



THE LEXINGTON ROTARY CLUB BULLETIN

CHARTERED FEBRUARY 1, 1922

NUMBER 1062

91st YEAR OF "SERVICE ABOVE SELF"

Web Site: <http://www.lexingtonvarotary.org>

April 02, 2014

Volume LXVIII, Number 34

President-Elect Emily presided. Guest: our speaker, Chief Al Thomas of the Lexington Police Department. Visiting Rotarians: None. Attendance: 31 members, and 1 guest for a total of 32. Meeting held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club.

Announcements and Business:

1. April is Magazine Month. Read *Howard Buffet: How A Billionaire's Son Ended Up On The Front Lines In The Battle To End Hunger* in the April issue. See page 64 for some interesting information on "Recycling." Check out *the Rotarian* magazine online at www.therotarianmagazine.com.
2. When the editors at *Reader's Digest* made a list of "50 Surprising Reasons We Love America" for their July 2013 cover story, at No. 11 was Little Free Library, a phenomenon started by Rotarian Todd Bol. People in 55 countries have installed more than 16,000 Lilliputian lending libraries run on the premise of "take a book, return a book," since Bol built his first in 2009 in memory of his mother, a teacher who loved to read. To see an example, visit the one at Lime Kiln Bridge Park, one of three built and operated by residents of Kendal at Lexington. For more detail, see *Do-It-Yourself Libraries* in the March 2014 issue of *the Rotarian* magazine.
3. Linda and David Krantz will host another of their "Mega Music Parties" on Friday, April 11, to celebrate their arrival in Virginia 40 years ago! Musicians have signed up and all spaces are now taken. The schedule begins at 6:00 pm and goes to 11:00 pm, at which time there will be jamming and dancing. The house opens at 5:15 pm. You don't have to tell them if you're coming, or how many. Music parties are free, and they welcome everyone. Bring a friend or someone new to the area, or tourists, and/or everyone in your family. There are fun things for responsible children of all ages to see and do.
4. **Next week is "Family Fun Night." Dick and Rae will provide a science program suitable for children. Members are encouraged to bring their children, grandchildren, or neighbor's children, but PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL PRESIDENT EMILY TO LET HER KNOW HOW MANY CHILDREN YOU PLAN TO BRING. The meeting will begin at the usual 6:00 pm and a kid-friendly meal will be served.**
5. Because of weather, the Spring Roadside Clean-Up was rescheduled to this Saturday, April 5. Both Teams will begin work at 9:00 am. As usual, PAG Betty will lead Team North. They will pick up trash on all four ramps at the interchange of Route 11N and I-81 at Timber Ridge. Skip Ravenhorst will lead Team South. His Team will pick up trash along Route 11S from the intersection of Route 11S and Possum Hollow Road back towards Lexington to a point about one mile from the end of the Lexington Bypass. Remember to wear sturdy shoes and bring gloves. The project will be postponed if it is raining hard enough that you need to activate your vehicle's windshield wipers. More volunteers are needed, especially for Team South. You don't need to call anyone, just show up and pitch in.
6. Our regular monthly Board of Directors meeting was held immediately following our regular meeting.

Program:

RoD Nick Cuzzimano introduced our speaker. Al Thomas is originally from Lynchburg, VA. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Administration of Justice and a second degree in Business Administration from Averett University. He served 5 years in the USAF and was twice awarded the military's Meritorious Service Medal. He has served as Chief of Police in Lexington for the past 3.5 years. Prior to his appointment as Chief, he served over 20 years with the Lynchburg Police

Department where he was assigned to the Vice/Intelligence Unit, Virginia State Police Drug Task Force. He also commanded three other department units at various times and served as the Chief of Staff. Chief Thomas is married to his wife Dorothy and they have two children: Malcolm (age 19), a cadet at VMI, and Meghan (age 16).

Chief Thomas pointed out that, although the population of Lexington is only about 7k persons, we have about 6k students in our public schools and institutions of higher education. So young people have a priority in his department's operation. Lexington police officers are in our schools every day. He himself has served as the basketball coach at Lylburn Downing Middle School since his arrival and is proud of the fact that kids usually address him as Coach, not Chief. His intent is to build trust of police officers among kids rather than the fear prevalent when he was growing up. He lamented the fact that violence has become a part of our culture. He says we have been conditioned to accept violence.

They don't distinguish between city and county officers in our schools – safety is their highest priority. He pointed out that, although our community is not crime free, Lexington was recently recognized as the 8th safest city in the Commonwealth. That status, in his opinion, begins with the community, not the police department. His department has 16 sworn officers but only an average of 2 on duty at any given time. They desperately need more personnel. He is also proud of the good working relationship among his officers and the county officers, state police, and VMI Police.

Chief Thomas said his move to the Lexington community could not have turned out better for him and his family. "Lexington feels like home."

A fine presentation. Our community safety appears to be in good, capable hands.

Happy Bucks:

- Skip Ravenhorst was happy to commend Chief Thomas for his remarks; they serve together on the Rockbridge Area Housing Corporation; he has shown himself to be a solid individual.
- Derek Carter was happy to commend Chief Thomas for his "great" talk; he also was happy to announce that he and his fiancé have chosen July 12th as their wedding date!
- Betty McMichael was happy to relate an incident across from Domino's Pizza Parlor; while waiting on a friend to order a pizza, a young lady observed a guy yelling and screaming at someone in a Jeep who then pulled out a weapon and placed it on top of the Jeep; after going to the Police Department and reporting the incident, she was told to remain there; when no one came back to report to them what happened later, she and her friend left and drove by Domino's again; they were pleased to see LPD, County Sheriff's officers, and State Police on the scene; she reported to her mother that she and her friend were gratified that the officers had "everything under control."
- Ed Claiborn was happy to apologize to Bill and Laura Stearns for his error in discussion at their table on our Awards Night; consulting the internet after returning home, he learned that on the vernal equinox night and day are indeed of equal length.
- Mary Honsinger was happy to report on her recent safari in Tanzania where they observed many, many wild animals too numerous to mention; she recommended the trip to us.
- Chip Honsinger was happy to reassure us that, although they lived in tents, they had hot showers, flush toilets, king-sized bed, and all the amenities; he complimented Chief Thomas as a "splendid" chief with a "splendid" department; because of corruption, Tanzania has a vigilante-type of justice where the locals mete out justice immediately after a thief is caught; and, finally, they observed a Rotary sign in an open-air market and learned that the local club, along with other clubs around the world, had been instrumental in establishing the market.
- Joe Milo was happy to recall the GSE Team visit in four ways: a grump, thanks, enlightenment, and consequences; his grump was for the terribly busy week planned, his thanks was for getting put in that situation which turned out to be vastly rewarding, his enlightenment occurred when he asked the "zoo keeper" member if the techniques she used to train animals were transferable to humans and she answered "Oh yes, I train my husband all the time;" and the consequences were that he now plans to refuse to eat all those chocolates his wife Sue tosses to him.

- Linda Krantz was happy to relate an excellent story (joke) from her mother too lengthy to repeat here; those of you who were not present will just have to get along without.
- Scott Risser was happy to thank Chief Thomas for his presentation and offered congratulations to his son for choosing “the best college in America;” he also reported that the GSE Team raised about \$3K for the Rotary Foundation during their visit so we can rest assured that our pledge of \$1K is the largest by a local club.

Science Exam:

Q: How can you delay milk turning sour? (brilliant, love this!) A: Keep it in the cow.

