



**Rotary Club of Gilbert, Arizona Zoom Conference  
May 21, 2020 7:00 AM  
CLUB ASSEMBLY**

**THE WAY BACK.**

**Welcome Rotarians**



**Attendance:** Scott Jones, Donna Backhaus, Debe Mahoney, Mark Grady, Diana Tacey, Curt Ward, Mike Flores, Dan Oakes, Greg McAlpin, Jim and Pat Schermetzler, George Pettit and Bill Nuzbach



### **VOCATIONAL TALK – Jim Schermetzler**

Jim was born in 1952 in Manitowoc, Wisconsin which is half way between Green Bay and Milwaukee. It has a harbor on Lake Michigan. Jim's parents were German farmers and children of the Great Depression and carried those effects through their lives. "If you didn't work, you didn't eat". Jim is the second oldest of 10 children. His dad served in the military and then worked in a factory. He was fortunate to have parents that put all 10 kids through Catholic education up to Grade 12. In junior high, Jim went to work in a restaurant as a dishwasher. His real aspiration was to become a teacher. He went to school and eventually dropped out and worked at that restaurant for 26.5 years.



He eventually moved to Sheboygan for the Restaurant Group and then decided he didn't want to be in the restaurant business his whole life. He enrolled at a local community college and transferred to the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee and graduated with a degree in accounting and business. He met a friend who was in Rotary who was in the real estate business. He tried his hand at real estate for the next two years, starting as an agent and then the office manager.

During this time he got divorced. He met Pat in 1999, she asked him to dance and they've been together ever since. They were married in 2003.

He was recruited by the Kohler Company to run their real estate division and he remained there for 7-8 years.

Pat was a nurse at a local health organization. She left her job and they decided she would apply for a job in Arizona, where they already has a home. She started working for Banner Hospice in 2014 while Jim remained at Kohler and then returned to Mesa for good in 2015.



THE BOLD LOOK  
OF **KOHLER**®



He worked part-time in Student Services at Rio Salado College until December of 2019 when he retired for the third time. Jim and Pat love to travel. His name finally came up after 21 years on the coveted list for season tickets for the Green Bay Packers. With their move to Mesa, they couldn't make all the games; however, they still go to some games during the season.

Thank-you Jim, for sharing your story with us. It's great to get to really know Rotarians in a different way.

### **Review of May Action Items:**

The Rotary Vocational Fund of Arizona reached out again with a candidate to sponsor for a grant. This would be the last student we could sponsor for the fiscal year. Her name is Florence Kariuki. She is 39 years old, African American woman working as a CNA. She is recently out of an abusive relationship and now sees the time and a lot more opportunity to help people. She is applying to EVIT for the Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) program. She is requesting a \$2000 scholarship and a sponsor. All were in favor of the sponsorship. Thanks to Curt for the great work he is doing interviewing these candidates, often in short order.



## 2020-2021 Strategic Planning/Budget



President Debe wants to remain with the focus of this year, which highlights youth service. With all the disruptions the past year brought, we never really had a change to pursue those goals. She would like that to be the focus of the 20-21 year.



## Member Survey:

Superstition Spring will be opening in June. The topic of discussion is how and when do we want to return to face to face meetings? For the month of June, we will continue with Zoom meetings and the re-evaluate. This is a great platform for attendance as well as the availability to get great speakers.



## Upcoming Events

**May 28, 2020 5 – 6 PM** Hawaiian Virtual Happy Hour – watch for invitation from Scott Jones

**June 4, 2020** - Regular Club Meeting via Zoom

**DON'T FORGET OUR HAWAIIAN VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR THURSDAY  
MAY 28, 2020 FROM 5 – 6 pm Wear your best Hawaiian shirts, grab a  
beverage and let's Zoom!!!!**



# *Aloha*

*Join us Thursday, May 28, 2020  
For a  
Gilbert Rotary Zoom Hawaiian Virtual  
Happy Hour*

*Wear your favorite Hawaiian shirt, Mix  
up a cocktail and join us for some social  
distancing fellowship Rotary Style*

*May 28, 2020 on Zoom - 5 PM to 6 PM  
Look for your invitation soon.*