



Rick Wolfe

Executive Director of
North Market



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Brad DeHays introduced today's speaker, **Rick Wolfe**, Executive Director of the North Market. Rick has been Executive Director of the North Market (a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization) since May, 2013. He had returned to Columbus from the west coast to get into the food truck business and his career evolved from there.

Rick quoted the purpose of the North Market to us and emphasized that the market is, at least in part, an incubator for new locally owned businesses. He cited Jeni's Splendid Ice Cream as an example of a company that has its roots at the North Market. Jeni's now has 23 locations around the country.

The promise of the North Market is summed up in three words... "Local, Fresh, Authentic".

The market's primary partner and landlord is the City of Columbus. North Market features over 35 independent businesses. Over one half of the businesses at the North Market are owned by women or minorities.

It is 141 years old this year and currently is in its third location. Immediately prior to moving to its current location (a former Nationwide warehouse) the market occupied a "temporary" Quonset hut in the same area from 1948 until 1995.

Over time Columbus has had four markets. In

addition to the current North Market there have been markets downtown at what is now the Greyhound bus station, in Franklinton and on the east side of the city.

Rick is happy that one third of the current businesses at the market are brand new. This is consistent with the notion that the market should serve as an incubator for new businesses.

A focus on "fresh" businesses is also something the North Market's leadership hopes to maintain and encourage. It is harder and harder to find people who want to be in a business that is based on providing fresh products. For example, there aren't as many folks interested in becoming a butcher or fishmonger today. In addition, there is growing competition from larger companies for some of this business. Giant Eagle and Whole Foods are examples. However, Rick does not believe that those entities can offer the personalized service that a small locally owned business offers.

The downtown customer base for the North Market is growing. There are currently 8,500 people living in downtown Columbus with the number moving steadily toward 10,000+. This growth provides a good base of customers who can potentially support "fresh" businesses. It is important, however, for the

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GREETERS

April 4

Rich Simpson
Bill Mielke

April 11

Bill Kraft
Joel Lilly

April 18

Tom McClain
Steve Rish

REGISTRATION DESK

April 4

Dick Stone
Janine Hummer

April 11

Don Leach
Don Trotier

April 18

Chris Taylor
Tracy Harbold

CALENDAR

April 4

Mark Henson - Sparkspace
“Unleash Your Ordinary Superpowers”
Host: D. Johnson

April 11

Dr Kathy Krendl,
President, Otterbein University
Host: D. Johnson

April 18

TBD

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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

SOCIAL EVENTS

Thursday, April 6th

Kick-Off Social for our Annual Fundraiser at Grandview Cafe

Saturday, May 6th

Annual Rotary Fundraiser at Huntington Park

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

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market to gain and maintain the support of the wider community.

Columbus' North Market has become a model for new and proposed markets in other cities around the country. The trend toward similar markets is strong while at the same time the support for mall-based food courts is shrinking.

Rick likened the ongoing need for newness at the North Market to the retail environment. It is important to have a certain amount of business turnover in order to keep the overall operation current and dynamic in the eyes of the public. This need to be perceived as current and up-to-date is similar to what traditional retailers experience. To that end, the market has developed a leasing policy that allows for turnover. Some leases, for example, have a three year maximum life.

The future will continue to bring a focus on the “fresh” piece of the puzzle. The future may also bring the redevelopment of the area currently occupied by the parking lot just east of the current building. The redevelopment of that property has generated a great deal of attention – both positive and negative.

From an initial list of seven possible developers the field has been narrowed to three. Within the next month Rick believes we will see what the future offers. He spoke positively about the prospect of having businesses and residences essentially attached to the market. He noted that history can and will be preserved.

The Meeting

President **Chip Knoop** opened the meeting and asked **Steve Rish** to offer the Invocation and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no visiting Rotarians today. **Ted Foster** called on **Kip Greenhill** to introduce his guest **Carolyn Casper**. **Jim Winfree** introduced his guest and incoming new member **Wade Giffin**. He noted that this is Wade's last free lunch. Jim also introduced guest, and former member, **Chuck Snyder**.

