



WISCONSIN RAPIDS SUNRISE SCRIPT

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April 15, 2021

District 6250 Wisconsin Rapids Rotary – Sunrise – Club No. 31198, Chartered 12/29/95
Box 1181, Wisconsin Rapids WI 54495

Today's Program

Fred Stich–Kristopher Gasch & Betsy Wood “Incorage Update”

This week Sunrise Rotary is conducting its weekly meeting on Zoom.



Click on this link to Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/76631647715?pwd=RWFVteU1aMzhXTmtGa3QyRmtTTi9HZz09>

Meeting ID: 766 3164 7715 Password: 4J7xBF

Dial in: 312 626 6799 Passcode: 960151

Week	Rotarian/Program
April 22	Avenues of Service – May Food Drive
April 29	Dean Veneman
May 6	Angel Whitehead
May 13	Karen Wiessinger
May 20	Nick Abts

Rotary News

- We had 24 people on the meeting including our two new April youth Rotars Lexi Radke and Hunter Harms. Lexi is at LHS and involved in HOSA and is planning on becoming an ultrasound technician. Hunter is at AHS, plays football, and is looking at pursuing a degree in chemistry at UWSP.
- Highway cleanup is set for Thursday, April 22, at 5:00 pm meeting at the southeast corner of Highway 54 and 48th street. Be prepared to ward off ticks.
- Interviews are planned for the mentoring scholarship and reviews are in motion for the high school scholarship as well.
- Discussion about resuming face-to-face meetings decided to start in June. We would like to locate at Mid-State once available but are looking at interim solutions.

Sharon Schwab Greater Prairie-chicken Festival

Sharon shared the background on the greater prairie-chicken and its decimation over the years. In the 1800's they were harvested and shipped in tons mainly for their meat. However, the greatest demise has been the decline in grassland habitat. Take a look at the difference in how their range has changed over the last 100 years. State and Federal land policies encourage forestation or tillage of land over conservation grasslands. The Greater Prairie Chicken is an endangered species as of 1979 with an estimated population of only 600 remaining in Wisconsin.

The mating ritual which features the guttural “drumming” of males in search of a mate. April is the peak time for observation of their activities and traditional the festival allows people to view them via blinds in the conservation areas. Due to COVID there are no observations via blinds this year though you may be able to observe some from the road.

For a closer look at this activity see the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BGSWi_vgu9A

OFFICERS 2020/2021

District Governor – Bill Pritchard

President – Carrie Nikolai

carrie.nikolai@coldwellbanker.com

President Elect – Michael Kirshling

michael@insurandwealthplanning.com

Past President – Dave Guse

senegaldave1@gmail.com

Treasurer – Mary Jo Green

mary_jo_green@hotmail.com

Secretary - Bill Lindroth

mwlindroth@solarus.biz

Dennis McCarville for meetings

dennis.mccarville@ampf.com

Sergeant at Arms – Kyle Cronan

cronaky@pesd.k12.wi.us

Script Editor- Rick Merdan

rick.merdan@gmail.com

Current Paul Harris Fellows

Barry Jens

Bob Ebben

Dean Veneman (3)

Dennis McCarville

Fred Stich (2)

John Moffat (3)

Karen Kienert

Kristopher Gasch

Larry Schmick

Mary Jo Green (3)

Mary Wirtz

Nancy Mischnick

Tim Krueger

Tom Paul (4)

Tom Schneider (2)

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Vocational Service

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Community Service

Dave Guse, chair

International Service

Nancy Mischnick, co-chair

Tom Schneider, co-chair

Club Service / Membership

Rick Merdan, chair

R.I. Foundation Liaison

Karen Kienert

Polio Plus Chairperson

Tom Schneider

Youth Exchange Officer

TBD

Youth Exchange Counselor

Tom Schneider

Youth Protection Officer

TBD

A weeklong celebration of the Greater Prairie-chicken and its grassland habitat



Virtual Festival starting Sunday April 11, 2021
With live presentations on
Sunday April 17, 2021
See Wisconsin Prairie Chicken Festival Facebook




Greater Prairie-chicken...

- Member of the grouse family
- Require large grasslands
- Native to Wisconsin
- Threatened species

The 'drummer of love'



Genus Name
Tympanuchus

Species Name
Cupido



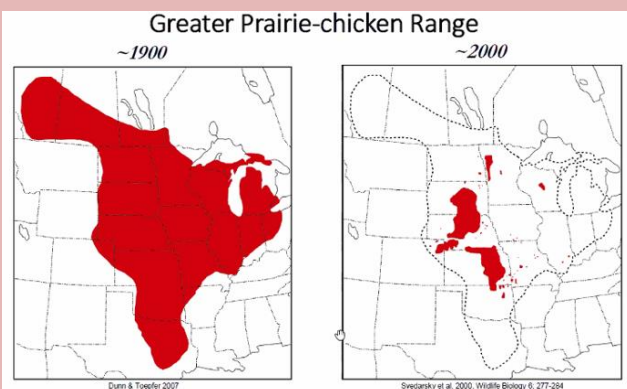
The air sacs are called tympani.

- *tym·pa·ni* - a set of kettledrums (Latin)
- Linnaeus thought of cupid, as the penna looked like his wings-cupido pinnates



Hunting of the Greater Prairie-chicken

- In the mid-1800s GPCH shipments were measured in the tons of birds!
- Scarcities noted in 1950s - Wisconsin was the first state to have season limits
 - 1917: 4-yr moratorium (8 yrs-Portage Co.)
 - Short hunting periods 1921-1955
- Population bottleneck (~1950's) = genetic loss
- Hunting banned in 1955

Threatened Status

Oct. 1, 1979 = State-Threatened status



The loss of habitat, from oak barrens to prairies, has been more devastating than hunting, and remains the greatest threat to GPCH survival in Wisconsin.