Q: What happens to your body as you age? A: When you get old, so do your bowels and you get intercontinental.

Q: What happens to a boy when he reaches puberty? A: He says good-bye to his boyhood and looks forward to his adultery.

Q: What is the fibula? A: A small lie.

Q: What does 'varicose' mean? (I do love this one...) A: Nearby.

Q: Give the meaning of the term 'Caesarian Section.' A: The Caesarian Section is a district in Rome

Q: What does the word 'benign' mean? A: Benign is what you will be after you be eight.

Pot:

John Furgerson won the raffle but not the BIG pot that now totals \$102.00.

Future Programs & Activities:

Apr 3-5: Presidents-Elect Training Seminar (PETS); Blacksburg

Apr 09: Family Fun Night with Dick and Rae, RoD Dick Minnix

Apr 16: “AHALA: Children's Rights Foundation in Guadalajara, México,” by Judge Diane Strickland, RoD Mary Honsinger

Apr 19: Paul Harris born in 1868 in Racine, WI

Apr 23: “SowHope – Inspiring Women Around the World by Promoting Wellness, Education, and Economic Opportunities”, by Mary Daily Brown, RoD Mary Honsinger

Apr 26: Rotary Leadership Institute; Jacksonville, NC (www.rli33.org for details)

Apr 26: District Training Assembly; Roanoke

END



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April 9, 2014

Volume LXVIII, Number 35

President-Elect Scott Risser presided in the absence of President Emily. Guests: Partners Nancy Lowe, Barbara Risser, and Nathan Shearer; Children: Jacob Stearns, grandson of Bill, and the Shearer children: Nala (8), Knox (2) and Nash (8 mo). Visiting Rotarians: None. Attendance: 23 members, 3 Partners, and 4 children for a total of 30. Meeting held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club.

Announcements and Business:

1. PE Scott reported briefly on his attendance at Presidents-Elect Training Seminar (PETS) last weekend in Blacksburg. He not only found the training worthwhile and helpful but also appreciated the opportunity to network with other leaders around District 7570.

2. Skip Ravenhorst reported on the results of Roadside Clean-Up last Saturday:

Team South (Skip Ravenhorst): Roadside Cleanup South was a great success: we returned with the same number of volunteers who started, with no side trips to the hospital! We logged a total of 16 person-hours, and collected 13 garbage bags, several tires, and one VDOT highway sign. Those present included, in addition to myself: Allan Somerville Brown, Nick Cuzzimano, Stewart Fleming with special guest MaryAnn Fleming, Linda Krantz, and Mary Sayre!

Team North (Betty McMichael): We, too, had a successful day. On Saturday we logged 10 person-hours and collected 14 bags. On Sunday morning, Kent and I returned to finish the I-81 North off-ramp and logged another 2 person-hours and collected another 3 bags. (Service Above Self!!) We didn't collect anything that could be considered "exciting"; just multiple bottles of unmentionable stuff. In addition to Kent and myself, the other brave souls were: Derek Carter, Ed Claiborn, Emily Higgins, and Bill Lowe.

Thanks, guys and dolls, for another outstanding job!

3. Actions taken by our Board of Directors at their meeting on April 2:

- Decided to schedule the W&L Pavilion now for next year's Winter Bazaar.
- Accepted, with HUGE regret, the resignation of Steve Grist from our Club because of family obligations.
- Decided how to distribute the profits from this year's Winter Bazaar; will present checks to recipients at next week's meeting.

Program:

Tonight was billed as Family Fun Night by President Emily. Members Rae Carpenter and Dick Minnix presented a kid-friendly science program. Between them, Rae and Dick taught physics at VMI for over 80 years.

Over the last 25 years of their career, Dick and Rae specialized in lecture demonstrations: illustrations developed for the classroom employing simple apparatus to show or clarify scientific principles. Many were gleaned from 25 summer workshops they conducted on the use of lecture demonstrations, mainly for high school physics teachers.

They brought 6 to exhibit the following principles to the group tonight: weightlessness; seat of nails; acoustic cannon; singing aluminum rods; straw kuzoo and scissors; and humans can fly. These are all from their publication *The Dick and Rae Physics Demo Notebook*, an outgrowth of the summer workshops. Refer to the *Notebook* for details of how to construct and use the apparatus. Copies are available from both Dick and Rae.

Happy Bucks:

- Skip Ravenhorst was happy to contribute in honor of our two retarded professors.
- Joe Milo was happy to acknowledge the wonderful work of Grigg Mullen and about 140 other folks in constructing a new timber-framed pavilion at the city pool at Brewbaker Field.
- Linda Krantz was happy to announce that she already had a copy of *The Dick and Rae Physics Demo Notebook*; also all are welcome at their music party on Friday night.
- Bill Lowe was also happy with the timber-framers but wasn't sure how they handled the one truss member that turned out one foot short; he also endorsed the Bull and Oyster Fund Raiser and admitted his wife was pictured in the paper but, unfortunately, with her back to the camera.
- Allan Somerville Brown was happy to finally see the green shoots emerging from the ground but doesn't know if he'll be as happy when it is time to cut grass.
- Mary Sayre was happy to note that she took a photo of Dick during the program and sent it to one of his former students in the Class of 1980 and asked if he remembered Professor Minnix; his response: "Oh yes, Vividly. Great Guy. He won't remember me, but tell him hi, from one of his rat physics majors who went on to become a history major."
- Skip, again, who wanted to honor Jena's children who are with us this evening.
- Scott Risser was happy to thank all those folks who participated in Roadside Clean-Up last Saturday; and was happily looking forward to Linda's next joke.
- Chip Honsinger was happy to report that the cheapest gas between here and NJ is right here in good old Lexington; and was happy to be able to attend his son's surprise 50th birthday party.
- Rae Carpenter was happy to be able to celebrate his 39th birthday again next Tuesday, April 15th.

Laws Not Taught By Dick and Rae in Physics:

1. Law of Mechanical Repair - After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you'll have to use the bathroom.
2. Law of Gravity - Any tool, nut, bolt, screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible place in the universe.
3. Law of Probability - The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.
4. Law of Random Numbers - If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal; someone always answers.
5. Variation Law - If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now.
6. Law of the Bath - When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone will ring.
7. Law of Close Encounters - The probability of meeting someone you know INCREASES dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.
8. Law of the Result - When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, IT WILL!!!
9. Law of Biomechanics - The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.
10. Law of the Theater & Hockey Arena - At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle, always arrive last. They are the ones who will leave their seats several times to go for food, beer, or the toilet and who leave early before the end of the performance or the game is over. The folks in the aisle seats come early, never move once, have long gangly legs or big bellies and stay to the bitter end of the performance. The aisle people also are very surly folk.
11. The Coffee Law - As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.
12. Murphy's Law of Lockers - If there are only 2 people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.
13. Law of Physical Surfaces - The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.
14. Law of Logical Argument - Anything is possible IF you don't know what you are talking about.
15. Law of Physical Appearance - If the clothes fit, they're ugly.

16. Law of Public Speaking -- A CLOSED MOUTH GATHERS NO FEET!
 17. Law of Commercial Marketing Strategy - As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it OR the store will stop selling it!
 18. Doctors' Law - If you don't feel well, make an appointment to go to the doctor, by the time you get there, you'll feel better. But don't make an appointment and you'll stay sick.
- Thanks to Scott Risser.

