



Today's Speaker: Megan Birney, Unite to Light

Megan Birney is President & CEO of Unite to Light, a nonprofit organization that believes access to clean, affordable light and energy is critical to improving health, education and prosperity. They manufacture and distribute solar light and power to people living without electricity across the globe. Their products are the tools people need to live and thrive. They focus on projects that help students study at night, equip midwives with the tools they need to save lives, and offer relief to those suffering from disasters and homelessness.

Upcoming Speaker: 17 Sep, Meesh

BXRC Rotarian Meesh will provide us an update on her visit to Eswatini this year and the status of the MicheLo project. This year had some challenges but also a lot of progress has been made.

Calendar Call: 22 Sep, Membership Mixer

Come out to Dogfish Head Alehouse, 6220 Leesburg Pike Seven Corners, Center, Falls Church, VA 22044, for a membership mixer, 5-7 PM. This is an opportunity to invite some guests for a low-key event and talk about Rotary. <https://www.ismyrotaryclub.org/Click/?uid=800291756&ctid=1947413&redirect=https://www.eventbrite.com/e/baileys-crossroads-rotary-club-networking-event-tickets-166707914861?aff=ebdssbeac> to RSVP. Share this link. (POC: Tijani)

Save the Date: 7 Oct, DG Dinner at Wildfire

A special dinner is scheduled Thursday 7 Oct to recognize our District Governor (and BXRC member) Pat at Wildfire, 2001 International Dr., McLean. We will meet in the Club Room at 7:00 PM. If you are a Rotarian, there is no charge. If you are bringing a spouse or guest who is not a Rotarian, then you need pay \$30 by Friday, 10 Sep. Please make checks out to BXRC and put Wildfire dinner in the memo line. The dinner will be served family style. The drinks included are: coffee, tea and soda. Any other beverages (wine, beer etc.) you purchase. Dinner includes: chop salad, Caesar salad, Lemon Pepper Chicken, Prime Rib, roasted vegetables, red skin potatoes, seasonal pie and triple layered chocolate cake. (POC: Neesa)

Calendar Call: 13 Sep, REV UP

BXRC Rotarian Susan is co-chairing a statewide effort to organize a coalition called REV UP (Register, Educate, Vote, Use the Power of your vote) Virginia. REV UP is an initiative of American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD). On Monday 13 Sep at 3-4 pm via Zoom is a presentation by the Virginia Commissioner of Elections on voting accessibility, followed by Q and A. Link is <http://bit.ly/NDVVRW21>. (POC: Susan)

Mustang News

As of 9 Sep, the overall total is \$87,500 which is \$8,475 in individual sales, \$20,100 carside, \$5,950 websites, \$9,800 from media advertisements, \$8,900 via Mail Chimp E-mail campaign and \$34,325 via mail. Much of the great work we do is made possible because of the hard work we do selling our tickets. Upcoming carside events are 11 Sep, Falls Church Festival; 11 Sep, Stonebridge Fall Festival; 18 Sep, Warrenton; and 25 & 26 Sep, Occoquan Arts Festival. (POC: Curtis)

We Need Your Guests

Why not invite someone to an upcoming meeting? It's a great way to meet potential members and get involved. Bring them to Goodwin House for an in-person (mask required) experience or forward them the weekly Zoom link.

Banns for Georgie Jones

On 1 Sep, the BoD approved the application of Elizabeth "Georgie" Jones for BXRC membership. She is employed at the National Aquarium in Baltimore. She is endorsed by Susan and Kari. She is well known to many members of our club as she has assisted in many of our Club events over the past six years.

