



# THE LEXINGTON ROTARY CLUB BULLETIN

CHARTERED FEBRUARY 1, 1922

NUMBER 1062

95th YEAR OF "SERVICE ABOVE SELF"  
Web Site: <http://www.lexingtonvarotary.org>

January 4, 2017

Volume LXXI, Number 21

Because of renovations at the Lexington Golf and Country Club, our first meeting of 2017 was moved to the Holiday Inn Express located at 880 North Lee Highway. The meal was catered by Subway of Lexington. Attendance: 22 members and 1 guest for a total of 23.

## Announcements and Business:

1. The 68th Annual Christmas Basket packing and delivery took place on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at the Virginia Horse Center (VHC). Deliveries began about 10:00am. Julia Van de Water, who coordinated deliveries by our club thanked all members who helped in any way: packing, delivering, whatever. "Despite a rather icy beginning, volunteers of all ages from across the county came together to pack 1700 boxes of food for 2957 people including 1067 children, in this, the 68<sup>th</sup> year of delivering baskets of food and toys for needy families in our community."
2. Julia Van de Water presented a check to the Lexington Rotary Foundation Fund for \$95.21. This represents our share of Kroger Community Rewards for member purchases at the local grocery store. This check is only about a third of those received in the past, probably because some members have failed to register in Kroger's new Community Rewards Program. If you have not registered, please do so immediately by using the following procedure:

TO USE THE KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM:

Organization Name: Lexington Rotary Club Foundation NPO number 82191

1. Members should register online at [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com)
  2. Be sure to have your Kroger Plus card handy and register your card with your organization after you sign up.
  3. If you do not yet have a Kroger Plus card, these cards are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger.
  4. Click on Sign In/Register
  5. Most participants are new online customers, so they must click on SIGN UP TODAY in the 'New Customer?' box.
  6. Sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account by entering zip code, clicking on favorite store, entering your email address and creating a password, agreeing to the terms and conditions.
  7. You will then get a message to check your email inbox and click on the link within the body of the email.
  8. Click on My Account and use your email address and password to proceed to the next step.
  9. Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input your Kroger Plus card number.
  10. Update or confirm your information.
  11. Enter NPO number or name of organization, select organization from list and click on confirm.
  12. To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see your organization's name on the right side of your information page.
  13. REMEMBER, purchases will not count for your group until after member(s) register their card(s).
  14. Do you use your phone number at the register? Call 800-576-4377, select option 4 to get your Kroger Plus card number.
  15. Members must swipe their registered Kroger Plus card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Kroger Plus card when shopping for each purchase to count.
- Thank you for participating in the Kroger Community Rewards Program to benefit the Lexington Rotary Club Foundation.
3. **Note that we will meet at Holiday Inn Express again next week, January 11. We expect to return to LGCC on January 18th.**

## Program:

RoD Betty McMichael introduced VMI's Colonel Keith Gibson who spoke to us about the 50th Anniversary of the Historic Lexington Foundation (HLF).

Keith Gibson is Executive Director of the Museum System and Architectural Officer for Virginia Military Institute and is responsible for the operation and development of the VMI Museum in Lexington, VA, the Virginia Museum of the Civil War at New Market Battlefield State Historical Park in New Market, VA, and the Stonewall Jackson House, Lexington, VA.

Growing up near Richmond, VA, on land hotly contested during the Civil War kindled his interest in history at an early age. He received his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the VMI in 1977. He prepared for a career in public history with graduate work in Early American History at James Madison University and Museum Studies with George Washington University.

He has worked as a consultant on documentary films, made for TV films, and feature films too numerous to list. He appears frequently as a spokesperson for historic preservation on radio and PBS TV programs. He was chosen as the Commonwealth of Virginia's outstanding employee of the year in 2012.

Colonel Gibson raised the question, "Why do they do it?" He was not able to answer it.

"Half a century ago, a group of Lexington citizens assembled to prevent the demolition of one of the city's treasures, the 1824 Barclay House (now called Beaumont). (Prime movers in the creation of HLF were Mary Stuart Gilliam, Louise Pendleton Moore, and Matthew W. Paxton, Jr.) The house was saved, and citizens who wanted to protect the value of other significant historic properties recognized the need for continued oversight of Lexington's built environment. Thus in 1966 they chartered the Historic Lexington Foundation. Over the years, HLF, with its pride of place, has sustained its mission "to preserve, interpret, and present the historical heritage and fabric of Rockbridge County," including the cities of Lexington and Buena Vista.

"Among the preservation tools established by HLF is a Revolving Fund used to purchase, stabilize, and find new owners willing to rehabilitate threatened historic properties. Among the buildings purchased by HLF are the Alexander-Withrow Building (1789), the Central Hotel, now the McCampbell Inn (earliest section 1809), and the Jacob M. Ruff House (1829). When reselling these properties, HLF placed facade easements on them to insure that they retain their historic character in perpetuity. HLF has also accepted as donations or purchased easements on other significant properties, including the Reid-White-Philbin House (1824) and the Hopkins House (1845)." (From [www.historiclexington.org](http://www.historiclexington.org).)

### **Happy Bucks:**

- Skip Ravenhorst had two happy bucks: one for Keith Gibson who encouraged him to purchase Beechenbrook Chapel; and the other for PE Joe Pagnam who did yeoman's work over the holidays in seeking out our alternative meeting place and caterer.
- Julia Van de Water thanked all who participated in the Rockbridge Christmas Basket program in any way; she read a list of members who either packed or delivered or both; and announced that our club's deliveries in Lexington South benefitted 117 adults and 49 children.
- Mary Sayre thanked all who delivered especially Derek and Jacki and Robert Hull who helped with difficult deliveries; she offered to display her bruises from carrying 38 pound boxes of food – it was late and no one took her up.
- Betty McMichael reminisced about the early days of the "hysterical" society when she was in high school and college; and thanked our speaker for his presentation.
- Jim McCoy was happy to thank Nancy Lowe who guided him in delivering baskets – otherwise he would still be looking.
- Bill Lowe thanked everyone that helped with the basket program; they had fewer packers due to weather but still finished on time; recipients seemed very appreciative; all baskets delivered and to right address; had a few calls but able to straighten out any problems; packed an extra basket for a family of 7 who may have been overlooked; and said Partner Nancy took Jim McCoy to places he would never have gone alone.
- Julie Goyette was glad to be back after an extended absence.
- Dick Minnix reminisced about a basket delivery his family made about 50 years ago - his children have never forgotten how three little boys ran out in the snow to meet them clad only in their underwear; your grandchildren think everyone lives as you do, so take them with you next year – it

will open their eyes.

- Scott Risser commended Julia and Bill for their leadership in the Basket Program; Keith for his program tonight; and proud to say that another CE from VMI had ended up in history because when he was there CE was known as pre-history due to many who transferred when the going got tough.
- Robert Sayre said he had been in Lexington about 18 months and every time he turns over a new leaf he discovers another good reason for his choice – tonight was one of those.
- Linda Krantz offered one of her jokes:

There was a man who worked for the Post Office whose job was to process all the mail that had illegible addresses. One day, a letter came addressed in a shaky handwriting to God with no actual address. He thought he should open it to see what it was about.

The letter read: “Dear God, I am an 83 year-old widow, living on a very small pension. Yesterday someone stole my purse. It had \$100 in it, which was all the money I had until my next pension payment.

“Next Sunday is Christmas, and I had invited two of my friends over for dinner. Without that money, I have nothing to buy food with, have no family to turn to, and you are my only hope... Can you please help me?

Sincerely, Edna”

The postal worker was touched. He showed the letter to all the other workers. Each one dug into his or her wallet and came up with a few dollars. By the time he made the rounds, he had collected \$96, which they put into an envelope and sent to the woman. The rest of the day, all the workers felt a warm glow thinking of Edna and the dinner she would be able to share with her friends.“Christmas came and went. A few days later, another letter came from the same old lady to God. All the workers gathered around while the letter was opened.

It read: “Dear God,

“How can I ever thank you enough for what you did for me? Because of your gift of love, I was able to fix a glorious dinner for my friends. We had a very nice day and I told my friends of your wonderful gift.

“By the way, there was \$4 missing. I think it might have been those bastards at the post office. Sincerely, Edna”

#### **Future Programs & Activities:**

**Jan 11: Club Assembly, RoD Skip Ravenhorst**

**Jan 18: The Rotary Foundation by Marc Hudson, RoD Joe Pagnam**

**Jan 25: TBA**

**Feb 01: TBA**

**Feb 08: TBA**

**Feb 15: TBA**

**Feb 22: Chasing the Powhatan Arrow by Michael Abraham**

**END**



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January 11, 2017

Volume LXXI, Number 22

With the Lexington Golf and Country Club still closed for renovations, our second meeting of 2017 was again held at the Holiday Inn Express located at 880 North Lee Highway. The meal was catered by Papa John's Pizza. Attendance: 23 members.

## Announcements and Business:

1. "Come and celebrate ST. PATRICK'S DAY! New, accurate 5K course for runners, joggers, walkers and strollers. Dogs on leashes also welcome. Reduced entry fee for children aged 8-11. Participants are encouraged to wear "Shamrock green" costumes. Course takes in downtown Lexington, historic Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University. Registration online is now open, go to the Sign Up Tab to the left of this page. All participants will receive a T-Shirt. There is food and drink before and after the event. Event times will be available online after the event. Have fun! Sponsored by Lexington Rotary Club" (From the LeprechaunLeap.com web site.) PE Joe Pagnam reviewed arrangements for the "Leprechaun Leap" scheduled for 9:00 am on Saturday, March 18. All permissions have been secured. The race will start and finish at Central Elementary School. Julie Goyette, Linda Krantz, Betty McMichael, and Julia Van de Water volunteered to seek sponsors for this event; they will meet later to organize their efforts.
2. President Skip commended Julia for the **delicious**, homemade cookies she prepared as dessert for our meeting.
3. For our meeting next Wednesday, we return to our regular venue – Lexington Golf and Country Club (LGCC).
4. Registration for the Annual District Conference at The Omni Homestead Resort is now open online or you may go to the District 7570 web site. Note that President Skip **REQUIRES** all our members to be present either at the **Leprechaun Leap** or **District Conference**.

## Minute for Rotary:

President Skip recently found himself in an elevator with 4 other Rotarians. A cause for celebration – imagine 5 Rotarians in an elevator!