Pot:

Neither Secretary John nor your editor remembers who won the raffle but that winner did NOT win the BIG pot that now totals \$115.50.

Future Programs & Activities:

- Apr 16:** "AHALA:Children's Rights Foundation in Guadalajara, México," by Judge Diane Strickland, RoD Mary Honsinger
- Apr 19:** Paul Harris born in 1868 in Racine, WI
- Apr 23:** "SowHope – Inspiring Women Around the World by Promoting Wellness, Education, and Economic Opportunities", by Mary Daily Brown, RoD Mary Honsinger
- Apr 26:** Rotary Leadership Institute; Jacksonville, NC (www.rli33.org for details)
- Apr 26:** District Training Assembly; Roanoke
- Apr 30:** TBA

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April 16, 2014

Volume LXVIII, Number 36

President Emily presided. Guests: Mike Honsinger, oldest son of Chip, visiting from Maine; and our speaker, Diane Strickland. Visiting Rotarians: George Moore from the Lexington Sunrise Club; Joe Obenshain and his Partner Marsha from the Buchanan Rotary Club. Attendance: 21 members, 3 guests, and 2 visiting Rotarians for a total of 26. Meeting held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club.

Announcements and Business:

1. April is Rotary Magazine month in the Rotary world. Last month we celebrated literacy and this month, we put those skills to work by celebrating *the Rotarian* magazine.
2. The April issue of our District Newsletter, the *Rotary Informer*, is now available online at www.Rotary7570.org. This issue is a report on the recent District Conference held at The Homestead Resort and includes numerous photos.
3. District Awards handed out at Conference included "The Significant Club Achievement Award" presented to the Lexington Sunrise Club - Congratulations! The Blacksburg Rotary Club dominated the awards with 6 firsts and 2 seconds. Go to the Newsletter for details.

Program:

RoD Mary Honsinger introduced Diane Strickland who spoke to us about CODENI/AHALA. Ms. Strickland is a retired chief judge of the 23rd Judicial Circuit in Roanoke. After 15 years on the bench, she joined The McCammon Group in 2002, where she serves as a certified mediator. She chaired the Task Forces to establish the first Drug Court and Youth Court in VA. She has been very active serving on the boards of many non-profits in the Roanoke area. She spoke to us regarding AHALA Children's Rights Foundation, a non-profit organization established to support the work of her middle child, Danielle, to educate the street children of Guadalajara, Mexico.

The objective of street outreach is to contact and develop relationships of confidence with children and families who work on the streets of downtown Guadalajara, to diagnose their needs and accompany them in psychological, social, and pedagogical processes to improve their quality of life.

In recent years, with the help of three grants from The Rotary Foundation, they bought a home to use as a base (Casa CODENI), set up a computer lab, and began a photo workshop. They now have 140+ active participants.

Some of their 2013 accomplishments: purchase of a van for home visits, fieldtrips, donation pick-ups, etc.; new gym in Casa CODENI; 25 psychological therapy processes were successfully completed; 16 moms graduated from CODENI's empowerment workshops; over 100 children and teens participated in workshops; 90% of their children were in school or in life projects related to formal employment; 4 students were in college, 14 in high school, 36 in middle school, and 57 in elementary school.

Primary goals for 2014: 100% of children in school or with life projects related to formal employment; publish CODENI's methodology for project evaluation and the development of impact indicators; and sell artisan products made by participants online to generate income for CODENI.

In CODENI every dollar counts. They are grateful for all donations, whether for specific projects or for general operating costs to continue helping the families who survive off the streets of Guadalajara.

You may contact them at www.ahala.org or www.codeni.org.mx.

Happy Bucks:

- Chip Honsinger was happy he came to Lexington 20 years ago and discovered John Tucker - a Rotarian and only 8 days older than Chip, so happy 80th birthday to John on Saturday.
- Scott Risser was happy to pay to hear another of Linda's jokes and Linda was happy to pay to have Skip read it; since it is too long to include here, see Linda.
- Nick Cuzzimano was happy to report that he finished his law school class today; other students in the class presented him a box of candy and a card they all had signed that said, "What a wonderful world this would be if everyone was as nice as you!" Way to go, Nick!
- Mary Honsinger was happy to contribute in honor of Danielle and Diane and their work with CODENI/AHALA.
- Heather Branstetter was happy to report she had secured funding to support her summer research project on how we use gossip to form community values.
- Emily Higgins was happy to relate that her two grandsons, ages 4 and 1, arrived just as she was departing for Rotary; the 4-year old jumped out of the car and ran and hugged her saying, "I love you, and I've got diarrhea!"; holding him at arms length, she quickly got into her car and came to our meeting; she also sadly reported that they had to let their dog Shelby go last Saturday after 12 years as the family pet.
- Diane Strickland was happy to contribute in honor of Joe Obenshain; without him she would not have had a connection to Rotary and missed all those wonderful breakfasts, lunches, and dinners.

Sister Mary Ann's Gasoline:

Sister Mary Ann, who worked for a home health agency, was out making her rounds visiting homebound patients when she ran out of gas. As luck would have it, a Texaco Gasoline station was just a block away. She walked to the station to borrow a gas can and buy some gas. The attendant told her that the only gas can he owned had been lent out, but she could wait until it was returned.

Since Sister Mary Ann was on the way to see a patient, she decided not to wait and walked back to her car. She looked for something in her car that she could fill with gas and spotted the bedpan she was taking to the patient. Always resourceful, Sister Mary Ann carried the bedpan to the station, filled it with gasoline, and carried the full bedpan back to her car.

As she was pouring the gas into her tank, two Baptists watched from across the street. One of them turned to the other and said, 'If it starts, I'm turning Catholic.'

Pot:

John Furgerson won the raffle but not the BIG pot that now totals \$133.50.

Future Programs & Activities:

Apr 19: Paul Harris born in 1868 in Racine, WI

Apr 23: "SowHope – Inspiring Women Around the World by Promoting Wellness, Education, and Economic Opportunities", by Mary Daily Brown, RoD Mary Honsinger

Apr 26: Rotary Leadership Institute; Jacksonville, NC (www.rli33.org for details)

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Apr 30: TBA

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April 23, 2014

Volume LXVIII, Number 37

President Emily presided. Guests: our speaker, Mary Dailey Brown, and her husband, Doug; Richard Perreau, a friend of the speaker from Ohio; and Landey and Rebecca Patton, owners of the Abigail Inn and friends of SowHope. Visiting Rotarians: none. Attendance: 28 members, and 5 guests for a total of 33. Meeting held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club.

Announcements and Business:

1. President Emily presented checks to two local organizations from the net proceeds of the Annual Winter Bazaar. Chip Honsinger accepted a check for \$995.14 for RARA; and Julie Goyette accepted a check for \$663.42 for the Rockbridge Regional Library to apply to their Bookmobile Fund.
2. Our Board of Directors will hold their next regular meeting in two weeks. President Emily requests that anyone with a matter to present to the Board submit it to her in writing before the meeting. An email will suffice.
3. It's early, but PE Scott is working on plans for our annual picnic. There may be some scheduling conflicts with the Jordans Point facility but they hope to have that worked out soon.
4. President Emily thanked PE Scott for taking on the responsibility for programs over the last few months. Job well done.
5. To be on the safe side, please communicate your concerns to President Emily in writing, or at least send her an email reminding her of dates, times, and ideas. Sounds like her memory is getting to be like the memories of most of the rest of us.
6. The Board approved starting a club presence on Facebook. Julie Goyette has volunteered to draft some policies and parameters in the coming weeks.

