



RICH SIMPSON

WHERE HAVE ALL THE GREAT MEN GONE

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ON THE WEB

www.uarotary.orgwww.district6690.orgwww.rotary.org

For make up locations, check the club web site or call the make-up hotline at (614) 470-1002.



Glen Dugger introduced the speaker, fellow Club member **Rich Simpson**. Rich presented a theory suggesting that fewer “great” individuals exist today compared to earlier eras in history.

Rich defined greatness using three criteria: an individual making a lasting impact on the world, ensuring the impact is positive, and possessing no fundamental character flaws, such as hubris. Rich distinguished true greatness from mere fame or talent, citing examples like Shaquille O’Neal and Meryl Streep as highly accomplished but not “great” by his definition.

Rich identified four distinct pathways to reaching greatness: genius, effort, principle, and luck. Examples of genius included Albert Einstein and Pablo Picasso, while Thomas Edison was cited as an example of greatness achieved through pure effort.

Figures such as Mahatma Gandhi were categorized as great due to their adherence to high principles despite adversity. Luck was described as a combination of natural talent and being in the right place at the right time, exemplified by John F. Kennedy.

Rich identified three obstacles to achieving greatness in modern society. One is the overwhelming scale and complexity of the modern world which makes individual impact harder to achieve.

A second barrier is the modern tendency toward multitasking and superficiality, which prevents the deep contemplation required for great achievements. And a third barrier is the loss of privacy due to intrusive media coverage that magnifies personal flaws and destroys reputations more easily than in the past.

Rich presented these individuals as rare cases in modern society who met his criteria for greatness: Martin Luther King Jr., Ronald Reagan, Oprah Winfrey, and Bill Gates.

King was recognized for his combination of genius and principle, while Reagan was noted for his visionary communication skills. Winfrey was highlighted for her massive cultural influence and role in empowering women through her work. Bill Gates was cited for both his technological innovations with software and his transformative philanthropic efforts via the Gates Foundation.

There was a discussion about how changing social standards regarding women’s rights have increased scrutiny on the behavior of leaders.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read Rich Simpson’s full speech “Where Have All the Great Men Gone.”



GREETERS

October 13

Bob LeBoeuf
Tim Irwin

October 20

Jim Henson
Andy Geistfeld

October 27

Mike Turnbull
Alan Thompson

REGISTRATION DESK

October 13

Ted Foster
Brendan King

October 20

Rick Barth
Tom Westfall

October 27

Jim Winfree
Dave Shelby

CALENDAR

October 13 - Boat House/ZOOM

Heather Tuttle, Executive
Director of the Ohio Wildlife
Council - "Update on Ohio
Wildlife Council"
Host: Herb Gillen

October 20 - Scioto CC/Zoom

Election 2026: Ohio House of
Representatives District 7
Candidate Forum
Host: Brad Frick

October 27 - Scioto CC/Zoom

Michael Shearer, Executive
Editor of the Columbus
Dispatch, "Update on the
Dispatch and the state of
modern journalism"
Host: Herb Gillen

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Submit your volunteer opportunity
to herb@herbgillen.com for inclusion
in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Please submit your social event
reminder to herb@herbgillen.com for
inclusion in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

OUR NEXT MEETING

OCTOBER 13TH

Boat House / ZOOM

Upper Arlington
Rotary
Club



[CLICK HERE](#) to view this week's meeting and all previously recorded meetings

DOG PARTY



UA Rotary enjoyed an afternoon dog party October 4th at Krauss Farm.
Donations were collected for the Franklin County Dog Shelter.

THE MEETING



Glen Dugger opened the meeting, which was held at Scioto Country Club and on Zoom.

Herb Gillen provided the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

Ohio Sen. Bill DeMora was a guest of Herb Gillen.

There were no visiting Rotarians.

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Chip Knoop reported on last Saturday's Bed Brigade project where a team of Interactors and Rotarians built 20 beds. He noted that a delivery for these beds will occur in two weeks and encouraged new members to volunteer.

Alan Thompson provided information regarding National Fire Prevention Month, focusing on lithium-ion battery safety and upcoming fire drills in schools. Additionally, he announced upcoming CPR training classes, including a potential session specifically for Rotary members.

Glen Dugger noted that OSU-Maryland football tickets that were not purchased at the Club fundraiser were available for purchase on the Club website, before an expiration date coming up shortly.