## Program:

Our program was a Club Assembly led by President Skip. There were only two items on the agenda:

1. A new contract with LGCC has been approved by our Board of Directors. LGCC gave us two options:
  - a. A price per meal of \$16 with a minimum of 24 served; an increase of \$1 per meal and imposition of a minimum number of meals per meeting. Our old contract was for \$15 per meal with no minimum.
  - b. A price of \$17.50 per meal with no minimum imposed.LGCC proposed the minimum requirement to cut down on food waste. **Our Board selected option a.**
2. President Skip had intended that we vote on officers for the 2017-18 Rotary year but, unfortunately, we still do not have a full slate. After much discussion, the following volunteers (?) stepped up:

President Nominee:	Kent McMichael (serve as president in 2019-20)	
Secretary:	Julie Goyette	
Treasurer:	John Tucker	
Board of Directors:	Stuart Fleming	Jim McCoy
	Shane Gonsalves	Kent McMichael
	Linda Krantz	

One difficulty is that most members have already served a term as president. Won't one of you who have not please rescue us and step up for 2018-19.

**POT:**

No raffle or drawing was held in as much as the meeting was off site. Pot remains at \$197.50.

**Happy Bucks:**

- Congratulations due: President Skip donated because his photo appeared in the Lexington News-Gazette for earning the Jaycees' David Grist Award as "Citizen of the Year" along with (former member) Robbie Jones; and he donated a second dollar for the poor judgement those kids have (yeah, right).
- Stuart Fleming was absent last week in order to take his Dad on his last ride to Arlington National Cemetery; he said that the ceremony was truly unbelievable.
- Dick Minnix told a joke in honor of Linda: Did you hear about the two antennas that got married? The ceremony was bad but the reception was exceptional!
- Scott Risser commended Julia for the delicious cookies; and said Dick was right, his joke was awful.
- Ed Claiborn reminded us he and his Partner were moving to Utah in March to be nearer family and thanked us for allowing him to be a member.
- Robert Sayre reported that his family felt honored that his son's birthday falls on St. Patrick's Day.
- Kent McMichael had a thought for us: Imagine the following persons in a hunting lodge (with no modern amenities) in Bath County except for a chef and security guards: Ford, Edison, Firestone, and President Harding. Also imagine the conversation as they have a drink sitting around the campfire. Now, can you imagine a modern day president doing that?
- Linda Krantz brought another of her jokes: Vladimir Putin, wanting to get on the good side of voters, goes to visit a school in Moscow to have a chat with the kids. He talks to them about how Russia is a powerful nation and how he wants the best for the people. At the end of the talk, there is an opportunity for questions. Little Sasha puts her hand up and says, "I have 2 questions, sir. Why did the Russians take Crimea? And why are we sending troops to Ukraine?" Good questions, says Putin. But just as he is about to answer, the bell goes off, and the kids go to lunch. When they return to class, the kids sit back down and there is an opportunity for some more questions. Another young girl, Misha, puts her hand up and says, "I have 4 questions. My questions are - Why did the Russians invade Crimea? Why are we sending troops to Ukraine? Why did the bell for lunch go off 20 minutes early? AND WHERE IS SASHA??!!

**Birthdays and Anniversaries in January:**

Happy Birthday to: Anne Plante on the 4<sup>th</sup>; and Shirley Claiborn on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Happy Anniversary to Mary Ellena Ward and Jim Slack on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Just forgot to include this regular feature last week – sorry!

**Future Programs & Activities:**

**Jan 11: Club Assembly, RoD Skip Ravenhorst**

**Jan 18: The Rotary Foundation by Marc Hudson, RoD Joe Pagnam**

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January 18, 2017

Volume LXXI, Number 23

We were back in our old haunts at Lexington Golf and Country Club after it was closed for renovations earlier in the month. President Skip presided. Visiting Rotarians: DG Chris Runion and Partner Jennifer; PDG Ron Ferrill and Partner Elaine; PDG Joe Ferguson and Partner Maryann; PAG Joe Obenshain of the new Botetourt County Club; PAG Case Pieterman of the Smith Mountain Lake Club; PP Dana Guthrie of the Forest Club; Doug Harpine of the Broadway-Timberville Club, and our speaker, Marc Hudson of the Lexington Sunrise Club. Attendance: 22 members and 11 guests for a total of 33.

## Announcements and Business:

1. "Come and celebrate ST. PATRICK'S DAY! New, accurate 5K course for runners, joggers, walkers and strollers. Dogs on leashes also welcomed. Reduced entry fee for children aged 8-11. Participants are encouraged to wear "Shamrock green" costumes. Course takes in downtown Lexington, historic Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University. Registration online is now open, go to the Sign Up Tab on the left. All participants will receive a T-Shirt. There will be food and drink before and after the event. Event times will be available online after the event. Have fun! Sponsored by Lexington Rotary Club" (From the LeprechaunLeap.com web site.)

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2. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg will lecture in VMI's Cameron Hall at 11:15 am on Wednesday, February 1, 2017. Her lecture, "Leadership and the Rule of Law," is a joint event between VMI and the W&L Law School. It is open to the public; there will be no tickets. Her lecture will not be live-streamed but will be "broadcast" later — probably the afternoon of February 1 (apparently no time yet set). This "broadcast" will be on the VMI web site, the W&L web site, or both.
3. Allan Somerville Brown announced that the Rockbridge Area Occupational Center (RAOC) is sponsoring a fund raiser called "Mardi Gras 2017" to be held from 6-9 pm on Saturday, February 18, 2017, in Moody Hall at VMI. Featured will be "A Taste of New Orleans" buffet, casino games with professional dealers and door prizes, Dinner tickets are \$50. **Grand Prize** includes: a round trip for two with sleeping accommodations on Amtrak leaving from Lynchburg, VA; three nights stay at Hotel Monteleone in the French Quarter; and a two-hour Mississippi River jazz cruise on the "Natchez." **You don't have to be present to win.** Raffle tickets and event tickets are available at Niko's and Sweet Treats in Lexington and TNT's Good to Go in Buena Vista. For more info, call 540-464-9528 or 928-606-2682.

## Program:

President Skip introduced Marc Hudson, a member of the Lexington Sunrise Rotary Club and Assistant Governor of Area 6 of District 7570. Marc is also the Rotary Foundation advocate for the district. He spoke to us about the Foundation.

At the 1917 convention, outgoing Rotary President Arch Klumph proposed to set up an endowment "for the purpose of doing good in the world." In 1928, it was renamed The Rotary Foundation, and it became a distinct entity within Rotary International.

In 1929, the Foundation made its first gift of \$500 to the International Society for Crippled Children. The organization, created by Rotarian Edgar F. "Daddy" Allen, later grew into Easter Seals.

When Rotary founder Paul Harris died in 1947, contributions began pouring in to Rotary International, and the Paul Harris Memorial Fund was created to build the Foundation. That year, the Foundation established its first program, Fellowships for Advance Study, later known as Ambassadorial

Scholarships.

In 1965-66, three programs were launched: Group Study Exchange, Awards for Technical Training, and Grants for Activities in Keeping with the Objective of The Rotary Foundation, which was later called Matching Grants.

In 1978, Rotary introduced the Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Grants. The first 3-H Grant funded a project to immunize 6 million Philippine children against polio. That led in 1985 to the PolioPlus program that was launched to eradicate polio worldwide.

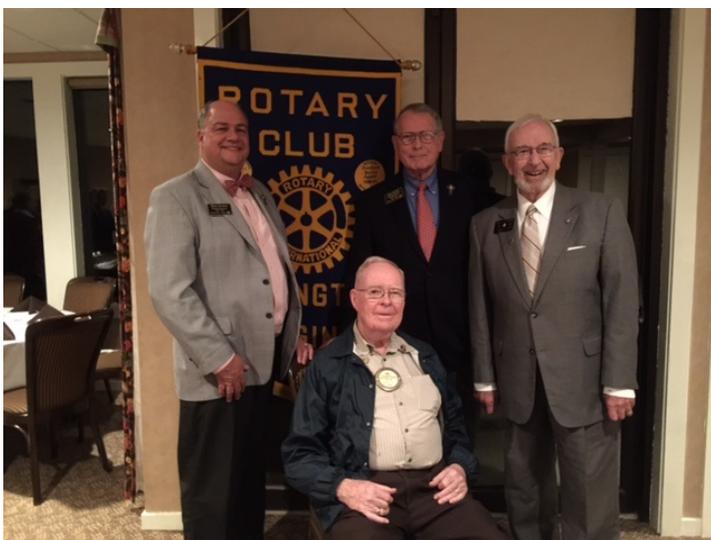
In 1987-88, the first peace forums were held, leading to Rotary Peace Fellowships. And in 2013, new district, global, and packaged grants to enable Rotarians around the world to respond to the world's greatest needs.

Since the first donation of \$26.50 in 1917, the Foundation has received contributions totaling more than \$1 billion. RI's areas of focus in 2016-17 are: promoting peace; fighting disease; providing clean water; saving mothers and children; supporting education; and growing local economies. Of course, RI's most recognized project is the global effort known as PolioPlus intended to eliminate polio worldwide.

How are these projects funded? District grants fund small-scale, short-term activities that address needs in our community and/or communities abroad. Each district chooses which activities it will fund with these grants.

District grants can be used to fund a variety of district and club projects and activities, including: humanitarian projects, including service travel and disaster recovery efforts; scholarships for any level, length of time, location, or area of study; vocational training teams, which are groups of professionals who travel abroad either to teach local professionals about a particular field or to learn more about their own. There aren't many restrictions, as long as your district grant supports the mission of The Rotary Foundation.

Districts may use up to 50 percent of their District Designated Fund (DDF) to receive one district grant annually. This percentage is calculated based on the amount of DDF generated from a district's Annual Fund giving three years prior, including Endowment Fund earnings. The District is not required to request the full amount available. The District receives this funding as a lump sum and then distributes it to their clubs. Clubs work directly with their district to get funding. DG Chris or AG Marc may be consulted to find out when to submit a request and whether there are additional district requirements to be met, such as reporting or training.



(L to R: Chris, Ron, and Joe. Seated is Rae)

DG Chris, PDG Ron Ferrill, and PDG Joe Ferguson next called Rae Carpenter forward. They proceeded to recognize him, not for being a member of our club for more than 57 years, but for reaching the level of Major Donor, Level II, to the Rotary Foundation. (That means he has given big bucks!) Ron and Joe praised Rae and his (deceased) Partner Jane for mentoring them before and during their governorship and just generally pitching in whenever asked. Dana and Doug complimented Rae for extending their respective clubs. (As long-serving former District Chair of Extension, he had a hand in chartering 13 new clubs.)

