

# Rotary



## The Mediator Official Bulletin of The Rotary Club of Charles County (La Plata)

Sunday, February 14, 2021

### Rotary's New Focus Area - The Environment

Sunday, February 14, 2021

Rotary International introduced a new focus area in 2020-21, The Environment. This will open up environmentally friendly projects to greater opportunities for global grants.

For more information see - <https://www.rotary.org/en/supporting-environment-becomes-new-area-focus>.

The Rotary Environmental Service Rotary Action Group (ESRAG) will award recognition for clubs actively involved in environmental endeavors.

The Rotary Club of Charles County is seeking volunteers to serve on the club's Environmental Support Action Committee. Establishing a club committee and a committee chair is the first step toward becoming a bronze award winner. Interested Rotarians should contact club president Chris.

### Rotary 4-Way-Test Speech Contest

Sunday, February 14, 2021

The Rotary District 7620 is hosting a speech contest for high-school-aged students. Rotary will award \$1,500 to the winner, and smaller amounts to the second and third-place.

District 7620 also seeks Rotarian and other adult mentors for speech contest contestants.

4-Way-Test Speech Competition can be found here: [2021 4-Way Speech Competition](#)

1. All interested students who do not have club sponsorship should contact Temrah Okonski: [okonskitg@verizon.net](mailto:okonskitg@verizon.net). Applications can be found on the above link and are attached. These must be submitted to Temrah by April 1. Students without school support will be connected to a Rotary mentor. The sooner a student submits an application the sooner he/she/they will be connected to a mentor. So submit as early as possible. Contact Temrah with any questions.
2. Students not enrolled in club competitions will need to submit a youtube video to be judged on March 27.
3. Students qualifying for semifinals will submit a youtube video by April 10 (Semifinals). This round of judging will narrow the contestants to 4.
4. The final 4 contestants will make their presentations **live** to the district, during the district's virtual conference on April 23 and April 24. Awards will be presented on April 24 during the conference.
5. **Awards:** The final 4 contestants will receive monetary awards and the amount: First place: \$1,500. Second place: \$1,000. Third place: \$750. Fourth place: \$500.

### Rotary Leadership Institute Goes Virtual

Sunday, February 14, 2021

Rotary Leadership Institute, a series of interactive workshops to teach Rotarians more about the history and structure of Rotary, and how to be more effective Rotarians and leaders, is back with a live virtual option. Months after the pandemic put the brakes on the traditional all-day Saturday in-person sessions, in Jan 2021, RLI Mid-Atlantic Region resumed virtual training on Zoom.

The format will vary between a full-day on Saturday, to training

#### Club Leaders



[Christopher T. Zabriskie](#)  
iPast President  
President



[Thomas G. Hill](#)  
President - Elect



[Mark G. Walker](#)  
Vice President



[Brian A. Seeling](#)  
Secretary



[Christopher Simpson](#)  
Treasurer



[Katherine Heichler](#)  
Community Service  
Chair



[Kevin M. Maljak](#)  
Vocational Service  
Chair



[Sharon L. Capitani](#)  
Public Relations  
Chair



[David Gehris](#)  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair



[Attie S. Ward](#)  
Youth Services  
Chair



[Barbara R. Thompson](#)  
Area Governor

#### Speakers



split over Saturday and Sunday. Possible future editions may include a weekday offering.

Traditional RLI facilitators will be joined by a producer to help administer and smooth over the virtual learning experience.

The cost, which used to be \$95 per person, is reduced to \$35.

The next open session is scheduled for March 6th, and Level I, Level II, and Level III are all still open as of Feb 14th.

For more information and to register, see the RLI Mid Atlantic Web Site at <https://www.rli33.org/>.

## Interact Support's Oral History Project

Wednesday, January 27, 2021



Interactors are working together with community members to create a collection of personal stories from long-time residents of Southern Maryland, and in particular, Charles County. Eager to preserve the valuable history of our county, Interactors are seeking out rich, century-old stories about living in rural Maryland. This story will be unique in that it will be told by our own people, in their words and to the best of their recollections, and shared online on a webpage. We are also seeking photographs that we may share (with written permission from the owner) that we can scan and return to the owner. History that is not preserved is lost. Please join us in the effort.

