

Rotary Club of Kalamazoo  
Meeting minutes  
January 30, 2017  
Editarian – Steve Springsdorf

Meeting was called to order by President Bryan Zoher. The Star Spangled Banner was sung acapella.

Invocation by Steve Springsdorf.

Visiting Rotarians: None

Guest of Rotarians: Numerous guests were introduced by members.

The “Arts News” was shared by D. Terry Williams. As usual there is a full slate of activities throughout the community.

Songs with Tim Kilmartin; he shared the newly created song for the National Guard in honor of our guest speaker. The song “Always Ready, Always There” became the official song of the Guard in April 2016.

Susan Rush was welcomed as a new member of Rotary. Susan was raised in Battle Creek and has always lived in the area. She shared her life growing up, playing sports in high school, college, and beyond. She is the Executive Director of The ARC community services. We are glad not to have to introduce her as a guest again. Ann Fergemann will be Susan’s Rotary mentor.

Mary Zoeller led our membership activity; 5<sup>th</sup> Monday Fun Day. Members were seated by their New Year’s resolution. Questions were at the tables to help people get to know our fellow Rotarians. Thank you Mary for helping our club become a friendlier club.

Announcement: An announcement was on the tables alerting everyone to the District 6360 Conference, May 12 -13 at the McCamly Plaza Hotel in downtown Battle Creek.

Happy Bucks: Barb Walters shared information on Syrian refugee families in our community that need volunteers for a variety of tasks. Rotarian Briscoe and Rotarian Hopkins both shared how they are volunteering to help the families. Contact Kathy Murphy 269-599-2350, if you can help in some way.

Program: 110<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing: Citizen Airmen in Southwest Michigan; Col. Bryan Teff was introduced by Rotarian Don Phillips. Col. Teff is in command of about 1,000 personnel. Col. Teff has an extensive military experience around the world.

Col. Teff shared information about 110<sup>th</sup>; which has a focus on aerospace and cyberspace. MQ-9 Reaper is one of the main aircraft in the 110<sup>th</sup>. The MQ-9 is remotely controlled and is the size of an A-10. The MQ-9 has a pilot and support crew on the ground flying the plane. The

110<sup>th</sup> has a Cyber Operations Squadron which has a mission to protect cyber networks within the United States.

The Air National Guard has done several missions in the state such as the Flint water crisis, disaster relief, and cyber protection. The Guard in Michigan has a long standing relationship with Latvia and has just established a relationship with Liberia. They assist with training and local projects. The 110<sup>th</sup> has participation from 58 of the 83 Michigan counties, 30% come from the Battle Creek/Kalamazoo area.

Michigan has the largest Air National Guard airspace east of the Mississippi. The airspace is located primarily over northeast Michigan and over Lake Huron. Annually there is a joint training session that involves 15,000 soldiers and airmen in various capacities.

President Zoher thanked Col. Teff for his informative presentation.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.