



Rotary Club of Oak Park - River Forest, Illinois

No in-person meetings until further notice

Club 3190
District 6450

Sue Quinn, President
312-342-1750
sue.quinn7777@gmail.com

RAZZ Editors, Rick Hibbert
and Lesley Gottlinger

<http://www.oprfrotary.org>

Volume 102, Number 34

www.oprfrotary.org

March 3, 2021


TODAY IN OPRF ROTARY

March 3rd, 2021



Chris Evans

The Powerful Impact of Rotary and Its Members



Chris Evans is a community volunteer and a mentor to young students. He serves on the advisory board of an inner city public elementary school and is a Pharmaceutical Rep. for Eli Lilly, a fortune 200 Pharmaceutical Company. His 27 years and journey to all these positions is not what you would think. His story is both inspiring and touching. It will make you proud to be a Rotarian and keenly aware of the difference we can make in young lives in our communities. It involves mentors, friends, teachers, and Rotary. His story is one that echo's what can be accomplished when people step up and take time to show they care. It is a story about the powerful impact Rotarian mentors had on his life According to Chris: "A few people have gone out of their way to help me be successful, and their efforts have motivated me to be the best I can be at work and in giving back to the community." A few more fun facts about Chris: he played college football, has no rhythm, and cannot dance!

Also, This Week in OPRF Rotary . . .

March 3: Jeffrey Sachs Virtual Lecture
[See Page 5 for details]

March 8-14 - World Rotaract Week



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

Eric Van Ness - Cell: 517-414-8397
evanness@wradvisors.com

Sue Quinn - Cell: 312-342-1750
Sue.quinn7777@gmail.com

Lesley Gottlinger - Cell: 708-751-2821
bookgramma@gmail.com

See Inside for the following:

The President's Corner. . . p. 2

March Calendar. . . p. 2

March Birthdays/Anniversaries . . . p. 2

Welcome to Wednesday . . .p. 3-4

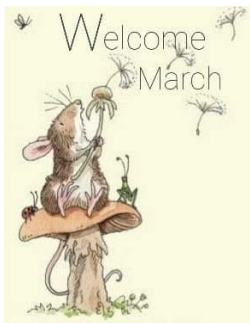
Speaker Intro & Program Notes . . . pp. 3-4

Update: Scholarship Committee . . . p.5

A Few Final Reminders . . . p. 5



The President's Corner . . .



At the beginning of our Rotary year, we chatted about our club's needs. We identified two key items: Communication and Membership. It's March - the perfect time to join Rotary. With Spring coming, it's the perfect time to look at Membership.

#rotaryopensopportunities for people of all ages looking to do good in our world...traditional, satellite, online, passport and cause-based Rotary Clubs offer many different types of membership to suit many different lifestyles... Now is the perfect time to become a member of Rotary...

www.rotary.org **#growrotary**

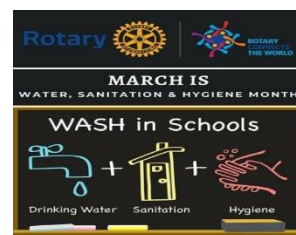
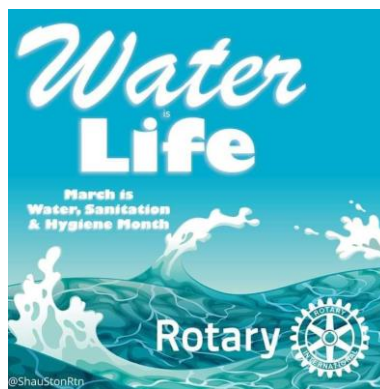


What are the benefits?

Becoming a Rotary member connects you with a diverse group of professionals who share your drive to give back. Through regular meetings and events, you'll:

- Discuss your community's needs and develop creative ways to meet them
- Connect with other leaders who are changing the world
- Expand your leadership and professional skills
- Catch up with good friends and meet new ones

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



March 2021

- 10 - Program: Ed Redd & Hasani Cannon - YEMBA
- 13/14 - Daylight Savings Returns - Change Clocks
- 14 - Interact Meeting - 1PM
- 14 - Deadline: Recipe Submission for Interact Cookbook
- 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

Interactors still need your recipes for their cookbook. The final deadline for recipe submission is March 14. We need additional entrée recipes, as well as appetizer and veggie recipes. Please don't forget them!! Anyone interested in becoming a cookbook sponsor, please reach out to Ade or Lesley for details.



