Monday’s Meeting: January 29, 2018
Steve Kiessling
Nature’s Nursery

Steve Kiessling has nearly 20 years of experience in the non-profit world, holding positions with duties ranging from program development, fundraising, project management and executive leadership. He has been the Executive Director of Nature’s Nursery for 2 years, but has been associated with the agency for more than 12 years — serving as a volunteer, animal transporter, board member and past board president. He holds a Masters in Education from the University of Toledo, and an undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia. Nature’s Nursery Center for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation Education is a non-profit organization located in Whitehouse, Ohio. They provide medical care to injured, orphaned or ailing wild animals, and conduct conservation educational outreach programs for children and adults.

Their mission is to improve the well-being of Northwest Ohio wildlife populations and habitats through public education and rehabilitation, with an emphasis on coexistence. They serve the entire surrounding region of 18 counties in Northwest Ohio. Staff and volunteers answer over 200 emergency calls per week, and provide care to over 2,500 native animals per year; rehabilitating and releasing over 50% of them back into the wild. As important as their rehabilitation services, is their community education programming. They reach over 15,000 children and adults through their education animal ambassadors, teaching them the importance of our local wild populations, how to protect their habitats, and how best to live in harmony with the wildlife in their own backyards.

As a privately supported organization, Nature's Nursery relies on the generosity of the community through memberships, individual and corporate contributions, grants, and community support organizations, such as Northwest Ohio Community Shares. Operating with a small staff, they are grateful for their dedicated volunteers who donate thousands of hours every year. Through donor philanthropy, volunteerism and community activism, Nature's Nursery is able to educate the public about conservation issues, the value of wildlife and how to live in harmony with our wild surroundings to reduce human/wildlife conflict.
Toledo Rotary Club Foundation Grant Recipient:  
Aurora Project, Inc.

The Toledo Rotary Club Foundation recently awarded the Aurora Project, Inc. a grant in the amount of $4,475. The funds were used to purchase two ZappBug Ovens and a commercial grade freezer.

The purpose of the ZappBug Ovens is to prevent the introduction of bed bugs and other types of infestation into their congregate site. The commercial grade freezer will allow them to purchase and then store bulk food items such as meats, vegetables, etc. This will result in cost savings to the organization.

The ZappBug oven was used two days after receipt; a program participant contracted shingles and all clothing and bedding needed to be disinfected. Using the device, they were able to do so within a very short period of time. The freezer was put to use immediately upon receipt.

By having the ZappBug ovens, Aurora Project will experience cost and time savings due to having a sanitizer on-site, as opposed to having to retain the services of an exterminator for infestations.

Aurora Project, Inc. is a comprehensive housing and life skills program that empowers homeless women and their children to achieve self-sufficiency and independence, by providing resources and learning opportunities in a supportive and safe environment.

Aurora Project, Inc. was established in 1986 to provide service enriched housing to homeless women and their children. Aurora is the only program in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan that will allow children to reside with their mothers while addressing the issues which led to their homelessness. The families Aurora serves have extremely complex service needs and are homeless for a variety of reasons, i.e., chemical dependency, severe mental health, domestic violence and economic downturn (loss of employment/foreclosure). In fiscal year 2015/2016, Aurora served 46 women and 53 children (resident/visiting) The yearly cost of serving a family is approximately $10,000, and of those women who complete their program, 70% will remain successful, i.e. housing, employment/education, etc.

Aurora operates 23 units of housing at four sites:

- Aurora House has 13 units of housing at its congregate facility locate at 1035 N. Superior Street
- Four one bedroom step-up apartments located at 702 North Erie Street (Covenant House)
- Two permanent housing units located at 1023-1025 N. Superior
- Four apartments of Permanent Supportive Housing located at 529 Elm Street

Covenant House is a component of their program which offers more independence for women as they learn to use the skills they have acquired in the congregate living component of Aurora House.

Programs are offered to families which will increase their opportunity to obtain and maintain permanent housing:

- Life skills
- Financial management
- Parent education
- Relapse prevention
- Computer lab
- Employment/job skills training
- Nutrition education
- Creative exploration
- Story Time – reading strategies, language development strategies, etc.
Andy is the Vice President of HCC, Incorporated—a full-service coin company. Andy grew up in Georgia—yes the National Championship was a bit of a heartbreaker for him—but, he was always familiar with Toledo as a kid. His dad worked for Owens Corning for 36 years, where he spent the first 25 of them avoiding the move to Toledo. Eventually, he could no longer avoid this fate and the Fox family made the move in 2001. Andy graduated from Southview in 2004, and got back to the southeast immediately for school at Elon University in North Carolina.

