



Weekly eWheel for the

# Rotary Club of St. Joseph-Benton Harbor



Michigan, USA • District 6360 • Chartered 1918

## MARCH 6, 2017

We kicked off the month with a wild meeting at Sarett Nature Center! What a nice change of pace to take our meeting on the road and a great opportunity to visit their lovely facility.

### WILD DAY AT SARETT



For a bio, Diane Braybrook of Sarett Nature center says "I've been here a lot of years"

A unique characteristic of the eastern screech owl is their ability to turn their head past their shoulder. Humans have notches on our vertebrae that stop us from turning our heads nearly so far. They also have big eyes and very good eyesight. The can't move their eyes though which accounts for the necessity of the range of motion in their necks.

Screech owls eat rodents in the winter and bugs in the summer...sometimes they will also eat other birds. They swallow their prey whole and then regurgitate the inedible bits like bones and feathers.

This particular screech owl is an adult and has been at Sarett for over 10 years. Another bird more recently made Sarett their home. Val, the turkey vulture, has been with the organization for a year and a half. As luck would have it, immediately after Sarett agreed to take in the bird from a wildlife rehabilitator, a woman came in to volunteer who had experience working with turkey vultures.

and it turns out, she started with the organization right out of college! Diane kicked things off by noting that the facility was especially quiet because it was a Monday and they don't have school groups visit on Mondays. We are apparently a much quieter group.

This has been a rough winter for Sarett. Some of their featured activities include snowshoeing and cross country skiing and we haven't had any snow. The weather hasn't been great for nature either. Many turtles and snakes have been coming out of hibernation too early.

Our first wild guest of the day was an eastern screech owl. The bird is considered unreleasable which is the case with most of the animals who have made a home at Sarett. Most often, it's due to an accident involving a car. Insects are attracted to car headlights and the owls are attracted to insects.

### IMPORTANT DATES

- ❖ 3/10: SJ Interact Club Fundraiser at Moe's, 7-9 PM
- ❖ 3/13 Meeting: Rural Ag Day with Bill Shuler, Dairy Farming
- ❖ 3/20: Celebrate Rotary! There will be no afternoon meeting on this day
- ❖ 3/27 Meeting: Matt Hanley, Vail Rubber Company

# Rotary



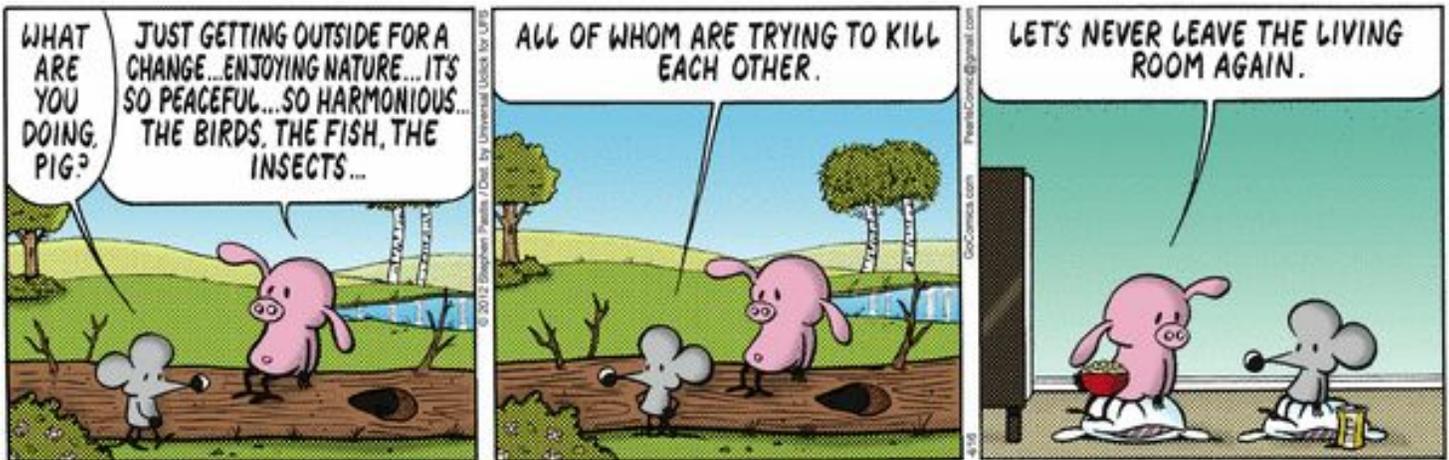
## THE FOUR-WAY TEST

of the things we think, say or do

- 1 Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2 Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3 Will it build **GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- 4 Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

