

# THE STAFFORD ROTARY HIGHLIGHTER

April 17, 2024



Rotary Club of Stafford  **People of Action**

## April 17 – Paul Harris and Rotary History, PDG George Atwell and Stafford Rotary History – Nelda Mohr



Rotary International Past District Governor George F Atwell, a native Virginian, is retired after 31 years in public education as classroom teacher, elementary school principal, high school principal, and assistant superintendent for finance, and support services.

After retiring from public education, he joined a local newspaper, having served as chairman of the board, interim publisher and president of Amendment One, the publishing company.

In 1992, he was elected to the Leesburg (Virginia) Town Council where he was chairman of the Finance Committee for four years. He has served on the boards of the Loudoun County (Virginia) Chamber of Commerce, the American Red Cross chapter, the American Cancer Society chapter, the Loudoun County United Way, the local hospital Board of Trustees, and chairman of the Virginia Power Advisory Board.

He has chaired the fund campaigns for the local Girl Scouts of

### Club Calendar

April Is Maternal and Child Health Month

- ❖ April 17 – Rotary History
- ❖ April 20 – District Youth Summit
- ❖ April 22, 4:00pm to 7:00 pm - Thurman Brisben Center - Help us cook and serve dinner.
- ❖ April 24 – Delegate Joshua Cole
- ❖ April 27 - District Training Assembly
- ❖ April 27 – Relay for Life
- ❖ May 2 – Virginia Naturalists
- ❖ May 25-29, 2024 -Rotary International Convention in Singapore
- ❖ June 30 – Installation of District Officers.
- ❖ July 13 – District Training for the new Rotary year. Membership and TRF
- ❖ July 14 – Installation of New Club Officers
- ❖ August 11-13 – District trip to RI HQ
- ❖ September 28, 29 -Via Colori
- ❖ October 4-6, 2024 – District Conference

America and the Boy Scouts of America, receiving the first annual Loudoun County Good Scout Award. He joined Rotary in 1967 and has served as district governor, district Rotary Foundation chair twice, Council on Legislation, Zone 33 Coordinator for Public Relations and the Image of Rotary Task Force, Friendship and Fellowship Task Force and the Literacy and Education Task Force.

He served as a moderator at the Presidential Celebration for Literacy and Education held in Macon, Georgia, March 2004. He has also served on the Zone 33 Nominating Committee for Director and on the Zones 33 and 34 Executive Committee. He was assigned as President's Rep in 2004. In February 2003, he participated in a National Immunization Day in India when over 20 million children were immunized in one day. In November-December 04, he also participated in an NID to Egypt where approximately 8 million children were immunized. PDG Atwell has received RI's Service Above Self Award, the Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and the Rotary Foundation's Distinguished Service Award. He and his wife, Marian, are Major Donors to the Foundation.

George is currently a member of the Stafford Rotary Club, a club which he sponsored and helped establish and charter on April 26, 1990.



**Nelda Mohr** was a charter member of the Coal Creek Rotary Club in Lafayette, Colorado. She joined Stafford Rotary when she relocated to Virginia in 1994. Her club sponsor was Mary Rose. Nelda has served as club secretary for eight years, club president twice, club service chair, international service chair, community service chair, club webmaster since 2001, and newsletter editor for twenty years.

While living in Colorado she served as club historian, club secretary and District 5450 literacy chair. In District 7610 she served as district literacy chair for five years, district secretary for 7 years, and district webmaster for 5 years.

Nelda retired after 51 years working in public libraries in Kentucky, New York, South Dakota, Colorado, and Virginia. She attended the University of Louisville, earned a BA from the University of Maryland and an MA from Queens College, CUNY. Her husband Donnell is retired from both the US Army and the Department of Veterans Affairs. He is a past president of the Fredericksburg Rotary Club. They have two daughters, Judi Mohr and Katie Haywood, a former Stafford Rotarian, and President Elect of the Dahlgren/King George Rotary Club. Nelda's late father was also a Rotarian and Paul Harris Fellow.

Nelda is a level three major donor to the Rotary Foundation and a member of the Paul Harris Society and Polio Plus Society. She and Donnell have, over their years in Rotary, hosted five different Group Study Exchange members, a Rotary Exchange Student, and a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar.

## April 10 Meeting

President Jamie presided, and PDG Sandy gave the thought for the day: "Show me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."

