee has \$3,200 available to be spent on new grants through the end of this Rotary year.

The International Services Committee meets the third Friday of each month via Zoom. The next scheduled meeting is **March 19, 2021 at 11:15**. All OPRF Rotarians are welcome and invited to attend.



### Continuing Update: Kidz Express Team . . .

At our second planning meeting after receipt of funds from RI, Doug Low reported that the electrician is due at the Kidz Express facility on March 1 to "scope out" what needs to be done. He also shared that Kidz Express will be re-opening March 15 with the same number of participants they had when they closed in November - a total of 15 to allow for proper social distancing and allowed numbers. As safety allows, we will work to increase the number of participants to where we were prior to COVID. It will be a matter of re-building the program since COVID has truly taken its toll. As a result of changing needs of the students and their families, we will revise the original Needs Assessment to reflect the current needs of the community.

Doug also had an outstanding piece of news to share. . . Microsoft has come on board as a partner in the project. They will be giving Kidz Express 60 lifetime licenses for Office Windows and any other Microsoft academic[or otherwise] software they may want for free [valued at approximately \$9,000]. Additionally, Microsoft will be providing the computer classes [a line item of approximately \$7,500] for free and will also include the teaching of those same classes gratis.

The partnership among Microsoft, Kidz Express, Reyes Holding, McCain Foods and the Rotary Club of Oak Park - River Forest will be an incredible opportunity and experience for all.

## RAZZ CORRECTION/APOLOGY

Congratulations to Nichole and Brian Hoppe as brother **TEDDY [not Tommy]** lovingly holds new sister Annie . . .

**Sorry for the error!!!**

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## A Few Final Reminders . . .

The Virginia Cassin & Sister Michelle Germanson Fund with the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation is still taking contributions to bring the balance up to \$10,000. 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. Linda Sahagian, Cathy Hall, Megan Traficano, and Sue Quinn will be working on the guidelines.

**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>

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## Look for the Following in Upcoming issues of the RAZZ . . .

- Continuing Updates from Kidz Express Team
- Take-Aways from "How Can We Stand for Peace and Not Stand Against Racism?"
- Upcoming Book from Interact Social Justice Book Club

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**ROTARY DISTRICT 6450  
ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS  
April 16-18, 2021**

**Reach out to Lesley for an application  
for interested high school students you may know.  
Application deadline is March 26.**

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