



*Celebrating 40 Years of Service  
To the Community  
Rotary Club of White Bear Lake*

*Meetings  
Wednesday at 7:30 a.m.  
via Zoom  
(During Pandemic)*



**May 12, 2021**

**Program:** Irina Fursman,  
Leadership in Loosely Coupled Systems

**Chairperson:** Greg Bartz

**Classification:** Curt Akenson, Rotary 101

**Invocation:** Bob Gehrke

**Writer:** Bob Timmons

\*\*\*\*\*

**Wednesday Morning Meeting Info via Zoom D5960** is inviting you to a scheduled meeting  
**Topic:** White Bear Lake Club Meeting  
**Social Time** starts at 7:15 a.m.; **Actual meeting** starts at 7:30 a.m. and finish by 8:30 a.m.  
**Join Zoom meeting:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87159321038>  
**Meeting ID:** 871 5932 1038

**Prior recordings & files from presenters can be accessed at:** [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/11pN\\_Oh77b2fViH8x\\_hfT1t1JoHt-e0c7?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/11pN_Oh77b2fViH8x_hfT1t1JoHt-e0c7?usp=sharing)

\*\*\*\*\*

**WBL Rotary Club Celebrates 5:01:**  
Join with fellow Rotarians on Friday afternoons at 4:31 p.m. outside on the porch of Boat Works Commons This is a great end of the week opportunity for relaxation, conversation, laughs and fellowship. BYOB and join other club members welcoming the weekend.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Bob Timmons** reported that tickets are available now for Taste of White Bear and have been distributed to Rotary members to sell. They can also be purchased online. An ad will be in the White Bear Press as well as on Facebook and Twitter, and Bob encouraged everyone to share the posts through their own personal social media accounts.

**Mark Sather** provided an update on the Lake Links Trail structure. Pouring of the slab has begun, and he and Rotary members have begun building and painting the lumber, working at the old Public Works building near White Bear Avenue and Hwy 61. The next step will be to assemble the trusses. Members interested in helping should contact Mark.

The Manitou Days Beach Dance will be held July 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 8:00-11:00 PM, following the parade. **Bill Foussard** announced the dance will be sponsored by White Bear Lake Superstore and Free and Easy will be the band. More information on the help needed will be coming!

The White Bear Press reported on our successful installation of a pollinator garden at Rotary Park, including a number of pictures of Rotarians and friends hard at work.

**CLASSIFICATION: Patty Hall**

Patty is a life-long resident of WBL and FAMILY is the most important thing to her. Her parents, she and her siblings (Mike Fleming and Katie Stender), her three kids (Steve, Katie, and Dave), and most of her grandkids have all graduated from White Bear Lake schools and have stayed connected to the community. “Go Bears!” The Christmas holiday is an important time for the family – everyone (31-35 people) gathers – and costumes play a big role in the festivities!

Patty travelled to Kenya early in 2020 with a group of Rotarians and among other projects visited the Bridges school, founded by a Mahtomedi couple. She was fortunate to be on the last flight out of Nairobi on March 16 before COVID closed things down, while the Bridges were stuck there until almost the end of July. Patty founded H2O for Life in 2017 to engage youth in the U.S. to learn about the water crisis and to take action through service learning and to provide funding for water and sanitation projects around the world. She was engaged in Rotary projects before joining our local club and for a number of years has been involved in a collaborative project for water, sanitation and hygiene education for 30 schools in Nigeria. This project received three Global grants and was commissioned in April 2021, with recognition of WBL Rotary. Every school had a Rotary connection and is a good example of how to combine Rotary resources with great non-governmental organizations (NGOs). In total, \$1.2 million has supported water projects in 60 schools around the world.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR ROTARY EVENTS .**  
**WBL Rotary Club “Five-Way Test” - IS IT FUN??? Stay tuned for a Club Membership Milestone Celebration: May 21 @ 5:01.**

