

Rotary



Rotary Club of Mount Clemens ~ The Spokesperson ~ July 18, 2024

Rotary Club 2992 of District
6380 of Rotary International
Meetings: 12:15 p.m.
Thursdays

Italian American Cultural
Society & Banquet Center
43843 Romeo Plank Road,
Clinton Township MI 48038

2024-2025
President

Kathleen Best
Secretary

Stephanie Mirabile
Treasurer

Jessica Johnson
President Elect

Julie Miller
President Nominee

Open spot

Director at Large
Tom Welsh

Director at Large
Tim Morabito

Director at Large
Alyssa Kehrig

Director at Large
Ken Steele

Past President
Sam Wireman

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Recognition

Eric Pierson

Bulletin

Open spot

Music

Sarah Lee

Guests & Visitors

Open spot

Invocation

Open spot

Anniversaries/Birthdays

Open spot

Speaker Chair

Valerie Miller

Public Image/Social Media

Kathleen Best & Julie Miller

Club Administration

Sam Wireman

Service Projects

Ken Steele

Minutes by Sarah Lee - Photos by Alyssa Kehrig

Past President **Sam Wireman** called the July 18 meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. He joked our minds were not playing tricks; he was subbing for both **Kathleen and Julie** who were unavailable. **Bob Lee** led the Pledge and national anthem. **Stephanie Mirabile** read "The Four-Way Test" and **Sarah Lee** gave an invocation honoring the military, in honor of our speaker. We feasted on fettucine alfredo, grilled chicken, vegetable medley, mixed green salad, rolls, and chocolate mousse cake for dessert.



PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT

PP Sam announced the Foundation Board is finalizing the fundraiser details and the Don Torline scholarship soon.

JULY 25 MEETING SPEAKER

A team from Wayne State University will give us overdose training. **Every person needs to register his/her attendance.** Look for an email to explain the details.

GUESTS & VISITORS

Scott Chabot introduced our two guests, Shivaji "Sam" Sengupta, prospective member and our speaker, Doug Slocum.



MUSIC

Tom Davies picked “Be Kind to Your Web-footed Friends” and “Vive Le Rotary.”

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, FLOWERS

Kim Jarvis surprised Bob Cannon with a flower for his wife’s birthday. She purchased one for our guest speaker. Someone purchased a flower for Sam for running the meeting. Gary put in his usual order: flower for Tina. Dave Gerlach was feeling generous and bought a flower for everyone at his table.



ANNOUNCEMENT

Eric Pierson reminded everyone of the Pierson golf outing on September 12 at Gowanie golf club.

RECOGNITION

Eric had the honors today. Doug Norris, back from six weeks in Canada, was assessed \$5. Stephanie Mirabile was the most-missed Rotarian, though she begged to differ. Still got fined a buck. Bob Lee paid out \$2 for his lack of focus during the national anthem. Finally, your scribe, offered to pay (!) \$5 for her recent play and other misdeeds. (Good thing nobody was fined for excessive servings of the fettucine alfredo they took.)



PROGRAM



Speaker Brigadier General Doug “Odie” Slocum, Past Commander of Selfridge ANG Base on leadership style, explained in his book, *“Violent Positivity”*

“I don’t do podiums,” was General Slocum’s

opening line. He went on to describe his thoughts on leadership styles, as outlined in his book, *Violent Positivity*. “It’s always about people,” he said. “If you treat people well, you will change that person.”

General Slocum has lived an accomplished and remarkable life. He grew up in a military family. They were stationed in Germany in the ‘60s, during the Berlin Wall. We saw a photograph on young Slocum standing in front of the famous sign, “You are leaving the American sector,” with the Berlin Wall in the background. (Scribe’s note: I was in Berlin in 2022. The wall is gone, replaced by a lively street, which houses the Berlin Wall historical museum.) The Wall made a big impression on Slocum; he noted there were guards in towers pointing their guns **at their own people**. Slocum became a fighter pilot who fell in love with F-4. It was during 9/11 that Slocum was ordered to go an adjacent airfield, jump into the seat, turn on the ignition and take off to “fly into them.” (The planes didn’t have weapons).

Fortunately, nothing happened, and Slocum was available to take command of Selfridge ANG, one of the oldest military bases operating continuously since its 1917 founding. (Thomas Selfridge was the first person to die in an airplane crash.) The future of Selfridge ANG Base was questionable. Slocum applied his managerial style and changed Selfridge’s culture where the base is now a top performer. For more stories, you’ll have to buy the book!



50-50: \$27 pot, won by Dave Gerlach