



Rotaripost

NOON — 12:00
Meeting

March 8,
2022

Keynote

Infrastructure Act And its Effect on Louisiana



Erich Ponti

Erich Ponti, a New Orleans native, received his bachelor's degree in construction management from Northeast Louisiana University (now ULM). Upon returning to Baton Rouge, he founded Accent Construction Services, Inc., a general contracting and development firm. Through his profession he first became involved in the political process.

Ponti was elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives in 2007 to represent District 69. He did not seek a third term in the House and left in 2015 to become the Executive Director of the Louisiana Asphalt Pavement Association.

The Louisiana Asphalt Pavement Association (LAPA) is a statewide association comprised of producers, super associates and associate members governed by the Board of Directors. The Association serves its members by promoting the Louisiana Asphalt Pavement Industry, working toward a better transportation infrastructure; partnering with governmental transportation departments, encouraging ethical behavior, sound business methods and practices; and being the chief advocate of better asphalt production.



Ponti will talk with us about how the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act which was signed into law by President Joe Biden in November 2021 impacts the State of Louisiana.

**Tuesday,
12:00 Noon**

**Historical Start
12:13 p.m.**

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

**Rotarians
Serving Others**

Lunch *James*
Money *Adams*

Raffle
Tickets

Invocation

Zoom *Jeffrey*
Operator *Kerst*

Greeter -
Scanner



Auction Mixer
March 30, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

Sci-Port Discovery Center

\$25 per couple



MARCH 30 @ 6:00 PM
AUCTION MIXER
SCI-PORT

Rotary Club of Shreveport Foundation

Each year, the Rotary Club of Shreveport raises money to distribute to those in the community via our civic grants and college scholarships programs. Putting "Service Above Self," our club strives to make Shreveport a better place for all.

The Rotary Club of Shreveport Foundation is a 501(c)(3)

2022
 Rotary Club of Shreveport
Silent/Online Auction

Some past Civic Grant Recipients include:

- YMCA
- Provenance House
- Fuller Center
- Holy Angels
- MLK Health Center
- Common Ground
- NWLA Food Bank
- SB Rescue Mission

Rotary Club of Shreveport Awards Scholarships to:

LSUS Centenary BPCC
 SUSLA LSUHSC NSU

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Unless written objection is received within seven days, there will be added to the membership of the

Rotary Club of Shreveport
 the following:

Steve J. Ferris

(Former member 2005-2012)

Ferris Office Smart LLC
 President

Classification

Business Services & Supplies,
 Office Furnishings

Proposer & Endorser

Gard Wayt and Gayle Flowers

Last Tuesday's Meeting



My oh my! How wonderful it is to hear from the SOX performers. Not shown here is their magnificent pianist, Dr. Ah Young Kim.

See the entire program video at [this Facebook link.](#)

New Member Introduced

Our most recent new member is **Dinero Washington** who was introduced on Tuesday. Dinero is the President and CEO of Metro Management & Associates. He has served as the General Manager of SporTran (Shreveport Transit Management, Inc.) since 2013.

Dinero, a graduate of Capt. Shreve, earned his B.A. in business from Northwestern State University and his MBA from Strayer University. He volunteers his time on several boards, including serving as president of the Louisiana Public Transportation Association. He is currently on the Sci-Port Discovery Center Board. Among his many accomplishments Dinero was a part of the 2016 class Shreveport Chamber of Commerce's 40 Under 40; the 2017 Shreveport-Bossier-DeSoto African American Leadership Award; the 2018 Shreveport Chamber of Commerce Top Business Professional; the 2018 City of Shreveport Outstanding Leadership Award.

Dinero and his wife LaShundra have four children—ages 16, 10, 4 and 1. He attended NSU on a music scholarship. He plays all brass and woodwind instruments along with the piano.

Gard Wayt is Dinero's proposer while Reggie Abrams is the endorser.



