



ROTARY REMINDER

ROTARY CLUB OF AUSTIN



CLUB NO. 63. DISTRICT 5870. AUSTIN, TX.

VOLUME 56, ISSUE 38

APRIL 23, 2019

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Community Service—Mary Reynolds

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Jon Yates

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jennifer Olsen

FUTURE PROGRAMS

4/30—Jeff Moseley, CEO, Texas Association of Business

5/7—Annual RCA Scholarship Awards Program

5/14—Coach Karen Aston, University of Texas Women's Basketball Team

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

4/25—RCA North Breakfast Cluster Meeting, Waterloo Ice House (on Burnet Road), 7:00 a.m.

4/26—Wine Party hosted by Peter Pfeiffer, 3501 River Road (in Tarrytown), 7:00-10:00 p.m. — See flyer on page 7 for more details and to RSVP

See the Social Circle Update (on page 3) for additional dates

This Week's Program



RANDY CLARKE

*President & CEO
of Capital Metro*

Randy Clarke has been the President and CEO of Capital Metro since March 2018.

For the previous two years, he served as vice president of operations and member services at the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) in Washington, D.C.

Prior to that, he spent seven years in various positions with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) in Boston, including deputy chief operating officer.

Clarke was a key member of the senior leadership team at the MBTA, which provides 1.2 million trips daily. He was featured in *Mass Transit* magazine's 2011 "Top 40 under 40" list, which highlights leaders in the transit industry nationwide.

He is a graduate of Acadia University in Nova Scotia and holds a master's degree in public policy from the University of Southern Maine.

RECAP FROM LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Heidi Anderson—The Trail Foundation (TTF)

April 16, 2019

Reported by Jack Wolfe

President Julie called the meeting to order. **Past President Bruce Golden** led the pledges and **Mike O'Krent** gave our invocation of the day. **Pierre**, one of the visiting Fulmore Middle School Interact Club students, led us in saying the *Four Way Test*. **Vera Keric** greeted each member and guest as they arrived and **Carl Noble** introduced our guests and visitors.

Andy Swanson, Committee Chair for the Fulmore Interact Club, introduced the students as a group then had each of them introduce themselves individually. What a great group of future Rotarians and leaders!

President Julie then presented **Michael Abelson** with a Paul Harris Fellow +4 award, **Debbie Farnum** with a Paul Harris Fellow +2 award and **David Menchaca** with a Paul Harris Fellow +2 award. Congratulations!

James Gavin shared some of his history and stated the positive impact Rotary has had on his life during the *Membership Minute*. He also commented on polio and Polio Plus, Third World Hunger, Books for Me and his time at ExxonMobil.

President Julie reminded us about the importance of checking in and using Meetup and Facebook. She also told us about the Executive Committee meeting scheduled for today at 1:15; a MasterMind Group meeting on Thursday morning at Mimi's Cafe on Mopac; **Past President Barry Curlee** will lead another Rotary Brainstorming meeting next Tuesday; and this month's Wine Tasting Party will be hosted by **Peter Pfeiffer** on April 26th. Please RSVP with Peter if you're planning to attend!

We held a vote to approve increasing our annual membership dues by \$100 for 2019-2020, and it passed by a large margin (68 – 4).

After several minutes of Fellowship, **Michael Portman** introduced our speaker, **Heidi Anderson**. Heidi is the Executive Director for The Trail Foundation (TTF) which, in conjunction with the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department, manages the Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike trail around Lady Bird Lake. This 10-mile trail is planned to fully connect with Austin's master trail system.

Heidi gave us a short history lesson, starting with a picture from 1860 showing a bridge across the Colorado River and subsequent pictures showing flooding until the Tom Miller Dam was built in 1940.

In the 1960's Longhorn Dam was completed, and this officially established Town Lake (now Lady Bird Lake) and made it a constant-level lake. In 1971 the trail was begun as a result of the advent of a popular pastime, jogging. TTF has been involved in many past and planned improvement projects along the trail including: poison ivy removal, tree trimming, memorial benches, restrooms, Drake Bridge (1st Street) enhancements, Holly Plant decommissioning improvements, a Seaholm Intake project, Longhorn Dam trail enlargements, ecological restoration and many other initiatives.

Heidi announced that 15 new projects are slated for future completion to coincide with TTF's anniversary – nine of them east of I-35, four west of I-35 and two trail-wide. She also discussed plans to work with Austin's Parks and Recreation Department to take over the management of the city's 199-acre park and trails.

Next week we'll hear from **Randy Clarke**, the CEO of Capital Metro. **President Julie** adjourned the meeting after thanking **Scott Rider** (Rider Construction Group) and **Reggie Nisbett** (Greater Texas Water Company) for supporting the newsletter and sharing a *Thought of the Day* from Steve Jobs.