After college, he returned to Georgia and convinced his now wife and high school sweetheart to take a chance and move to Georgia—she did in 2010. They got married in 2013, and moved back to the southeast immediately for school at Elon University in North Carolina.

Andy’s biggest pet peeve is “entitled” sports fans.

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After college, he returned to Georgia and convinced his now wife and high school sweetheart to take a chance and move to Georgia—she did in 2010. They got married in 2013, and moved back to Toledo one month after the wedding. His wife, Courtney, works for Sylvania Schools as a 5th grade teacher. They have a 2 ½ year old boy, Teddy and a baby girl who was born the day after Christmas, just four weeks ago, named Nellie.

When Andy is not working or with his family, he spends much of his time serving Elon and is currently the Past-President of the Elon Young Alumni Council, until this spring when he finally gets a much deserved break from collegiate volunteering leadership roles. He also serves on the Marketing Committee for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of NW Ohio.

With the remaining free time he has, you can generally find him on the course at Toledo Country Club, cooking for friends and family, or cheering on his favorite Chicago sports teams—Cubs and Bears. You’re probably wondering where this came from...his mom and dad both were born and raised in Chicago, so the brainwashing started at an early age, and Andy’s own children are undergoing the very same treatment.

Andy’s biggest pet peeve is “entitled” sports fans.
WELCOME NEW MEMBER: Kent Sackman!

Describe your profession and what is your favorite part of it?
I’m co-founder and president of Concentrek Group. I most enjoy building successful client relationships with team-based, creative problem solving and new, constantly evolving technologies.

What do you like to do when you are not working?
Look for me in the kitchen, outdoors, snapping nature pics, or attempting to land a fish or two.

What is the most satisfying benefit you get from being a Rotarian?
I welcome the opportunity to positively connect with people who have made a real commitment to making this community a better place to live and work.

Tell us about your family.
Youngest of 5. Father of 4. Husband and best friend to Renee. Family is my number one priority.

Share one thing people do not know about you.
My great uncle was Toledo bowling legend and United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer, Junior Powell. I did not inherit his great bowling prowess, however.

Share some “words to live by” or your favorite quote.
“The way out is through.” (Keep working at it. There IS a solution!)

What would you be doing if you were not in your profession today?
Something that would enable me to serve my interests in the environment, education, and creativity.

Outside of Rotary, please share other interesting civic or community involvement of which you are a part.
I have enjoyed relationships supporting the marketing efforts of local nonprofit groups, Food for Thought and Leadership Toledo.

Where do you see yourself in ten years?
I plan on staying engaged and having fun trying to promote positive growth within my family, community and business ventures.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER: Brian Heady!

Describe your profession and what is your favorite part of it?
I’m a serial entrepreneur (but formally trained in the fine arts). I like the challenge of taking a business from concept to reality.

What do you like to do when you are not working?
I enjoy traveling with my family, improving my guitar chops, drinking fine wine and riding my motorcycle (not after I’ve had wine though).

What is the most satisfying benefit you get from being a Rotarian?
Since I’ve just joined, ask me a year from now.

Tell us about your family.
I’m married to my wonderful wife Amy. I have 3 children – Ian (15), Evelyn (11) and Lillian (9). And, our most recent addition, Rudy, a golden-doodle.

Share one thing people do not know about you.
i’m a “sneakerhead”

Share some “words to live by” or your favorite quote.
“Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.” -Arthur Ashe
“The secret to creativity is knowing how to hide your sources.” -Albert Einstein
“If you don’t know where you are going, you’ll end up someplace else” -Yogi Berra

What would you be doing if you were not in your profession today?
I would be a portrait artist or sculptor.

Outside of Rotary, please share other interesting civic or community involvement of which you are a part.
As a creative professional, I donate my time and talent to both of my children’s schools St. Joseph Sylvania and St. Francis De Sales HS.

Where do you see yourself in ten years?
Building another great business and buying another motorcycle.
Past Program: January 22, 2018
Karen Berman
Toledo Early College High School

Karen Berman is the principal of the Toledo Early College High School. Their curriculum is designed to accelerate students into college courses at the University of Toledo, beginning with the freshman year. They also offer a STEMM program partnering with ProMedica and the University of Toledo, focusing primarily on medicine and the health care professions. Students take two years of English, up to three years of mathematics and science and two years of social studies at the high school level. All other courses, including foreign languages and electives, are taken at the University of Toledo. Students can earn up to 60 college credits during their four-year high school experience. College-level courses and required textbooks are provided at no cost to students. College courses qualify for dual credits, allowing them to be counted for high school and college credits. Students earn credits that will be recorded officially on TPS and UT transcripts. The TECHS curriculum starts with a summer reading program, which requires students to complete a joint English/Social Studies project independently. Students are also required to complete Rocket Stages, a program that includes service hours, cultural events, college open houses, the reading of short novels, etc. Toledo Early College has the highest high school performance index in NW Ohio. It is set apart from other Early College High Schools because it is actually located on the campus of the University of Toledo. Many members of the junior class are full time college students, taking between 12 and 16 semester hours. The freshman and sophomore classes have a hybrid schedule of college and high school courses. The school calendar is closely aligned with the University of Toledo calendar, including winter and spring breaks.

