



*Celebrating 40 Years of Service
To the Community
Rotary Club of White Bear Lake*

*Meetings
Wednesday at 7:30 a.m.
via Zoom
(During Pandemic 2020)*



January 20, 2021

Program: Dr. Ellen Block, Exec. Director and M'e Nthabeleng Lephoto, Managing Director of The Tiny Lives Foundation
Supporting Life Saving Work In Lesotho

Chairperson: Janelle Erickson

Classification: Jim Hunt, Twin Clubs

Invocation: Steve Griffith

Writer: Mark Sather

Wednesday Morning Meeting Info via Zoom D5960 is inviting you to a scheduled meeting
Topic: White Bear Lake Club Meeting
Social Time starts at 7:15 a.m.; Actual meeting starts at 7:30 a.m. and finish by 8:30 a.m.
Join Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87159321038>
Meeting ID: 871 5932 1038

Prior recordings & files from presenters can be accessed at: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/11pN_Oh77b2fViH8x_hfT1t1JoHt-e0c7?usp=sharing

Friday Virtual 5:01 Meeting Info:
Friday Evenings starting at 4:55 pm-
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84681656568?pwd=YVZkQnNVT2RNV2VYWVl3azlQc1NNUT09>
Meeting ID 846 8165 6568 Passcode: 893460

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kevin Donovan reminded us of the Feb. 3 meeting time of 11:30 am instead of 7:30 am. Then Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan Page is our program at noon.

Ann Frisch announced that we will be continuing international relations possibly using food as theme with our Russian friends from Ekaterineberg over the coming months.

Ann also introduced guests Irina and Richard Fursman. Irina has roots in Russia and Ukraine and has had past connections with the Open World program. Richard was the city manager in Maplewood and was a Rotarian for 20 yrs. They are co-founders of a consulting and training company working with clients on conflict resolution.

As usual, Effiom and Desmond joined our meeting from Rotary Club of Kingston, Jamaica.

New members **Jennifer Breon** and **Mike McAllister** were welcomed and inducted to the club by **Chuck Sandstrom**. Jennifer is **Nancy Oakes'** niece. She grew up in Mahtomedi and is a graphic designer and has two children. Her work on the fund raisers using her design skills has been much appreciated. And Mike is back from a WBL Rotary hiatus. He runs Inventiv Designs which markets building materials. He has other interests too including working as a youth project mentor (search Lugnuts Garage). The program is designed to give hands-on experience to kids that are having a hard time in school and life.

Classification Time: Ken Galloway, BEAR'ly Open

Ken Galloway gave a BEAR'ly Open update. The event is surpassing all past fundraising amounts. Larger exposure to social media is helping communicate the message and Ken and crew are working hard. The auction has raised almost \$6,000 so far. They are sold out for golf on Saturday and Friday may be sold out soon. COVID has brought all kinds of new and creative ways to engage. You can still help! We'll need course set-up workers on Thursday, Feb. 4th and volunteers to take shifts during the event on Friday the 5th and Saturday the 6th. Help us set a new yearly fundraising record! Proceeds go to the Food Shelf.

FEBRUARY 2—

WATCH FOR THE BEAR'ly OPEN ONLINE AUCTION LAUNCH

Living Room Conversations (LRC) is a conversational model developed by dialogue experts to facilitate connection between people despite their differences, and even identify areas of common ground and shared understanding.

To register for LRC, visit: https://bit.ly/WBL_LivingroomConversations

Th. Jan 21 @ 6:30 p.m.—Food

Tu. Jan 26 @ 4 p.m.—Stewardship of Spirituality

W. Feb 17 @ 6:30 p.m. Increasing

Harmony and Prosperity

Th. Feb 25 @ 6:30 p.m.—Freedom

Tu. Mar. 16 @ 4 p.m. Social Equity

W. Mar 24 @ 6:30 p.m.-Status and Privilege

Th. Apr. 15 @ 6:30 p.m.—Police-Community Relations

Tu. Apr 20 @ 4 p.m.—The Opportunity Gap

W. May 19 @ 6:30 p.m. Tribalism 101: Next Door Strangers

WBL Rotary Contact: Stephen Kelly, at kell0587@umn.edu

EQUITY AND INCLUSION TEAM

We have selected **A GOOD TIME FOR THE TRUTH** for our second book club. This is a collection of 16 short essays that describe what it is like to live as a person of color in Minnesota. This book has been used frequently by Minnesota book clubs over the past three years. It is available for \$18.95 at Lake Country Booksellers, Barnes & Noble, Amazon, and from Minnesota Historical Society Press, the publisher.

We will meet from 4:00-5:00 PM on the following Mondays: January 18, February 1, February 15, and March 1. We will try to cover four essays each meeting.

Please consider joining us! We welcome you to the discussions even if you haven't read the book - we talk about the issues that are brought up in the essays and invite everyone to join in the discussion.

Reply to Jackie Reis to register: jreis.wbl@gmail.com

Program: Jeff Otto Presents John Phelan, Closing the Minnesota Budget Deficit

John Phelan is an economist and writer who works for the conservative think tank Center for the American Experiment. His wife is from Cottage Grove and John is from England. The Minnesota state budget had projected surplus of \$1.5 billion in February of 2020. By May that turned into a deficit of \$2.4 billion and by July that deficit had grown to \$4.3 billion. But state reserve funds have held up better than expected and in December of 2020 we had a \$640 million surplus. The projected deficit for 2022-23 is \$1.3 billion. Because of the pandemic, service businesses suffered and there was no buying related to these service businesses. But Minnesotans stayed home and bought tangible things causing state sales tax to be a higher source of revenue. According to John, employment is higher than before COVID hit. Lower income workers have been hit harder than higher earners.

