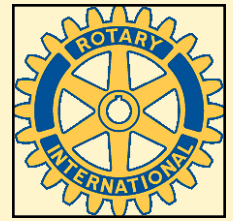




# Round and Round

Rotary Club of Wichita — Club 30

## Upcoming Programs



A publication of the

### ROTARY CLUB OF WICHITA

Club 30  
Chartered Nov. 18, 1911

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### The Four-Way Test

Is it the TRUTH?	Is it FAIR to all concerned?
Will it build GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?	Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



**February 29 — Col. David Weishaar  
Commander — 184th Intelligence Wing  
McConnell Air Force Base**

**Topic: *Many Missions of the Kansas Air National Guard's  
184th Intelligence Wing***

Colonel David A. Weishaar serves as Commander, 184th Intelligence Wing, one of the most mission-diverse wings in the Air National Guard, with operations located at McConnell Air Force Base, Wichita, Kansas, and Smoky Hill Air National Guard Weapons Range, Salina, Kansas. Colonel Weishaar commands more than 1,300 Guardsmen who provide intelligence processing, exploitation, and dissemination, network and information operations, command and control, and weapons range operations. The wing includes one of only two regional support groups, the largest weapons range, and the only network operations and security squadron in the Air National Guard.

Colonel Weishaar earned his commission in 1996 through the Air National Guard Academy of Military Science at McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base, Tennessee. Colonel Weishaar served as the inaugural commander of the 127th Command and Control Squadron and also commanded the 299th Network Operations and Security Squadron, which oversees the largest number of user and administrative accounts in the Air Force and infrastructure in all states, territories and district of the United States. Prior to receiving his commission, Colonel Weishaar served as an enlisted member in the United States Air Force and Kansas Air National Guard. Colonel Weishaar holds a bachelor of science degree in human resource management from Friends University.



**March 7 — Phil Ruffin  
Owner & CEO of The Ruffin Companies  
Topic: The Phil Ruffin Story**

Phil Ruffin and The Ruffin Companies represent diverse real estate, lodging, manufacturing, energy and retail enterprises, employing more than 5,000 people across the country. Ruffin owns 100 percent of each company and is the sole stockholder.

Born in Texas and raised in Wichita, Kansas, he attended Washburn University in Topeka and continued his education at Wichita State. In 1959, he bought his first convenience store, which quickly grew to 65 stores in four states. He was instrumental in initiating self-service gasoline from its infancy and maintains a significant presence in the Kansas oil industry, owning more than 65 oil wells.

Ruffin's diverse business career has run the gamut from owning a dairy, a bank, and more than 4 million square feet of commercial real estate, which included shopping centers, office buildings and strip centers, to expansive holdings in the hotel and gaming industries. Some of his current properties include 12 hotels in Kansas, Maryland, California, Oklahoma, Texas and Alabama, as well as a 16-acre island named Crystal Cay in Nassau, Bahamas, and 12,000 acres in Belize.

In 1981, Ruffin purchased Harper Trucks, Inc., the world's largest manufacturer of two-wheel hand trucks, which makes one out of every three hand trucks sold in the United States. After acquiring Angeles Manufacturing in California, Ruffin parlayed the new multi-faceted business to supply goods through Harper's 2,500 distributors and directly to the mass market including Walmart, Sears and Home Depot.

In the gaming arena, Ruffin purchased the Carnival Crystal Palace Hotel in the Bahamas in 1993, converting it to the Wyndham Nassau Resort and Crystal Palace Casino, which he sold in 2005 to the Bahama Development Company. He purchased in 1997 the 80-acre Wichita Greyhound Park in Wichita, Kansas, the Frontenac, Kansas Camptown Greyhound Park in 2000, and the Woodlands Racetrack in Kansas City, Kansas, in 2015. He continues to pursue the reopening of the facilities with the addition of gaming. (Continued on next page)

# Congratulations!

## Birthdays

Dawn Frankfurt	March 2
Mike Metz	March 3
Kerry Smith	March 3
Vic Schimming	March 5
Dawn Truman	March 5

## Club Anniversaries

Joanne McClelland	20 years
Eric Melgren	13 years
Mary Shannon	5 years
Tom Compton	4 years
Charlie Moon	4 years
Cindy Nolte	4 years
Clark Armor	2 years
Marc Bennett	2 years
Linda Eaves	2 years
Susie Santo	1 year

## PROGRAM CALENDAR

**March 7** — Phil Ruffin — Owner & CEO of The Ruffin Companies

**March 14** — Robert Litan and Jacob Wayman speaking on One Million Cups

**March 21** — J. C. Combs — Author

**March 28** — To Be Announced

## MEETINGS & EVENT CALENDAR

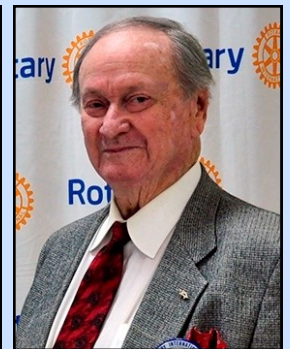
Feb 29 Board Elect Meeting - Rotary Office - 4-6 pm

March 9 Brew & Tattoo — Anchor at 1109 E. Douglas, 5:15 pm

## ROTARY MEETING — FEBRUARY 22, 2016



Ryan Baty, who played college and professional baseball, is the owner of THE mattress HUB, one of the largest mattress retailers in the region. On Monday, he spoke of the challenges he faced, first in choosing a career after baseball, and later, as an owner of a fledging company with lots of competition. Great program!



From left to right, Paul Harris Fellows Tim Witsman, Sue Tirukonda, Stacy Peterson, Teresa Rupp, Steve Criser, Tom Kruse, Wilbur Baird and Gene Lygrisse (in picture on right) were recognized for their donations to the Rotary Foundation.



Also recognized (from left to right) were Chuck Grier, Warren Wandling (seated), Martin Bauer, Glenn Tate, Elizabeth King and Jerry Aaron.

## Phil Ruffin Bio, cont.

Ruffin's ventures expanded to the Las Vegas Strip in 1998 with the purchase of the 41-acre Frontier Hotel and Gambling Hall, which was at the center of the longest labor union strike in history. After successfully negotiating with local labor leaders, Ruffin reopened the property as The New Frontier Hotel and Casino.

In 2007, Ruffin and Donald Trump formed a joint venture to build the 1,283-room Trump International Hotel & Tower Las Vegas, which is now open. Ruffin also holds an additional 3.7 acres of undeveloped land in Las Vegas. In August 2007, he sold The New Frontier to the Elad Group for a record setting price for real estate on the Strip. With an itch to get back into the casino business, Ruffin purchased Treasure Island in Las Vegas on March 20, 2009 from MGM Mirage, where he continues to serve as its owner and top executive.