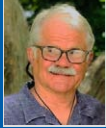


Rotary



Club of Williamston

Club Leaders



Earl K. Wolf
President



Sharon L. LaPointe
President-Elect



Wanda Bloomquist
Treasurer



Laska J. Creagh
Secretary
Past President



Gene Klc
Assistant Secretary
Webmaster



Mark Steinberg
Rotary Foundation
Chair



Robert Stephenson
Club Director



Christopher A. Lewis
iPast President

Speakers

4/1/25-Officer Eric Alli-Scams

Williamston Rotary Membership Meeting

April 1, 2025
7:30pm at WUMC

In attendance: Earl, Sharon, Marv, Jim Conroy, Laska, Monica, Norm, Jim Carr, Rodney, Carol, Denise, Deb, Naomi, Jim Miller, Wanda, Narda and online – Mark Steinberg and Chris Lewis

Guests: Carol Grainger, Sowing Growth President and Police Officer Eric Alli and Chief Jeff Wiess

President Earl called the meeting to order at – 7:31am

Pledge of Allegiance
Vision Statement read by Marv

Check Presentation to Sowing Growth



Community Grant Check presented to Carol Grainger, president for \$2462. These monies will be used to support the market with new sound equipment, canopies and wagons. Their goal is to pull the community together every week.

Guest Speaker – Beware of Scams! **Officer Eric Alli and Chief Jeff Wiess**



- Preventive information - All about Frauds and Scams
 - Someone will be targeted while he's talking to us!
 - Older generation is less likely to fall for these scams, but if they do, they lose more money!
 - Many scams involve other countries.
 - When someone falls victim, you have to go to the bank, go to court, may have to pay an attorney, may have to pay more money to get out of the scam and make you safe. And so much more! (I couldn't capture it all!)
 - This is a billion and trillion dollar business.
 - Common frauds and scams
 - Easy to fall victim
 - If anyone demands a payment for any reason, do NOT put your personal finances at risk!
 - Government agency scams are one of the biggest
 - They will use a 202 area code
 - Gov. will NOT call or text you
 - If Social Security, - scammers will use a letter, currently the average wait time is 276 days, so if someone needs services SS doesn't have time. SS office in Lansing is closest. If there is ever an issue, call police or go to Lansing office.
 - Gov. will NEVER ask you for your SS or bank info over the phone
 - Recently in Owosso, asked to provide gold and silver, \$75,000 was lost.
 - Warrant scams are another popular – “warrant issued to you...”
 - if you didn't pay a parking ticket, you won't have a warrant
 - They will ask for Credit Card info, “pay now, so no one comes to arrest you”
 - They will ask for a gift card payment – apple, D &W, etc.
 - HANG UP THE PHONE
 - 54 district court posts their warrants every day, you can check if someone says they are taking you to court.
 - Even an arrest warrant, law enforcement will arrest you in person most of the time, never asking for monies over the phone
 - Grand child and grandparent scam. Using AI voice cloning so it sounds like your family member, asking for gift cards, cash, bitcoin, etc. Sounds like the kids! This technology is good enough that in North Korea, they cloned a voice and face for a remote worker and was offered a job!
 - Tech support scams
 - If they can get into your computer they can get access to whatever is on there
 - Facebook will NEVER call you to fix it. Or any other social

