

THE STAFFORD ROTARY HIGHLIGHTER

February 14, 2024



February 14 Program – Debra Schlee



Debra Schlee is the Associate Provost of Institutional Analysis and Effectiveness at the University of Mary Washington. Dr. Schlee's office is central to research on students, faculty and staff at Mary Washington, and she uses those statistics to advise senior administration so they can make data-informed decisions.

Before that, however, she taught sociology full time at UMW from 1999-2016. She served as Chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology from 2007-2014, Chair

of the University Faculty Council from 2012-14, and Co-Chair of the committee for the 2020 UMW Strategic Plan. In 2016 she was awarded the J. Christopher Bill Outstanding Faculty Service Award.

Debra was born in Owosso, Michigan, and lived in Indianapolis while earning her B.A. in sociology from Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis. She has an M.A. and Ph.D. in sociology from Northwestern University. Debra has two children, Eric, 28, and Abigail, 21.

She is in no way an authority on The Gilded Age, which she is going to talk about today, though she did once teach a course on The Sociology of Elites and is fascinated by the conspicuous consumption of the late 19th century as demonstrated in the Newport, RI "cottages."

Club Calendar February Is Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month

- ❖ February 14 – Board Meeting via Zoom 11 am
- ❖ February 14 – Debra Schlee
- ❖ February 21 - PDG Leigh Hudson, D7710 - Roots of Rotary
- ❖ February 23- Rotary is 118 years old.
- ❖ February 24 – Peace Conference
- ❖ February 28 – Club Social
- ❖ March 3, 1 pm – Visit to Public Safety Center with Sheriff Decatur.
- ❖ March 6 - Speaker: Michael Morris, Stafford County Towne Center
- ❖ March 13 - Samantha Mitzel UMW Rotaract President
- ❖ March 20 - Dr. Thomas Taylor - STAFFORD COUNTY School Superintendent
- ❖ March 30 – RLI in Warrenton.
- ❖ April 27 - District Training Assembly - April 2024
- ❖ April 27 – Casino Night
- ❖ May 25-29, 2024 -Rotary International Convention in Singapore
- ❖ August 11-13 – District trip to RI HQ
- ❖ September 28, 29 -Via Colori
- ❖ October 4-6, 2024 – District Conference

February 7 Meeting

President Jamie presided and welcomed our online guest Grace Mupuka from the Crystal City/Pentagon Rotary. Holly gave the thought of the day, quoting the song **Turn, Turn, Turn**: “A time for peace. I swear it’s not too late.”

Announcements:

- ❖ We must have an online only meeting February 14 because the restaurant is not available.
- ❖ We have a new Owl microphone that greatly improves the audio quality for both inhouse and online attendees at our meetings.
- ❖ Sheriff Decatur has arranged a tour of the Public Safety Center on March 3 at 1 pm. It will be a 2 to 3 hour tour.
- ❖ WUSA 9 tour will probably be in March. It will be during business hours on a weekday. Let Jamie know what day would work best for you.
- ❖ We will have interesting socials this spring: ax throwing, escape room, bowling.
- ❖ We have a WhatsApp group. Ask Jamie if you need help with this.
- ❖ The Via Colori dates have been moved to September 28 and 29.
- ❖ Another visit to RI Headquarters in Evanston is planned for August 11-13. There will be sessions for both district leadership and for club leadership.
- ❖ Linda Moore and David Decatur are our newest club members.
- ❖ PE Shekela announced that shoe collection for Soles for Souls will be held from February 9 through March 10. She is also collecting travel size toiletries for a project that is taking place during PETS.
- ❖ Kristy announced that several club members have volunteered to be essay readers for the Rotary Essay Contest for middle school students.
- ❖ PDG Sandy reminded all club members who signed up as PolioPlus Society members to pay \$100 to the Polio Eradication Fund of TRF before the end of this Rotary year.
- ❖ Grace announced that she would speak about membership to our club online February 14.



Program: Mark Cooke, Ambassador, Rotary District 7610, ShelterBox USA

Our guest speaker was Mark Cooke from the Gainesville-Haymarket Rotary and an Ambassador for ShelterBox USA.

ShelterBox was founded to provide emergency shelter to people affected by disasters and humanitarian crises around the world. Since 2000, ShelterBox staff and volunteers have helped to shelter more than 2 million people in more than 100 countries around the world.

In April 2000, the Rotary Club of Helston-Lizard in Cornwall, England adopted ShelterBox as its millennium project. Little did they know that it would become the largest Rotary Club project in the world, with affiliates in countries across the globe.

In 2002, ShelterBox’s American affiliate was adopted as a project of the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch in Sarasota, FL. In 2004,



ShelterBox USA was officially established as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

The first consignment of 143 boxes was sent to earthquake victims in the Indian state of Gujarat in January 2001. Over the next three years, the project matured, and by the end of 2004, nearly 2,600 boxes had been dispatched, following 16 major disasters.

On December 26, 2004, news came of the devastating Indian Ocean Tsunami and ShelterBox faced its most significant challenge, one that would change its course forever. Donations and volunteers poured in and ShelterBox was able to ramp up operations on a scale unimaginable just six months earlier.



