

THE STAFFORD ROTARY HIGHLIGHTER

September 6, 2023



September 6 - Club Assembly

A rotary club assembly is a regular meeting where the club president and the committee chairs report on their projects, goals, and budget for the coming year. Rotary clubs usually hold four to six club assemblies per year. The club assembly is an opportunity for communication and feedback between club leaders, members, and district officers.

August 23 Meeting

President Jamie presided. He made several announcements:

- All club members will be given Stafford Rotary email addresses.
- Volunteer website editors are needed to update pages and check for dead links, etc.
- President Jamie is developing an app for club members that will give easy access to Rotary information.
- President Elect Shekela has been inducted into the National Coalition of Black Women.
- President Jamie gave details about the August 30 fundraiser for Maui Relief.
- Holly thanked everyone who attended her housewarming party. The Pampered Chef fundraiser is still open. Volunteers for the Blind gets 30% of the sales.

Committee Reports

Youth Services - The Rotaract club at UMW has begun their new year.

Rotary Foundation - PDF Sandy reported a new member of the Paul Harris Society. She gave President Jamie a new Paul Harris Fellow pin - with his first sapphire.

Via Colori - Sponsorships are due by August 31.

Club Secretary - The club calendar is being updated each week.

Club Calendar September Is Basic Education and Literacy Month

- ❖ September 6 - Club Assembly
- ❖ September 9 - Membership Summit
- ❖ September 13 - Master Shu Amun
- ❖ September 23 & 24 - Via Colori, Stafford Regional Airport
- ❖ September 27, 3 pm - Social - Labeling dictionaries
- ❖ October 3 - National Night Out
- ❖ November 4 - District Rotary Foundation Seminar and Celebration Luncheon
- ❖ Feb./March 2024 - District Grant Seminar - Feb/Mar 2024
- ❖ District Training Assembly - April 2024
- ❖ May 25-29, 2024 - Rotary International Convention in Singapore
- ❖ Fall, 2024 - District Conference

DG Rene reported on the successful Polio Day at FredNats Park.

Program - Farrier and Bladesmith Ben Pittman

Our speaker was Ben Pittman whose successful career as a farrier evolved into an even more career as an award winning bladesmith. He continues to work with some nearby horses, but he chose to change his business emphasis to bladesmithing to cut down on his travel away from home. The importance of a good work/family life balance was the main theme of Ben's presentation.

He explained the complicated process of producing fine blades, especially the very complicated Damascus steel blades. He brought an assortment of very fine knives to show us as examples.

His latest business venture is a leather crafting business where he creates heavy duty aprons and chaps for smiths to wear. He brought an example.

Ben also works with veterans to teach them blacksmithing.

September Is Basic Education and Literacy Month

September is "Basic Education and Literacy" month in Rotary. Basic education and literacy is one of The Rotary Foundation's six Areas of Focus. We know that basic education and literacy are essential for reducing poverty, improving health, encouraging community and economic development, and promoting peace. Read more to understand the challenges.

Consider these facts:

- If all women completed primary education, there would be 66% fewer maternal deaths.
- A child born to a mother who can read is 50% more likely to survive past the age of five.
- If all students in low-income countries left school with basic reading skills, 171 million people could be lifted out of poverty, which would be equivalent to a 12% cut in world poverty.

The world is making good progress in this area. According to a 2014 United Nations Millennium Development Goals progress report, literacy rates among adults and youths are on the rise and the gender gap in literacy is narrowing. But pressing global needs remain:

- 58 million children worldwide are out of school.



- Even after four years of primary schooling, as many as 250 million children cannot read and write.
- 781 million adults are illiterate.

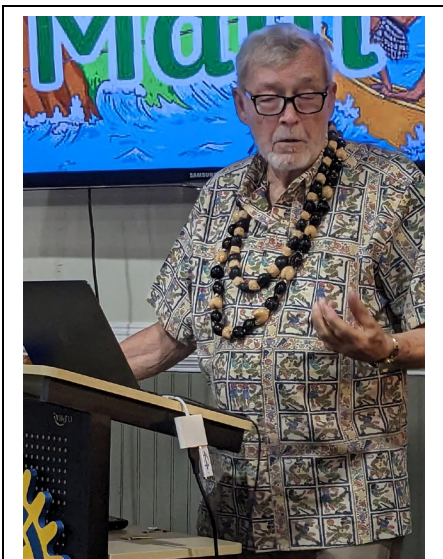
Rotary supports activities and training to improve education for all children and literacy for children and adults.

TRF Area of Focus Statement of Purpose and Goals:

TTRF enables Rotarians to ensure that all people have sustainable access to basic education and literacy by:

- Supporting programs that strengthen a community's ability to provide basic education and literacy to all.
- Increasing adult literacy
- Working to reduce gender disparity in education.
- Funding graduate scholarships for career-minded professionals related to basic education and literacy.

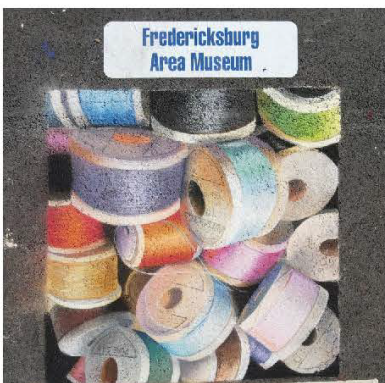
A Successful Fund Raiser for Maui Relief Thank You, Paradise Diner



September 23 & 24, 2023
10:00am-5:00pm
Stafford Regional Airport
Artist Square Sponsorship Application



Join us ! *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, or complete this form. make your check payable to ***Stafford County Historical Society Inc*** with ***Artist Square Sponsorship*** noted in the memo section, and provide both to a team member. Email : ViaColoriSales@gmail.com with questions.