Noting that we give to the Foundation to enable Rotarians to help people, DG Chris pinned the award on Rae. All assembled gave Rae a well-deserved standing ovation.

**POT:**

Mary Sayre won the raffle but not the BIG pot that now totals \$215.50.

**Happy Bucks:**

- Skip Ravenhorst was happy that we have good weather today for this happy event – temperature in the 50s.
- DG Chris was happy for Rae; is delighted to be here with us tonight; and glad to report that he has traveled almost 49,000 miles in carrying out his responsibilities as DG.
- Doug Harpine was happy to thank Rae for his diligence in traveling to Broadway-Timberville to meet with that club for almost a year and a half while getting it established.
- Dana Guthrie was happy to thank Rae for being the “Founding Father” of the Forest Club and attending their special events ever since.
- Joe Obenshain was sad and happy – sad because, after 78 years, the Buchanan Club, which Lexington Rotary sponsored, is transitioning their club to Daleville to become the new Botetourt Club; Rae has always taken a special interest in the Buchanan Club because his grandfather owned a large farm in the county.
- Mary Honsinger was happy to have all our guests here tonight.
- Dick Minnix said there had been enough praise – it was time to place some blame; Rae Carpenter is responsible for my being in Lexington for over 60 years; we were both graduate students in physics at UVA, working in the same lab for the same research director; Rae told me that VMI was looking for an instructor and wanted to bring me over for an interview; I got the job and have been here since 1956 – so it’s all his fault.
- Linda Krantz continued a joke tradition begun by her now deceased mother – see below.
- Rae Carpenter concluded this portion of the program by reminiscing about recruiting for the Forest Club: I usually began walking the streets to recruit at the city limits of Lynchburg where a GM dealership was located; it was run by a couple and she usually dressed to the “nines;” I often complimented her on her appearance at Rotary club meetings; one day she said to me, “You know Rae, you have commented on my appearance so often that I think of you every Monday morning when I get dressed!” Rae said Rotary has opened lots of doors for me!!!!

**It's Hell to be Old:**

An 85 year old man was asked by his doctor to have a sperm count as part of his physical exam. The doctor gave the man a jar and said, "Take this jar home and bring back a semen sample tomorrow.

The next day the 85-year-old man reappeared at the doctor's office and gave him the jar, which was as clean and empty as on the previous day. The doctor asked what happened and the man explained, "Doc, it's like this - first I tried it with my right hand, but nothing. Then I tried with my left hand, but still nothing. Then I asked my wife for help. She tried with her right hand, then with her left, still nothing. She tried with her mouth, first with the teeth in, then with her teeth out, still nothing. We even called up Arleen, the lady next door and she tried too, first with both hands, then an armpit, and she even tried squeezing it between her knees, but still nothing."

The doctor was shocked! "You asked your neighbor?" The old man replied, "Yep, none of us could get the jar open."

**Future Programs & Activities:**

Jan 25: TBA

Feb 01: TBA

Feb 08: TBA

Feb 15: TBA

Feb 22: Chasing the Powhatan Arrow by Michael Abraham

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President Skip presided. Guests: None. Visiting Rotarians: None. Attendance: 21 members. Meeting held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club (LGCC).

## Announcements and Business:

1. President Skip read excerpts from a letter from Bill Lowe, Co-Chair of the Rockbridge Christmas Basket Program: "Let me personally thank you and the members of the Lexington Rotary Club for your extraordinary efforts in making this year's Christmas Basket program a tremendous success. You and your fellow members deserve all the credit for making this packing day one of the best ever... Please pass on a special thanks to Julia Van de Water who was instrumental in helping organize and coordinate your club's efforts this year.... This year, we delivered **1666** boxes for **2075** people including **1075** children. We also packed **34** 'extra' boxes that some of the areas used to deliver to other needy families... The response from your organization and the community was truly astounding. Please personally thank all the members for their help in this most successful program... We could not do it without you."
2. **Reserve the date of Saturday, March 18, 2017 for the Leprechaun Leap:** "Come and celebrate ST. PATRICK'S DAY! New, accurate 5K course for runners, joggers, walkers and strollers. Dogs on leashes welcome. Reduced entry fee for children aged 8-11. Participants are encouraged to wear "Shamrock Green" costumes. Course takes in downtown Lexington, historic Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University. Registration online is now open! All participants will receive a T-Shirt. There will be food and drink before and after the event. Event times will be available online after the event. Have fun! Sponsored by **Lexington Rotary Club**" (From the <http://leprechaunleap.com> web site.)  
Participants will start and finish at Central Elementary school (behind Krogers). Medals to age group finishers. Chair Joe Pagnam announced he would need about 15 club members to volunteer on race/walk day to help conduct the event. See Joe to volunteer.
3. Allan Somerville Brown announced that the Rockbridge Area Occupational Center (RAOC) is sponsoring a fund raiser called "Mardi Gras 2017" to be held from 6-9 pm on Saturday, February 18, 2017, in Moody Hall at VMI. Featured will be "A Taste of New Orleans" buffet, casino games with professional dealers and door prizes, Dinner tickets are \$50. **Grand Prize** includes: a round trip for two with sleeping accommodations on an Amtrak train leaving from Lynchburg, VA; three nights stay at the Hotel Monteleone in the French Quarter in New Orleans; and a two-hour Mississippi River jazz cruise on the "Natchez" river boat. **You don't have to be present to win.** Raffle tickets and event tickets are available at Niko's and Sweet Treats in Lexington and TNT's Good to Go in Buena Vista. For more info, call 540-464-9528 or 928-606-2682.
4. Kent McMichael, Chair of the 2017 Rockbridge Community Festival, announced their first organizational meeting will be held on an afternoon during the third week of February. All interested members are urged to attend. More details later.

## Minute for Rotary:

John Furgerson and Wally Fogo, two long-time Rotarians in the Lexington Rotary Club, were presented with Rotary tokens in recognition of their faithful membership and service in Rotary and their recent retirement from Rotary at very senior ages. Each token was a small, crystal globe mounted on a cubical base engraved with the recipient's name. They were presented on January 23<sup>rd</sup> in the recipients' homes by DG Chris Runion and PP Julia Van de Water and PP Chip Honsinger. A summary of each recipient's service, including photo, has been submitted to the District Newsletter and should appear in a future edition of same.

### **Annual District Conference:**

District 7570's Annual District Conference is scheduled for Friday, March 17, to Sunday, March 19, 2017 at the Omni Homestead Resort in Hot Springs, Virginia. Our Conference 2017 Team has a Fascinating and Engaging Conference planned for you! Registration is open – sign in at [www.Rotary7570.org](http://www.Rotary7570.org) and click on Member Access. Here's why to attend:

### **TO DO GOOD IN THE WORLD & HAVE FUN!**

- Service Project: Unite with our Interactors to help feed the world with a Stop Hunger Now service project;
- Polio Walk with Chris and Jen: Join our jaunt of the grounds of the Homestead as we celebrate this much closer to eradicating polio;
- Engage: Experience the personal stories of world class presenters:
  - Mary French – the Dictionary Project
  - Jean Irwin Hatfield – Literacy
  - Mark Fernandes – Visionary Values Based Leadership
  - Ramesh Ferris – Polio Eradication Champion
  - Dan Pallotta – Purpose Driven Innovation
- Participate: Join with your friends for interactive round table klatches
- Fun and Fellowship: Reconnect with your friends and meet the newest crop of the most fascinating people in the world (yes – that's you).

### **Program:**

Our practicing architect, President Skip, entertained us with a photo display of unusual houses. The first word that comes to mind to describe them is **WEIRD**.

Included were: angular cabins; art imitates life (in the form of a huge shark diving into a home roof); a building of sticks; curves in a bar; a home with only angles on the outside, only curves on the inside; a house buried in a hillside; a tall Dr. Seuss house that grew in height as the trees around it grew; a mountaineer museum house; a rustic cabin in Norway; a silver house in Latin America; and a stacked box house in Greece. He concluded with a published photo of a hot air balloon over Lexington but apparently, an editor wanting the balloon on the right, reversed the image printed.

Who knew that architects had such imagination. All in all, a very interesting international program.

### **POT:**

In a fitting development, President Skip won the raffle but not the BIG pot that now totals \$228.00.

### **Happy Bucks:**

- Rae Carpenter thanked all for the great tribute afforded him at last week's meeting where he was honored as a Major Donor to the Rotary Foundation by a group of friends first encountered in Rotary service or in chartering new clubs in the District.
- Skip Ravenhorst was happy to welcome back his wife and daughter who chose to escape to the UK during the "coronation" last week; he was also happy because he was almost able to finish the kitchen remodeling while they were away.

### **Future Programs & Activities:**

**Jan 25: Autobiography by Shane Gonsalves; RoD Joe Pagnam**

**Feb 01: TBA**

**Feb 08: TBA**

**Feb 15: Annual Awards Night; RoD Skip Ravenhorst**

**Feb 22: Chasing the Powhatan Arrow by Michael Abraham**

**Mar 01: TBA**

**Mar 08: TBA**

**Mar 15: A Congolese Refugee Family in Lexington Will Share Their Story; RoD: Linda Krantz**

**END**



# THE LEXINGTON ROTARY CLUB BULLETIN

CHARTERED FEBRUARY 1, 1922

NUMBER 1062

**95th YEAR OF "SERVICE ABOVE SELF"**  
**Web Site: <http://www.lexingtonvarotary.org>**

**February 01, 2017**

**Volume LXXI, Number 25**

President Skip presided. Guests: None. Visiting Rotarians: None. Attendance: 23 members. Meeting held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club (LGCC).

