



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

*Meetings
Wednesday at 7:30 a.m.
. Hybrid - at Rudy's Redeye
Grill and via Zoom*



October 13, 2021

PROGRAM: Dylan McDonough, Solid Ground

CHAIRPERSON: Ken Galloway

CLASSIFICATION: Toufong Lor

MERCHANT MINUTE: Jim Rathburn
presents: Caroline Pash,
PLNT BSD Smoothie Bowls

INVOCATION/INSPIRATION: Bill Eaves

WRITER: Bob Timmons

Wednesday Morning Meetings are Hybrid—in person at Rudy's Redeye Grill or via Zoom.

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.

To join the 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

WBL Rotary Club Celebrates 5:01– NOW CALLED 4:01– back at Rudy's. Join us for end-of-week social time with Rotarian friends.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Keep the **Jingle Bear Auction** on the front burner! See the request for actions needed at this time. And, if interested, the word on the street is that this is a “fun” committee that would appreciate any/all help!

Greg Bartz hosted a Russia/USA Team. Thanks to all who helped: Pam, Jeanne, Kate, Gene, Ann, who hosted guests and dinner hosts: Webers and Altstats. Thanks to **John Channon** for technical work. Jim Amaeff, PG5790 (on zoom from Abilene TX) attended the meeting and expressed sincere gratitude to Minnesota hosts. Thanks

We also welcomed guests via zoom from Uganda and Kingston Jamaica.

6th Annual Rotary Clothing Closet Drive in the month of October. Currently, they are full with clothes so cash and gift cards to Target or Walmart for \$20 or more. You can give cash at a Rotary meeting; checks made out to Rotary; or give gift cards. **Contacts: Jim Rathburn (612-383-8232) or Art Hancock (651-350-8425)**

Equity and Diversity Committee: Jackie Reis reported on the evening with Kao Kalia Yang, author of Somewhere in the Unknown women; Tues AM at 7:30: Kent Woodworth CEO MN Historical Society : Why History matters at Boatworks. Also be sure to get information on the upcoming candidate for election.

Pam Bowers received her 6th Paul Harris award.



JINGLE BEAR
Online Auction
November 10-13, 2021

The Jingle Bear Auction committee is now accepting items for the upcoming event November 10-13. That's only 4 weeks away. Please bring donated auction items, cash/ checks or gift cards, to the Wednesday meeting. Patty Hall will be at the meeting to accept your donations. Or, reach out to Patty (651) 303-7763 or Pam Bowers (870) 243-4725 and they will be happy to pick up items from you. Let's make the second annual Jingle Bear Auction more successful than last year!!!

CLASSIFICATION: Pat McClernon (past Rotary chair 2020-2021)

Lives on Sunset Lake 4 miles SE of here facing East and sees the sun rise in morning. Wife Debbie; married for 35 years! Three kids: Katelyn-Mpls. marketing account executive; Shawn Works with Pat in their business. Kyle just graduated from Century and goes to Metro State.

Pat grew up in Western MN, Red River Valley; near Tenney Population 6. Lots of changes in western MN. He lived near 3 towns which have all disappeared. Pat went to St. John's Prep school and was an exchange student to Austria; Attended St. John's University; Liberal Arts, then U of MN, 2 degrees, working in teaching and research assistant.

He was then employed by 3M Company as an engineer, IT, Product developments, sales (28 years at 3M) with lots of travel.

Pat now has his own company, Control House LTD and is a Manufacturers' Representative/ Distributor for Instrumentation and Controls. His company is located at Birch Lake Professional building. His company does technical sales, selling precise measuring tools and specialized instruments for large companies including 3M, medical and power companies, steel and taconite companies, refineries, heating and HVAC companies, plus on line technical advice and training.

Pandemic effects for Control House:

No visitors allowed at his business location.

Difficult to develop new customers.

Lots of emails, phone calls, web meetings.

Slower sales, less sales and delayed. More difficult to make sales

Supply chain problems, difficult to get parts and make instructions—delays

Inflation: Manufacturers raising prices and passing on costs

Bob Morse helped with PPP 1 and 2.

VIRALERT3: Body temperature screening product was a popular item.

Pat shared that he enjoyed being Rotary President this past year, despite the challenges. He currently is on the International Team and Membership Team

He announced that he is looking for a Rotary **Club Secretary**—a five year rotation as follows: Secretary-Treasurer-President Elect;-President-Past President

Speaker introduced by Mark Sather:

Every ten years, every state--- redistricting occurs nationwide based on census.
Complicated by various interests. Majority party tries to make changes to their advantage and disenfranchises other groups.
Mark introduced the term gerrymandering.