Minute for Rotary:

President Emily said she had a lovely visit yesterday with an old friend and at one point they were listening to Barbra Streisand sing "People." This sparked a discussion about their involvement with the schools and other community service. Rotary revolves around people. It got her to thinking about the purpose of Rotary. One of the lines in the song is ..."people who need people are the luckiest people in the world," and she would add to that ..."people who help people are the luckiest people in the world." That's a very good attitude to have as we work on various service projects in the coming months. We are very blessed to be able to help.

Program:

RoD Chip Honsinger introduced Mary Daily Brown, Co-Founder, President, and CEO of SowHope. Mary earned a BA from Southern Illinois University with majors in Photography and Psychology. She completed a Master's of Public Administration in Non-profit Management and Leadership at Grand Valley State University where she is now a part-time professor.

Mary worked at the White House as a staff photographer serving both Carter and Reagan. She owned a professional freelance photography business in the north suburbs of Chicago for 10 years. She served as the founding Executive Director of Love Inc (formerly the US branch of World Vision) of Lake County, IL. She was the Director of Missions at Bella Vista Church in Rockford, MI, for eight years and it was during that time that she traveled to many Third World countries and developed the vision to start SowHope.

Over the past 25 years, Mary has visited and traveled to over 50 countries and been involved personally and vocationally with the poor. She is fluent in Spanish, having lived in Spain for nearly four years. She has led over 100 volunteer teams to over 30 countries.

Mary is married to Doug Brown and has two adult sons, John and Alex.

SowHope is a 501c(3) International, Charitable, Non-Profit Organization targeting impoverished women in the developing world. The mission of SowHope is: To inspire women around the world by promoting wellness, education, and economic opportunities. Their strategy is to partner with local leaders using local solutions to solve local problems.

SowHope was founded in January 2006 and during the first eight years has directly impacted over 38K women through time-limited, outcome-based projects in twelve countries. SowHope is one of the only global organizations focusing exclusively on the holistic needs of women living in poverty. (Why concentrate on women, you might ask? Microloans are an integral part of their producing economic opportunities. Experience has shown that men repay only 40% of their loans, while women repay 98.5%. 'Nuff said.)

Mary showed a video entitled "Let Me Sow Hope," a documentary exposing the overwhelming challenges and vulnerabilities faced by impoverished women in the developing world. The transformational effect of hope was evident and inspirational among the women and families who had benefitted from the SowHope program.

SowHope invites us to join them as they attempt to live out their motto: "Where there is despair, let me sow hope." (St. Francis of Assisi) For more info, visit their website at www.sowhope.org.

Happy Bucks:

- Kent McMichael was happy to throw out a joke to compete with those of the last few weeks. Too long to repeat here but club reaction was HE LOST!!!
- Scott Risser was happy to question Kent if his joke was biographical; he was also happy to commend our speaker and say that her presentation was "spot on" since he had served in some of those same fields during his military career.
- Linda Krantz was totally enthralled by the book "Mr. Owita's Guide to Gardening: How I Learned the Unexpected Joy of a Green Thumb and an Open Heart" by Carol Wall; she could hardly put it down while reading it and highly recommended it to all; she even learned to tweet so she could tell the author how much the book meant to her.
- Betty McMichael was happy to report that there were so many hummingbirds around her one feeder that she put out a second; and investigation showed that, when their suet bird feeder disappeared, a bear was the culprit not a raccoon!
- Emily Higgins was happy to report that, in his first job, her son-in-law worked to bring healthcare and education into the Horn of Africa region; she was also happy that her son-in-law's cousin, a French journalist, was released along with 3 others after 10 months in captivity by unknown abductors in Syria and is in good condition – he felt his survival was assured because he was the only captive fluent in Arabic.
- Derek Carter was happy to commend our speaker; to thank Mary and Emily for their friendship, to note that yesterday was Max's birthday; to recognize Kent in appreciation of his humor; and finally, for his kids who are awesome!
- Julia Goyette was happy to have heard our "wonderful speaker."
- John Tucker was happy to announce Chip Honsinger's 80th birthday on April 27th and embarrass him as Chip did to John last week; also to point out another similarity between the two – both have sons who have served as helicopter pilots in the military.

What is Celibacy?

Celibacy can be a choice in life, or a condition imposed by circumstances. While attending a Marriage Weekend, Frank and his wife Ann listened to the instructor declare, "It is essential that husbands and wives know the things that are important to each other."

He then addressed the men. "Can you name and describe your wife's favorite flower?" Frank leaned over, touched Ann's arm gently, and whispered, "Gold Medal-All-Purpose, isn't it?"

And thus began Frank's life of celibacy.

I Didn't Know This About Pancakes:

Brenda and Steve took their six-year-old son to the doctor. With some hesitation, they explained that although their little angel appeared to be in good health, they were concerned about his rather small penis.

After examining the child, the doctor confidently declared, 'Just feed him pancakes. That should solve the problem.' The next morning when the boy arrived at breakfast, there was a large stack of warm pancakes in the middle of the table.

'Gee, Mom,' he exclaimed, 'for me?' 'Just take two,' Brenda replied. 'The rest are for your father.'

Dangerous Food:

A Doctor was addressing a large audience in Tampa. 'The material we put into our stomachs is enough to have killed most of us sitting here, years ago. Red meat is awful. Soft drinks corrode your stomach lining. Chinese food is loaded with MSG. High fat diets can be disastrous, and none of us realizes the long-term harm caused by the germs in our drinking water. However, there is one thing that is the most dangerous of all and we all have eaten, or will eat it. Can anyone here tell me what food it is that causes the most grief and suffering for years after eating it?'

After several seconds of quiet, a 75-year-old man in the front row raised his hand, and softly said, 'Wedding Cake.'

Pot:

Dick Minnix won the raffle but not the BIG pot that now totals \$148.00.

Future Programs & Activities:

Apr 26: Rotary Leadership Institute; Jacksonville, NC (www.rli33.org for details)

Apr 26: District Training Assembly; Roanoke

Apr 30: Blue Ridge Mountain Cloggers; RoD Nick Cuzzimano

May 07: Lime Kiln Theater; RoD Josie McElroy and Emily Higgins

May 14: W&L Law School, by Dean Nora Demleiter; RoD Nick Cuzzimano

May 21: Youth Study Exchange; RoD Kent McMichael and Emily Higgins

END



THE LEXINGTON ROTARY CLUB BULLETIN

CHARTERED FEBRUARY 1, 1922

NUMBER 1062

92nd YEAR OF "SERVICE ABOVE SELF"

Web Site: <http://www.lexingtonvarotary.org>

April 30, 2014

Volume LXVIII, Number 38

President Emily presided. Guests: None. Visiting Rotarians: None. Attendance: 23 members and no guests for a total of 23. Meeting held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club.