If you are interested in sharing your story or have a friend or relation that would like to share their story, please contact the Interact Advisor, Georgia Bonney at [msgorgia@neighborhoodcreativeartscenter.org](mailto:msgorgia@neighborhoodcreativeartscenter.org). We will be

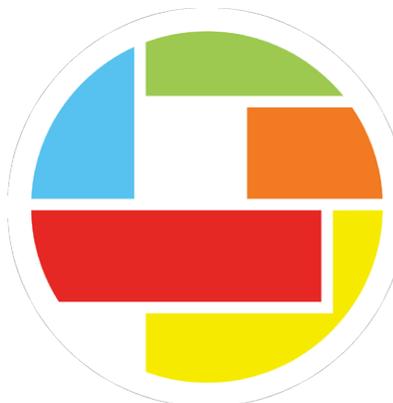
conducting interviews during February and March. The project should be completed by the end of May, 2021.

## Interact Mapathon

Saturday, January 23, 2021

The Interact Club of Charles County's most recent project is a **mapathon** for the Missing Maps Project. The Missing Maps founded by The American Red Cross, The British Red Cross, Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team, and Doctors without Borders.

For the Interact Club's mapathon, Interactors used satellite imagery maps to identify and mark buildings and roads in Indonesia. The purpose of the project is to map the most vulnerable places in the developing world, in order that international and local NGOs and individuals can use the maps and data to better respond to crises affecting the areas. To learn more about the Missing Maps Project, you can visit their website, [missingmaps.org](http://missingmaps.org).



## Rotary Interact's Community Project

Sunday, December 6, 2020

On Saturday, December 5th, more than 20 members of the Interact Club of Charles County, along with Rotarians, friends, and family, spent the morning and afternoon preparing and

February 17, 2021

TBD

Assisting Small Business

March 03, 2021

[Chris Zabriskie](#)

### Birthdays

David Gehris

March 12th

Attie S. Ward

March 12th



assembling 1,000 arts-and-craft kits for local kids at Christ Church, in La Plata. These kits will be distributed during the Neighborhood Creative Arts Center's First Annual "Giving Fair", scheduled for Dec 12th from 10am to 1pm.

The event was originally scheduled for outdoors, but a big thanks goes out to Rotarian and Rector Kate Heichler for allowing the group to move inside when the winds proved too strong for outdoor work.

For more information about NCAC's Giving Fair see - <https://www.neighborhoodcreativeartscenter.org/ncac-giving-fair>.

Club members interested in volunteering may contact Ms. Georgia at 301-542-9359 or by email at [msgorgia@neighborhoodcreativeartscenter.org](mailto:msgorgia@neighborhoodcreativeartscenter.org). Many hands make light work.

Photo: Interact Club President Joseph Bonney assemble crafts at Christ Church.

The Interact Club of Charles County is a youth auxiliary of The Rotary Club of Charles County. Ms. Georgia Bonney, Artistic Director of the Neighborhood Creative Arts Center, is also the Advisor for the Interact Club.



For more about what Interact is, see <https://www.rotary.org/en/get-involved/interact-clubs>.

For information about sponsoring, supporting, or joining the Interact Club of Charles County see

<https://www.neighborhoodcreativeartscenter.org/rotary-interact>.

Future projects include one with global reach, participating in the Doctor's Without Borders Missing Maps project - <https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/maps>.

## Correspondence to the Club

Sunday, August 18, 2019

We received some mail last week that I'd like to share with the club.

- Thank you note from our scholarship recipient Kyle Batchelor.
- An invitation to participate in a fundraiser supporting Rebuilding together on September 21st at Mt. Aventine.
- An invitation to participate in a fundraiser supporting The Catherine Foundation on October 4th at the Waldorf Jaycee's.
  - For information contact Karen Hefler at [assistant@catherinefoundation.org](mailto:assistant@catherinefoundation.org) or call 301-932-8811 x302
- An invitation to participate in a fundraiser supporting CSM Foundation honoring Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr. on September 26th at the Running Hare Vineyards.
  - For information contact Michelle Goodwin at [csmfoundation@csmd.edu](mailto:csmfoundation@csmd.edu) or 301-934-7599.



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## Club Meeting

Charles County (La Plata)  
Meets at Greene Turtle LaPlata  
6 Street Mary's Avenue <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/442778694> Password: 1975  
La Plata, MD 20646  
Time: Wednesday at 07:30 AM