INTERNET VIEWING

The January 22 meeting can be viewed here: Karen Berman

OPEN YOUR HEART. OPEN YOUR HOME
Rotary Youth Exchange

Consider Hosting Toledo Rotary Club’s International Exchange Student for the 2018-2019 school year.

Students learn a new language, discover another culture, and truly become global citizens. Exchanges for students 15 to 19 years old are sponsored by Rotary clubs in more than 100 countries.

Hosting an exchange student can be incredibly rewarding, bringing an international experience directly to your home. Host families provide room and board and share their lives with exchange students, involving them in family, community, and cultural activities.

Take a few minutes to watch the video below for answers to many common questions:

Watch the Video

For information, contact Karen Ranney Wolkins: karenranneywolkins@gmail.com or (419) 340-2555

Join the Membership Development Committee for cocktails and conversation!

All members are encouraged to come and bring a friend or co-worker who is under 40. Join us for some networking, fun, and great company while we introduce new young professionals to Rotary!

Thursday, February 1st
5:30 pm—7:30 pm
Toledo Spirits Tasting Room: 1301 N. Summit St.

*Be sure to wear your Rotary pin!
THANK YOU!

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New Member Reception

New Rotarians and their significant other/guest are cordially invited by the Rotary Club of Toledo to attend the New Member Reception sponsored by Spengler Nathanson, and held in their offices downtown. Come meet other new members and learn more about Rotary.

Date: Thursday, February 8
Time: 5:30—7:00pm

Cocktails and appetizers will be served

Spengler Nathanson is located at 4 Seagate, Suite 400.
### January Birthdays

- Judd Johnson (2)
- Bill McElheney (2)
- Gary Corrigan (4)
- Nick Cron (4)
- Todd Michaelsen (4)
- Judy Potter (5)
- Amira Gohara (7)
- James Caldwell (11)
- Sanford Lubin (13)
- Mario Procaccini (14)
- Philip Stiff (14)
- Gary Thieman (14)
- Roy Cherry (14)
- Trey Bauman (15)
- Creston Tarrant (16)
- John Schwartz (17)
- Alex Due (17)
- Jim Scheib (18)
- Tim Saddoris (18)
- Dennis Schroder (19)
- Jeff Cole (20)
- Matt Adkins (21)
- Ben Brown (22)
- Justin Moor (24)
- Kathy Selking (24)
- Tom Uhler (24)
- Bill Buckley (26)
- Brad Rubini (27)
- Todd Ahrens (27)
- Frank Viviano (27)
- Michael Galbraith (28)
- Katie Rofkar (29)
- Barton Wagenman (29)
- Jack Niggemeyer (30)
- Mary Mancini (30)
- Tom Kabat (31)
- Todd Myers (31)
- Dan Peffley (31)

### We Welcome Guests at Rotary!

When bringing a guest to the Monday program, please sit at one of the tables marked “Guest Table”. There will be two designated tables near the floor mic each week for Rotarians and their guests. Come enjoy the program and get to know your future, fellow Rotarians!

### Club Officers and Directors
- **President** | Sharon Skilliter
- **President-Elect** | Dick Wolff
- **1st Vice President** | Tim Ryan
- **2nd Vice President** | Peter Handwork
- **Secretary-Treasurer** | Mike McIntyre

### Board Members
- Cindy Binkley, Bob DiNardo, Reg Jackson, Steve Johnson, Brian Kennedy, Jim Kniep, Dean Niese, Dan Skilliter

### Foundation Officers and Trustees
- **Chairman** | Louise Jackson
- **Vice Chairman** | Kathy Mikolajczak
- **Secretary-Treasurer** | Gary Murphy
- **Trustees** | Tom Backoff, Carol Bintz, Eric Fankhauser, Judy Leb, Mary Mancini, Chuck Stocking

### Staff
- **Executive Director** | Kathy Tate
- **Executive Assistant** | Emily Clement
- **Toledo Rotary Website** | toledorotary.org
- **Toledo Rotary Phone** | 419.241.7060

### Rotary International
- **President** | Ian Riseley
- **Governor, District 6600** | Deb Cheney
- **Area 4 Assistant Governor** | Dave Dennis
- **RI Website** | rotary.org