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www.uarotary.org

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



Past President **Herb Gillen** introduced **Joe Nardone**, CEO of the Columbus Regional Airport Authority. Joe came to Columbus from Wayne County Michigan where he was CEO of their Airport Authority and is a Michigan State graduate. The Columbus Authority includes the airports of John Glenn International, Rickenbacker, and Bolton Field.

Nardone was joined online by his assistant, Jenny Gardner, and provided our club overview of their functions. They are a Port Authority funded by air traveler user fees and receive little government assistance. Their mission is promote passenger and freight air commerce in our region that has an economic impact of \$12.8 Billion and over 58,000 jobs. Growth is key objective for the Authority. In 2019, there were 8.6 million passengers and 2020 started ahead of 2019. However, the COVID-19 Pandemic has reduced air travel to about 1/3 of those numbers.

Columbus is attempting to add additional non-stop destinations. Recently, Salt Lake City, Seattle, and San Francisco are now non-stop destinations. Passenger destinations are tallied and monitored to help determine where non-stop destinations are needed. Additionally, there must also be return passengers to economically support the route. He mentioned that an International flight to Paris was never established because analysis

indicated that passengers would not return from Paris to Columbus. Other cities such as Indianapolis and Pittsburg have attempted to secure these destinations, but it is usually at a financial loss.

During Q&A, he addressed the following:

- The 10-year vision for John Glenn includes a new terminal. We must keep costs down to remain competitive with similar cities.
- The \$125 million rental car facility will open next year. Customers will have a 90 second electric bus ride to the facility that will host all rental car companies. This will open 1100 parking spaces in the current garage for customer parking.
- COVID-19 has had less impact on our region due to debt structure. Other cities are in worse financial condition. He hopes 2021 is two extremes: A vaccination period followed by a flood of travelers.
- Portland as a potential non-stop route might be a possibility. It will depend on the metrics and daily passenger data. Airlines are changing their operations with many of them moving away from hubs. Instead, they are moving more passengers in heavily traveled lanes.
- COVID-19 safety precautions for travelers is a priority. Surveys have revealed that air travelers trust the airlines, the airports, but not fellow travelers. John Glenn airport has received recognition for their cleaning protocols.
- Security changes forthcoming will include biometric and touchless procedures.

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

GREETERS

December 22
N/A

December 29
N/A

January 5
Tim Kellogg
Eric Stoll

REGISTRATION DESK

December 22
N/A

December 29
N/A

January 5
N/A

CALENDAR

December 22
No Rotary weekly meeting –
Merry Christmas!

December 29
No Rotary weekly meeting –
Happy New Year!

January 5 - ZOOM Meeting
Dr. Clay B. Marsh, MD, Vice
President & Executive Dean for
Health Sciences, West Virginia
University, *The COVID-19
Pandemic*
Host: Molly Fontana

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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to herb@herbgillen.com for inclusion
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SOCIAL EVENTS

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OUR NEXT MEETING

JANUARY 5TH
ZOOM MEETING

Upper Arlington
Rotary
Club



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- Rickenbacker will continue to see high cargo volumes and passenger activity will increase.
- Food Service in the terminal has been a challenge. This is being addressed and should improve soon with additional concessioners.
- Electric vehicle charging is available on the 5th level of the parking garage.



THE MEETING



The December 15, 2020 Upper Arlington Rotary Meeting was held online via Zoom with approximately 63 online attendees. After a 10-minute chat room session, **President Johnson** opened the meeting, and the Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Mike Drennen**.

Guests: There were no guests or visiting Rotarians.

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:



President Johnson announced the Club Board approved the redirection of funds from the Columbus Foundation to unrestricted funds for club. Thanks to **Rich Simpson** for leading this effort.

The Board also approved criteria for return to hybrid meetings.

Dave Dewey reminded all members there is still time to contribute to the \$125 Club benefiting Rotary Foundation.

Chip Knoop announced that 12 Rotarians and Interact members assembled 19 bed this past Saturday.



Tom Davis stated that all members should have received an email regarding the need for virtual tutors at West Broad Street Elementary. This effort will not begin until mid-January and can be done from any location. One hour per week is needed.

Jeanine Hummer reminded the club that Blood Drive is still a go for this Saturday. Antibody tests are included with your blood donation. There are protocols in place to deal with Covid-19 and there is significant need.



President Johnson wanted to extend thanks to all club members for their support and generosity throughout the Covid-19 Pandemic. Other clubs are currently challenged, and UA Rotary has given a tremendous amount through a tough time.

Brad Frick announced that he will be sharing a video he made commemorating the life of **Wendell Ellenwood**. This video is separate from the Roundtable video that was previously shared with the club. It highlights Wendell's experiences throughout WWII. A special thank you to Brad for this effort.

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WENDELL ELLENWOOD RECOUNTS WWII ACTION

With this week's 76th anniversary of the beginning of the Battle of the Bulge in WWII, Brad Frick has released a new video interview of former UA Rotary president and American hero Wendell Ellenwood. Wendell was a highly decorated member of "Patton's Army" and participated in the Battle of the Bulge. Thank you Brad and Don Trotier for preserving these amazing stories from Wendell that have never been seen before and were recorded just a couple months before he passed!

[CLICK HERE](#) to see the video

UA ROTARY SUPPORTS HOMELESS FAMILIES FOUNDATION HOLIDAY STORE

UA Rotarians and some family members helped at the Homeless Families Foundation Holiday Store on Wednesday evening. Rotary volunteers distributed gifts to some of the families in a drive-up format. Volunteers also helped organize and bag gifts for families. HFF is providing gifts to more than 300 families who are clients of HFF. In addition to funds that UA Rotary provided to HFF to help support the store, several Rotary families adopted a family to shop for this season.

