



TOM STALF PRESIDENT & CEO - COLUMBUS ZOO

OFFICERS

2019-2020

President

Herb Gillen

Vice President

Debbie Johnson

Secretary

Joe Valentino

Treasurer

John Adams

Past President

Brad DeHays

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2018-2020

Carl Aschinger

Milt Lustnauer

Melissa McCurdy

Jim McKinney

Matt Rule

2019-2021

Brad Frick

Wade Giffin

Barri Jones

Allison Russo

John Trapp

President Rotary International

Mark Maloney

District Governor, District 6690

Gary Vaughn

Assistant District Governor

Steve Heiser

ROTARYVIEW

Chairman

Jerry Woessner

Editor

Chris Taylor

Writing & Design

Herb Gillen Advertising

Photography

Tanya Westerviller

ON THE WEB

www.uarotary.org

www.district6690.org

www.rotary.org

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



Brad DeHays introduced our speaker today **Tom Stalf** who is the president and CEO of our Columbus Zoo. Tom brought some animals for us and he talked about what's new at the zoo including some of the new exhibits that they are getting ready to launch this year.

Tom thanked us for volunteering by being part of Rotary. At the Columbus Zoo they have hundreds of docents and volunteers and there have been opportunities where groups of volunteers can help. For example, someone must take all those lights down and put them up. This year they had nearly 500,000 people at the zoo for wild lights in 50 days which makes July the second most popular month of attendance. You would think June, July and August would be very popular. They are but not as popular as December.

This is Tom's 30th year in the zoo business. He worked with Jack Hanna back in 1995 and would bring the animals on stage. He came here after running a zoo in northwest Illinois for 20 years. This is his 10th year at the Columbus Zoo which he's been running for the last 8 years. Before he was CEO and president, he also ran the Wilds in Zanesville. They have built some overnight stay options at the Wilds including cabins and tents that you can stay in.

He shared some World News with us that will be featured on Fox and Friends on April 8. They will have the new young cheetah cubs on the show. There are only 7,000 cheetahs left in Africa and they are in deep trouble because their habitat has been fragmented. They can't just go in the grasslands and meet other cheetahs. The zoo has been working with scientists at the Smithsonian National Zoo for 19 years on in vitro fertilization of big cats. They now have two healthy cheetah cubs; one male, one female, and this is a big deal. This one way the zoo works for sustainability and making a difference for conservation.

The Columbus Zoo attracts 3 million guests every year. They have a \$320 million economic impact annually to our community. They have 114 different projects in and around the world in 46 different countries. They raise millions of dollars for those facilities. Last year, they were able to contribute \$230 million to field conservation all around the world.

At the Zoo they believe that if they can bring animals to you and tell you about their special characteristics that you'll fall in love with them and then maybe you'll be inspired by them and will want to support animal welfare in any way you can have. This year the Zoo will be opening Adventure Cove which will feature seals and sea lions as well as some animals he brought with him today. In Adventure Cove none of the animals will be doing tricks. They're not going to be bouncing beach balls on their noses at the sea lion area. They will be doing what they do naturally.

First, we saw a Bush Baby. A Bush Baby is a pro Simeon which is an early primate found in Africa. They're a nocturnal animal that's arboreal so they're active at night and mainly in the trees. We watched the Bush Baby jump from one staff member to another and back again. In the wild they jump from tree to tree looking for bugs which makes them great pollinators. They'll get the pollen on their fur and as they jump from tree to tree and plant to plant, they'll pollinate just like our bees and insects.



GREETERS

March 3
NO REGULAR WEEKLY
LUNCH MEETING

March 10
Telanda Sidari
Tom Sugar

March 17
Rick Keeler
Steve Frame

REGISTRATION DESK

March 3
NO REGULAR WEEKLY
LUNCH MEETING

March 10
Ted Foster
Brendan King

March 17
Don Leach
J.D. Dickerson

CALENDAR

March 3
NO REGULAR WEEKLY
LUNCH MEETING

March 10 | Raymond Memorial
Michelle Heritage, Ex. Director,
Community Shelter Board,
*The State of Homelessness in
Central Ohio*
Host: Herb Gillen

March 17 | Raymond Memorial
Nick Myers, Head Coach
Men's Lacrosse –
The Ohio State University
Host: Mike Zieg

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

NO MEETING ON MARCH 3RD!
Next meeting is March 10th
at Raymond Memorial

Upper Arlington
Rotary
Club



TOM STALF

PRESIDENT & CEO - COLUMBUS ZOO



Next was Kevin who is a Seriana which is a type of bird of prey. He demonstrated a natural behavior using a little rubber lizard. In the wild they'll catch reptiles, and since they don't want to be bitten by anything venomous, they'll grab it, and then they'll slam it on a rock.

Our third animal was a two toed sloth. There are two types of sloths in the world: two toed and three toed. As you'd expect, two toed sloths have two toes and three toed sloths have three toes. In addition, a three toed sloth is much larger, it's a marble color and it has a black mask. A two toed sloth is a brownish color. Everything that a sloth does is very slow. They use those toes to hang upside down. Their hair is wiry starts at their chest and goes down. When it's raining, it repels the water, so they don't get all soggy and wet. It just rolls right off them. At night, they find a little crevice, and they'll sit and be very, very quiet. Just once a week, they'll come down off their tree and go away from their tree to go to the bathroom. They do that so the jaguar doesn't smell where they live. They're very good swimmers. And if they must go across the river or across the lake, they can easily do that.

Tom shared some slides of the new construction at the Zoo. At Adventure Cove, there will be indoor and outdoor areas where you can bring your family and do a VIP experience like a birthday party. You'll have the opportunity to see not only the sloths or flying servals jumping in the air but all of the great characteristics that make the animal world amazing.

