



PHIL WASHBURN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - FURNITURE BANK OF CENTRAL OHIO

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



Ralph Griffith introduced the speaker, **Phil Washburn**, Executive Director of Furniture Bank of Central Ohio. Phil has been at Furniture Bank for about 17 months, having served earlier at Habitat for Humanity Mid-Ohio as Senior Director of Programs and at Freedom a la Cart. Phil is originally from Upper Sandusky and is a Bowling Green State University graduate. He is married, with 2 daughters and a golden lab.

Phil described the mission of the Furniture Bank, which is to turn empty houses into homes of hope. The goal is for each family to have the basic furniture needed to get them through their life crises.

The Furniture Bank just celebrated its 25th anniversary. During its existence, more than 75,000 families and individuals have received furniture, with typically 5-20 pieces provided. The vision that prompted the creation of the Furniture Bank was to provide the alternative of giving away good used furniture, instead of throwing it away or selling it.

The Furniture Bank works with approximately 75 local agencies to identify and distribute furniture to families in need, as part of a coordinated effort to help them with their long-term challenges. Families have the opportunity to walk through a showroom and pick appropriate pieces, in a dignified manner, with the furniture delivered on the same day.

90 percent of the families served make less than \$19,000 per year. More than 50% have children, with 33% being single parent households.

The reasons for need for furniture include the following: homelessness or eviction; job loss; a move needed for child safety; natural disaster; or disability or illness.

The Furniture Bank is supported by more than 2000 volunteers per year, providing over 25,000 hours of work, including sorting and processing donated items, walking families through the showroom, and even making furniture.

Donations also support the Furniture Bank. These include financial gifts, plus donations of furniture itself, via free pick-up of up to 10 items, usually for use by families, and sometimes, when impractical for families, for sale at the Furniture Bank's thrift stores. Furniture Bank also has two social enterprises: Furniture with a Heart thrift stores, and Downsize with a Heart, which helps people who are moving or otherwise need to dispose of furniture and declutter.

The Furniture Bank has broken ground on a new 52,000 square foot warehouse at its existing location in Franklinton, to allow for an expansion of its workshop, to provide for an additional showroom and to renovate its office space.

There will be 2 dates announced soon for Club members to volunteer at the Furniture Bank.

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

GREETERS

April 4

Scott Emch
Brian Close

April 11

Jay Babbitt
Barri Jones

April 18

Brian Bainbridge
Mike Turnbull

REGISTRATION DESK

April 4

Dick Stone
Janine Hummer

April 11

Kevin Brown
Brian Hall

April 18

Ted Foster
Brendan King

CALENDAR

April 4- Scioto CC/Zoom

Dr. Larry J. Lilly, MD,
Medical Director, Overview
of OhioHealth's Cancer
Survivorship Program
Host: Angela Lanctot

April 11- Scioto CC/Zoom

Maddy Beck, Angel Flight East
Host: Angela Lanctot

April 18- Scioto CC/Zoom

Michael Wilkos, Sr VP of
Community Impact of
United Way
Host: Mary Ann Krauss

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

APRIL 4TH

Scioto Country Club/Zoom

Upper Arlington
Rotary
Club



THE MEETING



Milt Lustnauer opened the meeting, which was held in person at Scioto Country Club and also via Zoom.

Tom Davis provided the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

Ralph Griffith introduced his guest and his wife, **Dotsy Griffiths**.

Visiting Rotarians were **John Jaynes** of the Dublin-Worthington Club and **Brian Stanfill** of the Delaware Club.

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:



Barri Jones encouraged members to support two current initiatives.

We are currently readying an order for Rotary T-shirts. Our order will be submitted on April 5. Your order form with check made out to UA Rotary should be returned to Barri by April 4. Here is a link to the form: [Click Here](#)

The assistance League of Greater Columbus is having its annual flower sale. Information is found in the following link. Orders and payments should be sent to the organization's Worthington address found on the form. [Click Here](#)

Sandra Cotter announced the next Roundtable on April 11. Matt Rule of National Church Residences and, of course, a Club member, will be speaking on the topic of "Choices as We Age."

Debbie Johnson presented a flag from the Club whose meeting she attended near her vacation home.

Chip Knoop noted that **Doug Sandbo** fell and broke his femur, and is currently staying in an assisted living unit in Sarasota.

Chip also provided a reminder about the upcoming District Conference, on April 28-29, at the National Veterans Memorial and Museum. UA Rotarians can attend for no additional cost, because the Club already paid for attendance, via a special assessment over the last couple of years. The last day to register is April 13.

Milt Lustnauer provided a reminder of a pickleball-centric social event, taking place at Pickles & Chill on April 22 from 12-2 pm.

Brian Trotier, son of our own **Don Trotier** gave a Rotary Roundtable presentation (via Zoom) for us several months ago and an article with additional information about Brian's work is [here](#).



UA ROTARIANS IN SERVICE

Upper Arlington Rotary Club members **Mike Kull** and **Jay Babbitt** volunteered greeting guests at the Move to PROSPER ten family pilot program final evaluation event. UA Rotary is a funder of the Move to PROSPER program.