**White Bear Press recognizes Rotarians/Rotary events:**

- ⇒ April 21: “Gazebo on track for late June completion”  
- recognizes **Bryan Belisle** for work on the Matoska Park gazebo
- ⇒ April 28: Volunteer goup refurbishes, donates bikes
- ⇒ recognizes MN Recyclery, a bike shop that refurbishes old bikes and donates them to organizations around the area—**Jim Muellner**
- ⇒ May 5: Rotarians focus on environment
- Volunteers** place native and pollinator friendly plants around a stone marker dedicated to the White Bear Lake Rotary Club at the Rotary Nature Preserve at Birch Lake. Dozens of Rotary volunteers planted pollinator friendly plants at the nature preserve in the first of three planned project phases that also include woodland pollinator plants and a rain garden.
- ⇒ May 5: 10th Annual Taste of White Bear Lake, Saturday, September 11 2-5 p.m. at the Pine Tree Apple Orchard. Ticket information: [www.tasteofwhitebearlake.com](http://www.tasteofwhitebearlake.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Living Room Conversations (LRC) :**  
To register for LRC, visit: [https://bit.ly/WBL\\_LivingroomConversations](https://bit.ly/WBL_LivingroomConversations)  
W. May 19 @ 6:30 p.m. Tribalism 101: Next Door Strangers  
**WBL Rotary Contact: Stephen Kelly, at [kell0587@umn.edu](mailto:kell0587@umn.edu)**

**Program: Kevin Donovan** introduced David Schultz who was invited to speak on the pros and cons of the proposed Constitutional amendment for education, first discussed with us by Justice Page in February. Prof. Schultz is a Hamline University Professor of Political Science and a professor in the Hamline and University of Minnesota Schools of Law. He is the author of 30 books and 100+ articles on various aspects of American politics, election law, and the media and politics.

Prof. Schultz began by stating that does not support the Page amendment and believes it is the wrong solution to a serious problem we need to address. He believes we share a common interest and objective in improving the educational achievement of all of our students in Minnesota and addressing the racial achievement gap. However, he argues that:

1. Passing the amendment is a simplistic solution to address the bigger problem. There are many dimensions to education disparities and we need to be thinking about all aspects of students' lives: their families, their communities, their schools.
2. This amendment takes away protected rights that are already in the Constitution and replaces it with untested legal language, which is unique (not found in any other state). A well-established body of law affirming education as a fundamental right exists today and there is a significant risk of guessing future court interpretations.
3. The amendment fails to understand the factors that really affect learning and teaching.
4. The amendment is basically a diversion of political resources that could be better used in adopting policies that we already know could do something. The political will to take action is lacking.
5. There are some very troubling things regarding how the amendment talks about standardized tests and about what commitment it provides for publicly funded education in Minnesota. But standardized tests are biased and if the uniformity clause in the MN Constitution which guarantees the right to public education is taken away, the state could walk away.

Prof. Schultz's perspective is shaped by his experience as an educator, teaching for 40 years, studying the role of the courts, law and social change, teaching constitutional law and working with a community action agency and the Institute on Race and Poverty. He referenced a January 14, 2020, MN Post article that detailed how Minnesota is one of the most racially segregated states in the U.S., in relation to the wealth gap, incarceration, health care, and learning disparities. He believes we have delayed too long in addressing these disparities but that the Page Amendment is the wrong approach. In sum, he believes there is a race problem in Minnesota in terms of education disparities, but that there is little evidence that the Constitutional language proposed in this amendment will solve anything. He believes it is up to the political will of the legislature to adopt measures that could reduce disparities, improve teaching, and focus on things we need to do if we're serious about addressing educational disparities.

*Writer of the week: Jackie Reis*

\*\*\*\*\*

**President's Comments:**

**Pat McClernon** shared with the Club that several members had expressed to him their concern that our Club has become too political. Pat shared several statements from Rotary International regarding partisan political statements and requested that programs, invocations, and speakers not discredit different political parties, bring up or mention political candidates, or promote political positions. He asked that we all treat people with respect. He reminded members of the Object of Rotary, the WBL Rotary's mission, and the Four Way Test.

**ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST:**  
 ⇒ Is it the truth?  
 ⇒ Is it fair to all concerned?  
 ⇒ Will it build good will and better friendships?  
 ⇒ Will it be beneficial to all concerned?  
 IS IT FUN?

**THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:**  
 "You must be the change you wish to see in the world."  
 - Mahata Gandhi

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**May 19: Club Engagement and Planning**  
**Chairperson: Mike Lovett**  
**Classification: Dale Grambush**  
**Invocation: Steve Griffith**  
**Writer: Jackie Reis**

**May 26: Ann Labovitz, Artist Practice: Community and Beyond**  
**Chairperson: Pat McClernon**  
**Classification: Bob Gehrke**  
**Invocation: Steve LaLiberte**  
**Writer: Dick Galena**

**June 2: Greta Grosch, Being an Artist During Covid**  
**Chairperson: Pam Bowers**  
**Classification: Rebekah Hagstrom**  
**Invocation: Bill Eaves**  
**Writer: Jim Rathburn**

**FUTURE PROGRAMS:**  
**June 9: Scott Schulz, President, Water Gremlin**  
**June 16: Rick Heidick, Fast for Hope**  
**June 23: Sue Paget, Rotary Action Group for Family Health**

**MAIL OR PHONE CLUB NEWS TO THE WBL ROTARY OFFICE:**  
**MARLYCE PAULSON**  
**P. O. Box 10809 WHITE BEAR LAKE, MN 55110**

**OFFICE: 651.738.3022**  
**E-MAIL: WBLROTARY1@COMCAST.NET**  
**WEB SITE: WHITEBEARROTARY.ORG**  
**BEAR BULLETIN DEADLINE: FRIDAY, 5 P.M.**

**WBL ROTARY PODCASTS:**  
**WWW.WBLROTARY.PODBEAN.COM**  
**OR GO TO: ITUNES AND TYPE IN WBLROTARY**

**WBLROTARY TEAM MEETINGS— CURENTLY HELD VIA ZOOM**  
**BOARD MEETINGS:** Meets 4th Tuesday of month, 7a.m.  
**CLUB SERVICE TEAM:** Meets 2nd Tuesday of month, 7a.m.  
**COMMUNITY SERVICE TEAM:** Meets last Wednesday of month, 12 o'clock noon  
**EQUITY & INCLUSION TEAM:** Meets first Friday, 8:30 a.m.  
**FUNDRAISER TEAM:** Meets immediately following Wednesday meeting (seasonal)  
**INTERNATIONAL SERVICE TEAM:** Meets 2nd Thursday of month, 7 a.m.  
**MEMBERSHIP TEAM:** Meets 3rd Tuesday of month, 7:30 a.m.  
**PUBLIC IMAGE TEAM:** Meets 3rd Thursday, 8:30 a.m.  
**VOCATIONAL SERVICE TEAM:** Meets 1st Thursday of month, 7 am  
**YOUTH EXCHANGE TEAM:** Meets 2nd Thursday, 4:30 p.m.

**2020-21 Officers/Directors**  
*President..... Pat McClernon*  
*President-Elect ... Michael Lovett*  
*Past President ... John Channon*  
*Treasurer ..... Bob Timmons*  
*Secretary ..... Ashley Filipovich*  
*Exec. Secretary ... Marlyce Paulson*  
*Public Image ..... Kevin Donovan*  
*Rotary Foundation. Curt Akenson*  
*Community Service. Pam Bowers*  
*- Rita Pechmann*  
*Vocational Service Ken Baltzer*  
*.Derrek Skeie*  
*Club Service ..... Chuck Sandstrom*  
*.Pam Tschida*  
*Membership ..... Jim Hunt*  
*. Miriah VanDuuren*  
*International ... Greg Bartz*  
*. Patty Hall*  
*Equity & Inclusion....Kevin Donovan*  
*Jackie Reis*  
*Youth Exchange .. Tim Wald*  
*Bulletin Writers ... Mark Sather*  
*Darrell Stone*  
*Greg Young*  
*Dick Galena*  
*Bob Timmons*  
*Jim Rathburn*  
*Jackie Reis*  
*Invocations .... Rich Ramsay*  
*Bill Rust*  
*Bob Gehrke*  
*Steve LaLiberte*  
*Rita Pechmann*  
*Bill Eaves*  
*Steven Griffith*  
*Art Hancock*