The Adventure Cove is a 400,000-gallon sea lion area. They have a total of 20 sea lions and some harbor seals. They built this facility just like the manatee facility so that if they need to bring in animals that are injured, they can rehab in the facility and then be released in the wild. This will be at the front of the zoo. One of the first things that they heard from guests was it's a big parking lot. And it takes a long time to get from the parking lot to see their first animal. They wanted to give an experience right away. It's right next to the gift shop.

There is underwater viewing as well as the opportunity to see the animals above water. There is also a glass area with 360-degree viewing. The animals

will swim below you, to the side of you and above you. A great thing about the design of this exhibit is every hour there'll be a sea lion and seal display or presentation. And when they're not doing their presentation to show you what seals and sea lions can do, some of the other animals will use the same pool.

They have a brand-new sting ray bay which will now be free to visit. They are also building a new education building which is also at the front of the zoo. And they are in the design phase for a new orangutan area.

They are hosting a national conference this year that will bring in 4,500 delegates from around the world that will spend a week at the convention center downtown, and then a day at the zoo. They're working on a tram transportation system throughout the entire zoo so you can just get on a tram and you don't have to walk the seven miles as you're walking around.

They are looking at putting in a couple of tunnels or bridges so there will be more access than just the current one that goes from the east side to the west side. They're going to be remodeling the Congo expedition. The gorilla area will be remodeled, and they will be bringing in some meerkats, and a new aquarium in Australia.

At the zoo they have 11,000 animals and 2,500 employees. Their operating budget is \$105 million a year. It's a real big nonprofit. Eighty of the employees are animal trainers. They only use positive reinforcement; they never ask the animals to do anything they don't want to do. They're given treats that they want in addition to their normal diet, and they love being around people.

This year they expect to see 2.4 million guests at the Zoo, nearly 500,000 people at the waterpark, 46,000 rounds of golf at Safari and 125,000 folks at the Wilds. They can accommodate 70 people every single night at the Wilds which are open year-round for the cabins and tents.



Check out the website, ColumbusZoo.org, to see all the opportunities available.

GREETERS

February 25

Matt Rule
Rudy Whipps

March 3

NO REGULAR WEEKLY
LUNCH MEETING

March 10

Telanda Sidari
Tom Sugar

REGISTRATION DESK

February 25

Larry McVey
Milt Lustnauer

March 3

NO REGULAR WEEKLY
LUNCH MEETING

March 10

Ted Foster
Brendan King

CALENDAR

March 3

NO REGULAR WEEKLY
LUNCH MEETING

**March 10 | Raymond Memorial
Michelle Heritage, Ex. Director,
Community Shelter Board,
The State of Homelessness in
Central Ohio**

Host: Herb Gillen

**March 17 | Raymond Memorial
Nick Myers, Head Coach
Men's Lacrosse –
The Ohio State University**

Host: Mike Zieg

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

NO MEETING ON MARCH 3RD!

Next meeting is March 10th
at Raymond Memorial

The Meeting



We were reminded about the Upper Arlington High School Vocal Music production of Cinderella which will be presented Thursday through Sunday, February 20 through 23 at UAHS.

Notes and Announcements



President Herb shared that we are not having a regular weekly meeting next week. We are doing a Rotary Dine-A-Round next Friday instead. Sign-up sheets were on the tables. We had a lot of folks sign up last week, but you can still sign up until Monday. We're going to be dining in the Grandview area. We're going to be meeting for a complimentary cocktail reception at Grandview Cafe to start off and then we will be sending you out in groups to restaurants in the Grandview area. And then for those who would like, we're going to have some ice cream at Jeni's and then after dinner drinks back at Grandview Cafe.

President Herb passed around a sheet so members can provide their spouses' contact information. One of the things that we would like to start doing for social events and other things is to be able to send out information to spouses. Hopefully this will help members deconflict schedules with their spouses.



President Herb remarked that we've got a bunch of service projects coming up in March and you'll be getting an email this weekend that lays those out. When you come to a Rotary service project, we'd really like to encourage you to wear one of the Rotary @ Work t-shirts. Any member that's that doesn't have one was invited to pick one up on the way out and wear it for the next project. For those that didn't get to pick one up and needs one, they can pick them up at Herb Gillen Advertising office at 1953 South Mallway Drive beside Jones Middle School.

Milt Lustnauer announced that we didn't have any visiting Rotarian today, but we had several guests.

Joe Ayers brought his coworker Jeremy Alexander.

Brad DeHays brought Ua Chamberlain who is the owner of UA Creative.

Jeanine Hummer introduced **Jackie Thiel** who is the director of public service and our city engineer.

John Trapp introduced **Richard Spence**.

Michelle Hoyle brought her sister **Lori Avery**.

Debbie Johnson brought **Susan Maxie**.

John Huneck announced that next Thursday, March 5 we are serving the meal at the YMCA family shelter. It's a great opportunity for community service. Let him know if you are interested in helping.

Don Trotier let us know that we are not at Scioto on the 10th or the 17th. We will be at Raymond instead.

President Herb promised that he will send out updated standings in the February Membership Madness.

Andy Schmidt came up to present our newest new blue badge to **Sandra Cotter**. He also announced that we will have five new members next month.

President Herb took the opportunity to recognize recent 125 Club members. The 125 Club is for anyone who has made a \$100 donation to the Rotary International Foundation and \$25 donation to Polio Plus. Members recognized included **Chuck Manofsky** and **Dan Rally**. Also recognized were Paul Harris Fellows who have accumulated \$1000 in donations to the RI Foundation **Dan Roe (+2)**, **Don Trotier (+3)** and **Tom Westfall (+2)**.