Before leaving the podium, Ted Foster fined all those members who arrived before 11:40 AM a dollar. He also asked everyone in the room who was born in the 80's to add a dollar to the pile. All the monies were designated for the Polio Plus campaign.

We had a “District Conference moment” and watched a video featuring District Governor **Steve Sandbo** talking about the April 29 conference at COSI Columbus. The conference is a one day event this year and the agenda is built around the notion of sharing ideas and success stories among the clubs in District 6690. Chip reinforced the message and reminded us that UA Rotary will pick up the tab for members who register on line and select the “club billing” option. The new deadline to take advantage of this deal is April 7. Special pins indicating that you are “on board” with the conference are available for \$3.00 with the money heading for the Polio Plus coffers.

Brian Hall conducted harassment. A continuous stream of money began flowing throughout the room. **Bill Hosket** was fined for the promotional comments about him that Steve Sandbo made in his District Conference promo. **Brad DeHays** was fined for the free press he recently received in the paper. **Mike Tanner** lost a buck for driving a minivan. Everyone at **Bob Edler's** table lost a dollar just for the heck of it. Those in the room who are losing their hair also lost a dollar. There was an NCAA tournament quiz. Various tables paid up unless they knew who the oldest coach to win a titles was, the youngest coach to win a title, the number of times a 16 seed has beaten a 1 seed, the name(s) of people who have won a title as both a player and coach, and the only school to have both men's and women's national basketball championships. In a brief moment of kindness, Brian gave members without a Rotary pin a reprieve today.

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Notes and Announcements

Our club photo happens next week – Tuesday, April 4. Your timely arrival will allow us to get everything taken care of on schedule.

Linda Cummins announced that next week's **Rotary Roundtable** will feature Columbus Clippers President & GM **Ken Schnacke**. He will preview the Clippers' upcoming season. The Roundtable is next Tuesday, April 4 at 10:30 AM

Our **annual fundraiser** is set for Saturday, May 6 at Huntington Park. Details and invitations will be forthcoming soon. Be thinking about potential auction items.

Herb Gillen encouraged everyone to participate in and support the upcoming Golden Bear Shred Day. The date is Saturday, April 8 and the time is 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM. The event takes place at Upper Arlington High School. In addition to shredding personal documents, with a suggested cash donation of \$5.00 per box, the event will feature disposal/destruction of personal electronic goods for a fee. Donations of non-perishable food, gently used clothing and new/used appliances will also be accepted. Beneficiaries will be the Heart To Heart Food Pantry, the New Life Clothing Room and Habitat for Humanity ReStore. Flyers with the details were distributed at the meeting.

Kip Greenhill proudly announced the arrival of his first grandchildren – twins born to his son and daughter-in-law in Germany.

Dave Dewey reminded women members about the meeting immediately following today's club meeting. He is also immersed in the process of identifying potential committee chairs vice chairs for the upcoming Rotary year.

Jim McKinney reported that the Thompson Park clean-up project is scheduled for this Saturday, April 1. At 9:00 AM the three recycling units funded by UA Rotary and a District 6690 grant will be dedicated by the City of UA in a brief ceremony. The dedication will be followed by a Park Clean-up project at Thompson Park. If time permits we'll move on to Fancyburg Park. Time commitment is 2-4 hours. Signup sheets were on the tables.



SHARE, INSPIRE, RECOGNIZE & CELEBRATE

IMPACT

ROTARY DISTRICT 6690 SPRING CONFERENCE
APRIL 29, 2017 | COSI | COLUMBUS, OHIO USA



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 29th

for the Rotary District 6690 Conference at COSI. Upper Arlington Rotary will pay the \$99 member registration fee as long as you register before April 7. Let's support District Governor Steve Sandbo by attending! More information to come over the next lunch meetings.