

THE STAFFORD ROTARY HIGHLIGHTER

June 21, 2023



Our Meeting Place Has Changed to the Paradise Diner, Effective the June 21 Meeting

June 21 Program: President Elect Jamie Larounis



James Larounis is a travel industry analyst specializing in airline operations, loyalty programs, and reward travel, and owns ***The Forward Cabin*** and social media channels, with over 35,000 followers. Currently, he writes about and serves as an expert on American Airlines for Upgraded Points, with over 21 million annual readers.

Among several media spotlights, he's spoken at Frequent Traveler University, Princeton University, and the New York Times Travel Show, been quoted in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Fiscal Times*, *Travel+Leisure Magazine*, Skift, *Forbes*, *New York Magazine*, *the Daily Mail*, *the Washington Post*, and *Condé Nast Traveler*, been featured on CNN, FOX News, and the

BBC, written for *InsideFlyer*, *Road Warrior Voices/USA Today*, *Forbes*, [1000TravelTips.com](https://www.1000TravelTips.com), and makes regular guest appearances as a featured expert discussing the travel industry on major television news media. He also supports Frequent Traveler Events in organizing the Loyalty Summit, Frequent Traveler University and the Frequent Traveler Awards. Previous consulting projects have included clients such as Executive Travel, SELECT Innovations, Flightbucks, OurBus, ZED Aerospace, PEX+, American Airlines, and DoNotPay Travel, among others. In 2018, he was awarded the highest honor for exceptional customer service for Washington Dulles International Airport.

CLUB CALENDAR

June Is Rotary Fellowships Month

- ❖ June 21 - Jamie Larounis - President Elect
PHS Presentation to Dr. Thomas Taylor, SCPS Superintendent
- ❖ June 28 – Installation Banquet, Paradise Diner, 6 pm
- ❖ July 5 – NO MEETING
- ❖ July 12 - Field trip to Loyal Drums
- ❖ July 19 – Via Colori Planning Meeting
- ❖ July 26 – No Noon Meeting. Social at 6 Bears and a Goat, 5 pm
- ❖ September 23 & 24 – Via Colori, Stafford Regional Airport

His expertise includes the operations and loyalty programs of American Airlines, Hyatt, and Amtrak, and he's regularly cited as an expert on the topics of those companies and others in industry publications, forums, and major media.

James' previous professional experience includes having served as a manager with the Boy Scouts of America, with consistent growth in fundraising, membership and volunteer manpower. A proven leader, he's managed a yearly fundraising goal of more than \$600,000 with direct responsibility over special events, product sales and annual giving campaigns.

He also holds an Advanced Life Support EMT credential in VA and has served in numerous EMS supervisory positions, commanding large-scale incidents and scenes, and was awarded the Rappahannock EMS Council's EMS Administrator of the Year Award in 2012. He is an Eagle Scout.

June 14 Meeting

President Cherice presided and welcomed our guest speaker Kyle Allwine and Holly's guest Maria Wilson.

Announcements:

- Our Rotary cabinet needs to be moved ASAP.
- Our club meetings will be moving to a new location. Beginning July 1, we will meet at the Paradise Diner on Route 17. We will have a private room, but we will be ordering from the menu rather than having a buffet. The dues structure will be adjusted to reflect this new procedure.
- We have met our club goals for the year. President Cherice has recorded this on My Rotary.
- The installation banquet is scheduled for June 28 at 6 p.m. at the Paradise Diner on Route 17. Be sure to RSVP to <https://forms.gle/xHZPCh7cyhYnHpZu7>. Remember to respond for yourself and again for any guests you plan to bring.
- PDG Sandy reported that our club had the greatest number of members of the Polio Plus Society in District 7610.

Program:

Kyle Allwine is the Manager, Public Relations and Regulatory Affairs for Northern Neck Electric Cooperative. He is responsible for leading all internal and external communications.

His presentation was inspired by the television show "Myth Busters". He presented five myths about the electrical industry and examined whether they were true or not.

Myth #1. Energy companies control energy prices and set their own rates.

BUSTED: Several key factors influence the price of electricity:

- Fuel prices
- Power plant costs
- The Transmission and distribution system\



Weather conditions and related peak demands Regulations

Myth #2. Energy companies decide whose power to restore first.

PLAUSIBLE: Energy companies begin restoring power to the facilities most critical to the community, like hospitals, water treatment plants and shelters, and then circuits that impact the most customers.

Myth #3. Electric vehicles have great potential.

CONFIRMED: Kyle showed a comparison between the cost of operating gas vehicles and electric vehicles. Electric vehicles cost less than half the cost of operating gas vehicles.

Myth #4. The transition to electric vehicles can happen overnight.

BUSTED: There are many obstacles to overcome.

Vehicle Costs - The upfront costs of electric vehicles today remain materially higher than those of internal combustion engine vehicles.

Range - A major concern for drivers and businesses is the distance electric vehicles can travel without a charge, also known as range anxiety. And as technology improves, vehicle ranges are continually increasing. Most new sedan and light-duty truck models planned to launch through 2025 have a range of 250-300 miles per charge.

Charging Infrastructure - Another important factor is how, when, and where the vehicle can be charged. An electric vehicle would be charged most often at the residence of the driver or on the premises of the business. For longer trips, drivers and businesses should be aware of the charging networks in their area. In terms of costs, businesses with take home vehicles can strategically take advantage of off-peak rates in participating utilities by charging overnight or during other off-demand periods when the cost of electricity is lower.

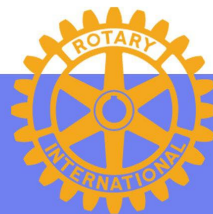
Myth #5 All energy companies are greedy monsters.

BUSTED. Kyle discussed the difference between for-profit electrical companies and electrical cooperatives.

During the question-and-answer session Kyle discussed the future of solar power and the need for development of better storage batteries.



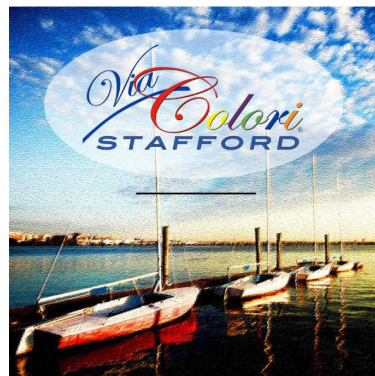
JUNE IS



ROTARY FELLOWSHIP MONTH

September 23 & 24, 2023
11:00am-5:00pm
Artist Square Sponsorship Application

Via Colori® Stafford is a 2-day free community festival that showcases the street painting wonders of 75 local artists. Over the weekend, there will be food trucks, a children's creative area, music and performers, non-profit partners, sponsor booths, and thousands of guests. Businesses, groups, families and individuals are invited to sponsor an artist square. Your sponsor name will be posted above an artist's creation and on the *Square Sponsors* board. A Sponsor Table will be available for your promotional materials inside the Artist/Sponsor tent, to which you will be welcome. A receipt for your 501(c)(3) donation will also be provided.



Contact Name: _____

Business/Group/Family Sponsor Name : _____

Sponsorship: ☐ \$250 - 4'x 4' ft ☐ \$500 - 6'x 6' ft

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Use the below QR code to reach the **Become a 2023 Sponsor** link and be invoiced, or complete this form and make your check payable to **Stafford County Historical Society Inc** with **Artist Square Sponsorship** noted in the memo section.
Email : ViaColoriSales@gmail.com with questions.