OPRF Rotary March Birthday Babies

- 1 - Jim Marshall
- 3 - Iris Saavedra-Zaldivar
- 3 - Bob Walsh
- 5 - Mary Ann Bender
- 9 - Jack Kennelly
- 22 - Marc Stopeck

OPRF Rotary March Anniversaries

Dan Browne - 8 yrs





"Welcome to Wednesday! It's nice to see the sun out. It's nice to see some of the snow melting. . . . Walking is treacherous, so be careful."



Lesley put up the flag and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

"I want to start the meeting with an exciting announcement . . . We have two new official members:



Greg and Debbie Sawyer. They have been in the RAZZ for three weeks, and the Board approved their membership. Debbie stepped up to join the Community Grants



Committee." [Greg also indicated he would like to serve on that committee as well.]

District is promoting its Annual Fund campaign as part of The Rotary Foundation. We have been noting this in the RAZZ for the past month. Our club has reached its Annual Fund Goal in terms of dollar giving but not numbers. It's not so much about the dollars as much as having each member participate. Not to steal Charlie's thunder as Foundation Chair is in having every member contribute. So, I encourage everyone to please give - even \$25 counts.

District Conference dates have been released and is open to all members. District Conference is scheduled for June 3, 4, and 5. It will be virtual. Each day will be about 2 hours. If you have questions, reach out to Ade.

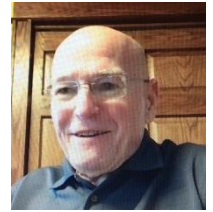
Also Saturday, May 22, has been set aside as a Day of Service or Day of Wellness. I encourage everyone to give this a bit of thought. If you have ideas, share them and we will do our best to bring them to fruition.

April 24 is the Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup. D6450 is asking clubs to participate.

Program Notes . . .

Werner introduced our guest speaker for the day: Dr. Shannon Hackett, Associate Curator of the Zoology Department at the Field Museum, and head of

the Bird Division. Laurie and Werner have had the good fortune to hear several of Dr. Hackett's presentations and have always come away having learned much. Her talk today will relate to her new research and COVID-19, The Emerging Pathogens Project. Her research focuses on describing patterns of avian diversity from different perspectives, across multiple time frames, throughout the taxonomic hierarchy and spanning geography.



Dr. Hackett shared she has known Werner and Laurie for at least 10 years, and they are among her favorite people.



Dr. Hackett shared she would be presenting a different perspective today which might be a bit different from what we hear in the news. She said that COVID-19 is a biodiversity and evolutionary problem. "Don't get me wrong, it is a health problem, but the tools to solve these problems are found in the evolutionary and biodiversity." She will show us what she means by that. Her take-home will be that humans are nested within the hierarchy of all of life - not above it, not separate from it. It is critical that we see ourselves as part of the great evolutionary picture of all of life. The tools for solving the issues of this and future pandemics is the understanding of this issue that is missing in a lot of the current press coverage.

She began by discussing Global Change and the Rise of the Pandemics. Dr. Hackett shared the links between biodiversity and epidemics. An epidemic is larger than normal disease outbreak. Once it crosses lots of geography, country boundaries, it's called a **pandemic**. The global part becomes horrifyingly familiar to all of us. After sharing a personal story about her son and a friend of his, both elite athletes who suffered from COVID, Shannon said, "You can't solve a problem if you don't understand how the problem began."

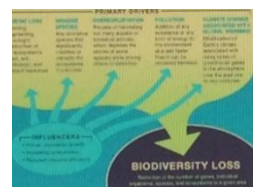
The one thing she will focus on will be "collection and coronavirus vulnerability."

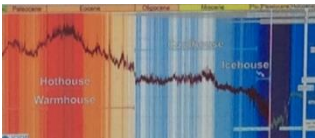
She defined Biodiversity - the sum of all the genes, individuals, species, and ecosystems in an area - in terms of three items:



Habitat loss
Habitat loss

Biodiversity
loss



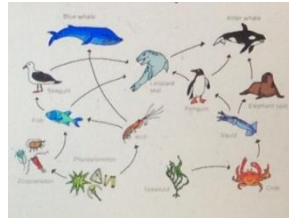


Climate change

The result is stress:

- Environments are stressed
- Ecosystem services are possibly compromised
- People in closer contact with wildlife in stressed conditions

She went on to discuss biodiversity and disease, including the jumping of pathogens from one species to another. Shannon asked the question, "Does biodiversity itself either promote or diminish the spread of disease?" She talked about the integrity of ecosystems and ecosystem decay as well as something called the "Dilution Effect." She noted that disturbed ecosystems become unhealthy when hosts and vectors become dominant in depleted communities. She also mentioned that as forests shrink, mammals are stressed out - with possible fallout for humans. She shared that a little bit of stress is okay - it gets you motivated, but long-term stress is bad.