Announcements and Business:

1. Our Board of Directors will hold its regular monthly meeting next week. President Emily requests that anyone with a matter to present to the Board submit it to her in writing before the meeting; an email will suffice. Also, **please note that the meeting will be held at a new time: 5:30 pm.**
2. It's early, but PE Scott is working on plans for our annual picnic. There may be some scheduling conflicts with the Jordans Point facility but he hopes to have that worked out soon.
3. To be on the safe side, please communicate your concerns to President Emily in writing, or at least send her an email reminding her of dates, times, and ideas. Sounds like her memory is going the same route as the memories of most of the rest of us.
4. At its' last meeting, our Board approved starting a club presence on Facebook. Julie Goyette has volunteered to draft some policies and parameters in the coming weeks.
5. Work has begun on organizing the upcoming Rockbridge Community Festival. Max Ivankov has been appointed Vice Chair (will automatically become Chair next year), Josie McElroy will be in charge of entertainment, and Scott Risser will be handling food logistics for the hot dog stand.
6. President Emily reported receipt of a request from RI for a \$1000 contribution to help restore/repair the Paul Harris home in Chicago.
7. Rotaract News: Heather Branstetter reported on the status of Rotaract at VMI. It will be considered an "academic program" (basically an extracurricular activity that goes under the purview of the Dean rather than the Commandant). It will function as a clearinghouse for service projects and as an interdisciplinary space bringing together various departments or projects already devoted to service, global outreach, entrepreneurship, or any mix of those (like Engineers Without Borders). The need at VMI is not for yet another program or club that does these things, but an umbrella organization that connects people and directs cadets to projects they might be interested in but unaware of. So that is what Rotaract's role is expected to be. This view has been approved at the administrative level, so now it's just a matter of filing the paperwork and helping drum up cadet enthusiasm in the Fall.

Minute for Rotary:

President Emily read a thank-you note from Joe Rinehardt. Recall that Joe was recognized by our club with a Paul Harris Fellowship at our March 19th meeting for his outstanding work with the Rockbridge County Habitat for Humanity as Construction Supervisor since 2004. During his tenure, 28 houses were constructed for more than 60 persons. 'His mentoring and patient leadership allowed more than 2200 county residents to provide tens of thousands of volunteer labor hours that make Habitat construction possible.' Although it is normal to receive such a letter, it is remarkable that he included a check for \$100 as a donation so our club 'could keep up its' good work.'

Program:

RoD Nick Cuzzimano introduced the Blue Ridge Mountain Cloggers led by his Partner, Nancy. The 18-person group included both adult and youth dancers. Accompanied by recorded music, they entertained us with a series of numbers that were energetic and athletic. Mid-way through the

program, they drafted some club members and taught them a few basic steps which were then incorporated into several joint numbers. Allan, Chip, Derek, Emily, Heather, Joe, Linda, Nick, and Scott were nimble draftees. Someone remarked that Allan and Joe were natural-born cloggers.

Both the cloggers and our members seemed to thoroughly enjoy the program. In fact, the Blue Ridge Mountain Cloggers announced that, because our members seemed to enjoy the program so much, they'd like to return in the future.

Birthdays and Anniversaries in May:

Happy Birthday to: Stephen McElroy on the 14th; Kent McMichael on the 17th; Rita Ravenhorst on the 20th; and Stewart Fleming on the 28th.

Sorry, but we have no anniversaries in May. You bachelors need to get busy.

Happy Bucks:

- Ed Jeffries was happy to announce that he was glad he didn't miss this meeting and the wonderful program.
- Dick Minnix was happy to brag on his oldest son who presented the program at our meeting last June on the parallel tunnel being built under the Elizabeth River linking Norfolk and Portsmouth: he was just appointed a vice-president of his engineering firm, Johnson, Mirmiran, and Thompson, Inc. Six of the 100-yard long concrete sections fabricated in Baltimore are scheduled to be floated down the river and sunk in place in June or July of this year.
- Joe Milo was happy to commend the Cloggers on a great program; and then got himself into trouble by saying he couldn't believe that 70% of the world's work is done by women as quoted in last week's outstanding program: "somebody has to carry the guns and make all those babies."
- Ed Jeffries was happy to counter quickly that he couldn't believe it was only 70% done by women.
- Scott Risser tried the 70% line on Partner Barbara and it didn't work.
- Emily Higgins was happy with tonight's happiness dance – 'twas exactly what we needed; she also related a bizarre breakfast at a B&B in Ashville, NC: 8 of the 10 people at the table were Rotarians from all over the US and most were past-presidents – you can just imagine the conversation that ensued.
- Mary Honsinger was happy to inform Joe that women seen on her recent Africa trek did indeed do at least 70% of the work.
- Chip Honsinger was happy to recall that the daughter of a member of a Thai team that visited here several years ago is doing similar work to the SowHope program -- he is hoping to put them in touch. Also, there is a rumor afoot that the local Kiwanis Club is planning to fold in September. Finally, he and Mary bids us adieu until June while they tour Australia and New Zealand.
- Jim Slack was happy to remind President Emily that she owes a dollar because her picture with the Master Gardeners appears on page B-14 of this week's News-Gazette.

Pot:

Nick Cuzzimano won the raffle but not the BIG pot that now totals \$166.00.

Future Programs & Activities:

May 07: Lime Kiln Theater by Spenser McElroy; RoD Josie McElroy

May 14: W&L Law School by Dean Nora Demleiter; RoD Nick Cuzzimano

May 21: Youth Study Exchange Update; RoD Kent McMichael and Emily Higgins

May 28: New Piano Bar in Lexington by Kelly Harris and LGCC Management; RoD Linda Krantz and Emily Higgins

END



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May 07, 2014

Volume LXVIII, Number 39

President Emily presided. Guests: Spenser McElroy, our speaker; Morgan Harris, who assisted our speaker, works in the Alumni Office of W&L and a member of Board of Lime Kiln Arts; and Natalie Jarvis, Associate Comptroller of W&L, and a member of Board of Lime Kiln Arts. Visiting Rotarians: David Johnson from the Western Henrico Rotary Club. Attendance: 24 members, one visiting Rotarian, and 3 guests for a total of 28. Meeting held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club.

Announcements and Business:

1. Our Board of Directors held its regular monthly meeting at 5:30 pm, prior to our regular meeting.
2. To be on the safe side, please communicate your concerns to President Emily in writing, or at least send her an email reminding her of dates, times, and ideas. Her memory is not much better than that of most of the rest of us.
3. President Emily read a thank-you note from the Friends of the Rockbridge Regional Library for our recent donation to their Bookmobile Fund.

Minute for Rotary:

President Emily offered the following from the 1924 Rotarian magazine over the establishment of written business ethics: "Ethical conduct of business, emphasized and spread through the world by Rotarians, will greatly diminish the inclination and disposition on the part of peoples of different countries to fight one another. Business has been a pawn in the world's game of chess. If Rotary's Code of Ethics is recognized and enforced world wide, one of the most dangerous and hidden underlying causes of jealousy and war will have been permanently removed."

Program:

RoD Josie McElroy introduced her son, Spenser, Executive Director of Lime Kiln Theater. Built in the ruins of an old limestone quarry and kiln, the theater was the venue for live outdoor plays and concerts since the early 1980s. During the first two decades of its existence, the unique outdoor theater staged original plays with professional casts and drew nationally acclaimed recording artists. Later, the venue became more of a community theater, which turned out not to be a financially viable direction. The nearly three-decade-old infrastructure was in need of major improvements, and the financial resources to accomplish them just weren't available, so the operation was closed in December, 2012.

A new Board of Directors was organized recently featuring new, young blood. They decided to concentrate on concerts in the 2014 season because they had been money-makers in the past. Spenser booked six concerts in January, ranging from the new, Charlottesville group, called 'The Infamous Stringdusters,' to old friends, "Robin and Linda Williams.'