Paul Huffman, speaker

League of Women Voters (LWV) MN redistricting Chair
On LWV board of directors.
He was a nuclear submarine officer in the US Marines
Also Excel Energy position related to nuclear energy

Paul Huffman: Speaker

Paul began his talk by stating it was about understanding how governments work.
LWV is nonpartisan. Do not support candidates or parties but instead work on vital issues of interest to members.
LWV want redistricting to favor interest of the people (not party)
Our government is based on local representation. We kept the same number of districts. In MN:
57 senate districts
134 house districts
8 MN Congressional Districts
7 county commissioner districts
5 wards in WBL City

Apportionment: How many seats in congress does each state get, based on population shifts.
Legal requirements related to redistricting are very few and are based on population and getting minority representation. State and local governments have a lot of latitude.
Why is redistricting important?
Redistricting is about community representation
Determines which voices are heard and what policy interests are served
Group or community voices that are diluted or isolated may not be heard or their interest may not be served
Think Policy not party.

What is Gerrymandering?
(or How to steal an election)

It is now used to describe extreme manipulation of district boundaries to provide a political advantage for a specific party or group:

- Packing: Pack most of the voters in the opposing side into a small number of districts
- Cracking: split the voters of the opposing side into several district where they are the minority.
- Trifecta: Where one party has all branches of government: They may control the process
Creates safe partisan seats
People who choose candidates are the parties (not the people)

Examples: Flint Michigan where water crises was affected by the Republican trifecta:
Emergency manager passed bill to control city budgets
Voters rejected the Emergency manager bill by a majority
However, because of gerrymandering the Republicans passed the plan.

Racial Gerrymandering in MPLS: 2000

Powderhorn area was divided into four areas.
Before 2011, Hispanic and Somali communities were split between wards (cracked)
Because they were divided into 4 wards, they could not obtain representation for communities.
What changed: Charter commission in MPLS got input and got first Somali, Hispanic and other minority representatives

Redistricting elements:

People: In MN the people drawing the maps will benefit from the maps (Legislators county commissioners and city council members)
Principles: Minimal standards in MN
Process: MN is among the worst in the country on transparency of redistricting

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In MN: no redistricting between 1913 to 1959:

No requirement for equal population in districts before 1964
Resistance to redrawing the lines
Court drawn maps met legal minimum requirements
Strong focus on equal population and limited changes
Process has limited public input and transparency
Likely not optimal for state residence

If Trifecta, it takes many years to correct the gerrymandering/redistricting.

Timeline:

2021-22: timeline for redistricting:
Fall 2021: House and senate commtees have completed
October 11-26, 2021 : Redistricting panel hearing
October thru January 2022: City and county Government decide on local redistricting process for county government
Feb 15, 2022 : court Issues Final Redistricting Order
Feb through April: then Local Redistrict hearing.s
March 2022: City redistricting complete

Issues:

Certain areas (outstate) have too few people so the districts have to enlarge geographically
In higher population areas near twin cities) those districts have to get smaller size or landsize
City of WBL is 38B; Lines are going to move.
Everyone’s district is going to change because of the increase population in the metro area.
WBL commissioner District 7: will get smaller due to increase population.
How should those lines be drawn to provide the best representation
Contact people on charter commission for transparency

LWV focus: To influence the development of state and local maps.

Q/A:

Question raised about MN’s low public representation and input

Response: Our legislature has not had good transparency; It is a concern if only one party controls all three branches. How do we make the Legislature more accountable? Constitutes and groups like LWV need to challenge elected representative on transparency and accountability. The legislator often refer it to the courts.

Question about the process involved:
The parties make up their preferred maps.
Judges (who have diversity) rely on public comment and input
Parties can file lawsuit
Each group brings a set of maps for judges to review
Judges take the “least change” approach.

Comments by Mark Sather:

In WBL, Charter commission makes the maps. Commission is appointed by court and is provided in the city charter. WBL has 5 wards. It is up to charter commission to make sure the wards are fair and to not disenfranchise certain groups. It could make it more difficult to vote by changing wards and where to vote. Three Rotarians are on the Charter Commission for the city of WBL. Dale Grambush, Tim Geck and Mark Sather work to make sure the wards are balanced.

Writer of the week: Carol Nelson