CLUB SERVICE

4-Way Test—this week - TBD 4-Way Test—next week - TBD

Program — Tom Hallman

March Invocation—Tammy Burke

March Greeters — Buzz Rich & Catie Rabun

March Student Hosts - Mallory Holley, Sharon Rodgers, &

Regena Brackett

March Students – Madison Gibbons, Jonathan Rodgers, & Nathan Stephenson

GUESTS

Morgan Purvis Speaker

Madison Gibbons Student Guest Jonathan Roders Student Guest Nathan Stephenson Student Guest

Dr. William Curry guest of Paul Durban guest of David Jameson Karen Poteet

MAKE-UPS

Richard Herring Club Service 3/3 Club Service 2/20 Lynne Shepard Ralph Courtney Aiken Sunrise 3/5 Ralph Courtney Club Service 3/8 Richard Church eClubOne 3/10

MEET NEW MEMBER. CARLA CLOUD



Carla Cloud was inducted into the Rotary Club of Aiken last week. Carla was sponsored by Vicki Bukovitz and is the most recent Director of ACTS.

Welcome Carla!

IN THE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR, MARCH 2014 IS... LITERACY MONTH



Rotary Club of Aiken PO Box 685 Aiken, SC 29802 (803) 648-5676 Monday, 12:30 PM **Newberry Hall** 117 Newberry Street, SW www.aikenrotary.org

R.I. President

Ron Burton

District Governor

Lorraine Angelino

Club President

Joe Shields

President Elect

Barbara Morgan

Vice President Joe Lewis

Past President

Peggy Ford

Secretary/Treasurer

Stanley Smith

Sergeant-at-Arms

Richard Holley

Assistant Governor

Liz Stewart

Board of Directors

Vicki Bukovitz (2014)Jason Stewart (2014)John McMichael (2014)Henry Krippner (2015)**Chuck Munns** (2015)Van Smith (2015)Collette Ball (2016)(2016)Liz Neal Will Williams (2016)

Sergeants-at-Arms

Chair: Richard Holley Robert Stack Ross Culligan Richard Herring Tom Calhoun Wayland Lamar

John McMichael

THE GEAR

ROTARY CLUB

The Rotary Club of Aiken

Chartered February 27, 1939 Club 6187—District 7750 Volume 47, Number 30 Editor: Catie Rabun - catie.rabun@gmail.com Photographer: Tami Burke

MARCH 17, 2014

PROGRAM LAST WEEK

By: Catie Rabun



Introduced by Jane Page Thompson, our speaker, Morgan Purvis, member of the Steeplechase Association Board of Directors, spoke to the club about the history of the Steeplechase in our town and the events moving forward. Morgan told the club that the name "Steeplechase" came literally from a two-horse race between two steeples. The first Aiken Steeplechase was on March 14, 1930 at the Aiken Ridge Mile Track until World War II

when it was cancelled. It was started again in the 1960s. After several years of bad weather in the 1960s and 70s, Ford Conger drove to Memphis to get a large tent for viewers. Morgan mentioned that Mr. Conger would likely not believe where we are now. It is the largest single day sporting event by far.

The race has a lot of logistical challenges and every year is a little different. In past years, purse money has been around \$65,000. This year the purse is \$150,000. This is made possible from past and current sponsors like AB Beverage, Aiken Regional, Babcock & Wilcox, and Aiken Farm Supply.

Morgan told us that the Steeplechase Association also gives back to the community through a fundraiser (a gala held the night before the Steeplechase). This year's event, Blossoms and Bowties, will benefit the Golden Harvest Food Bank.

PROGRAM TODAY

KEVIN BERLANGER

CEO/PRESIDENT OF SHEPEARD BLOOD CENTER

FUTURE PROGRAMS

MAR 24 Dr. Shannon, CMI: Innovations in

Hip Replacement

MAR 31 Marianna Williams: An Artic

Eperience: 19 Below at 82°

APR 7 Holly Woltz: GEM (Guide-

Encourage-Mentor)

BIRTHDAYS

3/18 Barry Adams3/19 Chuck Maxwell

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

3/17 Bill Shreck (2008)
 3/17 Josh Stewart (2008)
 3/19 Mallory Holley (2012)
 3/22 Clayton Quattlebaum (2004)



EVERY COIN COUNTS



HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE By Owen Clary

ROTARY "THERE"

Rotary is "there" firmly in the Far East as experienced on a recent jaunt into that area. Five make-ups for me occurred in various ways in various places. Three make-ups were recorded as "Amsterdam" from the second leg (from Sydney, Australia to Hong Kong) of its four leg around-the- world cruise. (On most cruise ships and on trans-Atlantic and trans-Pacific crossings, the ships generally provide "service meetings" on a weekly basis for service club make-ups). I could not make up in New Guinea or the Philippines, as Rotary was not meeting on the days that I was there. In Hong Kong a Rotary meeting was missed as we stood in line for a few hours trying to get a Chinese visa attached to my wife's passport. (However, many of the taxis there had Rotary ads painted on their sides, as Hong Kong will do anything for the dollar).

Two other make-ups we tallied on the same day, Friday March 7, in Honolulu. The first, at a 7:30 meeting of the Downtown Rotary Club and the second, at a noon meeting of the West Honolulu Club. At the meeting of the Downtown Rotary Club I was seated next to Tom Knoll, who in 1978, established the first Hawaiian Iron Man Triathlon and is on the national board for Iron Man Triathlon. (He still participates at age 81. He also gave me a copy of his book, "Where It All Began"). It is an uplifting experience to attend Rotary meeting elsewhere and to have reaffirmed Rotary's international motto of "Service above Self."

MEET MARCH'S STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Maddie Gibbons, hosted by Mallory Holley, is our student-of-themonth from South Aiken

High School. Maddie has a 4.896 GPA and is 9th in her class. She is considering Winthrop or USC Honors College for her undergraduate studies.



Jonathan Rodgers, hosted by Sharon Rodgers, is our Mead Hall student-of-themonth. He loves

animals and is interested in Veterinary school at Clemson or USC.



Nathan Stephenson, hosted by Regena Brackett, is our Aiken High School studentof-the-month.

He has a 4.964 GPA and is 5th in his class. He is considering GA Tech, Clemson, or USC for college and he plans to study Nuclear Engineering. His favorite class is Physics. He also enjoys playing the guitar and painting.



WHY GREEN?

As you know, on Saint Patrick's Day it is customary to wear shamrocks and/or green clothing or accessories. Saint Patrick is said to have used the shamrock, a three-leaved plant, to explain the Holy Trinity to the pagan Irish. This story first appears in writing in 1726, though it may be older. In pagan Ireland, three was a significant number and the Irish had many triple deities. The triple spiral symbol appears at many ancient megalithic sites in Ireland.

The color green has been associated with Ireland since at least the 1640s, when the Irish Catholic Confederation used the green harp flag. Green ribbons and shamrocks have been worn on St. Patrick's Day since at least the 1680s. Green was adopted as the color of the Friendly Brothers of St Patrick, an Irish fraternity founded in about 1750. In the 1790s, green became associated with Irish nationalism when the United Irishmen used it. This was a republican organization—led mostly by Protestants but with many Catholic members who launched a rebellion in 1798 against British rule. The phrase "wearing of the green" comes from a song of the same name, which laments United Irishmen supporters being persecuted for wearing green. Throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, the color green and its association with Saint Patrick's Day grew.