KaThandi Rotary Challenge

Last week, Tijani and Meesh spoke about the school they are building in Africa. For those interested in participating in the KaThandi Rotary Challenge, please mail a check to McLean Rotary Foundation, PO Box 561, McLean, VA 22101. Please put "KaThandi, Swaziland Project" in the memo line. Currently, we are \$4,400 short of achieving our goal. (POC: Tijani)

<u>Today's Program</u>		<u>Rotary Birthdays</u>	<u>Rotary Anniversaries</u>
Pledge of Allegiance	Announcements	None	None
Invocation	Program / Speaker		
Birthdays / Songs	4-Way Test		
Guests			

Speaker Schedule

10 Sep	Megan Birney, Unite2Light
17 Sep	Meesh, MicheLo 2021
24 Sep	Sergeant Earit Powell, FCPD, Animal Protection and Wildlife Section
1 Oct	Club Forum #2
8 Oct	DG Pat
15 Oct	Victor Powell, Glasgow Middle School Principal
3 Dec	Tiffany Narcisse, Justice High School Principal

9/11 Memories of Dennis

BXRC Rotarian shares his experience of 9/11. "I was home watching tv, getting ready for work and saw the first tower in flames. I am in DC so I thought I may have to go up to NYC to help cover this. I had the crew car with my camera and started heading into work from Virginia. Listening to WTOP radio in the car, I was hearing plenty of crazy stuff....another plane hit the second tower, the National Mall was on fire, there was a car bomb by the State Department, and a plane hit the Pentagon. Driving across Roosevelt Bridge, I saw a massive plume of smoke off to my right that lined up with the location of the Pentagon. We had analog cells at the time and it took 30-40 tries to get a call through. I couldn't reach the bureau so on the way there I drove near the mall. There was no sign of fire and when I went by State, there was no sign of a car bomb (whatever that looks like). I got to the CBS News bureau and was told to get to a location that overlooks the Pentagon. Panic is what I saw unfold that day. Driving around initially was just like any other day. Most people were at work so the streets were normal. When folks realized that they had to get out of town to go home or get their kids, that's when the panic started. On the way I drove past the White House. There was grid lock everywhere by now. There were guys in suits in intersections trying to direct traffic. I saw plenty of law enforcement folks with weapons drawn wanting to shoot bad guys. It was a mess. I was eventually told to go to the US Chamber of Commerce building rooftop that overlooks the White House and set up my camera with reporter Teri Okita and producer Obin Johnson I was pretty proud of myself for getting thru road blocks and getting us up there. It was a bright sunny day with a great view of the White House. Then it hit me. If there are other planes-in the sky, as the rumors had it, and the target is right in front of me, this view could have been my last view. Seeing and hearing fighter jets above Washington made my blood turn cold. Shortly after I got there, a friend of mine, cameraman Tad Dukehart from WUSA called me to ask how I got to the rooftop. Later I saw him and he was white as a sheet. He said when he pulled up to the building, he hit a button to open the trunk to get his camera and when he got out of his car a security guard who was scared out of his wits was shaking and pointing a gun at him wanting to know what he was doing. I ended the day overlooking the Pentagon. Never forget.

Editor's Prerogative: Nationals Update

This week, I visited my brother in Buffalo, NY. We went to some minor league games. One was in Rochester, where the Nationals AAA team (the highest minor league team in the Nationals system) play. Victor Robles was recently sent to Rochester, and he hit a first inning homer. Unfortunately, his heroics could not bring the team a win. Teddy and I did get several autographs from both teams, so that felt good. Tuesday we went to a game between the Syracuse Mets and Buffalo Bison (again, the highest minor league teams for the Mets and Blue Jays respectively). Usually, my goal is to get a lot of autographs, but that night it was to see one person specifically. Josh Walker is a left-handed pitcher for Syracuse. Why is he so special? He is the grandson of a friend of mine. Prior to the trip, I communicated with him (not directly, but through an elaborate network of friends and relatives) to let him know I would be there to see him. We were hoping he might be pitching that night, but he wasn't scheduled to pitch that night. Before I left for Buffalo, I made a large sign with his name on it so he would know me. Before the game started, I waited by the dugout for him. I got some autographs from other players and asked a couple of them to let Josh know I was there. When the game started, I still had not seen him and was getting nervous I would not have the opportunity to talk with him. When the game ended, Teddy stuck the sign out as far as he could through a small slit in the protective netting and I started calling. Then, a tall guy came out of the dugout. He had a big smile on his face and introduced himself as Josh Walker. I shook his hand, gave him a card to sign and we talked for a bit. He is a nice guy and has a good chance to be with the big club next season. I hope to see him again in Washington when the Mets play the Nats.