## **Announcements and Business:**

1. **Reserve the date of Saturday, March 18, 2017 for the Leprechaun Leap:** "Come and celebrate ST. PATRICK'S DAY! New, accurate 5K course for runners, joggers, walkers and strollers. Dogs on leashes welcome. Reduced entry fee for children aged 8-11. Participants are encouraged to wear "Shamrock Green" costumes. Course takes in downtown Lexington, historic Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University. Registration online is now open! All participants will receive a T-Shirt. There will be food and drink before and after the event. Event times will be available online after the event. Have fun! Sponsored by **Lexington Rotary Club**" (From the <http://leprechaunleap.com> web site.)  
Participants will start and finish at Central Elementary school (behind Krogers). Medals to age group finishers. Chair Joe Pagnam announced he would need about 15 club members to volunteer on race/walk day to help conduct the event. See Joe to volunteer.
2. Allan Somerville Brown announced that the Rockbridge Area Occupational Center (RAOC) is sponsoring a fund raiser called "Mardi Gras 2017" to be held from 6-9 pm on Saturday, February 18, 2017, in Moody Hall at VMI. Featured will be "A Taste of New Orleans" buffet, casino games with professional dealers and door prizes, Dinner tickets are \$50. **Grand Prize** includes: a round trip for two with sleeping accommodations on an Amtrak train leaving from Lynchburg, VA; three nights stay at the Hotel Monteleone in the French Quarter in New Orleans; and a two-hour Mississippi River jazz cruise on the "Natchez" river boat. **You don't have to be present to win.** Raffle tickets and event tickets are available at Niko's and Sweet Treats in Lexington and TNT's Good to Go in Buena Vista. For more info, call 540-464-9528 or 928-606-2682.
3. 15 days remain to take advantage of the Early Bird pricing for District Conference 2017! This conference promises to be one of the best yet. If you are unable to go for the full three days, why not plan to at least day trip on Saturday? Go to this web site to get the Bed & Breakfast package at The Homestead: <https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/homestead-virginia/meetings/rotary-international-district-7570>.
4. Our Board of Directors held their regular monthly meeting immediately following our meeting tonight.

## **Annual Awards Night:**

One of the highlights of our Rotary year is the Annual Awards Night which this year is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, at LGCC. We usually honor some non-Rotarians from the community as well as some club members with Paul Harris (PHF) and Skelton (SF) Fellowships for their outstanding service. Former winners wear their medallions. Most members wear coat and tie or comparable attire, the menu is a little nicer, and wine is placed on all tables. All in all, it is a festive evening.

A sign-up sheet will be circulated at next week's meeting so LGCC may have an accurate attendance figure. Please plan bring your Partner to Awards Night.

## **Program:**

Member Shane Gonsalves presented his autobiography. Shane followed the U. S. tradition and immigrated from British Guyana at the age of 17 in 1980. He initially worked in hotel management with Omni Hotels for over 14 years, the last 10 as a task force leader. He then decided to change directions and attended and graduated from Florida Culinary Institute, (now Lincoln Culinary Institute). He spent 7 years in Charlottesville before coming to Lexington. Starting from the bottom, he worked his way up the ladder and has held a number of senior chef positions before opening Sweet Treats, his own bakery, 15 years ago on West Washington Street.

Shane met his Jamaican wife while she was managing a restaurant in Florida. They have one child and three grandkids, but none reside nearby. His wife wanted to own a bed and breakfast so that's why they came to Lexington. That didn't work out which led to opening of the bakery. He says cake baking has grown over the years until wedding cakes have become his major business – he baked almost 60 last year.

Shane says he loves what he does – he's anxious to go to work each day. He enjoys the camaraderie with his customers.

Thanks to Shane for a very interesting program.

#### **POT:**

Robert Sayre won the raffle but not the BIG pot that now totals \$246.00.

#### **Happy Bucks:**

- President Skip was happy to contribute in appreciation of Shane's fine presentation.
- Betty McMichael was happy on two counts: Shane's presentation was different – how many Executive Chefs do you know?; and bragged a bit about her and Kent's recent trip to visit friends in Puerto Vallarta where the temperature was high 70s to low 80s and mostly sunny – she admitted that it was hard to come back!
- Mary Sayre also had a happy buck for Shane's interesting story but also because he is a great member of this club.
- Jim Slack also commended Shane, noting his was a very interesting story.
- Scott Risser remarked that Shane's was a fascinating, all-American story – we are a land of immigrants, all coming here from another place.
- Linda Krantz read another of her jokes in memory of her Mom (not about Shane):

An Irishman was having a drink in a London pub when he gets a call on his cell phone. He orders drinks for everybody in the pub as he announces his wife has just produced a typical Irish baby boy, weighing 25 pounds.

Nobody can believe that any new baby can weigh 25 pounds, but the man just shrugs, "That's about average up our way, folks. Like I said – my boy's a typical Irish lad.

Two weeks later, the Irishman returns to the pub. The bartender says, "Say, you're the father of that 'typical Irish lad' that weighed 25 pounds at birth, aren't you? Everybody's been making bets about how big he'd be in two weeks. So how much does he weigh now?"

The proud father answers, "Seventeen pounds." The bartender is puzzled and concerned. "How can that be? He was 25 pounds the day he was born."

The father takes a slow swig from the glass of his Jameson Gold Reserve Irish whiskey, wipes his lips on his shirt sleeve, leans into the bartender and proudly says, "We had him circumcised."

#### **Birthdays and Anniversaries in February:**

Happy Birthday to: Skip Ravenhorst on the 21<sup>st</sup>; and Charlotte Sibold on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Happy Anniversary to: Mary and Chip Honsinger on the 18<sup>th</sup>; and Maryann and Stewart Fleming on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Future Programs & Activities:**

**Feb 08: Rockbridge Area Leadership Foundation by Mike Lowry; RoD Scott Risser**

**Feb 15: Annual Awards Night; RoD Skip Ravenhorst**

**Feb 22: Chasing the Powhatan Arrow by Michael Abraham**

**Mar 01: TBA**

**Mar 08: TBA**

**Mar 15: A Congolese Refugee Family in Lexington Will Share Their Story; RoD Linda Krantz**

**END**



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

**February 08, 2017**

**Volume LXXI, Number 26**

President Skip presided. Guest: our speaker, Mike Lowry. Visiting Rotarians: None. Attendance: 25 members and 1 guest for a total of 26. Meeting held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club (LGCC).

## **Announcements and Business:**

1. **Reserve the date of Saturday, March 18, 2017 for the Leprechaun Leap:** "Come and celebrate ST. PATRICK'S DAY! New, accurate 5K course for runners, joggers, walkers and strollers. Early entry fee is \$25, but increases to \$30 after March 11<sup>th</sup> (reduced to \$10 for ages 12 and under). Participants are encouraged to wear "Shamrock Green" costumes. Course takes in downtown Lexington, historic Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University. Registration online is now open! All participants will receive a T-Shirt. There will be food and drink before and after the event. And live music will be provided. Event times will be available online after the race/walk. Have fun! Sponsored by **Lexington Rotary Club**" (From the <http://lexleprechaunleap.com> web site.)  
A street banner announcing the event will be displayed near Alvin-Dennis from February 20<sup>th</sup> until March 13<sup>th</sup>. Participants will start and finish at Central Elementary school (behind Krogers). Rest rooms will be available at the school. Medals to age group winners. Julia and Laura have agreed to solicit sponsorships from local merchants – Wells Fargo Bank has already agreed to donate \$1000! Chair Joe Pagnam announced he would need about 15 club members to volunteer on race/walk day to serve as marshals or in other capacities for the event. See Joe to volunteer.
2. Allan Somerville Brown announced that the Rockbridge Area Occupational Center (RAOC) is sponsoring a fund raiser called "Mardi Gras 2017" to be held from 6-9 pm on Saturday, February 18, 2017, in Moody Hall at VMI. Featured will be "A Taste of New Orleans" buffet, casino games with professional dealers and door prizes, Dinner tickets are \$50. **Grand Prize** includes: a round trip for two with sleeping accommodations on an Amtrak train leaving from Lynchburg, VA; three nights stay at the Hotel Monteleone in the French Quarter in New Orleans; and a two-hour Mississippi River jazz cruise on the "Natchez" river boat. **You don't have to be present to win.** Raffle tickets and event tickets are available at Niko's and Sweet Treats in Lexington and TNT's Good to Go in Buena Vista. For more info, call 540-464-9528 or 928-606-2682.
3. At its meeting last week, our Board of Directors accepted, with regret, the resignations of Jacki Berkshire and Jerry Plante.

## **Annual Partners/Awards Night:**

One of the highlights of our Rotary year is the Annual Partners/Awards Night which this year is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, at LGCC. We usually honor some non-Rotarians from the community as well as some club members with Paul Harris (PHF) and Skelton (SF) Fellowships for their outstanding service. Former winners wear their medallions. Most members wear coat and tie or comparable attire, the tables are decorated, the menu is a little nicer, and wine is placed on all tables. All in all, it is a festive evening.

A sign-up sheet was circulated at our meeting. If you haven't signed up, please call President Skip so LGCC may have an accurate attendance figure. Please plan bring your Partner to Awards Night - they not only brighten the room but are much easier on the eyes.

## **Minute for Rotary – 1:**

President Skip shared a thank-you note John Furgerson sent Julia Van de Water after she and Chip Honsinger and DG Chris Runion visited John in his home to present a momento (a small, crystal globe mounted on a cubical base engraved with his name) of his years in Rotary:

Dear Julia;

It was so nice that you dropped by the other day and brought the DG along. The Rotary momento was especially nice although I don't think I'm really holding up the world!

My many years as a Rotarian have been most enjoyable to me – especially my years as Assistant Governor. Unfortunately as an 86 year-old I don't get around much any more.

Again, thank you for your visit and present. Sincerely, John

### **Minute for Rotary – 2:**

Our Treasurer, John Tucker, brought to our attention two notes he has received over the past few months:

The first was a note from the Jaycees saying that they enjoyed working with us on our jointly-sponsored Rockbridge Community Festival.

The second was a note from Heather and Elizabeth Grist thanking us for sponsoring their attendance at the Rotary Youth Leadership Conference at VA Tech. These young ladies are cousins and the daughters of former member of our club Steve Grist and his deceased brother, David Grist.

### **Program:**

RoD Scott Risser introduced our speaker: It's my pleasure to introduce my friend Mike Lowry to you. He and his wife Jan hail from Nebraska. Their daughter Christina, a recent graduate of Washington and Lee University, serves as an Army 1st Lieutenant at Fort Drum, New York. Christina recently announced her engagement, and the Army recently announced they've decided to send her to fully-funded law school.

Mike and Jan moved to Lexington following careers teaching in the Department of Defense Dependents Schools (DoDDS), mostly in Europe. I first met Mike at the Stonewall Jackson House, where we both serve as volunteer docents. It's there that I came to appreciate his knowledge, his wit and his unflappable nature. Helping educate a school group one day, Mike had just begun explaining 1850s life in Lexington when a navy fighter flew overhead at low level. One of his students asked if the jet was a Union or a Confederate airplane; without missing a beat, Mike assured the young man that the aircraft was Federal, and returned to his lesson.

