



# Rotaripost

NOON — 12:00  
Meeting  
March 2,  
2021

## Keynote

### StoryCorps



Dave Isay

**Dave Isay** is the founder of StoryCorps and the recipient of numerous broadcasting honors, including six Peabody Awards and a MacArthur “Genius” Fellowship.

He is the author/editor of numerous books that grew out of his public radio documentary work, including the *New York Times* best sellers: *Listening is an Act of Love*, *Mom: A Celebration of Mothers from StoryCorps*, *All There Is: Stories from StoryCorps*, *Ties That Bind: Stories of Love and Gratitude From the First Ten Years of StoryCorps* and *Callings: The Purpose and Passion of Work*.

In 2015 Dave was recognized with the TED Prize, awarded annually to one exceptional individual with a creative bold vision to spark global change.

See more about StoryCorps on the following pages.

### Hybrid Meetings

We will continue to offer hybrid meetings (in-person and Zoom). Here is the Zoom invite that can be used through June 29, 2021. If you are unable to use the link, simply sign into your free Zoom account, click on the option to Join a Meeting and use the Meeting ID and Password. The waiting room will be used to monitor admittance and avoid any “Zoom bombing”.

Topic: Rotary Club of Shreveport Weekly Meeting  
Time: March 2, 2021—12:00 PM Central Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83836609051?pwd=VG1xbUFFL0ILSGIwVVNEM3kzL0dGZz09>

**Meeting ID: 838 3660 9051**  
**Passcode: 870740**

Tuesday,  
12:00 Noon

Historical Start  
12:13 p.m.

**In-Person at  
Hilton Hotel  
Restaurant &  
Zoom On-Line  
Option**

#### Rotarians Serving Others

Money Table Debra Williams

Raffle Tickets Margaret Wallace

Invocation George Carroll

Zoom Operators Mark Snow

Greeter Need A Volunteer



## TAKE ONE SMALL STEP, SHREVEPORT

Join us in Shreveport as we show the country what it means to have the courage to listen.

***Is there someone with whom you disagree but still respect? Was there a moment, event or person in your life who shaped your political views? Do you feel misunderstood by people who have different beliefs than you?***

**Almost 90% of Americans** say they are fed up with the divisions in our country and want to find a way out before it's too late.

Aren't we called at a moment like this to try to find a better way forward—together?

One Small Step is an effort to connect people so they can remember that people with whom we disagree are human beings. In doing so, we can begin to come together as a country—one conversation at a time.

Piloted by StoryCorps in 2018, One Small Step has been tested and is a proven method for undoing the culture of "us vs. them."

These One Small Step conversations bring together strangers with different political views to record a 40-minute conversation with each other about their lives. The process is seamless and powerful, and safe. All conversations take place virtually. Each interview becomes part of American history at the Library of Congress.

**Conversations are not about politics, but about who we are as people, what we care about, and our dreams for the future.** One Small Step helps us to move beyond the labels "Democrat" or "Republican," "liberal" or "conservative," and begin to see each other as human beings.

### HEAR VOICES FROM ONE SMALL STEP

More than 1,000 people across the country have taken part in this initiative. Now, we're expanding so anyone, anywhere can take part.

[▶ WATCH OUR VIDEO AND SIGN UP](#)



*One Small Step is made possible by the generous support of the Fetzer Institute, The Hearthland Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and the Charles Koch Institute.*



#### WHAT IS STORYCORPS?

Over 17 years, the non-profit public service organization [StoryCorps](https://www.storycorps.org) has perfected a method for helping people feel more connected and less alone, for increasing hope and reminding us of the inherent worth of every life and every story. More than half a million Americans have participated in StoryCorps interviews to date, making it the largest single collection of human voices ever gathered. Interview recordings are preserved for history at the U.S. Library of Congress.

People take part in recording a session at StoryCorps because they know and love one another. As a response to the growing crisis of contempt in this country, in 2018 we started testing a new kind of interview session: one that gives strangers on opposite sides of the political divide the opportunity to talk about their lives with one another.

**More than 1,000 people across 40 cities have recorded interviews.** In One Small Step, we have a powerful method for bridging our differences. We see strangers across the political divides come together, look one another in the eye, and be reminded that it's hard to hate up close.

We hope you'll join us in taking One Small Step. It takes courage to listen to one another, but at this moment we are called to act. In the coming years, StoryCorps hopes to help convince the country that it's our patriotic duty to see the humanity in people with whom we may disagree.

**Shreveport is one of four cities across the United States selected to lead this initiative with events and conversations taking place throughout 2021.**

Here's how to get involved:

#### Sign up for our email list

Be the first to hear about recording dates, broadcasts, events, and more. You'll also get tips on how to identify someone in your life to interview, plus questions for conducting a One Small Step conversation and stories shared by people who have participated in the project to date.

#### Get matched with a stranger

We are now seeking people of all backgrounds and beliefs to join us in taking one small step toward each other. When you sign up for our mailing list, you'll receive our matching questionnaire..

#### Watch stories

Hear first hand from people who have taken part. Conversations recorded through One Small Step and hundreds more are free to watch on our website.