- networking
 - Once they get into your computer they have complete control of it!
 - Millers had a screeching alarm on their computer, needed to shut it off even when they told them NOT to.
- When selling on FB Market place, meet in a public place
 - Selling whatever, do NOT verify with the link they send you!
- Phone scams
 - UPS, FED EX, needing your address. DO NOT CLICK on give your address
 - Contract companies with the state now have access to data, so beware
 - Don't ever trust a charity call that says it's from a charity. Reach out to them directly if you want to give.
 - DO NOT CALL registry may help but will stop some good guys. It will reduce some calls, but not scammers as they don't care.
 - DON'T EVER CLICK ON ANY LINK SOMEONE SENDS YOU!
 - Clicking on any link, gives the caller full access on your phone!
- Banking Scams
 - If your account has been hacked! GO TO THE BANK
 - The scammers can spoof that number and make 1000s of calls to get the gullible one. DON'T CLICK ON THE LINK
 - Keep your accounts and passwords safe. Use 2 time authentication
- Romance Scams
 - Online dating services, can be cloned pics and voices
 - They develop relationships, with notes they have created
 - Maybe 2-8th phone call, before they will ask for money
 - Don't wire anyone money
 - You don't really know who you're talking to
 - Video AI cloning can change looks as well.
- Home Improvement Scams
 - Social media scammers on line are saying, "I'm a roofer, a tree guy"
 - USE A LOCAL Company! Don't go with social media referrals. Find someone in person, deal with a company friends and family are aware of. FEMA Approved is NOT a thing!
 - Find a company, don't use a Peddler. (Door to door) Verify with the police department
 - Don't use gift cards to pay for contracting!!! Only use a Credit card!
 - You can look up a company on LARA for license, bonding and insurance
- Business Scams
 - Local businesses have a reputation and will want to protect it.
 - Get referrals from friends and family
- How do you stop this?
 - Have to be done at the Federal level and with other countries and cloning, it's really complicated and probably not able to do!
- TIPS
 - Do not let them inside unless you know who they are and you're comfortable, you trust the business
 - Don't ever give you your personal info over the phone
 - Medical offices are asking for SS numbers. You should consider pushing back on that request
 - Never trust an unexpected contact or someone rushing you into a decision
 - Never send money to anyone you've never met
 - Run a credit report free once a year, if there is an issue, dispute!
 - Set up a 2 step authentication on everything!
 - Never give name, address, date of birth, SS over the phone!
 - Lock your credit report on Transunion, Experian, Equifax to stop someone from getting your info to get a mortgage, or a new credit card
 - IF you become a victim, **keep all evidence**, all police, notify bank and CC companies, watch your credit report, call insurance for home owners fraud insurance. Can call Federal Trade Commission, FBI Claim Complaint system, State Attorney General
 - Google News = SCAM there are hundreds a day!

Rotary Hero criteria and nominations – Sharon

- Sharon updated the criteria handout on the Rotary Hero. Some nominations came into Gene. Prior club hero's are listed. Recommendation is "SERVICE ABOVE SELF". When thinking about voting, use this criteria. Nominees listed on page 3. Gene will send out a ballot by tomorrow through email. Responses need to come in by Friday to make district deadline
- 2-3 adjectives of why this person is a hero
- Other nominations from the floor?
 - None given

Announcements:

District Conference in South Haven – May 2 & 3, 2025
 Standing Committee Updates –

- Service Committee – no update
- Membership Committee – no update

Ad Hoc Committee Updates –

- **Duck Race** plans are moving along
 - Pursue those sponsorships by personal visits. It may take 2 visits, first to remind them of the email, take a copy, and 2nd to collect the sponsorship
- **Rockin' Rotary Raffle** Update – April 29th
- Lots of Satellite work jobs coming, let John Bollman or Marv know if you want to participate

Upcoming Meetings:

Satellite – 5:30pm April, 17 at Zynda's

Member Meeting – April 15th at WUMC 7:30am

New Rotary address:

P.O. BOX 41, Williamston, Michigan 48895 - is our new Rotary address!

Happy Dollars all around!

4-way test

Meeting adjourned at 8:37am

Thought for the Week

By Gene Klco

[Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence.](#) ~ Vince Lombardi

Joke of the Week

By Gene Klco

The Perfect Definition...

There's an annual contest at Griffith University in Australia, for the most appropriate definition of a contemporary term.

This year's term was: 'Political Correctness'

The winning student wrote: *"Political correctness is a doctrine, fostered by a delusional, illogical minority, and rapidly promoted by mainstream media, which holds forth the proposition that it is entirely possible to pick up a piece of crap by the clean end."*

April Birthdays

By Gene Klco on Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Wishes for a **Happy Birthday** in **April** go out to:

Rick Wiener April 1

Chris Lewis April 7

Laska Creagh April 15

Naomi Miller April 21

Deborah Wolf April 21