SOCIAL CIRCLE UPDATE

***Thursday, April 25—RCA North Breakfast Cluster Meeting
at Waterloo Ice House (on Burnet Road) at 7:00 a.m.***

***THIS Friday, April 26 — Wine Party Hosted by Peter Pfeiffer
at his home (3501 River Road in Tarrytown) at 7:00 p.m.***

RSVP with Peter if you plan on attending

See flyer on page 7 for more details!

***Wednesday, May 8—Downtown Austin Breakfast Cluster Meeting
at Magnolia Café (on Lake Austin Boulevard) at 7:00 a.m.***

***Saturday, May 18 — Spring Fling for New Members
hosted by Julie and Harold Benkoski (at their home)
from 4:00-6:00 p.m.***

RSVP with Tillery Castillo

See flyer on page 8 for more details!

******SAVE THE DATE*** Wednesday, June 26 ***SAVE THE DATE******

***End-of-Year Changing of the Guard Party
at Matt's El Rancho (on S. Lamar) from 6:30-9:00 p.m.***

More details soon—but for now, SAVE THE DATE!!!

ROTARY BIRTHDAYS

The following people are celebrating their birthdays this week:

Michele Heyman (April 21st)

D.L. Stone (April 26th)

Brad Winegar (April 27th)

Please join us in wishing them a VERY happy birthday!

PRESIDENT JULIE'S THOUGHT OF THE DAY—FROM 4/16

*“Management is about persuading people
to do things they don't want to do,
leadership is about inspiring people
to do things they never thought they could do.”*
~~ Steve Jobs



PROSPECTIVE MEMBER—OPEN REVIEW PERIOD

Per the request of the Board of Directors, all prospective/transferring members will now be posted in the *Rotary Reminder* (newsletter) for an open review period by all members. We've received the following Proposed Member Application for consideration:

Brandi McDaniel (sponsor is Sylvia Holmes)

This is the final week to notify **Jack Wolfe**, Membership Review Committee Chair, if you have anything you'd like to share about **Brandi**.

CONGRATULATIONS (FROM 4/16/19)!



TODAY WE HONOR

Michael Abelson (PHF +4)

Debbie Farnum (PHF +2)

David Menchaca (PHF +2)

IN RECOGNITION FOR THEIR SERVICE TO OUR CLUB

We'd like to take a moment to recognize and thank the hard working members of our *Hospitality Committee* who helped us before our last meeting (on April 16, 2019).

Myron Burse, Chris Forrest, Russell Gana, Vera Keric and Carl Noble

Thank you all for your service! If you'd like to assist the Hospitality Committee at any of our weekly luncheons, please contact **Myron Burse** (or Jennifer Olsen).

NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTION



RUPAL CHAUDHARI *Sponsor is Mark Johnson*

With a resume that ranges from practicing law to Director of Sales, Rupal strives to achieve excellence in any and all areas of work that she decides to venture on.

Ms. Chaudhari was born and raised in India and immigrated to the United States after marrying her husband Sanjay Chaudhari who was born and raised in the U. S.

Rupal earned most of her education in India. She has a degree in Accounting and Economics, she earned her JD from Government Law College in Mumbai, India and also passed the Professional Exam of Indian Secretaries of India. She can read and write in several Indian languages.

After moving to the United States she completed her Masters from St Mary's University Law School and is licensed to Practice law in New York State. She thoroughly enjoyed having her own start up law firm and served the immigrations needs of many.

She and her husband have twins, a boy and a girl, and it was after they were born when she decided to join her husband's family business to maintain a balance between work and home. She manages their financials and is now the Director of Sales of their first hotel — Hampton Inn and Suites Austin/Cedar Park and is also eagerly working hard to open another hotel, Homewood Suites Austin/Cedar Park, which is in the construction phase and is set to open at the end of 2019.

Ms. Chaudhari strives to serve the community and loves to work with children. Her bi-cultural background and focus on community collaboration has led her to a number of volunteer opportunities and community leadership roles.

OPERATION VACATION

The Rotary Clubs of Austin and Killeen adopt a military family from Ft. Hood every month as a thank you for their service to our country and treat them to a complimentary weekend in Austin.

This month the soldier was **SSG Brandon Disher and his wife Haleigh and son Hunter (4)**. They spent the weekend at the historic Intercontinental S.F. Austin Hotel in the middle of downtown and were provided meals, entertainment and a cozy family style BBQ at the County Line Restaurant on the Lake.

Operation Vacation is co-sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Austin and Killeen, County Line, Austin Hotel Lodging, Visit Austin and Killeen Toyota. These families get very little quality time together, and quite often the soldier is or has been deployed for multiple tours, each from six months to a year.



This program gives them that special time together to see the sights and just have fun — no worries or interruption! It is our way of showing them we appreciate their sacrifices. Please thank a soldier whenever you see one! They don't get the recognition they truly deserve. ~~ *Mary Reynolds, VP of Community Service*

EARLY ACT FIRST KNIGHT (EAFK) — KNIGHTING CEREMONY



Pecan Springs Elementary School held its EAFK knighting ceremony with Sir Cass for the trait of Responsibility. This program is sponsored by the Austin, Cosmopolitan, University and E-Club Rotary Clubs.