By law, the state requires a balanced budget and John recommends cutting spending as the major method to get there. The state is 5th highest in “top” tax rate at over 9% and the corporate income tax rate is 9.8%, 4th highest in the nation. His assertion is that these higher tax rates do not lead to higher tax revenues though. The way to raise revenues includes two factors. Factor 1 is the state should concentrate on raising state GDP. Factor 2 is more involved. Per capita state spending is higher than ever in inflation adjusted dollars. And the highest sources of spending are education and welfare (aka human services). John does not recommend cuts in education spending because state spending for education is more around the national average. According to John’s census bureau sources, Minnesota spends \$30,500 per person in welfare outflow per recipient and the national average is \$17,000. He recommends the cuts should come in the welfare/human services budget. A question from John Wayne Barker had to do with whether it might be better to fully reduce the deficit this year using the “rainy day” fund instead of trying to find middle ground between polarized politicians with the Democrat solution of raising taxes and the Republican solution of cutting spending. After all, what better occasion than a pandemic to use rainy day money? Our guest John agreed that this would be a solution that could work.

Writer of the week: Darrell Stone

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:
“The time is always right to do what is right.”
-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr

**The Rotary Club of White Bear Lake—
building friendships and improving lives
through hands-on projects
in the White Bear area
and around the globe**

UPCOMING MEETINGS

**January 27: Leigh Thiel, Organizing
for Legislative Change**
Chairperson: Jackie Reis
**Classification: Curt Akenson presents-
Joe Stahlman, D5960 Polio Plus Team Co-Lead
and Paul Perez, D5960 re. Giving to the
Rotary Foundation**
Invocation: Rita Pechmann
Writer: Jim Rathburn

**February 3: PROGRAM BEGINS AT 11:30
WITH SPEAKER AT NOON (via Zoom)**
**Program: ALAN PAGE, FORMER STATE
SUPREME COURT JUSTICE.**
“Issues of Equity in Education”
Chairperson: Kevin Donovan
Classification: WBL Rotary Updates
Invocation: Steve LaLiberte
Writer: Greg Young

**February 10: Ryan Hanna,
DNR Conservation Officer for WBL**
Chairperson: Bill Rust
Classification : Kate Andersen
Invocation: Bob Gehrke
Writer: Bob Timmons

**MAIL OR PHONE CLUB NEWS TO THE
WBL ROTARY OFFICE:
MARLYCE PAULSON
P. O. Box 10809 WHITE BEAR LAKE,
MN 55110**

OFFICE: 651.738.3022
E-MAIL: WBLROTARY1@COMCAST.NET
WEB SITE: WHITEBEARROTARY.ORG
**BEAR BULLETIN DEADLINE: FRIDAY,
5 P.M.**

**WBL ROTARY PODCASTS:
WWW.WBLROTARY.PODBEAN.COM**
**OR GO TO: ITUNES AND TYPE IN
WBLROTARY**

**WBLROTARY TEAM MEETINGS—
CURRENTLY HELD VIA ZOOM**

BOARD MEETINGS: Meets 4th Tuesday of month, 7a.m.
CLUB SERVICE TEAM: Meets 2nd Tuesday of month, 7a.m.
COMMUNITY SERVICE TEAM: Meets last Wednesday of month, 12 o'clock noon
EQUITY & -INCLUSION TEAM: Meets first Friday 8:30 a.m.
FUNDRAISER TEAM: Meets immediately following Wednesday meeting (seasonal)
INTERNATIONAL SERVICE TEAM: Meets 2nd Thursday of month, 7 a.m.
MEMBERSHIP TEAM: Meets 3rd Tuesday of month, 7:30 a.m.
PUBLIC IMAGE TEAM: Meets 3rd Thursday 7 a.m.
VOCATIONAL SERVICE TEAM: Meets 1st Thursday of month, 7 am
YOUTH EXCHANGE TEAM: Meets 2nd Thursday, 4:30 p.m.

2020-21 Officers/Directors

President..... Pat McClernon
President-Elect ... Michael Lovett
Past President John Channon
Treasurer Bob Timmons
Secretary Ashley Filipovich
Exec. Secretary ... Marlyce Paulson
Public Image Kevin Donovan
Rotary Foundation. Curt Akenson
Community Service. Pam Bowers
- Rita Pechmann
Vocational Service .Ken Baltzer
.Derrek Skeie
Club Service Chuck Sandstrom
.Pam Tschida
MembershipJim Hunt
. Miriah VanDuuren
International Greg Bartz
. Patty Hall
Equity & Inclusion....Kevin Donovan
Jackie Reis
Youth Exchange .. Tim Wald
Bulletin Writers ... Mark Sather
Darrell Stone
Greg Young
Dick Galena
Bob Timmons
Jim Rathburn
Jackie Reis
Invocations Rich Ramsay
Bill Rust
Bob Gehrke
Steve LaLiberte
Rita Pechmann
Bill Eaves
Steven Griffith
Art Hancock