



2023 - 2024

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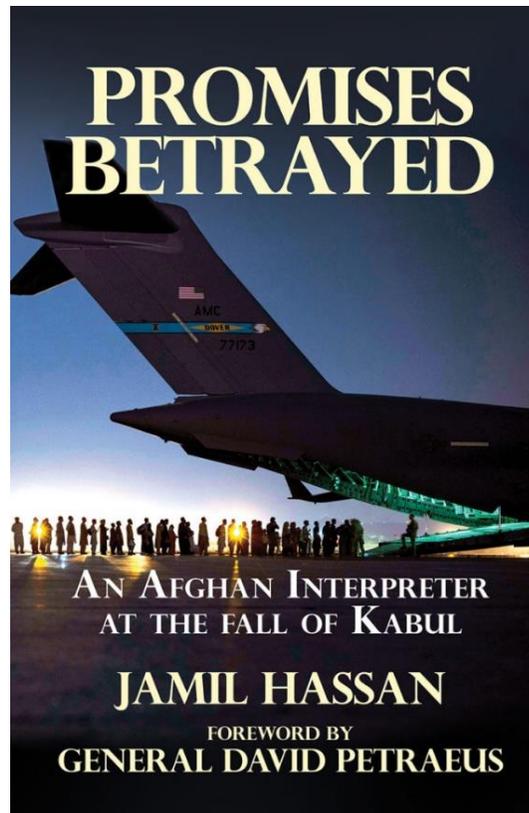
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Announcements / News
International News
Happy Bucks

BOARD MEETINGS

10/10 Board Meeting 7 AM
11/15 Charitable Fund 5:30 PM



“PROMISES BETRAYED”



"Promises Betrayed" is the extraordinary story written by today's speaker, Jamil Hassan, one of the Afghan interpreters who managed to escape and make his way to America and includes his first-hand account of his and his family's experiences. It is also illuminating, full of insights, and inspirational – while inevitably prompting, as well, reflections that include anguish, frustration, and anger, as Jamil's story reminds us of important work that is very much unfinished.

This book is the compelling story of one of our many extraordinary Afghan terps in the war in Afghanistan. Through his presentation, he helped us understand our engagement in Afghanistan, America's longest war, and understand the role of the courageous Afghan terps, many of whom served multiple "tours" alongside our men and women on the ground against a tenacious enemy in the most challenging of environments and contexts imaginable.

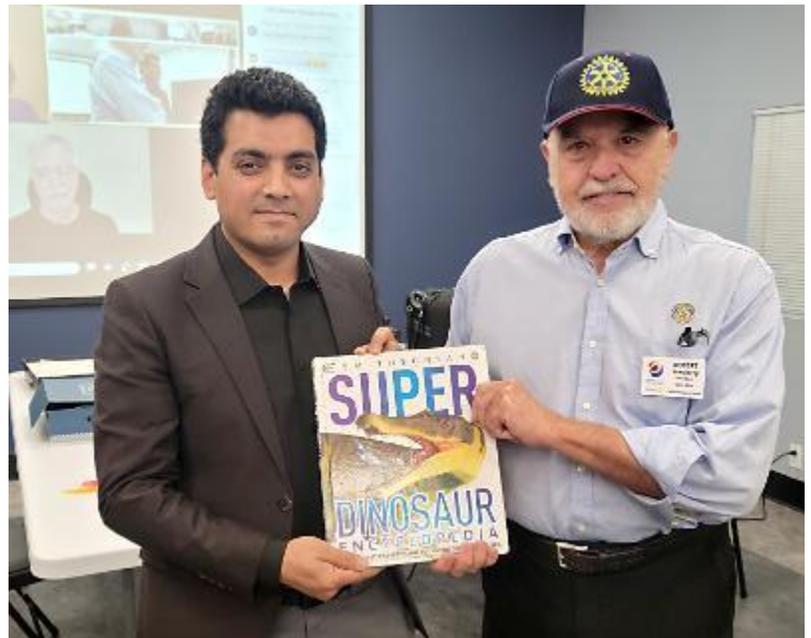
ABOUT THE SPEAKER: *Abdul Jamil Hassan*



Abdul Jamil Hassan was born in 1986 in Zurmat District of Afghanistan's southeastern Paktia province. During the civil war, Jamil's family moved to the capital, Kabul, and from there to Jalalabad city, the provincial capital of eastern Nangarhar province. A year after Taliban took control of Jalalabad, Jamil's family migrated to Pakistan's Rawalpindi. In 1997, after a family friend assured safety and financial support to his family, they left Pakistan for Afghanistan's western Herat province where they spent 16 years. Jamil attended school, learned English and worked for over four years with Coalition Forces in Herat. In 2013, following his admission to Kabul University's Faculty of Law and Political Science, Jamil lived, studied and worked in the capital until he and his family escaped Afghanistan during the chaotic evacuation of August 2021.

Jamil has a degree in political science from Kabul University and was supposed to defend the thesis for his Master's Degree in International Relations at a private university in Kabul a few days after August 15, 2021, when Taliban toppled the West-backed government of President Ashraf Ghani. Before serving with Coalition Forces from 2008 until 2012, Jamil worked as an ESL (English as Second Language) teacher in Herat, and following his graduation from Kabul University in 2017, he served as a high-level trilingual interpreter/translator at the Headquarters of NATO's Resolute Support Mission – Afghanistan (RSMA) until a month before the events of August 15, 2021.