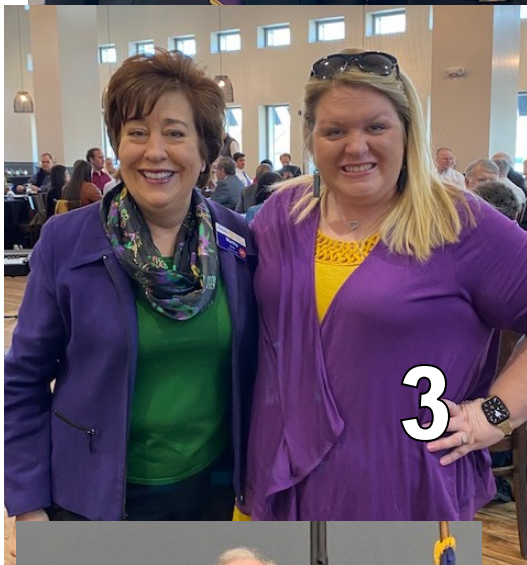
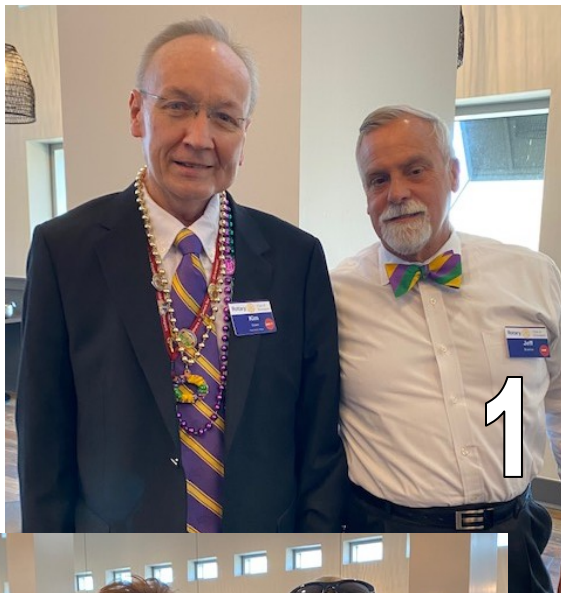
(From left) Dinero Washington, Gard Wayt and Lawrence Calhoun.

The Great Leader of the Shreveport Opera and SOX



Steve Aiken has introduced the SOX performers many times. But, when someone in the audience asked the performers what they called Steve they chuckled but didn't answer.

In the meantime, Joe Littlejohn captured the look on Steve's face as SOX performed. Even with the side view, does that look like a proud papa or not??!!



1—Kim Green and Jeff Brasher both decked out in Mardi Gras ties.

2—More Mardi Gras: (From Left) Kalette Haley (guest), Laurie Boswell and Kristen Powers.

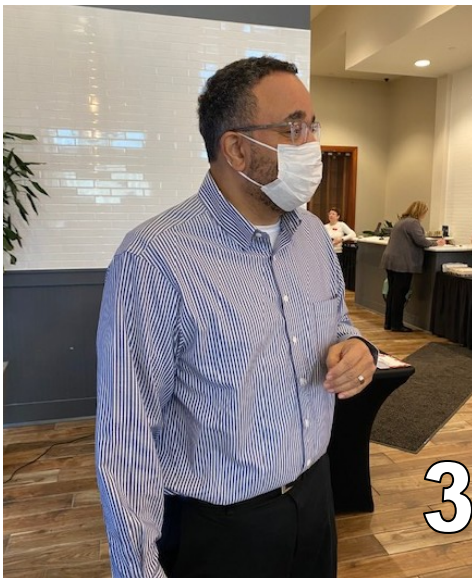
3—And still more Mardi Gras: (From Left) Martha Marak and Emerie Gentry.

4—Steve Aiken introduced the SOX performers and told us a bit about how the SOX resident program began and what the group does.



Club/District Grant for 2020-2021

During this Rotary year our club received a \$2,000 grant from the district which we matched with our club's \$2,000 to fund video production of SOX performances. Pre-COVID, the SOX group was able to present age appropriate programs delivering messages to school children to combat bullying and lying and such. With COVID restrictions in place, they were unable to attend the schools in person and presented the messages via video.



1—Elton Richey with his guests: Kristin Timmons and Carol Richey.

2—Audra Muslow-Hicks brandishing the scanner.

3—Eric Thomas is spotting a place to sit in the full room.

4—(From left) Dinero Washington, Gard Wayt and John George.

5—Peyton Cole and his guest, Kay Cole.



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

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Raffle Winners Last Week

TRF Raffle—Maggie Malone (visiting Rotarian)
*Thank you for your donation to The Rotary Foundation.
This applies toward your Paul Harris Fellow.*
Roses from Rose-Neath Florist—Kristin Timmons
(guest)
Eggs from Andy Shehee's hens:
Carol Richey (guest), Mark Snow and
James Blewett

**Upcoming In-Person (Hilton
Restaurant) and
Zoom Program
March 15, 2022**

**Jennifer Marusak
Ports Association of Louisiana**

Congratulations

These Rotarians were selected to serve on the 2022
United Way Board which is led by President/CEO
Tori Thomas (also a Rotarian)

John Tuggle, Vice-Chair—Impact
Rodney Ellis
Greg Lott
Mark Snow
Mary Webber

Did you know that we have at least three Rotarians
who are authors and have published books which are
available in our own Shreveport Memorial Library
system?

William E. “Wishy” Nolan -“Holding to and letting
go—a ministry in verse and visual imagery”

Merrill Wautlet -“The Rat”

Mary Webber - “Miracles Still Happen...Trust Me”

Another Rotarian published author is **Rashad Bristo**
with “Bitter or Better: Doing More With Less”

(Let Judy know if she missed any of our talented authors)