In 2005, ShelterBox sent out more than 22,000 boxes, almost 10 times the number delivered in the previous three years. Not only were we sending aid to survivors of the tsunami, but we were also able to help those who had lost their homes to Hurricane Katrina in the USA and the massive earthquake that hit the Kashmir region of Pakistan.

ShelterBox has now given shelter to over 2 million people. The goal for the organization is to shelter more than a million people each year by 2025. Mark showed two videos that showed how volunteer teams deliver the ShelterBox boxes to disaster areas around the world.

The supplies and procedures have changed over time. He shared some lessons they have learned over the years.

1. One size does not fit all. The Shelter Kit tools are now more popular than the traditional tent.
2. ShelterBox can deliver aid effectively even if that means using donkeys or bikes.
3. Feedback drives innovation.
4. Working with partners makes the work go faster and further. ShelterBox is an official partner with Rotary International, Habitat for Humanity, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.
5. ShelterBox occupies a special niche areas that fill gaps in aid in disaster areas.
6. The need is immense.

Mark said that every club should have a ShelterBox champion for their club. We are a Bronze Hero Club.

After the program, the club presented a \$1,000 check to ShelterBox USA. You can donate by using this link which has a place to put your club's name:

<https://www.shelterboxusa.org/donate/>



Foundation Minute

President Jamie talked about Rotary Global Grants. Global grants support large international activities with sustainable, measurable outcomes in Rotary's areas of focus. By working together to respond to real community needs, clubs and districts strengthen their global partnerships.

Global grants can fund:

- ❖ Humanitarian projects
- ❖ Scholarships for graduate-level academic studies
- ❖ Vocational training teams, which are groups of professionals who travel abroad either to teach local professionals about their field or to learn more about it themselves



ALL BAGS ARE
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--- AND ---
\$6⁰⁰ /Bag

5% OFF
ON 25 TO 44
BAG ORDERS

10% OFF
ON 45 BAGS
OR MORE

FREE DELIVERY
5 BAG MINIMUM

PAY ONLINE VIA ZELLE
PAYMENT IS DUE WHEN ORDERING. WE ACCEPT CASH AND CHECKS.

BSA Troop 2220 is excited to announce that from now until February 22nd, we will be selling high-quality mulch to raise funds for our troop. Not only will you be supporting the growth and development of our youth, but you'll also be improving the appearance of your own yard!

Our mulch is produced locally by Norfleet Mulch and made from 100% natural wood fibers, making it safe for plants and the environment.

Orders MUST be completed before February 22nd, 2023 to ensure delivery.

Deliveries are estimated to be March 2nd and 3rd to Stafford addresses and are front yard only. Our Scouts will neatly stack your order near/on driveway.

VISIT US ONLINE AT:
<https://www.t2220.org/mulch>

QUESTIONS: Contact Chris Canada at crcgraphics@gmail.com

WASHINGTON ACED HARDWOOD



DYED MIDNIGHT BLACK



DYED COFFEE BROWN



DYED CARDINAL RED



VIRGINIA FINES SPECIAL BLEND



Global grants have a minimum budget of \$30,000 and a maximum World Fund award of \$400,000. Grant sponsors can use a combination of District Designated Funds (DDF), cash, and/or directed gifts and endowment earnings to fund a global grant. The Foundation will provide an 80 percent World Fund match for all DDF contributions. There is no minimum World Fund match.

Time to Think about Mulching Your Garden

See [T2220.org/mulch](https://t2220.org/mulch) for more info, or message Kristy directly. We are taking orders now through Feb 22. Thank you for your consideration.

A Bit of Club History: How To Be a Presidential Advisor

In December, 2007, calm and quiet club president Ralph Sutton had one of the most challenging two weeks any Rotary club president could face.

President George W. Bush chose the Stafford Rotary Club as the location for an important speech on the economy. This happened because then Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates Bill Howell was a member of our club.

Having a US President as your club's guest speaker is quite complicated and expensive. Fortunately, our club operating budget was very generous that year. The club had to purchase several banners and flags to set up behind President Bush. All attendees had to be investigated by the Secret Service. No guests, even spouses of club members, were allowed. On the day of the event I-95 was shut down for the presidential motorcade from Quantico to the Route 17 exit.

The club was required to provide lunches for the press (about 60 people), many state and local politicians, and Rotary district officers. At the time our meeting location wasn't known for the quality of its food, but the manager of the restaurant met the challenge and came up with an acceptable buffet for all. The President isn't allowed to eat at these occasions. Everyone had to eat, and the tables had to be completely cleared before he arrived.



