

# The See-Way Journal of the Rotary Club of Erie, Pennsylvania



Club 91, Organized in 1913

District 7280

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## **Matthew Hersch**

### Your Reserve Military & the War on Islamic Terrorism



Commander Matthew Hersch, USN (Reserve Corps) is 58 years young and a lifelong resident of Erie. He is married to the former Kathy Fessler and they have six children and 10 grandchildren...all residents of Erie. Matt is a graduate of Cathedral Prep, University of Slippery Rock and the Navy Supply Corps School. Commander Hersch entered into military service later in life at the age of 35. He came into the Navy Reserve enlisted ranks. After serving

two years as a Steelworker Second Class in NMCB 23 (Navy Mobile Construction Battalion 23)....the famed SEABEES, he was awarded a direct officer commission as a Navy Supply Corps Officer, specializing in Expeditionary Logistics. In 2003, LT Hersch was recalled to active duty at the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom and was sent to the Mediterranean AOR (Area of Responsibilities). He was assigned to CNE-C6F (Commander Naval Forces Europe-Commander Sixth Fleet) as an ordnance logistics officer supporting the three US carrier strike groups operating in the Med during the "shock and awe" phase of that war.

In 2005, LCDR (Lieutenant Commander) Hersch was recalled to active duty and sent to Iraq and served at FOB's (Forward Operating Bases) Bucca and Al Basra as a quality assurance officer for DCMA (Defense Contracting Management Agency). From 2009 to 2010, LCDR Hersch was again recalled to active duty and sent to Afghanistan where he served as a contract oversight officer for CSTC/NTMI (Combined Security Transition Command – Afghanistan/NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan). In 2014, CDR Hersch was recalled to active duty and assigned to CJTF-HOA (Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa) in Djibouti. Shortly thereafter, he was sent downrange to Somalia where he served as the OIC (Officer in Charge) of the only FOL (Forward Operating Location) in Africa on the Kenya/Somalia boarder assisting US allies in combating the Islamic Terrorist group known as Al Shabab. (cont. on pg 2)

## **Supporting Cast:**

Presiding: Dennis Lagan

Greeter: Linda Wilkinson

Invocation: Bob Stout

Pianist: Bruce Gingrich

Song Leader: Michael Malthaner

Sgt at Arms: Brenda Bennett

Speaker Intro: Jim Hynes

## **Program Schedule**

12:00 pm Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel, 2nd Fl Parking is free in the Parking Garage!

#### **SEPTEMBER 7:**

Laura Eaton MECA - Fields of Dreams

(\*\*MBA Breakfast Meeting)

#### **SEPTEMBER 14:**

Thomas Chelgren District Governor

#### **SEPTEMBER 21**

**Iaestro Daniel Meyer** End Polio Now



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Cont...

Matthew Hersch, Your Reserve Military & War on Islamic Terrorism



Commander Hersch is a highly decorated Navy officer who has served in numerous Navy Reserve units. Hersch has served on three battlefields and logged over 2,678 combat convoy miles in HUM-VEES, MRAPS, Up-Armored SUV's, C-130/C-160/C-2 transport aircraft and Sea King/-Merlin/CH-47 helicopters.

Commander Hersch will address reserve force structure, Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Reorganization Act of 1986, combatant commanders, organization of AFRICOM (African Command) and CJTF-HOA (Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa), AU (African Union), and AMISOM (African Mission in Somalia – United Nations). He will explain how these elements are brought together to assist our allies and neutralize our enemies.



# **VOLUNTEERS FOR CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY**SEPTEMBER 9, 2016

Rotary has a long and proud tradition of welcoming new Americans during the citizenship ceremony at the Federal Courthouse on Perry Square. Each ceremony includes a speech from Walter Harf followed by a reception to congratulate and welcome the newest Americans in our community. Volunteer greeters are needed for the upcoming September 9 ceremony (time requirement approximately 9:45-11:00 AM); qualifications include a friendly smile and a willingness to offer a warm Erie Rotary welcome and congratulations to those taking the oath.

If interested, please contact Nathan Koble at 814.881.3793 or KobleN@natfuel.com.

The ceremony is an opportunity to participate in a quintessential American experience with fellow Rotarians in one of Erie's most stately buildings



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#### TRF CENTENNIAL MOTORCYCLE EXPEDITION

We would like to invite you and members of your Rotary Club to participate in our event, to mark the 100th year of The Rotary Foundation, "Ride for Rotary-TRF Centennial Expedition".

This event blends 14 days of International Fellowship, trekking, incredible sightseeing, cultural evenings with Indian music and dance, with well thought off cuisines.

All these start off with participants getting flagged off from the "Heritage city" of Mysore. Participants travel on motorcycles for next 14 days, with an average travel of 160kms per day. They touch the most beautiful and historically important places to complete the expedition. The expedition is open for all Rotarians and Rotractors. Proceeds from this event will go to "The Rotary Foundation".

Cruise to: WWW.RIDEFORROTARY.CLUB for more details!



#### **KEEP UPDATED & STAY TUNED!**

The station (am 1450/fm 107.1) broadcasts our weekly speaker's presentation on Friday at 12:30 pm and on Saturday at 10:06 am.

Oo you want to <u>bring a guest</u> to the Rotary meeting? Contact Gary Flick the Monday before for ample seating 814.454.3737

#### **WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHOWCASE YOUR BUSINESS??**

Now accepting ads for the Rotary Newsletter! Contact Lisa Watkins for more information.

Rates are for 4 weeks: \$30.00 1/8 page



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