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## JOKE OF THE WEEK



### ROTARIANS WITH MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 3/1 - Chad Deja
- 3/6 - Brian Berger
- 3/7 - Joen Brambilla
- 3/8 - James Turner
- 3/12 - Jack Sukup
- 3/15 - Jack Chandler
- 3/16 - Jim Marohn & Dwight Bowman
- 3/18 - Donna Howard
- 3/21 - Gayle Olson
- 3/28 - Jim Marohn
- 3/31 - Millicent Huminsky



### ROTARIANS WITH GUESTS

Kurt Marzke brought Helen & Annie Marzke



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

### 10+ YEAR ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES

- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 11 Years - Jan Ferguson | 17 Years - Tereck Halsey  |
| 14 Years - Mary Kynast  | 40 Years - Sheldon Lee    |
| 15 Years - Richard Ward | 47 Years - Allan Westmaas |
| 16 Years - Jim Marohn   |                           |

### 100 YEARS IN THE MAKING!

The 100 Year Celebration steering committee is looking for a chairperson (or persons) for the 6/16/18 event. Please contact Rick Villa at [rvilla@villaenv.com](mailto:rvilla@villaenv.com) if you are interested.

WELCOME TO **FUNDRAISING IS ONE OF OUR FRESHEST INGREDIENTS.**

**\$10 ALL YOU CAN EAT INTERACT CLUB ST. JOE**

**MARCH 10, 7P-9P**

VALID AT ANY OF THESE PARTICIPATING MOE'S LOCATIONS:

3260 NILES ROAD  
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085  
(269) 556-1155

70%

OF THE SALE\* WILL GO TO SUPPORT YOUR ORGANIZATION.

\*PRE-SALES TAX MUST PRESENT THIS AD BY INVOICED TIME OF SALE. VALID ONLY AT LOCATIONS LISTED ON DATE OF EVENT. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. ONE COUPON PER PURCHASE. EXCLUSION OF ALCOHOL, TAX AND GRATUITY. NOT FOR SALE OR RESALE. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. CASH VALUE \$1000. NO CASH BACK. EXPIRES 12/31/18. EXCLUSIONS MAY APPLY.

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#WELCOMETOMOES  
MOES.COM

**Rotary**  Club of  
St. Joseph  
Benton Harbor

## **CELEBRATE ROTARY! PRESIDENTS' NIGHT TO END POLIO**

Join us in celebration of our tradition of and ongoing commitment to service to the community, our past presidents, and Rotary International's mission to end polio worldwide.

**Monday, March 20, 2017**  
5:00pm-7:00pm

**Shadowland on Silver Beach**  
333 Broad Street  
St. Joseph, Michigan

Heavy Appetizers - Cash Bar

**RSVP** - Prior to March 15<sup>th</sup>  
kristiaubrey@gmail.com or phone 269.985.3182

**Free to the Public - Business Casual**

### GOLD SPONSORS



### SILVER SPONSORS

Aubrey Court Reporting  
Al Butzbaugh

Banyon Investments  
Bill Marohn

Honor Credit Union  
Vail Rubber Works, LLC

## **CELEBRATE ROTARY! PRESIDENTS' NIGHT TO END POLIO**

Help us get the word out to the community!

### **REQUESTED ACTIONS:**

- Invite your Facebook friends and share the [Facebook Event](#)
- Invite your friends via email--download and [embed this graphic](#) into your email message or [share as .PDF](#).
- Personally invite your friends and family!

**The Latest** Back to Double Digit Industrial Growth in West MI | Posted 2 days ago

**SEARCH RESULTS FOR: ROTARY**



**SJ-BH Rotary Rolls Out Celebration Encore**

By Pat Moody | Posted March 7, 2017 | What's Happening

Service clubs across America love it when a solid plan comes together and an inaugural event turns into an...