With the schedule set, it was time to tackle the infrastructure problem. They decided to concentrate on the concert site, the Bowl. This site can seat about 350 with standing/sitting space for about another 200. A new timberframe structure to house the soundboard was constructed. And an 'OPEN HOUSE, Volunteer Day' was held on April 26th to build a new stage, and spruce up the landscape and seating. All work has been done by volunteers so far at no cost to Lime Kiln, including the Board of Directors and its officers.

Spenser urged us to attend the concerts. A season ticket is available for \$92 per person. Individual concert tickets range from \$15 to \$25. All advance orders must be placed online.

Happy Bucks:

- Skip Ravenhorst was happy that his bursitis was improved – he had not been able to sit down for about two weeks; also happy to discover that a cane was both a status symbol and weapon.
- Julie Goyette was happy to commend our speakers for a 'great' job.
- Nick Cuzzimano was happy to remind us that our club started the "Bonnie Blue National Horse Show" which will be held this weekend at the VA Horse Center; go out to see the 'Bonnie Blue.'
- Dick Minnix was happy to recommend a band called Mrs. C's Pickers from the Maury River Senior Center located in Buena Vista; Dick remarked that most of the band appeared older than he. This group is a crowd-pleaser because they play folk songs, gospel numbers, and the like that we all grew up hearing; they also add a little humor between numbers such as: 'A recent study has shown that overweight women live longer than the men who comment on them.'" Dick recommended the group for consideration as an entertainer for the Community Festival.
- Skip was happy to point out that he was still working on the concept 'older than Dick.'
- Bill Lowe commended our speakers and then bid us adieu until August as he and Nancy embark on a trip to Italy and other points unknown.
- Emily was happy on multiple counts: she commended Spenser, a teammate of her son in soccer days, who grew up to be a great guy and incredible guitarist; for guest Natalie for being one of the sweetest people she has ever met, not only that, she is from Iowa (?); Josie for being a wonderful mother and raising Spenser so well; for her husband who has one of those camera-equipped drone helicopters and recently got into some hot water for inadvertently flying it over Quantico; and that Skip will feel better and can sit down once in a while.
- Scott Risser was happy to see Lime Kiln 'rise from the ashes' and resisted the temptation to comment on Dick's remarks.
- Josie McElroy was happy to contribute in honor of the 'working board.'
- Mary Sayre was happy to 'rub it in' that Dick mentioned golden oldies – she thought that when she got 'to that age,' golden oldies would be Led Zepplin and the like. (The message from Skip and Mary seems to be, "Watch what you say in Happy Bucks.")

Philosophies to Live By:

- Dear Algebra:
Please stop asking us to find your x,
She's never coming back and don't ask y.
- When nothing goes right... go left.
- "If a cluttered desk is a sign of a cluttered mind,
Of what, then, is an empty desk a sign?" (Albert Einstein)

Pot:

Chuck Barger won the raffle but not the BIG pot that now totals \$185.00.

Future Programs & Activities:

May 14: W&L Law School by Dean Nora Demleiter; RoD Nick Cuzzimano
May 21: Deva Lillaheart (Future Youth Study Exchange in Japan); RoD Kent McMichael
May 28: New Lexington Piano Bar by Kelly Harris; RoD Linda Krantz and Emily Higgins
Jun 04: Retiring Lexington City Manager Jon Ellestead, RoD Joe Milo
Jun 11: Club Assembly, RoD Emily Higgins
Jun 18: Annual Club Picnic at Jordan's Point Pavilion; RoD Scott Risser
Jun 25: Installation of New Club Officers; RoD Emily Higgins

END



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May 14, 2014

Volume LXVIII, Number 40

President Emily presided. Guests: Dean Nora Demleitner, our speaker; Stuart Wetzel, a member of the 2013 GSE Team to Argentina was the guest of Kent McMichael; and Shawn Hamric, owner of C. L. Hamric Memorials and a prospective member, was the guest of Kent McMichael. Visiting Rotarian: Bill Luton of the Lexington Sunrise Club. Attendance: 21 members, one visiting Rotarian, and 3 guests for a total of 25. Meeting held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club.

Announcements and Business:

1. Our club should have a Facebook site up and running by tomorrow afternoon. Club policy regarding posting on Facebook will be distributed to members by next week.
2. Kent McMichael gave us a heads up on the Memorial Day project of placing about 800 flags on veterans graves in local cemeteries. Flags will be put in place on Friday, May 23rd, and removed on Tuesday, May 27th. Sign-up sheets will be circulated at our next meeting.
3. Stuart Wetzel, an employee of the national office of Kappa Alpha Order, was a member of the 2013 GSE Team to District 4835 in Argentina. He is being transferred to NC and will move tomorrow. He brought his folder of memorabilia he put together on his trip and presented it to our club. He called his 5 years in Lexington 'awesome' and said he couldn't thank us enough for the opportunity to visit Argentina.
4. A short Board meeting was held at the conclusion of our regular meeting. Two actions were taken:
 - a. The resignation of Jana Shearer was accepted with regret.
 - b. A 3-month leave of absence for Bill Lowe was approved.

Program:

RoD Nick Cuzzimano introduced Dean Nora Demleitner, Roy L. Steinheimer, Jr. Professor of Law and Dean of the W&L Law School.

Dean Demleitner holds a B.A. from Bates College, a J.D. from Yale Law School, and an LL.M. with distinction in International and Comparative Law from Georgetown Law Center. After law school, she clerked for the Hon. Samuel A. Alito, Jr., then a member of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Dean Demleitner teaches and has written widely in the areas of criminal, comparative, and immigration law. Her special expertise is in sentencing and collateral sentencing consequences.

Dean Demleitner spoke about the disparity that exists in our prison populations. She quoted some eye-opening statistics:

- One person out of every 35 in our nation is in prison, on probation, or on parole.
- Our prison population has grown 800% since 1980.
- Although the US has 5% of the world population, we have 25% of the world's prison population.
- Half of the inmates in the federal system are there for drug-related matters.
- An inmate is 6x more likely to be black than white; the factor is 9.5x for 19 year-olds.

This growth can be traced to the late 1980s when Congress enacted a mandatory minimum sentencing law for convicted felons. This led to federal sentencing guidelines.

These new guidelines were very inconsistent. For example, the sentence for trafficking in crack cocaine was about 90x that for similar amounts of powdered cocaine. It is better now, but still about 18x.

She raised some final questions for us to think about:

- Has reduction in Affirmative Action dramatically affected diversity?
- Is socio-economic diversity more important than racial diversity?
- Can you teach criminal law effectively in a classroom without racial diversity?

This presentation sparked great interest in our membership as evidenced by the 30 minutes of questions and discussion that followed.

Thanks to Dean Demleitner for an interesting and timely presentation.

