William Frederick Ostrum, President of the Derby-Shelton Rotary Club during 2001-2002, was a native of Dallas Township in Luzerne County Pennsylvania. Bill received his BS in Electrical Engineering from Bucknell University in 1978. In 1985, he joined United Illuminating Company, a major supplier of electricity and related services in Connecticut and moved his family to Middletown. He later received a MS in Engineering Management at the University of New Haven. He was a licensed PE (Professional Engineer) by the State.

At the time of his Rotary presidency he was a Vice President of UI responsible for all recovery activities after power outages. He retired from UI in 2015 as General Manager for all construction projects. Bill and his wife, Robin moved to the New Orleans area and settled in the suburban town of Greta. When asked "Why New Orleans?", he said "Good food and good music". He started playing the saxophone before retiring and became deeply immersed in the Jazz scene.