



## DAVID BROWN HARMONY PROJECT

### OFFICERS

2018-2019

**President**

Brad DeHays

**First Vice President**

Herb Gillen

**Secretary**

Debbie Johnson

**Treasurer**

John Adams

**Past President**

Dave Dewey

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2017-2019

Tom Davis

Paul Germain

Nicole Helfrich

Don Leach

Christine Taylor

2018-2020

Carl Aschinger

Milt Lustnauer

Melissa McCurdy

Jim McKinney

Matt Rule

**President Rotary International**

Barry Rassin

**District Governor, District 6690**

Craig Maxey

**Assistant District Governor**

Steve Heiser

### ROTARYVIEW

**Co-Chairman**

Craig Haddox

Jerry Woessner

**Editor**

John Krauss

**Writing & Design**

Herb Gillen Advertising

**Photography**

Tanya Westerviller

### ON THE WEB

[www.uarotary.org](http://www.uarotary.org)

[www.district6690.org](http://www.district6690.org)

[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

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



**Paul Germain** introduced **David Brown**, Founder and Creative Director of Harmony Project. The Harmony Project is a philanthropic choir that joins members from diverse backgrounds that share a passion for music and service to the community.

David is originally from Louisiana. As the son of a Southern Baptist Minister, his family moved several times during his childhood. He described being the only Caucasian in his high school graduating class. A female friend told him about Ohio State, and he arrived at the Greyhound Bus Station to begin classes in Columbus. He auditioned at Capital University, graduated, and ultimately headed to New York City. A week later, he thought he had made a mistake. Through the kindness of a stranger, he was motivated to start a 28-member choir that quickly grew to 100 members - performing at a filled Carnegie Hall. He cited that New York was where he first realized the power of music and the ability to blend people. The choir grew to 200 members and was discovered by Oprah Winfrey - and popularity soared.

In 2005, he then moved to New Orleans, three months before Katrina. He wanted to reflect music

and purpose noting that needs exist daily, not just during catastrophes. From there, he moved to Los Angeles and worked in Interior Design. In 2008, he was asked to help with the Obama Presidential Campaign, bring him back to Columbus. After meeting Mayor Coleman and others, he committed to a single project in the rented Lincoln Theatre with choir and no sponsors. By December, the sold-out show raised \$45,000.

A video highlighting Jane Pauley's story featuring the Harmony Group was played. The group promotes music by diverse backgrounds to influence the community. David's generosity was also demonstrated by his willingness to support two juveniles that had been abandoned by their families. Today, both are enrolled at Capital University.

Today, Harmony Project has 500 members. There are no vocal try-outs (not a misprint). "Strong voices lift weaker voices to develop harmony," Brown explained. The 12-week commitment to the group requires eight hours of community service. This has totaled over 60,000 hours of service to central Ohio. Projects include park cleanup, sweeping, and painting at locations throughout Columbus. Harmony Project has six full time and four part time employees with a budget of \$1.7 Million.

More information  
including concert schedules  
can be found at:  
[HarmonyProject.com](http://HarmonyProject.com)



## GREETERS

### February 26

Brendan King  
Joe Valentino

### March 5

David Hatch  
Nick Vlasidis

### March 12

Bob Bracco  
Matt McClellan

## REGISTRATION DESK

### February 26

Ted Foster  
Brendan King

### March 5

Andy Livingston  
Tom Westfall

### March 12

Jim Winfree  
Kevin Brown

## CALENDAR

**February 26 | Confluence Park**  
Special Location  
Tom Staff, Director,  
Columbus Zoo and Brad DeHays  
*A Visit to Rwanda and*  
*Protecting the Mountain Gorilla*  
Host: DeHays

**March 5 | Confluence Park**  
12:30 pm Special Start Time  
and Location  
Program TBA

**March 12 | Raymond Memorial**  
Stacie Boord  
*Shadowbox Live*  
Host: Johnson

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Submit your volunteer opportunity to [herb@herbgillen.com](mailto:herb@herbgillen.com) for inclusion in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

## SOCIAL EVENTS

Please submit your social event reminder to [herb@herbgillen.com](mailto:herb@herbgillen.com) for inclusion in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

## OUR NEXT MEETING

**February 26th**  
Confluence Park

Upper Arlington  
**Rotary**  
Club



# The Meeting



Club President **Brad DeHays** started the meeting and the Invocation and prayer was delivered by **Debbie Johnson**.

**Steve Heiser** - Assistant District Governor was joined by **Wolf Blant**, next year's Assistant DG. Steve also was joined by **Jessica Lange** and **Adam Messmer** of US Bank, Upper Arlington Branch.

**T.A. Ward's** guest was **Chris Montgomery**, Attorney.

**Herb Gillen** was joined by **Jeff Miller**, Audio Visual Specialist.

# Notes and Announcements



**Chip Knoop** is coordinating 4-6 Rotarians to help with the Bed Brigade on Saturday Feb 23 from 11 to noon at UALC Mill Run. The group will assemble six beds and deliver a single family in need.

- Next Meeting February 26 is at The Boat House at Confluence Park. The meeting will start and finish on our regular schedule.
- March 5 is at The Boat House. The meeting will start a half hour later than usual. We may arrive by noon to eat with the meeting beginning at 12:30 and ending by 1:30.
- March 12 is a Raymond Golf Course. The meeting will start and finish on our regular schedule.



Rotary Assistant District Governor **Steve Heiser** reminded the group that Points Matching is still available to all club members. This is an opportunity to obtain Paul Harris Fellow designation through matching Rotary Foundation grants. Steve also presented **Mike Kull** and Herb Gillen with 125 Club Awards.



President DeHays awarded **Dave Hammond** with a Paul Harris Fellowship plus four. Congratulations Dave!

## BED BRIGADE February 23 from 11:00am - Noon at UALC Mill Run

Chip Knoop is coordinating 4-6 Rotarians to help with the Bed Brigade on Saturday Feb 23 from 11 to noon at UALC Mill Run. The group will assemble six beds and deliver a single family in need.