

# The Trail

March 20, 2019

## Coming Events

### March

- 20 **Richard Conti**  
VA Science Museum
- 27 **Club Forum**

### April

- 3 **Lynn Crump**  
State Parks Planning
- 10 **No Regular Meeting**
- 12 **Monte Carlo**  
Salisbury Country Club  
6:30 pm
- 24 **Michelle Westbay**  
Leukemia &  
Lymphoma Society



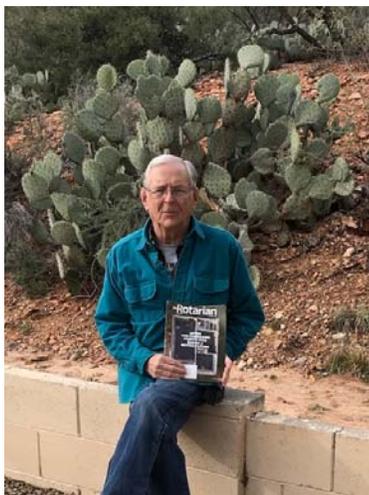
**PDG Stephen Beer** and the director of the Faison Center attached a Rotary sticker to the van provided through a district grant and support from clubs, including Huguenot Trail. Jim was our representative at the event. The Faison Center is a school for autistic children.



*Rotarians were usually well-dressed last week, even to their socks!*

*Check our Facebook page Or website for listing of some Fantastic Auction Items!*

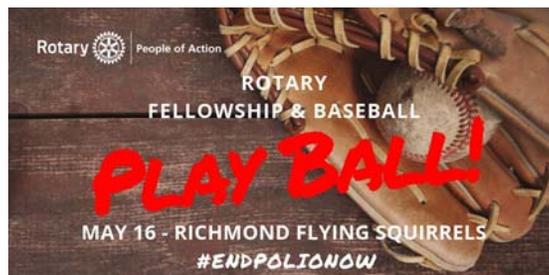
*Acoustic Singer/ Songwriter Rachel Leyco has been added to the program for Monte Carlo! Great music while you and your friends enjoy good food, good fellowship, live and silent auctions and Black Jack! SELL THOSE TICKETS!*



*Jim enjoyed last month's Traveling Rotarian on a visit to his brother in Arizona. Mighty fine prickly pear cactus there, too!*



*Checking out beautiful dresses made by Merle and her friends for the Costa Rica Project, Jeanne Walls of The Richmond RC, gets ready to pack. The group leaves next week with books, clothing and other supplies.*



*The annual Rotary Night at the Flying Squirrels is May 16. \$2 of every ticket sale goes to End Polio Now. For tickets, call Garrett Erwin at 359-3866, ext. 327.*



Three days after Typhoon Haiyan smashed into the Philippines in November 2013, Derek Locke was tramping among the sinews of uprooted palm trees, downed power lines, and fragments of homes shattered by one of the region's deadliest disasters.

As he delivered tents and other essentials in Santa Fe, a small community on Bantayan Island, he came face to face with the crushing need and finite resources of the eight-person response team dispatched by ShelterBox. The aid recipients had been identified as families most at risk, and as Locke assisted a young single mother and her toddler, he felt a sense of dread as two neighbors, with four children of their own in tow, approached.

"I turned around and they said, 'Thank you for helping our people,'" recalls Locke, a member of the Rotary Club of Dearborn Heights, Mich., who has spent 38 weeks as a ShelterBox first responder since 2012. He has traveled to 11 countries and participated in 13 ShelterBox response team missions, yet that moment sticks with him. "It was heartwarming because despite their obvious plight, they were just grateful we were able to help somebody else."

"That's the kind of thing you lie awake at night thinking about," says Bruce Heller, a veteran of seven ShelterBox deployments and a member of the Rotary Club of Allen Sunrise, Texas. "You're handing out that last box and you see that mom and her small baby waiting and you don't have any more to give. There's never enough aid."

Notable missions since the disaster relief charity was founded 16 years ago include the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami and the 2010 quake in Haiti, where some 300,000 tents were supplied. In the United States, ShelterBoxes were delivered to those displaced by Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, Sandy in New York and New Jersey, and tornadoes in the Midwest.

In July, RI and ShelterBox announced the extension of a three-year project partnership to provide emergency shelter, a natural fit according to both organizations. Rotarians, along with Rotaractors and Interactors, have contributed \$48 million, or 40 percent of ShelterBox's revenue, from the UK-based nonprofit's inception in 2000 through 2015. (ShelterBox was founded by a Rotarian but is independent of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation.)



The signature green boxes feature Rotary's logo and are adapted to fit the emergency before being transported on scant notice. Most boxes include family-size tents, though the contents differ depending on the disaster and climate. Many are packed with solar lights, water storage and purification equipment, thermal blankets, and cooking utensils. Depending on need, the organization may deliver ShelterKits, smaller aid packages that include tools, ropes, and heavy tarpaulins used to provide emergency shelter and repair damaged structures.

The partnership between Rotary and ShelterBox has provided a place of refuge to people facing some of the most difficult and uncertain moments in their lives," says RI General Secretary John Hewko. Tapping Rotary's strengths, not just its funds, has nurtured ShelterBox, adds its chief executive, Chris Warham.

"The partnership is absolutely fundamental to what we do," Warham says. "Ninety percent of our deployments involve working with local Rotarians. In almost every case, our first call is to the local Rotary club to see how they can help us as the teams start to deploy. We ask Rotarians everything from 'can you get us a truck?' to 'can you introduce us to a local or central government figure?' These needs are often crucial to the success of our deployment – and Rotarians invariably deliver."