She noted a really great book called Spillover by David Quammen. The book is about parasites or pathogens jumping hosts and what happens. She said this might be more likely to result when environments - including bushmeat, markets, and illegal wildlife trade - are stressed, and wildlife and humans are in close contact.

Asking if anyone could guess how many species are described, Dr. Hackett shared ~1.75 million names species, out of between 3 and 50 million species that are **ON** our planet!



Hackett pointed out that 30 to 70% of life on earth is parasitic.



Biology and conservation without naming and characterizing the diversity of life on our planet is like doing chemistry without a periodic table of characterized elements. Inventories are critical to understanding, preparing for pandemics, and preserving life. This is what they do at Field Museum, and have been doing for the past 125 years, worldwide.

She looked at the Stages of Zoonotic Diseases, from animal microbe to human pathogen, noting they were missing the human focus. She noted the current Ebola outbreak in the Republic of the Congo, and gave disease examples: Rabies, Ebola, Dengue, HIV.

From there she went on to discuss a link between biodiversity, museum collections, and the current pandemic. She pointed out the virus is called SARS Co-V2, while the disease is called COVID-19. Dr. Hackett spoke about 4 major points in terms of museum collections:

- Study of 410 vertebrates, including 252 mammals, to study cross-species conservation of ACE2 and its likelihood to function as a SARS-CoV-2 receptor
- 25 amino acids important for the binding between receptor and virus
- Comparative gene analysis based on model of protein structure
- This research was immediately able to be done at the beginning of the pandemic because of the DNA sequencing effort of the Vertebrate Genomes Project from the tissue specimens in the Field Museum and other museum collections

She indicated this evolutionary approach may lead to identification of intermediate host species for SARS-CoV-2, justify the selection of animal models of COVID-19, and assist the conservation of animals both in native habitats and in human care.

She explored the primate risks, sharing those at the differing levels:

- very high - perfect amino acid matches - primates
- high - some amino acid variation - not just primates
- medium - more amino acid variations - things living near humans
- low to very low risk - civets, birds, bats

She noted that the virus and its variants are not just going back and forth between house cats and humans and other wildlife. She pointed out we are not going to solve the problem for humans until we solve the problem globally.

Dr. Hackett then opened the floor to questions which included such topics as conspiracy theories, vaccines and herd immunity. Even after the close of the meeting, Dr. Hackett stayed on with Rotarians for another half hour.

Anyone wanting a copy of the presentation, reach out to Lesley for a copy of the recording.

Dr. Hackett will be receiving a speaker certificate indicating that I her name 50 children will vaccinated against Polio.

Eric Van Ness led the group in The Four-Way Test of the Things Rotarians Think, Say and Do.

Update: Service Above Self Awards [formerly known as Scholarships] Committee

Under the leadership of Committee Chair Phil Barry, the group met Thursday, February 25th to set guidelines and a timeline for reviewing this year's applications. With approximately 22-23 applications to be reviewed, the first round of decisions will be submitted to Phil by Thursday, March 4, with the committee [Phil, Matt Grote, Nancy Teclaw, Mary Ann Bender and Lesley Gottlinger] then meeting again virtually on March 8 at 4:30 to make final determination of the award recipients. Since this is a Service Above Self Award as opposed to a scholarship, the emphasis is on service rather than need and/or academic achievement. How students answer the questions about their service experiences as well as the volunteer organizations and length of time working with them will be considered. There being no applications this year for the Farr Brothers Vocational Award, there will be six awards of \$1,500 each presented.

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. Race results will be posted at the website after March 31, 2021.



**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.**

Other Announcements and Reminders . . .

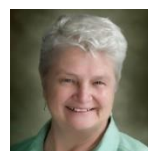
Dominican University will present a virtual lecture by **world-renowned economist and global leader** in sustainable development **Jeffrey Sachs** on Wednesday, **March 3 at 5 p.m.** Sachs will discuss his most recent **book The Ages of Globalization: Geography, Technology and Institutions**. The lecture is free, with a \$10 suggested donation, but registration is required at <https://www.dom.edu/arts-minds>.



**Speaking
March 10th**
**Edward
Redd**
Executive
Director/
Founder



The Virginia Cassin & Sister Michelle Germanson Fund with the OPRF 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

Make checks payable to the OPRF Community Foundation which is a 501 (c)(3). Click on the link below to make a gift to honor Ginie and Sister Michelle.

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

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