Mike and Jan serve in the Rockbridge Area Republican Party, and Mike chairs the Rockbridge Newcomers' club. Mike comes to us this evening to educate us on the Rockbridge Area Leadership Scholarship Committee he helps lead.

Mike presented a program on the history of the Rockbridge Area Leadership Scholarship organization. Started back in 2001, the organization raises money and awards scholarships to students attending high school in Buena Vista or Lexington or that are home schooled based primarily on the leadership the students show in school, organizations, sports, music or the arts, or where they are employed.

Lowry noted that since starting some 15 years ago, the organization has raised about \$200,000. He added last year the organization award \$21,000 in scholarships. The scholarships included four \$4,000 and two \$2,500 awards.

The funds for the scholarships come from donations as well as two fund raisers, Lowry called FUN raisers as the RALS groups tries to make their fund raising fun for those participating. Their activities include the annual Rockappella Concert, now in it's second year. This concert brings the a cappella groups from the three local colleges for a concert of music from the 1950's and 1960's and is held around the first Saturday in February.

The other Fun Raiser is the annual Rockin' With RALS party gala to be held this year at the Virginia Horse Center on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. The party includes music of the 1950's and 1960's, along with dancing, various fun activities, lots of food and drink, and a live and silent auction.

Lowry told some moving stories about past winners and how the scholarships seek to encourage the leaders of tomorrow. He also noted that unlike a lot of charities with high overhead, the RALS has no paid staff and is 100 per cent volunteer and they have no paid office. Outside of some printing, postage and minor miscellaneous expenses, all money raised goes for scholarships. As a 501(c)3 charity, all money donated to RALS is tax deductible.

Lowry hoped the members of the Rotary Club would consider taking part in RALS activities.

### **Happy Bucks:**

1. Joe Pagnam was practically delirious with the news that Wells Fargo Bank would donate \$1000 as a sponsor of the Leprechaun Leap Race/Walk; he is relieved that he has some operating funds now.
2. Mike Lowry was happy to relate a Rotary story from his past: he took a friend from Wales to speak to a Rotary Club in Minnesota; as a pianist struck up "America" the visitor loudly started singing "God Save the Queen;" he later commented that the club had the tune right but the wrong words!
3. Joe Milo happily urged Mike to "re-up" in Rotary.
4. President Skip was happy to inform Mike he has three choices of clubs in Lexington, one right and two wrong – and paid the price.
5. Ed Claiborn reminded us that he and Shirley will move to Utah in March.
6. Bill Lowe was happy to thank the Board of Directors for designating the Rockbridge Christmas Basket Program the beneficiary of any profits from the Leprechaun Leap.

### **POT:**

George Piegari won the raffle and threw a 10 with the dice (it was 2/8 on the calendar) to win the BIG pot of \$246.00.

### **A Little Humor from Linda and Dick:**

**Linda's contribution:** Four guys who worked together always golfed as a group at 7:00 a.m. on Sunday. Unfortunately one of them got transferred out of town and they were talking about trying to fill out the foursome. A woman standing near the tee said, "Hey, I like to golf. May I join the group? They were hesitant but said she could come once to try it and they would see what they thought.

They all agreed and she said "Good I'll be there at 6:30 or 6:45." She showed up right at 6:30 and wound up setting a course record with a 7-under par round.

The guys went nuts and everyone in the clubhouse congratulated her. Meanwhile, she was fun and pleasant the entire round. The guys happily invited her back next week and she said, "Sure., I'll be here at 6:30 or 6:45."

Again, she showed up at 6:30 Sunday morning. Only this time, she played left-handed and matched her 7-under par score of the previous week. By now the guys were totally amazed and they asked her to join the group for keeps.

They had a beer after their round and one of the guys asked her, "How do you decide if you're going to golf right-handed or left-handed?" She said , "That's easy. before I leave for the golf course, I pull the covers off my husband who sleeps in the nude. If his "you-know-what" is pointing to the right, I golf right-handed; if it's pointed to the left I golf left-handed.'

One of the guys asked, "What if it's pointed straight up?" She said, "Then I'll be here at 6:45."

**Dick's contribution:** On average, an American man will have sex two to three times a week. whereas, a Japanese man will have sex only one or two times a year. This is very upsetting news to me. I had no idea I was Japanese.

### **Future Programs & Activities:**

- Feb 15:** Annual Awards Night; RoD Skip Ravenhorst
- Feb 18:** "Mardi Gras 2017", Moody Hall at VMI, 6:00-9:00 PM
- Feb 22:** Chasing the Powhatan Arrow by Michael Abraham, RoD Joe Pegram
- Mar 01:** Lexington Lunch Rotary Club Fund Raiser by P Elaine Nelson and PE Lori Sadler, RoD Joe Pagnam
- Mar 08:** Leprechaun Leap Update and Briefing by Joe Pagnam
- Mar 15:** A Congolese Refugee Family in Lexington Will Share Their Story; RoD Linda Krantz
- Mar 16-18:** Annual District Conference at The Omni Homestead Resort in Hot Springs
- Mar 18:** "Leprechaun Leap" Starts At 9:00 AM At Central Elementary School

**END**



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February 15, 2017

Volume LXXI, Number 27

President Skip presided. This was our Annual Awards and Partner's Night which was held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club and included nicely decorated tables and attractive Partners. A very nice buffet dinner featuring spinach salad, sliced roast beef with mushroom gravy, mixed vegetables, stuffed shells, several varieties of homemade cookies, brownies and lemon squares, iced tea and coffee was served. Bottles of both red and white wines were placed on each table.

It was an impressive gathering. Most of the men wore coat and tie and the ladies were dressed similarly. Paul Harris Fellows recognized in earlier years wore their medallions and/or pins. And with all the Partners present, the views around the tables were vastly improved from the usual. Folks sitting at places with colored dots on the bottom of their forks got to take home the attractive plants.

Guests: Berdie Evans, mother of Laura; and Partners Susan Barger, Maryann Fleming, Melissa Gonsalves, Nancy Lowe, Jane McCoy, Sue Milo, Marian Minnix, Donna Pagnam, Rita Ravenhorst, Margaret Sayre, and Mary Ellena Ward. Visiting Rotarians: none. Attendance: 20 club members and 12 guests for a total attendance of 32.

## Announcements and Business:

1. **Reserve the date of Saturday, March 18, 2017 for the Leprechaun Leap:** "Come and celebrate ST. PATRICK'S DAY! New, accurate 5K course for runners, joggers, walkers and strollers. Early entry fee is \$25, but increases to \$30 after March 11<sup>th</sup> (reduced to \$10 for ages 12 and under). Participants are encouraged to wear "Shamrock Green" costumes. Course takes in downtown Lexington, historic Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University. Registration online is now open! All participants will receive a T-Shirt. There will be food and drink before and after the event. And live music will be provided. Event times will be available online after the race/walk. Have fun! Sponsored by **Lexington Rotary Club**" (From the <http://lexleprechaunleap.com> web site.)

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2. Allan Somerville Brown announced that the Rockbridge Area Occupational Center (RAOC) is sponsoring a fund raiser called "Mardi Gras 2017" to be held from 6-9 pm on Saturday, February 18, 2017, in Moody Hall at VMI. Featured will be "A Taste of New Orleans" buffet, casino games with professional dealers and door prizes, Dinner tickets are \$50. **Grand Prize** includes: a round trip for two with sleeping accommodations on an Amtrak train leaving from Lynchburg, VA; three nights stay at the Hotel Monteleone in the French Quarter in New Orleans; and a two-hour Mississippi River jazz cruise on the "Natchez" river boat. **You don't have to be present to win.** Raffle tickets and event tickets are available at Niko's and Sweet Treats in Lexington and TNT's Good to Go in Buena Vista. For more info, call 540-464-9528 or 928-606-2682.
3. President Skip thanked the LGCC and Linda Krantz and Mary Sayre for the wonderful arrangements for tonight's gathering.

## Minute for Rotary:

Robert Sayre had an unusual testimony: He purchased two glasses of wine before the start of our meeting. Then, when bottles of red and white were placed on our tables at the start of our meal, his money was refunded by management. Doesn't happen this way very often.

## **Program:**

**History of the Rotary Foundation** – Rotary International established the Rotary Foundation as a not-for-profit corporation that supports its efforts to achieve world peace through international humanitarian, educational and cultural exchange programs while funding global Rotary campaigns such as the eradication of polio worldwide. The Foundation helps fund humanitarian activities ranging from local service projects to global initiatives; our club or district can apply for grants from the Foundation to invest in projects and provide scholarships. Rotarians and friends of Rotary just like us support the Foundation's work through voluntary contributions. The Foundation helps us to team with thousands of others to make a real difference in our community, our district, nationally and worldwide.

Named in honor of Rotary's founder, Paul Harris Fellowships (PHF) represent one of Rotary's most prestigious awards. Rotarians recognize with Paul Harris Fellowships those who donate \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation, or by a sponsor who has done so in their name in recognition of the extraordinary service they render to our community. This evening, the Lexington Rotary Club feels privileged to honor one of our own members and one Rockbridge County resident by presenting them with Paul Harris Fellowships.

President Skip appointed a committee to select tonight's awardees. Different club members presented the selected candidates along with comments on their backgrounds and reasons for their selection.

President Skip assisted by presenting each candidate a certificate, pin, and sincere congratulations.

## **Rotarians Honored:**

**Joe M. Pagnam** (Presenter: Skip Ravenhorst) Our first recipient was born on a farm on the Isle Of Wight in England in 1953. He was the youngest of three sisters and one brother. After leaving school, Joe attended Southampton Institute and graduated in Marine Electronics. He then spent three years in the British Merchant Navy as communications officer. He visited many countries and one jail briefly in Japan. He spent one year with a South African shipping company based in Durban.

After being at sea Joe came ashore to work for 7 years as a shore based communications officer based at Lands End (the most western point in Great Britain) and the Isle Of Wight again. He coordinated all maritime search and rescue operations.

In 1984 Joe got a job at the Air-Sea Rescue Center in Bermuda. He worked there for 17 years from the fort overlooking St. George's Harbor at the east end of the Island. During that time the Rescue Center would average around 600 maritime incidents per year. And that does not even begin to factor in the Bermuda triangle! Outside of work he maintained his strong passion for running and ran marathons in different countries as well as the Bermuda International Marathon.