**WINE PARTY HOSTED BY PETER PFEIFFER —
COMING UP THIS FRIDAY, APRIL 26TH!**



Imagine an Evening with Wine and Friends

April 26th 7:00 – 10:00

Hosted by **Peter Pfeiffer & Patti Martinez**

Location: **3501 River Road, Austin**

Bring a bottle of your favorite wine

White, Red, Rose

**Join Peter, Patti and a whole host of your
wine-loving Rotary friends in Tarrytown!**

RCA SPRING FLING FOR NEW MEMBERS —
COMING UP ON SATURDAY, MAY 18TH



Rotary Garden Party

The Home of Julia and Harold Benkoski
2300 Barton Creek, #3
Austin, TX 78735

Saturday, May 18, 2019
4:00pm to 6:00pm

Please Bring a Prospective Member and your
Favorite Beverage

**Family Friendly*

**Application Fee Reduced: \$250 to \$100*

**RSVP by May 13th, tillery@austincityrealty.net*



PHOTOS FROM LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM ON APRIL 16TH



ST. DAVID'S PARKING GARAGE MESSAGE/INSTRUCTIONS



Premier Parking/St. David's garage manager, Angel, will provide 50 parking spaces in St. David's garage every Tuesday for our use, although they may or may not be roped off for us. Once those spaces are taken and there are no other parking spaces members should either try to find parking on the surface lot on the church property, if there are any spaces available, **OR**..

Drive over to Premier's Trinity surface lot which is on Trinity and 8th, catty-corner to St. David's parking garage. (It's the corner lot that is steeply slanted — *see map image to the left*.) You may also start there, if you'd like. If you park in this surface lot, go to the kiosk (on the lot) and punch in the numbers, **1905**. You will not be charged for parking in either the small, surface lot on the church campus nor this

Trinity surface parking lot.

Please continue to use your laminated barcode to enter the parking garage and don't punch the button for a paper ticket. Our code is read by the parking system and an accurate count of members will be reported. If you have a guest coming, they *will* take a paper ticket and then they will need to ask the Hospitality Team, when they check in, for a one-time use QR code to exit the garage. If any of your guests park in Premier's Trinity surface lot then they will need to punch in the numbers **1905** at the kiosk, too.

Club leaders continue to try to identify alternative parking solutions for us and welcome any suggestions from members.

AUSTIN CENTRE—OVERFLOW PARKING REMINDER

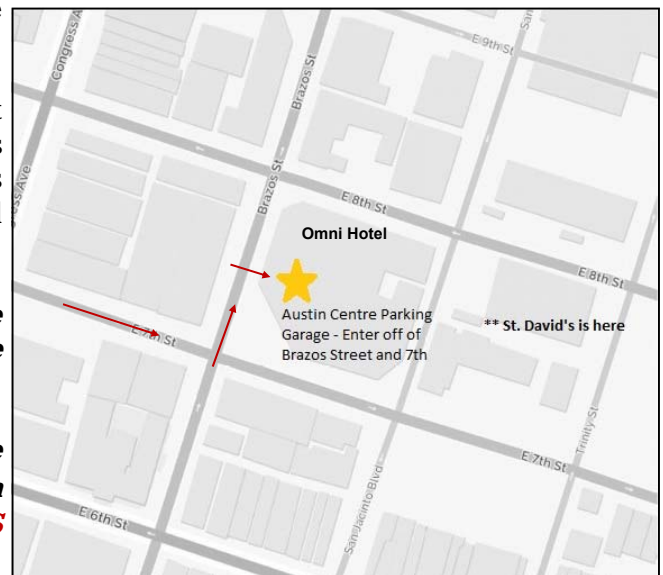
Don't forget that we still have an agreement with Austin Centre (the building right across San Jacinto from the Church...think the Omni, but not — *see map image to the bottom right*) where they will try to provide overflow parking in their garage on (most) Tuesdays during our weekly lunches!

This garage is MUCH more expensive for us than when you park in St. David's garage (or in the Trinity Surface Lot), however, since they charge us in 20 minute increments (not a flat rate).

If you park in the Austin Centre garage, you **MUST** request a validation ticket from one of the Hospitality members when you check in at the meeting! Please note that this is **ONLY AVAILABLE** from 11:00-2:00 each Tuesday and is unavailable on any other day of the week.

To enter the Austin Centre parking garage, come down 7th Street and turn left onto Brazos. The parking garage entrance is on the right.

******If you park there, don't forget to ask the Hospitality Team for a complimentary validation voucher/ticket! YOUR LAMINATED BARCODES WON'T WORK IN THIS GARAGE!******



SUPPORTERS OF THE ROTARY REMINDER (PAGE 1)



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