Happy Bucks:

- Jim Slack was happy on multiple counts: he wanted to thank our speaker for saying a lot of things that needed to be said; he and his Partner visited last week Eastern State Penitentiary in Philadelphia, one of the early prisons in our country – in bad repair and not occupied but can still visit – and he informed us that the word penitentiary came about because inmates were expected to feel penitent for their offenses; and, finally, they met a young man on the street one afternoon who wished them to contribute to his lifestyle, but he would accept the donation only if he could tell them this joke: ‘Two peanuts were walking down the street, one was assaulted.’
- Kent McMichael was happy to commend his guest Shawn who is about to finish the project of cleaning the headstones in Evergreen Cemetery; he was also happy to tell us about an impressive young USA Captain he met at the KA Order spring initiation ceremony last Monday who finally found time to be initiated into KA – since he graduated from VMI in 2005, this young man had completed 5 tours in Iraq, 4 tours in Afghanistan, commanding platoons or companies in 7 of those 9, he wore ribbons indicating receipt of the Bronze Star medal for valor and the Purple Heart with 3 clusters and is heading back to Afghanistan again.
- Chuck Barger was happy to apologize for forgetting to sell raffle tickets tonight.
- Scott Risser was happy to thank our speaker for coming and raising these thought provoking issues.
- Allan Somerville Brown was happy to note that his daughter has been hired to help set up the Robert E. Lee Hotel this summer.
- Dick Minnix was happy to point out that poor Rodney King, after being brutally beaten by police, uttered these words, ‘Why can’t we all just get along?’
- Emily Higgins was happy to note that ‘we’ve come a long way baby, but there is still a way to go.’

For Wine Lovers:

- A meal without wine is called breakfast.
- Wine improves with age, the older I get, the better I like it.
- The other day someone told me I could make ice with leftover wine. I was confused... what is leftover wine?
- Wine is constant proof that God loves us and loves to see us happy.
- In wine there is wisdom, in beer there is freedom, in water there is bacteria.

Future Programs & Activities:

- May 21:** Deva Lillaheart (Future Youth Study Exchange in Japan); RoD Kent McMichael
- May 28:** New Lexington Piano Bar by Kelly Harris; RoD Linda Krantz and Emily Higgins
- Jun 04:** Retiring Lexington City Manager Jon Ellestead, RoD Joe Milo
- Jun 11:** Club Assembly, RoD Emily Higgins
- Jun 18:** Annual Club Picnic at Jordan's Point Pavilion; RoD Scott Risser
- Jun 25:** Installation of New Club Officers; RoD Emily Higgins

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May 21, 2014

Volume LXVIII, Number 41

President Emily presided. Guests: Tricia Lillaheart and her two daughters, Thea and Deva, our speaker. Visiting Rotarians: None. Attendance: 24 members, and 3 guests for a total of 27. Meeting held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club.

Announcements and Business:

1. Kent McMichael circulated sign-up sheets for members to come out and help place about 600 flags on veterans graves in our local cemeteries. Some people will start as early as 3:00 pm in Stonewall Jackson Cemetery on Friday, May 23rd. Others will go to Evergreen Cemetery at 4:15 pm to place flags there. Kent recommends members bring their children and/or grandchildren to help out. Pick-up will be on Tuesday, May 27th, at about the same times. Come on out and lend your hands to this very worthwhile project.
2. President Emily reminded us to mark our calendars for the Annual Club Picnic scheduled for Wednesday, June 18th, at the Rotary Pavilion at Jordans Point Park.
3. President Emily urged all members to recruit a new member before July 1st of this year. One of our fairly new members resigned because of family obligations so our membership is down for the year. Remember, you get a free meal if you bring a prospect to a meeting who later joins.

Minute for Rotary:

As background to our program, President Emily offered the following comments: Youth Exchange began during the 1920s as an effort between a handful of clubs in Europe. These European exchanges continued until World War II and resumed in 1946. The reciprocal long-term academic exchange grew in popularity during the 1950s and became the primary type of Rotary Youth Exchange. In 1972, the RI Board of Directors agreed to recommend Youth Exchange to clubs worldwide as a worthwhile International activity. Today, more than 8,000 Youth Exchange students travel abroad each year to live and study in about 80 countries.

Program:

Deva Lillaheart, a 17 year-old sophomore at RCHS, will leave in August to spend a year studying in Japan. She will go to Hamamatsu, a city of almost 800K population, located Southeast of Tokyo. She chose Japan because of the culture of the nation and also because of the influence of an excellent middle school teacher who had also spent some time in Japan. Her goals are to 'develop her character and acquire self confidence.'

Deva had organized her remarks as a power point presentation. Also included were slides of the Hamamatsu area sent to her by her host family. It is apparently a cosmopolitan city with six universities. To prepare for her adventure, she has spent the past year in an independent study of Japanese language guided by a teacher at RCHS.

Deva is an impressive young lady who, according to many of our members, is bound for the time of her life.

Happy Bucks:

- Emily Higgins was happy to reminisce about Deva first considering Youth Exchange; she was a quiet and introspective young lady who couldn't be swayed from her decision to go to Japan and has the attitude and demeanor to be a perfect exchange student; she also praised mother Tricia for being a pleasure to work with at RCHS.

- Ed Jeffries was happy to call our attention to a publication called 'Ageless Women' that has a full page photo of Linda Krantz although 'it really doesn't do her justice.'
- Scott Risser was happy to urge Deva to have fun next year – 'she will be a great ambassador of the American people to the Japanese.'
- Nick Cuzzimano was happy to commend SGM Kent for his work on behalf of veterans.
- Skip Ravenhorst was happy to be here and reassure Secretary/Treasurer John who was scared by Skip's admission of bursitis problems two weeks ago especially after he was unable to attend last week's meeting.
- Betty McMichael was happy to note that she and Kent attended KA initiations at USNA and USMA last week; only trouble was that the trip was too short.
- Mary Sayre was happy to commend Kent for his work with Youth Exchange as well as veterans; and announced that she and Scott will journey to Germany next week to attend a wedding and visit with friends and from there go to visit friends in 'the Puddle' in England.
- Joe Milo was happy with completion of the 'water loop' around Lexington about May 1 – amazingly, there was money left over that was used to upgrade the old mains; he also endorsed the Happy Buck of Josie that was to come next.
- Josie McElroy was happy to report that the Lime Kiln concert last weekend was a great success – a sellout; but just before it kicked off a guy showed up all bundled up against the weather with a sleeping bag, said he had walked to the site, admitted he had no ticket, and wanted to know if Josie could get him in; and she got our own Joe Milo a front row seat!

Signs of the Times:

- On a Plumber's truck: "Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber."
- On an Electrician's truck: "Let us remove your shorts."
- In a Veterinarian's waiting room: "Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"
- At the Electric Company: "We would be delighted if you send in your payment. However, if you don't, you will be."
- In a Restaurant window: "Don't stand there and be hungry; come on in and get fed up."
- In the front yard of a Funeral Home: "Drive carefully. We'll wait."
- And don't forget the sign at a CHICAGO RADIATOR SHOP: "Best place in town to take a leak."

And the best one for last.....

- Sign on the back of a Septic Tank Truck: "Caution - This Truck is full of Political Promises"
(Thanks to Linda.)

Pot:

Betty McMichael won the raffle but not the BIG pot that now totals \$202.50.

Future Programs & Activities:

- May 28:** New Lexington Piano Bar by Kelly Harris; RoD Linda Krantz and Emily Higgins
- Jun 04:** Retiring Lexington City Manager Jon Ellestead, RoD Joe Milo
- Jun 11:** Club Assembly, RoD Emily Higgins
- Jun 18:** Annual Club Picnic at Jordan's Point Pavilion; RoD Scott Risser
- Jun 25:** Installation of New Club Officers; RoD Emily Higgins

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May 28, 2014

Volume LXVIII, Number 42

President-Elect Scott presided. Guests: None. Visiting Rotarians: None. Attendance: 19 members, our lowest in some time, probably affected by the rain squall that struck just prior to our meeting. Meeting held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club.