In 1989 Joe met Donna who was sitting opposite him at the local running club's annual dinner. He was impressed as she told him she was going to run 20 miles the next morning in preparation for the upcoming New York City Marathon! They were married on April 7, 2000.

Joe and Donna moved to Lexington in 2001 just after 9/11 having accepted a position at Mary Baldwin College. He worked there in IT for 3 years before taking a new job as Technical Services Manager at Dabney S. Lancaster Community College, After 3 years at DSLCC took a job with Washington and Lee University for 2 years.

His final move was to work for Scott and Mary Sayre as IT Director of Sayre Enterprises. He has been happily working at the Natural Bridge Station HQ since 2011.

Joe loves motorcycles and music - especially the music of the British band, the Who. He has seen them live many times, as well as many other big names including Tina Turner, the Eagles and the Rolling Stones. But he says his greatest love is for his wife!

Joe currently serves as our club's President-Elect and a member of our Board of Directors. He has led the scheduling and coordination of our club's programming for the past year and has developed the Leprachaun Leap project virtually alone. He lives in Lexington with his wife Donna. The Lexington Rotary Club is proud to award a PHF to Joe Pagnam.

## **Non-Rotarians Honored:**

**Marian C. Minnix** (Presenter: Dick Minnix) The next person we honor grew up in Salem, VA, as I did. I first got to know her when she and I were partners in chemistry lab at Andrew Lewis High School. But we didn't begin to date until I was a freshman in college and she was a senior in high school. She earned a B. S. Degree in Mathematics at Roanoke College which we both attended as day students.

She got her first PhT (putting hubby through) at UVA. She brought me to Lexington in 1956 and 3 years later embarked on a second PhT in Chapel Hill. While raising 3 children back in Lex, she served as a Cub Scout Den Mother, a Docent at the Stonewall Jackson House, and in various capacities in Lexington Presbyterian Church. She did a great job with the kids except she was unsuccessful in teaching them to send money home regularly. She returned to full time teaching to help with tuition costs when her children began to approach college age. As an honored teacher at LHS for 19 years, she taught all the math courses at one time or another, ranging from 8<sup>th</sup> grade math through calculus. She retired when arthritis limited her ability to write on the chalk board.

It gives me great pleasure to award a PHF to my helpmate for over 61 years, Marian Chapman Minnix.

### **Happy Bucks:**

- Joe Milo commended Joe Pagnam and Partner Donna who have done most of the preliminary work on the upcoming Leprechaun Leap project.
- Jim McCoy had 5 Happy Bucks: the first because he forgot his jacket; the rest because he and Jane are returning to Connecticut for a few months for him to serve as the interim AD at the University of Hartford where he served as VP before retiring.
- Mary Sayre had 3 happy bucks: the first for Joe who is her “go-to” guy at Sayre Enterprises when she has a problem and is very deserving of the PHF; the second for Marian Minnix and her lovely story shared by Dick; the third for John Tucker who gave her a Rotary lapel pin (a favor for ladies at a District Conference years ago) that had belonged to his deceased Partner.
- Donna Pagnam praised Shane and their love/hate relationship and for his unfailing support of community activities for which she tries to drum up support.
- Rae Carpenter had a larger contribution than normal in honor of Marian Minnix, a wonderful mother and friend for many years; he also mentioned that he carried newspapers to 4 of her uncles.
- Skip Ravenhorst was happy that Partner Rita came with him tonight and offered her menu to accommodate ours.
- Betty McMichael, who taught at LHS with Marian Minnix, praised her as a stellar teacher who, although small in stature, was able to control all those big guys in the classroom and served as a role model to other teachers.
- Dick Minnix was reminded of his early days in Salem which was much like the Lexington of today; that is one reason his family has remained here for more than 60 years; and recalled Rae’s father who was professor of Mathematics, Head of the Department, and College Registrar back in the days when colleges had fewer administrators and professors had to fill several roles; Professor Carpenter taught Marian’s father, his 5 brothers, Rae, Dick, and Marian.
- Bill Lowe had a happy buck for all the math instructors in the world.

### **Future Programs & Activities:**

- Feb 18:** “Mardi Gras 2017”, Moody Hall at VMI, 6:00-9:00 PM
- Feb 22:** Chasing the Powhatan Arrow by Michael Abraham, RoD Joe Pegram
- Mar 01:** Lexington Lunch Rotary Club Fund Raiser by P Elaine Nelson and PE Lori Sadler, RoD Joe Pagnam
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February 22, 2017

Volume LXXI, Number 28

President Skip presided. Guest: Alexander Barfield, daughter of John Tucker; and our speaker, Michael Abraham. Visiting Rotarians: none. Attendance: 19 club members and 2 guests for a total attendance of 21.

## Announcements and Business:

- 1. Reserve the date of Saturday, March 18, 2017 for the Leprechaun Leap:** "Come and celebrate ST. PATRICK'S DAY! New, accurate 5K course for runners, joggers, walkers and strollers. Early entry fee is \$25, but increases to \$30 after March 11<sup>th</sup> (reduced to \$10 for ages 12 and under). Participants are encouraged to wear "Shamrock Green" costumes. Course takes in downtown Lexington, historic Virginia Military Institute and Washington and Lee University. Registration online is now open! All participants will receive a T-Shirt. There will be food and drink before and after the event. And live music will be provided. Event times will be available online after the race/walk. Have fun! Sponsored by **Lexington Rotary Club**" (From the <http://lexleprechaunleap.com> web site.)  
A street banner announcing the event will be displayed near Alvin-Dennis from February 20<sup>th</sup> until March 13<sup>th</sup>. Participants will start and finish at Central Elementary school (behind Krogers). Rest rooms will be available at the school. Medals to age group winners. Julia and Laura have agreed to solicit sponsorships from local merchants – Wells Fargo Bank has already agreed to donate \$1000! Chair Joe Pagnam announced he would need about 15 club members to volunteer on race/walk day to serve as marshals or in other capacities for the event. See Joe to volunteer.
- 2. UPDATE ON THE LEAP:** Banner is up. A piper is confirmed for the halfway water station at VMI. And the Spacecase band is booked for the finish line. Sheetz will provide muffins, cookies, and drinks. Need a contact for Food Lion or Walmart to seek donations of oranges and bananas for participants. Custom medals are in process. Main Street Lexington will place info on their social media. Radio station 3YZ has been contacted but has not responded yet. Need 3 or 4 more volunteers.
- 3. Allan Somerville Brown reports on Saturday night's Mardi Gras fund raiser:** This was the third annual and biggest event we have run. There were fewer people attending than we'd hoped for but the numbers were higher than we had in the past two years with many new faces.  
I could not attend myself but I was told that it was fun with the combined casino and the Mardi Gras for the first time. This format is certainly the way forward, so we plan to run a similar event next year again. As with anything new it takes time to build interest. All in all it was successful both as a fund raiser and to get RAOC better known in the community.  
Thank you to all Rotarians who attended or bought raffle tickets. Our people with disabilities really do appreciate your support and being gainfully employed.
- 4. Several members checked out the Churchill/Fleming story sent to members this week.** The web site [www.snopes.com](http://www.snopes.com) reports that there is no truth to the story. In fact, Churchill himself said it was false in 1946. Your editor apologizes for distributing fake news.

## Minute for Rotary:

PDG Rae Carpenter educated us a little about Rotary administration. Most members know that there are more than 1,227,000 members in over 35,000 clubs worldwide. But did you know the world is divided into 34 districts?

"At its January 2017 meeting, the Rotary International Board of Directors adopted a new zone structure for Rotary clubs. Rotary bylaws require the Board to complete a comprehensive review of the 34 Rotary zones no less often than every eight years to ensure that each zone has an approximately equal number of Rotarians. The Board's previous review of the zones occurred in 2008."

As a result of the review, we are still in Zone 33 which will now include D.C., DE, MD, NC, PA, SC, TN, VA, and WV.

### Program:

RoD Joe Pagnam introduced our speaker. Michael Abraham is a native of Christiansburg and a graduate of Virginia Tech with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He has had a varied career in engineering, sales, marketing, business management, and real estate management. He currently splits his time between the management of an industrial shell building in Christiansburg and his writing career.

He lives in Blacksburg with his wife, two dogs, and four motorcycles. He and his wife have one adult daughter. He is a member of the Blacksburg Rotary Club.

“Based in Blacksburg, Virginia, I explore and write about our wonderful region of the central Appalachians. I love to ride bicycles, ride motorcycles, and hike. I've been known to make stained glass panels, watch birds, explore caves, cross-country ski, and fly kites. I love to travel (Who doesn't?) and have been to 43 states and 16 foreign countries.

“On November 18, the wonderful Virginia Museum of Transportation in Roanoke hosted a book release reception for me and my new book, *Chasing the Powhatan Arrow*. This is a travelogue from Norfolk, Virginia to Cincinnati, Ohio, following the route of the former passenger railroad train of the Norfolk and Western, looking at the people, history, culture, geography, and primarily economy of the towns and cities along the way.

“I am principal with my wife in a small publishing company called Pocahontas Press where we edit, typeset, and market works of local authors.”

Michael then went on to talk about his other seven publications:

- “My first book is *The Spine of the Virginias*, (non-fiction) a look at the people, places, history and culture along the border of Virginia and West Virginia.
- My second book is *Union, WV*, (fiction) about healing and redemption in a small West Virginia town.
- My third book is *Harmonic Highways*, exploring Virginia's Crooked Road, (non-fiction) a journey featuring the music, arts, sports, and people of Virginia's Heritage Music Trail.
- My fourth book is *Providence, VA*, (fiction) about a national calamity from the view of a young woman trapped by circumstances in a tiny Southwest Virginia community.
- My fifth book is *War, WV*, (fiction) about the quest for justice following a catastrophe in a forsaken West Virginia coal community.
- My sixth book is *Orange, VA*, (fiction) a story of political intrigue set in central Virginia.
- My seventh book is *Keepers of the Tradition*, (non-fiction) a compilation of stories and portraits of contemporary Appalachians, a collaboration with artist Leslie Roberts Gregg.” (From his website [www.bikemike.name](http://www.bikemike.name).)

Thank you for your interest in my books. Write me at <[bikemike@nrvunwired.net](mailto:bikemike@nrvunwired.net)>.