**SEARCH THE SITE**

search

**CLOSINGS & DELAYS**

**2017 ROTARY TRACK MEET ADVERTISEMENTS**

The 60th running of the Rotary Club of St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Track Meet will be held on Friday, May 5 at Benton Harbor High School. As in past years, we will have a program with all of the key records, event lineup, this year's honoree, and the participating schools. Additionally, we will try to have the program FULL of advertisements that we have sold.

The advertising sales are our club's key revenue source for this event and largely determines if we are able to do a little better than break even after we award the four scholarships totaling \$8,000 to four worthy athletes. Last year, through your great efforts and support, was our best year ever regarding advertising sales. We sold \$9,375 worth of advertisements!!

As mentioned each year, we make a concerted effort for sales to businesses outside of our Rotary Club but usually have little success. For example, last year we had one ad for \$100 even though approximately 50 businesses were contacted. As such, if we are to be successful again this year, we must rely heavily on our Rotarians that own/manage a business and choose to advertise in the Rotary Track Meet Program. The advertising Purchase Order will start appearing at the tables each week and at the badge box for your consideration. Your support is appreciated.

All of the relevant details are spelled out on the form. If you have any questions and/or comments, please discuss with J.C. Anderson at 269-921-2513 or [anderjcna@gmail.com](mailto:anderjcna@gmail.com).



**Save the Date** for the Annual District Conference!!!  
District Governor Bill Smith welcomes you to his Rotary District 6360 Conference, scheduled for May 12-13, 2017 at the McCamly Plaza Hotel in Battle Creek



**Registration will be open soon!**

## WILD DAY AT SARETT (CONTINUED)



Turkey vultures are the only vultures native to our area. The black vulture is a smaller bird with a black head that lives in more southern regions. The California condor is the

largest vulture and is an endangered species.

Val weighs 14 lbs and gets to eat a hamster every day. Vultures are purely scavengers and have a keen sense of smell that can detect carrion (the decaying flesh of dead animals) from over a mile away. This is unique because most birds have no sense of smell.

Vultures have no way to call or sing like other birds. The only sound they make is a hiss. They have great eyesight and are very efficient flyers. Vultures actually glide instead of flapping their wings.

She has delicate feet that help her move on the ground so she's more comfortable walking than other types of birds. She also has a featherless head which helps keep her clean when she's burrowing her head in a carcass.

Vultures don't build nests. They lay eggs in protected areas on the ground, often near the base of a tree. They have a "special" defense mechanism in that they will throw up on attackers which is both gross and effective because of their harsh stomach acid. That harsh stomach acid is very important though in that it allows the birds to clean up dead animals which may otherwise spread disease.

Our last wild guest was a black rat snake. They get themselves in trouble a lot because they want to be where rodents are and rodents are often found by houses and barns...which is also where people are. The black rat snake is a protected animal and if you encounter one in the wild, you should just leave it alone.

The black rat snake is the largest in our area and can measure around 5' when stretched out. Right now, garter snakes are out of hibernation but not the black rat snake or the blue racer. Diane noted that kids generally aren't afraid of snakes and that it's a learned fear which is unfounded. Regardless of your fear, you shouldn't pick up wild snakes, they are likely to be afraid of you and may react negatively.



For more information about Sarett Nature Center, you can visit their website at [sarett.com](http://sarett.com).

### ***Does your Rotary Club have a "Rotary Hero?"***

Heroes will be recognized at District Conference...

If you would like to nominate a Rotary Hero from our club, please email Steve Smith at [ssmith@fosterswift.com](mailto:ssmith@fosterswift.com). Rotary Hero will be expected to attend the District Conference.



## WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE eWHEEL?

Your weekly email is brought to you by Emily Hosinski, Jennifer VanBeck, Brandi Smith-Gordon and Lisa Cripps-Downey with photography by Jen Cole. If you have an announcement, a bit of news you wish to share, or a story you wish to see featured, please write to [RotarySJBH@gmail.com](mailto:RotarySJBH@gmail.com).

Connect with the Rotary Club of St.

Joseph-Benton Harbor

online at [www.sjbhrotary.org](http://www.sjbhrotary.org)



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