Announcements and Business:

1. Kent McMichael thanked all who participated in placing flags on veterans graves in local cemeteries in observance of Memorial Day. 699 flags were distributed in Stonewall Jackson Cemetery and 104 in Evergreen Cemetery. He personally thanked Linda because the flags of another organization that she erroneously collected last year had to be used to cover the additional graves identified this year. Some members brought children and grandchildren to help. In developments for the future: the City has promised to repair the flag pole in Evergreen Cemetery before Veteran's Day; Kiwanis is expected to put out flags along Main Street in the future; Kent expects to store our small flags in the Kiwanis box located in the cemetery; and he plans to apply for a grant from District 7570 to support this program. Acting President Scott commended Kent for his direction of this project; the members present concurred with their applause.
2. Don't forget our Annual Club Picnic scheduled for Wednesday, June 18th, at the Rotary Pavilion at Jordans Point Park.
3. At our last meeting, President Emily urged all members to recruit a new member before July 1st of this year. One of our fairly new members resigned recently because of family obligations so our membership is down to 36, including members on leave and those qualifying for 'rule of 85.' So rack your brain and bring a prospect to one of our meetings. Don't forget that you should get the prospect approved by our Board of Directors before you issue an invitation. Remember, you get a free meal if you bring a prospect to a meeting who later joins.
4. President-Elect Scott stated that he thought we had been blessed with excellent programs this year and solicited members' suggestions for the new Rotary year beginning on July 1.
5. Word has been received that the Lexington Sunrise Rotary Club will change their meeting day to Tuesday beginning on July 8. It will still start at 7:00 am and be located in Evans Dining Hall at W&L.

Program:

Our scheduled speaker was unable to appear tonight so PE Scott Risser brought us up to date on some VMI history.

The battle of New Market – fought on May 15, 1864 – remains a seminal moment in the history of the Virginia Military Institute. Cadets march in formal parade to honor the cadets who fought and bled in that fight. A minor battle in the context of the war, but critical at the time and seminal in the history of VMI. The only battle in American history where a college student body fought as an integral unit engaged in close combat.

Their story is depicted in the movie *The Field of Lost Shoes*, soon to be released nationally. The film focuses on 7 friends who fought in the battle of New Market. Amongst these were Moses Ezekiel, first Jewish cadet at VMI, and his roommate and best friend, Thomas Garland Jefferson, great grandnephew of President Thomas Jefferson.

Two-thirds of the cadets at New Market were recent VMI appointees - average age 18. The cadet battalion sustained 24% casualties (47 wounded and 10 killed). After the battle, Ezekiel found his friend, Thomas Garland Jefferson, desperately wounded in the chest. Ezekiel walked, bare-footed (as his shoes had been lost in the mud during the assault), into New Market and found

a wagon he used to take Jefferson to the home of Lydia Clinedienst. Here Ezekiel nursed his friend and read to him from the Bible while he remained in bed in agonizing pain for two days.

On the evening of Tuesday, May 17, 1864, by candlelight, the Clinedienst family listened as young Moses read to his dying Christian friend the requested passages from the Gospel of John: "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." As Jefferson's fevered mind wandered, he thought Ezekiel was first his mother, and then his sister. As he lost his sight, he asked for a light. "*Only then it dawned on me,*" wrote Ezekiel, "*that all hope was past and [he was] in his [death] agony.*" Ezekiel held his friend Jefferson in his arms while he died.

Moses Ezekiel graduated from VMI in 1866 and went on to become one of the world's most renowned sculpturers of his day. He created the statue of Stonewall Jackson that stands in front of barracks, and the statue of 'Virginia Mourning Her Dead,' in front of VMI's engineering building. Six of Ezekiel's cadet comrades who died at New Market lie buried behind his monument to them – one of those buried there is his friend Thomas Garland Jefferson.

Upon his death, world-renowned sculptor Sir Moses Ezekiel had the only marker on his grave in Arlington cemetery read "**Moses J. Ezekiel – Sergeant of Company C, Battalion of Cadets of the Virginia Military Institute.**"

In the small world category, Jim Slack and his Partner visited his alma mater, Drexel University, in Philadelphia several weeks ago. He showed us a slide of a bust of founder Anthony Joseph Drexel prominently displayed there. It was also sculpted by Ezekiel.

Happy Bucks:

1. Nick Cuzzimano was happy to contribute in recognition of his appearance on TV as part of the Marine Color Guard that participated in the Memorial Day ceremony at the D-Day Memorial in Bedford, VA.
2. Skip Ravenhorst was happy contribute in honor of tonight's program and also to allay his guilt for not showing up to distribute flags in the cemetery.
3. Derek Carter was happy that he took his kids to help place flags on graves because they seemed to understand and appreciate the purpose of the project; he looks forward to including them in the future.
4. Linda Krantz was happy to bring free copies of the magazine *Ageless Women* to us; and to relate the following joke: A women was taking her daughter to a play date with a friend. The daughter asked her mom, "How old are you?" Mother replied, "Oh dear, women don't like to answer that question." "Well, how much do you weigh?" Mom replied, "We don't like that question either." Daughter: "Then why did Daddy divorce you?" Mom: "That's a question that shouldn't concern you; just be quiet." Later, when she related the conversation, her playmate told her to go to Mom's driver's license which is 'like a report card.' Sure enough, the daughter did and her next conversation with Mom went like this: "I know you are 32 years old and you weigh 128 pounds." Where did you get this information?" "From your driver's license – and it told me why Daddy divorced you!" Mom: "What did it say?" "That you got an 'F' for sex."
5. Kent McMichael was happy to admit that his granddaughter was the model shown on the cover of the Jan-Feb 2014 issue of *Ageless Woman* magazine.
6. Dick Minnix was happy to relate the following: Two engineering students were walking across campus when one said, "Where did you get such a great bike?" The second engineer replied, "Well, I was walking along yesterday minding my own business when a beautiful woman rode up on this bike. She threw the bike to the ground, took off all her clothes and said, "Take what you want." The second engineer nodded approvingly. "Good choice; the clothes probably wouldn't have fit." (Thanks to Linda.)
7. Joe Pagnam was happy to have a chance to return in a few weeks to Bermuda where he lived prior to coming to Lexington and was surprised to learn that they have 4 Rotary clubs on an island of 22 square miles; his dilemma – which one do I attend?
8. John Furgerson was happy to have three of his four sons-in-law visiting last week.
9. Scott Risser had two happy bucks for Nick: one for representing our country so well in Bedford as part of the Marine Color Guard; and the second for being in step 'even if he didn't know where he was.'

Birthdays and Anniversaries in June:

Happy Birthday to: Bill Stearns on the 2nd; Emily Higgins on the 5th; Scott Sayre on the 7th; June Jeffries on the 14th; Paul Barron on the 18th; Linda Krantz on the 19th; and Dick Minnix and Scott Risser on the 20th.

Happy Anniversary to: Gabriella and Allan Somerville Brown on the 6th; Melou and George Piegari on the 10th; and Alice and John Furgerson on the 20th.

Pot:

John Furgerson won the raffle but couldn't throw the dice to claim the BIG pot (\$218) because the dice could not be found!!

Future Programs & Activities:

Jun 04: Club Assembly, RoD Emily Higgins

Jun 11: TBA

Jun 18: Annual Club Picnic at Jordan's Point Pavilion; RoD Scott Risser

Jun 25: Installation of New Club Officers; RoD Emily Higgins

END