Ralph's final task was choosing which three club members would sit with President Bush. He chose (with a wry smile I imagine):

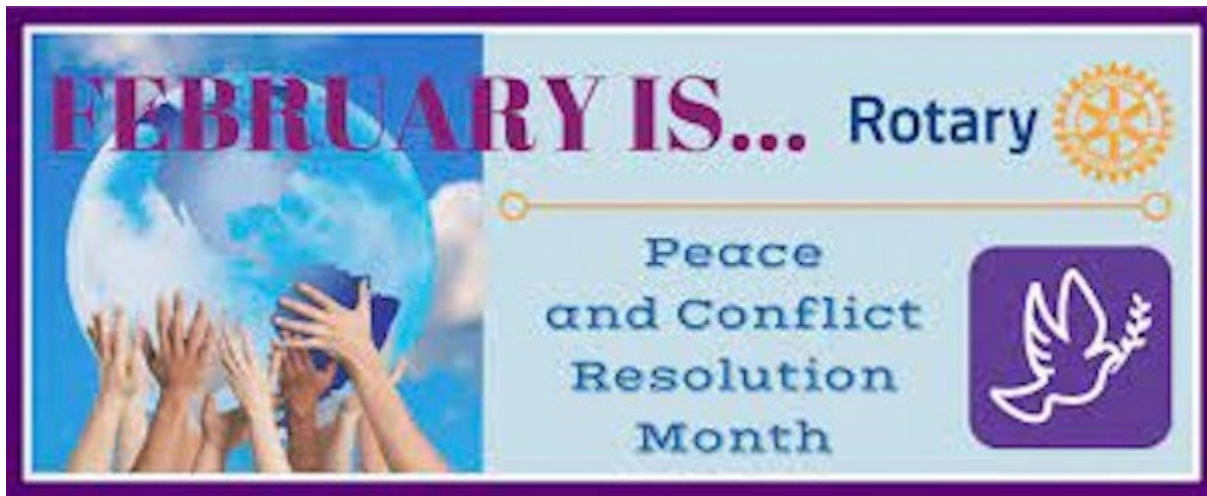
1. President Bush's greatest admirer in the club, Shirley Heim;
2. the most combative Republican in the club, Aric Wagner;
3. and perhaps the biggest critic of Bush's policies in the club – me!

The three of us had to be interviewed by the FBI before the event. My interview was done over the phone as I was driving to Greensburg, Kentucky for my aunt and uncle's 70th anniversary. My Uncle Carl was a dyed-in-the-wool Republican and huge fan of the Bush family. I think he was more thrilled about the upcoming lunch than our entire Rotary club was.

The big day arrived. We were all searched and our cell phones surrendered as we entered the restaurant. The Secret Service agent on this particular duty was the daughter of charter member and past club president Vicki Lewis, which made the procedure less strange. CNN was broadcasting the event live. When President Bush arrived at our table, he turned and asked me where to sit. I "advised" him to sit in the chair between Shirley and me. That is how I became a presidential advisor.

Club President Ralph did an amazing job putting this event together – almost without a hitch. The only thing that went wrong was that when President Bush walked into the room the Muzak was playing "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer". He just smiled graciously and came over to our table.

It was a most memorable day for the Stafford Rotary Club.



The month of February is very special in the Rotary calendar because it includes the anniversary of the first meeting of Rotary held on February 23, 1905, now designated as the World Understanding and Peace Day.

Of the 60 million people displaced by armed conflict or persecution, 90% are civilians. Half of those civilians are children. That's millions of reasons why Rotary is so engaged in service projects, fellowships, and other Rotary-sponsored campaigns in pursuit of peace in our world.

How Rotary makes help happen

We train adults and young leaders to prevent and mediate conflict. We aid refugees who have fled dangerous areas. Rotarians also address the underlying structural causes of conflict by relieving

millions of people suffering from poverty, inequality, ethnic tensions, lack of access to education and unequal distribution of resources.

In yet another program to achieve worldwide peace, up to 100 Rotary Peace Fellows are selected to attend Rotary Peace Centers to participate in master's degree programs at one of the partner universities. Rotary Peace Fellows study subjects related to the root causes of conflict and explore innovative solutions that address real-world needs. There are more than 1,000 peace fellowship alumni are working in over 100 countries. Do you have a Peace Fellow candidate in your community? For more information: >>click here>>.

Rotary Peace Centers: The Important Role of Rotarians <https://my.rotary.org/en/take-action/empower-leaders/support-peace-centers>

Strengthening Positive Peace to
Create Hope in the World
A Day to Learn, Reflect & Exchange Ideas

February 24, 2024 at Stevenson Ridge
6901 Meeting Street, Fredericksburg, VA

Registration is now open for the District 7610 Peacebuilding Conference. Please use this link:
<https://registrations.dacdb.com/Register/index.cfm...>



Opening speaker Rotary Foundation Trustee (2022-2026) Marty Helman has served Rotary as chair of the Peace Major Gifts Initiative and on the working group to select a site for the new peace center.

Our Presenters

The Eight Pillars of Positive Peace



Juliette Rouge Ph.D., an active practitioner working internationally on peacebuilding in divided communities will speak and facilitate an interactive session on Handling Difficult Conversations.



Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP) Peacebuilder Ambassador Bill Cawley will present the Eight Pillars which form the essential framework for Positive Peace.



Connecting Positive Peace with the Rotary Four-way Test will end the day facilitated by District 7610 Rotary Global Grant Scholar co-chair Jenna Edwards and District 7610 Governor 2025-2026 chief of staff Wayne Murphy.

