

Connect and Serve

VOLUME 110 NUMBER 20 – NOVEMBER 12, 2024

NOVEMBER 19, 2024

BECKY ROBLEDO will be the greeter, PRIS GERDE will be the money taker, CHRISTY PRESTON will be the money counter, and ELAINE TODD will provide the moment of inspiration.

PROGRAM:

Christina Loveless from the Mary T. Klinker Veteran Center (MTKVC) came today with her husband, Scott, and a member of their team, Ben Mann. Christina was a social worker with LTHC in Lafayette, but has worked with this agency since 2017. The MTKVC seeks to meet the needs of military veterans who are deeply troubled as a result of their time in the service. MTKVC was founded by James Logston, a double amputee, who visited veterans at the Michigan City prison and saw a great need for services that would prevent veterans from ending up in prison or committing suicide. The center seeks to provide such services to address a veteran's physical, mental, social, spiritual, and financial health. Operation Restoring Hope is an initiative that involves converting the former armory in Boswell, Indiana, into a residential facility where therapy and programming can take place. Currently, there is no such facility in the state of Indiana. The goal is to open the residential building before the end of 2025. Since its inception, MTKVC has served 743 Hoosier veterans and in 2023, thirty-four suicides were prevented. Mary T. Klinker was a captain in the Air Force. She was a flight nurse in April, 1975 during "Operation Babylift" intended to transport orphans out of Saigon. Sadly, Captain Klinker died when her plane broke apart during an attempted emergency landing. The center is named in her honor.



HIGH SCHOOL GUESTS:

Eugene Zhang and Keya Poderycki joined us today from West Lafayette High School. HARRIET and GORDON COPPOC were their hosts.



HIGH FIVE:

To BETTY TONSING for organizing the visit of the Open World delegation from Tajikistan. The ladies had a wonderful time and had a wide range of experiences. They will remember their visit for years to come. Thank you, BETTY! And thank you also to the many Rotarians who provided housing, food, transportation, or program experiences for the Open World delegation.



THANKS FOR YOUR HELP:

ELAINE TODD served as greeter, JO WADE was the money taker, CHRISTY PRESTON was the money counter, and KEN DECKER provided the moment of inspiration.



PROGRAM SPEAKERS SCHEDULE:

November 19 – Greg Petrowich, President & CEO of WFYI/WBAA

November 26 – Wes Tillett, Lafayette Urban Ministry
The Kiwanis club will be joining us for this meeting.

December 3 – Candace Britten and Kelli Briscoe, Purdue student athlete trips

December 10 – Annual meetings of Club and Foundation to elect officers and directors.

NOMINEES FOR CLUB BOARD, 2025-2026:

President: Arvid Olson

President-Elect: Pris Gerde

Vice President: Lane Custer

(to be President 2027-2028)

Secretary: Renee Figueroa

Treasurer: Kathy Meeks

Continuing as Directors: Zarjon Baha, Mary Kay Davis, Richard Gibbs, Katie Nielsen, Christy Preston
Steve Pennell will serve as the Board Chair.

NOMINEES FOR FOUNDATION BOARD, 2025-2026:

President: Rhonda Overman

Vice President: Marti Gutwein

Secretary: Renee Figueroa

Treasurer: Paul Ziemer

New Director: Bob Stolz

Continuing as Director: Elaine Todd

Club Representative: Pris Gerde

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Lafayette Country Club is gracious and allows us to use spare rooms for committee meetings when possible. Occasionally, we need to hold a committee meeting in the same room as our regular Tuesday meeting. When this occurs, the committee should be patient with members who wish to socialize for a few minutes and members need to be aware that an important meeting is taking place. Committee chairs, please let the secretary know a week in advance so that permission can be obtained from the Country Club to use a spare room.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

November 13 - Backpacking at Miami School 4:00pm
Pub Club at Nine Irish Brothers in West Lafayette 5:30pm.

November 19 – Membership committee meets before Rotary and the social committee meets after.

November 21 – Truck unloading at Miami School 8:15am.



December 10 – Annual meetings and elections of Directors and Officers of both the Club and the Foundation.

December 12 – Annual Holiday Jingle and Mingle Party at the Habitat Junction House, 215 Smith St, Lafayette. 5:30pm Sign up at the welcome table or on signupgenius.



December 14 – Red Kettle Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army. Please mark your calendars now and look for the signup to be available soon. FLOYD GARROTT is organizing the event.

No Rotary meetings on December 24th or 31st because of the holidays and No Rotary meeting on January 7, 2025 because the Lafayette Country Club is closed.

January 14 – Major New Project committee meeting after Rotary

DID YOU KNOW?

That the program committee works continuously to keep our calendar full with interesting speakers? At the moment, the programs for January are being planned. We have recently had many engaging speakers addressing a variety of topics. Thanks to RHONDA OVERMAN and her committee of MARY KAY DAVIS, MARTI GUTWEIN, KATHY MEEKS, SCOTT RUMBLE, and PATTI TRUITT.

THANKS FOR DONATING BLOOD:

Pictured below are WES MCDIVITT, DIANE BOENER, and KATIE NIELSEN.



THE ROTARY FOUNDATION:

November is designated as FOUNDATION month, specifically THE ROTARY FOUNDATION being highlighted for it's work in supporting us and our district by returning half of our contributions to projects as matching grants, international projects we can't travel to and polio eradication also where it isn't safe to travel to are supported.

We, as a club, have 30% participation as does our district membership. Our club has many Paul Harris fellows and many who are close to their next level. We currently have six Major Donors, two of which are Second Level donors. We can be proud of this accomplishment and in January we will be visited by our new District 6560 Foundation chairman, who already has expressed his and Rotary International's appreciation of our club. A sincere THANK YOU to all of you who donated thus far, and ask all to join in supporting TRF.

LISTEN TO PAST ROTARY MEETINGS:

Each week an audio recording of the Rotary meeting is saved so that members can listen at any time. Click on the link below to listen to a recent meeting.

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN TO PAST ROTARY MEETINGS](#)

OPEN WORLD VISIT:

Here are some words from one of our Tajik visitors in a recent email to GORDON COPPOC:

I would like to say that I was happy to share time with you and thankful to Allah for having in my life all of you. I had wonderful time with all of you. I am the youngest in my family and unfortunately hadn't enough opportunity to be with grandma and grandpa, but in this trip even for a short time but I could fill this gap in my life. Thank you and all your team for these time and emotions.

Please feel free to write me any time when you have desire and come visit us anytime when you have opportunity.

Take care and say my hello to all team if Rotary Club. Miss you all.

Br,
Zarina

[See photos on next page.](#)