### Happy Bucks:

- President Skip was sad in retrospect and donated for exaggerating Dick's age.
- Julia Van de Water thanked our president for setting the record straight on the Churchill/Fleming story.
- Nick Cuzzimano is seeking help to repair a broken jacuzzi.
- Derek Carter was glad to be back and apologized for missing six weeks of meetings but explained he was coaching his daughter's basketball team that played its games at 6:00 pm on Wednesdays.
- John Tucker introduced his “Number 1 Daughter” as “The Queen of Pack-Em-Up-and-Move-‘Em” who has been here all week assisting in his move from a cottage to an apartment in the Kendal Compound; he noted that they took 13 bags of women's clothing to Goodwill Industries and other things to Habitat for Humanity..
- Betty McMichael was happy to report that although Kent was not here last week in order to have facial surgery, he is here tonight and “**looks a whole lot better**,” as you might expect, there were numerous remarks from the peanut gallery that won't be repeated here.
- President Skip's (again!) response to Betty was “Really!”— he couldn't resist.

**Pot:**

Stewart Fleming won the raffle but not the pot, now rebuilding at \$13.50 after George Piegari's win two weeks ago.

**Birthdays and Anniversaries in March:**

Happy Birthday to: Gabriella Somerville Brown on the 4<sup>th</sup>; Laura Stearns and Jerry Plante on the 23<sup>rd</sup>; and Sam Sibold on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

There are no member anniversaries to celebrate in March.

**Future Programs & Activities:**

- Mar 01: Lexington Lunch Rotary Club Fund Raiser by P Elaine Nelson and PE Lori Sadler, RoD Joe Pagnam**
- Mar 08: Leprechaun Leap Update and Briefing by Joe Pagnam**
- Mar 15: A Congolese Refugee Family in Lexington Will Share Their Story; RoD Linda Krantz**
- Mar 16-18: Annual District Conference at The Omni Homestead Resort in Hot Springs**
- Mar 18: "Leprechaun Leap" Starts At 9:00 AM At Central Elementary School**
- Mar 22: TBA**
- Mar 29: TBA**

**END**



# THE LEXINGTON ROTARY CLUB BULLETIN

CHARTERED FEBRUARY 1, 1922

NUMBER 1062

95th YEAR OF "SERVICE ABOVE SELF"  
Web Site: <http://www.lexingtonvarotary.org>

March 15, 2017

Volume LXXI, Number 31

PE Joe Pagnam presided in the absence of President Skip, who was ill. Visiting Rotarians: None. Guests: Barbara Risser, Partner of Scott; Jeffry Nay and Mohamed Kamara, our speakers; and Ann Nay, wife of Jerry. Attendance: 19 members and 4 guests for a total of 23. Meeting held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club.

## Announcements and Business:

1. Joe reminded members of the blue buckets – please give freely for the Alzheimer's Research Trust.
2. Skip is home - suffering from cold/flu symptoms.
3. The Board Meeting scheduled for this evening will be postponed until next month.
4. The Rockbridge Area Habitat for Humanity is holding its annual Chili Cook-off this Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, from noon to 3:00 pm at Spencer Home Center located on US11, North of Lexington. Our club responsibilities are to move tables and chairs for the event. Members, especially those with pickup trucks or vans, should report to the VHC at 9:00 am to move tables and chairs to the Home Center and come back to the Home Center at 3:00 pm in order to return them to the VHC.
5. PAG Betty McMichael announced that our next club service project will be a Roadside Clean-up on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**PAG Betty McMichael** will lead Team North. They will pick up trash on all 4 ramps at the intersection of Route 11N and I-81 at Timber Ridge.

**P Skip Ravenhorst** will lead Team South. They will pick up trash along Route 11S from the intersection of Route 11S and Possum Hollow Road back towards Lexington to a point about 1 mile from the end of the Lexington Bypass.

**The event will be rescheduled if it is raining hard enough that you need to activate your windshield wipers.** Remember to wear sturdy shoes and bring gloves. Skip reminds us that our club policy is "Finders, Keepers." Please notify Skip or Betty if you can work, otherwise just show up on that date.

## Program:

RoD Joe Pagnam introduced Jerry Nay and Mohamed Kamara who spoke about the the effort that brought a Congolese refugee family to Lexington.

Jerry is a retired USAF officer, former PAS at VMI, and longtime resident of Lexington. He is a former member of our club (1976-80) and Paul Harris Fellow (1988) who distinguished himself by managing the Rockbridge Community Festival its first two years and helping establish our first Bonnie Blue National Horse Show.

Mohamed Kamara, a native of Sierra Leone, now an American citizen, is Associate Professor of French at Washington and Lee University.

The Refugee Working Group is an interfaith coalition that has been working for some time to resettle refugees in Rockbridge County. Some are involved in preparing for the refugees' arrival, while others have focused on providing continuing support for the families once they are here.

While the idea of bringing refugees to Rockbridge County originated during a meeting of R. E. Lee Memorial Church's Christian Outreach Committee, more than 250 volunteers of various Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and Buddhist backgrounds have since agreed to take part in the relocation process.

Fahizi Kilozo spent most of his life in a refugee camp in Tanzania. Over the past year, he and his family of nine have learned to adjust to the culture in Lexington, where they are the first and only refugees out of multitudes displaced by the world's current wars and political turmoil.

Last year, a group of volunteers around Lexington organized to receive a family. The Kilozos arrived in March, barely understanding English and carrying few possessions.

Today, all but three of Fahizi's youngest children are in the public schools; Jeanne Kilozo, his wife, has delivered a healthy son, their seventh child, and Fahizi is happy working three part-time jobs.

Fahizi, 32, was 12 years old when he fled the civil war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In a refugee camp in Kigoma Kasula, Tanzania he met his wife Jeanne and they had their first six children.

A speaker of Swahili, French, and native language Kibembe, Fahizi began learning English after attending weekly conversational classes.

From dishwashing at Napa Thai, to dental office cleaning, to doing a little of everything at Kroger, his jobs are what he enjoys most, he says. When asked about which one he prefers, he said he likes them all equally.

At Kroger, his primary job, Fahizi was provided with French translators by the local English Speakers of Other Languages team to learn his daily tasks, from clocking in and out to stacking the shelves. After less than two weeks of a little help, Fahizi was happily greeting customers.

With the help of Jerry Nay, who spearheaded the Kilozo's resettlement, the family is on its way to self-sufficiency. Nay gathered a team of 27 community members to work with the family virtually every day to make the adaptation process as smooth as possible.

Fahizi said Lexington has been perfect for their family. Most of all he appreciates the calm, secure and helpful nature of the community.

According to Nay, the family did not want to live in a large city. They wanted to live somewhere safe and fit for a large and growing family. The Harrisonburg branch of Church World Service, an organization that resettles refugee families in America, thus placed them in Lexington after receiving an earlier request from Nay that the city was interested in hosting a family from Syria or any country.

The family attends Randolph Street United Methodist Church every Sunday and has strong Christian beliefs. Furthermore, in Tanzania the family was connected to a U.S.-based Christian organization called Awana. Remarkably, there happens to be an Awana branch at the Lexington Baptist Church. They attend meetings there every Wednesday.

As for the acclimation of his children, they have adapted exceptionally well to school and are making great progress. The kids take after their father, with his positive attitude, his constant laughing, his willingness to work hard, and his analytical mind.

According to the children's school guidance counselor, they all show up early, ready to go, and have lots of friends. And more, Fahizi's eldest daughter, Marie, 13, has the highest grade in her math class at school.

### **Happy Bucks:**

- Betty McMichael donated for the Leprechaun Leap – she'll be so glad when it's over.
- Stewart Fleming donated so Betty could get some change.
- Betty McMichael was happy that Barbara and Scott Risser were sponsors of the Leprechaun Leap.
- Joe Milo was happy that we had a snow storm that didn't happen.
- Linda Krantz was happy for the folks that spoke tonight.
- Scott Risser donated in honor of Nancy Cuzzimano who is entering UVA Hospital for a heart procedure and was guilt ridden for suggesting that it was from living 49 years with Nick.
- Jerry Nay donated for the pleasure of being here tonight.

### **POT:**

Kent McMichael won the raffle but not the big pot which now stands at \$36.00.

### **Future Programs & Activities:**

**Mar 22: NO MEETING**

**Mar 25: Roadside Clean-up**

**Mar 29: NO MEETING**

**Apr 05: Habitat for Humanity by Skip Perry, RoD Joe Pagnam**

**END**



# THE LEXINGTON ROTARY CLUB BULLETIN

CHARTERED FEBRUARY 1, 1922

NUMBER 1062

95th YEAR OF "SERVICE ABOVE SELF"  
Web Site: <http://www.lexingtonvarotary.org>

March 1, 2017

Volume LXXI, Number 29

President Skip presided. Guests: Woody and Lori Sadler. No visiting Rotarians. Attendance: 20 club members and two guests for a total attendance of 22.

## Announcements and Business:

1. President Skip recognized PDG Woody Sandler and his wife Lori (our speaker). Reminded members of the blue buckets – please give freely for Alzheimer's Research Trust.
2. Program will be our "Rotary Minute" for this evening.
3. Be sure to sign up for our Annual District Conference at the Homestead.
4. Short meeting following our regular meeting for the "Leprechaun Leap" committee members.
5. Reminder of Board Meeting next week.
6. Thanks to Bill Stearns for compiling this Bulletin in the absence of Dick Minnix.

## Program:

RoD Joe Pagnam introduced our speaker – Lori Sadler. Lori retired from the Marine Corps as a Colonel in 1992 after a 26-year career. In 1994 she became a realtor in Lexington, working today with The Lexington Real Estate Connection.

She was a charter member of the Lexington Sunrise Rotary Club. She served as a Director on the Board and was the President in 2012-2013. Lori was instrumental in starting the project of a Globe to every third grader in our elementary schools - this was the 10<sup>th</sup> year. Lori also served on several District Committees.

She led a Group Study Exchange team of four young professionals to Central America. For five weeks the GSE team visited El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. During Woody's year as District Governor (2012-2013) Lori helped with the distribution of 18,000 wheel chairs in the Caribbean, Bogota, Columbia, Mexico, and Guatemala.

Lori is a Major Donor, a Paul Harris Society Member, a multiple Paul Harris Fellow, a Sustainer, a Benefactor, a Skelton Fellow and a 110% award winner.