### Announcements:

- ❖ The District Training Assembly is April 27. Four club members are registered. Incoming officers and committee chairs need to attend.
- ❖ Our April 27 social will be at the Relay for Life at Spotsylvania High School, at about 5 pm. We will be walking in honor of Jack Poland.
- ❖ District Training is scheduled for April 27. Not only committee chairs, but any club member who hasn't attended a district training meeting is encouraged to attend.
- ❖ The District Awards Banquet is scheduled for June 30. Committee chairs are all working on the award applications.
- ❖ July 13 is the District Membership and Foundation Training for Rotary Year 2023-24.
- ❖ April 22 our club is cooking and serving dinner at the Brisban Center. PE Shekela is organizing this. Please volunteer if you are able.
- ❖ Our speaker for the April 24 evening meeting is Delegate Joshua Cole.
- ❖ District Conference is October 4-6 in D.C.

### Committee Reports:

- ❖ Membership – Discover Rotary Night, April 16
- ❖ Finance – Dues will be increased next year. There will not be a discount for paying the entire year's dues in advance.
- ❖ Club Service – Programs planned for the rest of the Rotary year.
- ❖ Youth Services – Kristy reported that there was one applicant for the essay contest.
- ❖ The Rotary Foundation – Stafford Listed in Top Ten In All Categories.
  - #5 IN TOP TEN ANNUAL FUND PER CAPITA CLUBS - \$390.68
  - #3 In Top Ten PolioPlus Clubs - \$4,448.00
  - #7 In Top Ten Annual Fund Clubs - \$13,283.00
  - #10 In Top Ten Total Giving Clubs - \$17,731.00
- ❖ Congratulations to our members through their donations for helping advance world peace, improve the environment, help alleviate poverty, provide clean water, improve child and family health and more. Sandy
- ❖ Cheri will be the Area Foundation Rep next year.
- ❖ Via Colori – The Hilldrup trailer stage is not available this year. We need to find another one ASAP!

## Program - Phillip Duggins, Associate Director Regional Alumni Engagement, UMW



President Jamie introduced our guest speaker, Phillip Duggins, Associate Director Regional Alumni Engagement, UMW. The purpose of the University of Mary Washington Alumni Association is threefold: to promote the welfare and support the mission of the University of Mary Washington; to encourage an enduring relationship with the University by deepening alumni and student loyalty; and to develop and strengthen the bonds of mutual interest within the University community.

The Office of Alumni Relations works with the Alumni Association and its Board of Directors to facilitate communication to and amongst alumni, as well as to provide opportunities for alumni to be involved in the life of the University. No tax or tuition funds are used for this UMW department.

There are 45,210 living UMW alumni located in 43 countries and all 50 states. Most alumni live in Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, Florida and New York.

Each year, the Alumni Association offers programs and activities consistent with the goals and objectives of the institution. These programs occur both on campus and in alumni Regional Networks and are designed to foster relationships between alumni and Mary Washington. Programming includes large, signature campus-based events like the Eagle Crawl, Homecoming, and Reunion Weekend, as well as smaller gatherings around the country where Regional Networks have formed. Affinity Groups also have been launched to connect alumni based on their previous student activities and organizations. All alumni are encouraged to keep their contact information updated to receive invitations to events.

**Student Alumni Ambassadors (SAAs)** are students selected to foster connections between alumni and students by interacting with alumni and by encouraging students to consider their role as future alumni. Through service and leadership, this organization strives to foster relationships that benefit all parties involved and promote the character and ethics of the University of Mary Washington.

**The Mary Washington Alumni on the Road Travel Program** offers a variety of educational travel experiences in which you will benefit from faculty-led programs, intellectually engaged companions, and the high standards of quality that you expect from the University of Mary Washington



**The University of Mary Washington "Alumni of Distinction"** display in George Washington Hall recognizes alumni who have made significant accomplishments and brought honor to the University.

**Mary Talks** are lectures and insightful discussions with Mary Washington's outstanding faculty and administrators. These lectures are streamed live around the globe, allowing people everywhere to engage in the educational experience that makes Mary

Washington one of the best public liberal arts institutions in the country. During the Talk, you can even submit questions to the presenter. Mary Talk recordings with closed captioning will be available on our YouTube channel within a few days of each Talk.

**The Fund for Mary Washington Impact Grants** is a pilot program to provide funding for student, faculty, and staff initiatives. These donor-funded grants, ranging from \$500 to \$5,000, are designed to support projects and initiatives that advance programs, lead to professional/academic growth, and/or exemplify the University's ASPIRE values, including scholarship, inclusive excellence, and engagement through leadership and service.

**Help your club by answering this survey to help gauge the pulse of the club.**

[https://rotarymap.surveyparrot.com/s/rotary-survey/tt-b9AB35KP1zZmxxXu8YeAN7?club\\_id=27090&district\\_id=7610&channel\\_id=382111](https://rotarymap.surveyparrot.com/s/rotary-survey/tt-b9AB35KP1zZmxxXu8YeAN7?club_id=27090&district_id=7610&channel_id=382111)

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