#### Join us! Sign up to participate:

**[TAKEONESMALLSTEP.ORG/SHREVEPORT](https://takeonesmallstep.org/shreveport)**



LEARN MORE AT [TAKEONESMALLSTEP.ORG](https://takeonesmallstep.org)

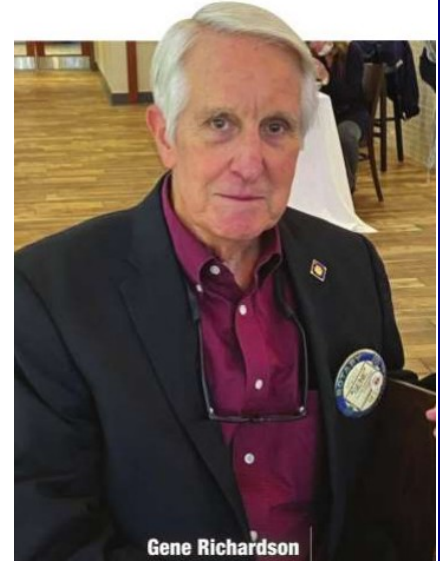
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## Gene Richardson Leads by Example

This article was published in 318 Forum Magazine Wed. 02-10-2021

**Watch For More Rotarian highlights in upcoming 318 Forum Magazine issues.**



The downtown Shreveport Rotary Club has a long and storied tradition. It began with 13 members in 1914 and was the 109th such club created worldwide.

In 1967, a gentleman joined the club a month after his father, a Rotarian, had passed away. Now, 53-plus years later, Gene Richardson is still a member and has had 100% attendance in all that time.

“It’s not perfect attendance. Perfect attendance is someone who has never missed a weekly meeting. My father had perfect attendance going until he got sick. In my case, when I became ill, the club excused me. So I moved from perfect attendance to 100% attendance because I was excused.”

The sickness he referred to in his case was an episode of cardiac arrest. The Downtown Rotary’s traditional start time is in honor of the original 13 members and begins promptly at 12:13 p.m. While he was sitting at the head table of the meeting on that day, waiting for the clock to strike 12:13, he said he felt something funny. The next thing he knew, Dr. James Ciaravella, a member and noted local cardiologist, was “pounding on my chest when I came to. I told him, ‘Stop, you’re hurting me.’” Some off-duty firefighters were picking up extra money doing some remodeling in the hotel where the club met. They were quickly summoned and began life-saving efforts on the unconscious Richardson. In the meantime, Rotarians Dr. Juan Watkins and Dr. Ciaravella kept up their resuscitation efforts as well until an ambulance arrived.

When Richardson was whisked into the Schumpert Medical Center Emergency Room, he had lost consciousness again. In another strange bit of luck or fate, his personal cardiologist, Dr. Robert LaFargue, was in the ER conducting a tour. LaFargue excused himself from the group and began assisting the trauma team. Eventually, Dr. Ciaravella performed heart surgery on Richardson.

[Read more in the Forum article linked here to hear about Gene’s polio experience and his involvement in Disaster Aid USA, a Rotary club project.](#)



LifeShare has issued an urgent call for blood donations. Arrange for your donation on [their web site](#). Identify yourself as a Rotarian as all local Rotary clubs are making a request for these life-saving donations!

### New Member—Mary Webber



**Mary Webber**, a Coushatta native, is the owner of L&R Human Resource Consulting, LLC. She attended LSU Baton Rouge on a Winnie Rainey Pylant Scholarship and then transferred to LSUS where she received her undergraduate degree in liberal arts. She furthered her education earning her MBA from Colorado Technical University and pursued her doctorate degree in organizational development from Capella University. She currently is a student at the Shepard Broad School of Law, for a second masters in employment law.

Mary has worked as an adjunct professor at both BPC and LSUS. Additionally she has worked for numerous businesses in the area: LSU Health Sciences Center, CHRISTUS Health System, LA DOTD, Sabre Industries, Centerpoint Energy, AEP Swepco, Module X Solutions and is currently employed as Director of HR at Omni Specialty Packaging.

She is a published author of “Miracles Still Happen...Trust Me”. Mary’s classification is Business Services & Supplies, Consulting and her proposer is Gayle Flowers.



## Rotaripost

Judy Bellew  
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Call Judy Bellew if you have any questions about the club.

Follow us on Facebook



### THE FOUR-WAY TEST

Of all the things we think, say or do

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOOD WILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

If you'd like to lead this at the close of a meeting, let Judy know. Prompts are provided.

### Upcoming In-Person (Hilton Restaurant) and Zoom Program

**March 9, 2021**  
**Membership & State of our Club**  
**Membership Committee**

## Birthdays

\* Paul Harris Fellow + Past President PDG Past District Governor

◆ Major Donor

March 3	Gene Bryson*
March 8	Bobby Madison*
March 9	Martha Marak*, Jennifer Lawrence*, Vance Bailes*
March 13	James Blewett*, Lawrence Calhoun◆
March 14	Robert McGowen◆+
March 17	Leslie Quinn*
March 19	Margaret Gaskins
March 22	Rodney Ellis*
March 24	Davor Poljak*
March 26	Robert Grand*+
March 28	Jeff Brasher*
March 29	Hoyt Bain*



Watch the video of our program last week. RaShad Bristo gave a marvelous presentation. [See it at this link.](#)