Following his escape from Kabul, Jamil and his family stayed in Qatar, Germany, Virginia, Wisconsin and finally settled in Northern California in November 2021. Though he has acquired his CDL (Class A Driver's License), he currently drives for Uber and Lyft. *"Promises Betrayed"* is the first book Jamil has ever written, but it is *the* most important achievement of his entire life--so far

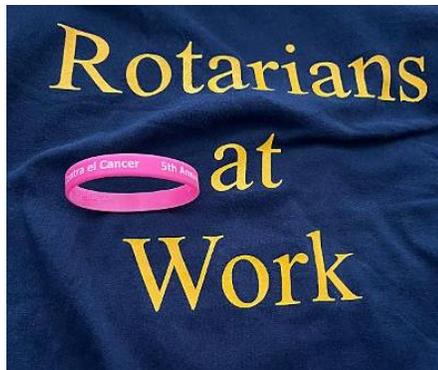


Jamil and his family work for Uber/Lift and would appreciate your business. They are available anytime night or day. hassan.abduljamil@gmail.com

COMMUNITY SERVICES: *Upcoming Event*

White Pony Express is now scheduled for Friday, October 20 from 8:45am to 11:00am. Location is 3380 Vincent Road, Pleasant Hill. We will be sorting food. Please let me know if you will attend. This will be our first time there. Bob Huck: 925-787-0343

Adopt A Street took place this past Saturday, October 7. The team met at 8:55am in the State Farm parking lot at 5444 Clayton Road. **Rich Lueck, Clayton Worsdell, Bob Sundberg,** and **Bob Huck** participated. Here is the group meeting under our sign getting ready to clean the streets. Bob Huck found a treasure that he refused to give up.



They worked hard that's for sure, but they still found time to play. Check out Clayton and Bob pretending to be scarecrows.

UGANDA: *Encouraging News*

Deb Luyiima sends greeting from Nsawo RCC Medical Centre. Last month was a busy month at the clinic as they opened up the first Save a Girl sewing center, which is focused at producing reusable sanitary kits and distributing them to girls in rural schools so they can remain in school during their menstrual periods. The center was certified by Ms. Brenda Birrell from TGUP. Production of the first 500 kits began on the 30th of September 2023.

They also had 3 successful deliveries of baby boys. The mothers and babies are all fine.



The Clinic and the Sewing Center

Deb Luyiima, Herb Muyinga and **Brenda Birrell** met with **Mary Kemnitz** via zoom and reported the follow results: They identified additional needs in the village, specifically, a central place for production of meals. Some tools that are needed are a corn grinder to make maize meal and a coffee husker which would allow them to sell coffee beans at a high price/profit margin. Herb will look into the tools and the costs.

The Clinic needs supplies as well so Herb and Deb will follow up with a list and costs.

Sewing Center update: Brenda has been training the ladies. They've completed the first 40 kits; 500 kits were brought from Kenya to start distributions of female hygiene kits. They also made a baby diaper so they can use the center for more than feminine hygiene kits. Making uniforms for the school is also on the list. Brenda was able to certify the sewing center as the ladies there have completed training. Deb and Brenda will come up with a list of items needed for the sewing center.

It appears total needs will be \$30K or less right now so the focus will be on a district grant as opposed to a global grant. John Wenzel mentioned the funds would not come until August of 2024, if approved.

CELEBRATIONS: *It Sure is Five to Be 85?*



It was the Joan and Don Show

They both celebrated their 85th birthday that just happened to fall on the day of the Friday Night Live party. The turnout was fantastic, and Lois played HB on Joan's untuned piano as the gang all sang. Great party.

THE GALLERY

Vicki Sexton sent this sunset on the Sahara photo.





On their trip to Fort Bragg, Clayton Worsdell sent us this incredible photo of a redwood cut down in 1943. Notice that the actual saw is attached to the trunk. It took 90 hours to cut it down.



While they were touring the town, Carol suggested they stop at the local tattoo shop. Then they decided to get a tattoo but couldn't decide which one to get or where to put them. Well, here are the results.





“I think we should break up.”

FIGURE THESE OUT

Scientifically, a raven has 17 primary wing feathers, the big ones at the end of the wing are called pinion feathers. A crow has 16. So, the difference between a raven and a crow is only a matter of a pinion.

I was walking in the jungle and saw a lizard on his hind legs telling jokes. I turned to a local tribal leader and said, "That lizard is really

funny!" The leader replied, "That's not a lizard. He's a stand-up chameleon."

The Black-Eyed Peas can sing us a song, but the chick peas can only hummus one.

Then there was the time Fruit of the Loom took Hanes to court... it was a brief case.

I once dated a guy who broke up with me because I only have 9 toes. Yes, he was lack-toes intolerant.

I've started investing in stocks: beef, vegetable, chicken. One day I hope to be a bouillianaire.

I accidentally rubbed ketchup in my eyes. Now I have Heinzsight.

Did you know muffins spelled backwards is what you do when you take them out of the oven?



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Everybody knows somebody that has a car they don't need. Tell your friends about how we administer this vehicle donation program with volunteers so that the charity they choose gets the highest value. Donate online at Cars2ndChance.org or call for more information: (925) 326-5868.

... That's all folks