As you know, Lori asked us to sponsor her new club initiative in March 2016. She is here today to brief us on the Rotary Club of Lexington Lunch and their fund raiser – The Big Deal. She is the President Elect of that club.

Charter Night was May 19, 2016. Each new member received a "Lexington Lunch Bag" signifying that each member brings their own lunch to their meetings.

With members providing their own lunch and a donated space for meetings, they have been able to keep their membership costs to a minimum. Members also receive a lunch-bag pin and a "T" shirt that members wear while completing club projects.

Our club was the sponsoring club for this new endeavor. They started with 24 members (20 required for a new club). Current membership runs between 26 and 29. Every member is a Rotary Sustainer. Their club meets from 12:05 till 12:55 on Wednesdays. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays are for their regular meetings in the basement of the BB&T Bank Building. The 2<sup>nd</sup> week is reserved for their "Power of an Hour" where they do work projects in the community. The 4<sup>th</sup> week is reserved for vocational, family, or social events. They have visited several local businesses, schools, libraries, etc. and have had several social events. Their club visits other clubs to help celebrate their longevity. This Friday is Lynchburg's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Hopefully this new club will someday celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup>. In an attempt to help new members understand Rotary, the club has elected its leaders for several years in advance. They are working on a 30-second "elevator speech" to recruit new members and have produced a tri-fold flyer filled with Rotary information. Their club is in the final stages of getting their 501c(3) designation. The club has been working on a Strategic Plan to provide direction for the club. Their membership committee

works both on seeking new members and on the retention of current members. They have a website: [www.rotarylexlunch.org](http://www.rotarylexlunch.org), a bulletin, and a face-book page.

Club projects include work with the Community Closet, RARA, the Community Kitchen, photos at VMI, the Christmas Basket Program, and working on a Vocational Day. Visits have included trips to Books and Company, VMI Museum, and local libraries. Their club applied for and received a District Grant to be used to produce a book of short stories for each first grade student as they graduate in May. The idea is to encourage their interest in reading and learning.

The club is undertaking an exciting fund raising event called "The Big Deal". A reverse raffle with 300 tickets at \$100 each. The ticket provides you with 2 meals, 2 drinks, and the opportunity to win \$10,000.00. Other smaller pots will be won during the drawing. The event takes place at the Natural Bridge Hotel from 6 – 9 PM on Saturday March 25, 2017. Profits (hopefully \$14,000) will be donated to local and international charities. Lori thanked our club for the "Object of Rotary" banner that we gave them.

### **Happy Bucks:**

- **President Skip** paid up \$1 for disparaging our older club members; he insists that remarks were not disparaging since his mom is 95.
- **Linda** relates the story of this elderly couple in their 90's who were having memory problems. The doctor tells them that they are physically OK but they may want to write things down to help them remember. Later that night while watching TV, the old man gets up and asks his wife if she wants anything from the kitchen. Will you get me a bowl of ice cream she responds. Sure, he remarks. Shouldn't you write it down she says. No, I can remember that. OK, I'd like some strawberries too. You should write that down she says. I can remember that, you want a bowl of ice cream and some strawberries. I would also like some whip cream. You'll forget all that – write it down. Irritated, he says I don't need to write that down, I can remember it. Then he hobbles off into the kitchen and returns in about 20 minutes. He hands his wife a plate of bacon and eggs! She stares at the plate for a while and then says, "Where's the toast?"

### **Pot:**

Skip gets PDG Woody to draw the winning number. Joe Milo won the raffle but not the pot which now stands at \$ 25.50.

### **Future Programs & Activities:**

- Mar 08:** Leprechaun Leap Update and Briefing by Joe Pagnam
- Mar 15:** TBA
- Mar 16-18:** Annual District Conference at the Omni Homestead Resort
- Mar 18:** "Leprechaun Leap" starts at 9:00 AM at Central Elementary
- Mar 22:** Congolese Refugees

**END**



# THE LEXINGTON ROTARY CLUB BULLETIN

CHARTERED FEBRUARY 1, 1922

NUMBER 1062

95th YEAR OF "SERVICE ABOVE SELF"  
Web Site: <http://www.lexingtonvarotary.org>

March 8, 2017

Volume LXXI, Number 30

PE Joe Pagnam presided in the absence of President Skip, who was ill. No guests or visiting rotarians. Attendance: 17 members. Meeting held at the Lexington Golf and Country Club.

## Announcements and Business:

1. Joe reminded members of the blue buckets – please give freely for the Alzheimer's Research Trust.
2. Skip is home - suffering from cold/flu symptoms.
3. The Board Meeting scheduled for this evening will be postponed till next week.
4. There was a slight confusion with our program this evening. Jerry Nay will be with us next week with a program provided by some Congolese refugees. PE Joe will provide us with an update on the "Leprechaun Leap" this evening.
5. Thanks again to Bill Stearns for editing the Bulletin in the absence of Dick Minnix.

## Program:

PE Joe Pagnam described the 3.1 mile course the runners will take. Starting at Central Elementary at 9:00 A.M. the runners proceed east on Donald Lane which turns into Wills Road. They go around the block to North Lewis Street where they turn left and go to Washington Street. There they turn right and go to Main Street where they turn right and go to the triangle (Main and Jefferson) at the bottom of the hill. Here, they turn left onto Jefferson Street and go approximately 100 yards and take the right onto Letcher Avenue. Proceed up the hill and go around the Parade Ground back to Letcher where you turn right down the hill to cut off to the right to go past Lee Chapel and the Robert E. Lee Church where they cross Washington Street to Lee Avenue. Then go to Nelson Street (Rt 60) and turn left. Then proceed east on Nelson street across Jefferson, Main, Randolph, and Varner Lane to Estill Street (next to City Hall). Turn left and go one block to Washington Street. Turn right and go to the left turn onto N. Lewis Street where they proceed to Morningside Drive – turn right and go to the finish line at Central School.

The Lexington Police have forwarded a spread sheet showing where we will need 9 marshals to direct the runners. Joe will forward the spread sheet to our volunteers. Our marshals should show up by 8:15. Other volunteers should be there between 6:45 and 7 AM Registration begins at 7.

Joe thanked and congratulated our sponsorship committee - Kent, Betty, Julie, Julia, and Derick for going out and getting some fifty-five hundred dollars (\$ 5,500.00) in sponsorships. Joe's wife Donna was successful in getting a \$ 1,000 sponsorship from Wells Fargo. These funds will more than cover our \$4,500 cost of operating the event. We also have some \$600 in entry fees. Runner's fees are \$25 until Saturday and then \$30 after that. Age eleven and under have a \$15 fee.

Costs include some 235 green "T" shirts with logo on the front and sponsors on the back along with our Rotary wheel. Also have gold, silver, and bronze medals (with logo's) for each age group. Ordered signs for the course, registration, parking, etc. Joe has arranged for a band called "Space Case" to play at the finish line.

Derek asked what we could do to help increase the number of runners. Joe indicated that we have placed ads on the radio, News-Gazette, and county schools. Also he has that large street banner. In addition, it is on several running websites. Derek volunteered to take flyers to the city schools and we'll e-mail Bill Lowe to place ads at Southern Virginia.

Betty had some interesting comments concerning fund raising. 1- Several wished that we had come to them at the beginning of the year – they had already allocated funds. 2- Many asked where the money was going to go. They had very positive feedback when told that it would go the Christmas Basket Program. Conclusion: start early and emphasize that all funds stay local for a great Christmas program.

Julia asked if we had someone to take pictures for the local paper. Joe indicated that his wife Donna has arranged to have the News Gazette photographer, Claudia Schwab, take pictures. Claudia plans to get some pictures at the half-way point at VMI where the bagpipe player will be located. Julia also indicated that someone would have to write a story to give to Claudia. Joe volunteered. **Several of our Rotarians were invaluable seeking sponsors – Stewart, Chuck, Julia, Derek’s wife, Linda, and Sayre Enterprises. Thanks to each of you.** Kroger offered a \$10 gift card!

Derek and Chuck volunteered to go to Food Lion to see if they would donate some bananas and oranges for 100 people. Sheetz is providing 40 muffins, 2 large bottles of Arizona Tea, cookies and assorted goodies. Shane is also going to provide bagels and cream cheese.

Derek called for a “Big Hand” for Joe for all the great work he has done!!! He then challenged each member to contact a handful of people and encourage them to participate – run, walk, whatever. This first event can be the start of a great annual affair. They can sign up on line at [www.leprechaunleap.com](http://www.leprechaunleap.com) or between 7:00 and 8:30 AM on the morning of the event. Julia reminded us that we will need change on the morning of the event for new registrants. Volunteers should arrive at Central at 7:00 AM.

### **HAPPY BUCKS:**

1. Betty gave a dollar for the great job that Joe has done with the Leprechaun Leap.
2. Ed Claiborn wanted to say farewell. Ed and Shirley will be moving to Utah in about 3 weeks to be near their daughter and great medical care. They have a single family house out there with accommodations to live on the first floor when needed. Ed reminisced on how he met and married Shirley during his 2<sup>nd</sup> year at the University of Idaho. Upon graduation, he accepted his air force commission and began a 26 year career. Upon leaving the air force, Ed joined the VMI faculty and taught for 17 years. Ed and Shirley will be missed.
3. Kent McMichael had little time this afternoon to take our flyers around so asked for volunteers at work to deliver flyers along Sorority Row. They must have had great success with the young ladies since they never returned by the time that Kent left for the day.
4. John Tucker thanked his daughter who successfully moved John from Kendal cottage 1017 into his new apartment 104. She was invaluable.
5. Linda Krantz was our grand finale with another fine story. It seems that an elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor who was able to have him fitted with a set of hearing aids that allowed for 100% hearing. The elderly man returned to the doctor in a month where the doctor said “your hearing is perfect, your family must be really pleased that you can hear again”. The gentleman replied, “I haven’t told my family yet, I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I’ve changed my will 3 times already.”

### **POT:**

Joe had Ed Claiborn draw the winning number. Betty McMichael won the raffle but not the pot which now stands at \$36.00.

### **Future Programs & Activities:**

- Mar 15** Jerry Nay with the Congolese refugees; RoD Linda Krantz
- Mar 16-18** Annual District Conference at the Omni Homestead Resort
- Mar 18** “Leprechaun Leap” starts at 9:00 AM at Central Elementary
- Mar 22** No Meeting
- Mar 25** Roadside Clean-up
- Mar 29** No Meeting

**END**