

Huron River Hunting & Fishing Club

November 26th, 2019
Annual Meeting

Board Candidates for 2019



David Birdsall

I have been an HRC member for more than 8 years. You might have seen me on the dance floor with my wife, Karen, most Friday nights. What we love about the club is its long-standing traditions and the avenue it provides for social networking.

I have lived an unusual life. My first business at the age of 12 was raising a hundred Rhode Island Red chickens that produced brown eggs. I sold them to my Italian and Greek neighbors in Livonia, because grocery stores didn't carry brown eggs. At the same time, I worked with my father in starting the family business, Birdsall Tool & Gage, in 1969.

Because of my strong interest in music, I majored in music at Taylor University, playing in a local symphony orchestra and in a traveling band. Realizing that I could not ignore my interest in business, I transferred to Spring Arbor University and continued to work at the family business. While starting a family and finishing college, I taught myself how to purchase real estate and manage rental properties, creating my second company, Birdsall Properties, LLC.

Before my father retired, I took a sabbatical to volunteer for a non-profit in Central and South America. The organization asked me to set up a satellite network to deliver wholesome programming to radio stations. This adventure took me to the seminary at Columbia International University in South Carolina and then to McAllen, Texas where I studied Spanish for a year. My family moved to Ecuador and Bonaire, where I was the Director of the ALAS radio network.

I am the current owner and CEO of Birdsall Tool and Gage. I am training two of my five children to be my successors in our family business. After my father passed away, I decided to write a book. A topical self-help book for young adults, *Kids...This One is For You! – Random Thoughts from the Organized Mind of a Parent* is sold on Amazon.

As a board member I would like to continue improving the club to attract the next generation and their culture without sacrificing HRC's amazing heritage of almost 100 years.



Rocco Bartelo

I am proud to be a member of the HRC since 2015. Despite being one of the younger members, I have a vast appreciation for its history. It is astounding to think of how many deals were made here; the number of meals served, and how many friendships were created in the past 96 years. The HRC is a unique jewel where respect for tradition still lives with its dress code, high standards of service and, of course, the excellent food served. Some of my proudest moments include entertaining my customers and my family at the club, where I'm treated with respect and courtesy.

I have been working in the logistics industry since the age of 16, starting out as a warehouse employee where I learned what the value of hard work means. I now manage a staff of 30 to ensure the commitments we make to our customers are fulfilled and exceeded. The business that I manage places a high emphasis on providing high levels of service, which in parallel to the values which the HRC has always offered. When I'm not working, I enjoy hunting and shooting, as well as working on the classic cars that my family and I have.

I am asking for consideration to be elected to the Board of Directors. I feel I offer a unique perspective based on my management skills and appreciation of the club and its members. In order to be able to foster the continued growth of the club, we need a board member who can relate both to changes in society, while respecting the traditions which have made the HRC exceptional. The HRC stands out as a place where we don't compromise to casual dress and standards, but instead maintain an environment where we can practice the best values of former times. Using this emphasis on tradition and family values, I will be able to utilize my skills in business development to help develop and maintain membership levels. For nearly a century, the HRC ambiance has helped create long-lasting friendships and business deals. If I'm elected to the Board of Directors, I'd like see this work continued for the next 100 years.