

# THE FLAGSHIP



Aug. 7, 2022

Tom King, Editor

## Coming Up!!!

Aug. 9: Pack the Park  
for Polio, 7 p.m.,  
Smokies Park

Aug. 10: Kimberly  
Pettigrew, Director Food  
Security, United Way

Aug. 17: Farragut Mayor  
Ron Williams

Aug. 18: Third  
Thursday, TBA

Aug. 24: Jimmy Hyams,  
The Sports Animal

(All meetings begin at  
12:15 unless noted  
otherwise)



## Julie & Her Children Join Our Rotary Family In Their New Country

From Ukraine and Slovakia to Prague, Amsterdam, Atlanta, and Farragut on Thursday and Friday and this weekend **Julie Tryukhan** and her two children -- **Mark and Polly** -- have been having fun and



relaxing at Norris Lake with their hosts and sponsors, **Bill and Dinah Vogel**. “That’s the first place she wanted to go,” Bill said.

They left their home in Kiev not long after Russia invaded Ukraine began and were supported by Rotarians in Zilna, Slovakia. Now they’re being supported by the Vogels and our Family of Rotary. They arrived in Knoxville in the early afternoon Friday after a delay in Atlanta trying to clear U.S. Immigration & Customs and spent the night in Atlanta Thursday. They are relocating to the U.S. from their native Ukraine,

where the war still rages. They left behind Julie's husband, Dima, who is a member of the Ukrainian Army.

They were met and welcomed at McGhee Tyson Airport by Farragut Rotarians President Megan Belcher, Past President Jim O'Brien and Bill Nichols and the Vogels. They were her host parents when she was a Rotary Youth Exchange student in 2007-2008.

O'Brien opined that the unsung hero in this story is Oleksandr (“Alex”) Shukov, a friend of Julie’s and Dima’s (and Mark’s godfather) who put his life on hold several weeks ago, bought a ticket and flew to Slovakia to offer his assistance to Julie and her children. He then bought his own airline ticket and arranged to be seated next to Julie and her children so that he could help them every step of the way on their itinerary from Prague to Amsterdam, to Atlanta and, eventually, to Knoxville. “I can’t imagine how Julie could have managed everything by herself without his assistance, especially at Customs & Immigration. I nominate him for sainthood for his willingness to sacrifice his time and treasure to help a friend. God bless him!”



Jim, who snapped the pictures at the airport, made these observations:

*Julie said,  
“Well, hey y’all!!!!”*

“It took Mark a while to adjust, but by the time they all piled into the Vogel’s car he was happy, smiling and running around the parking garage. Polly fell in love with the

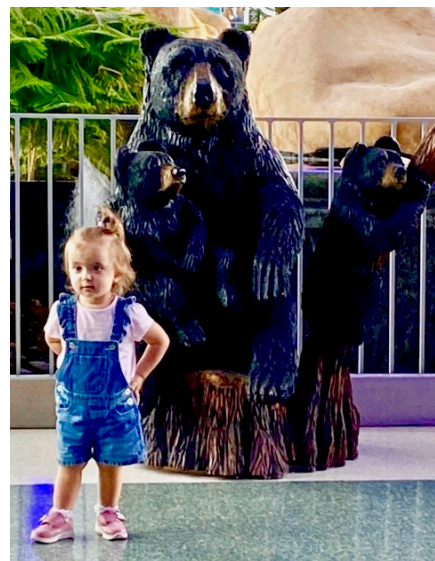


carved bears on the airport concourse. She kept going back to them. Finally, Julie had to sweep her up and carry her to baggage claim.”

“Julie repeatedly said that she doesn’t understand what she’s done to deserve all the love and support that has been, is, and will continue to be showered on her and her family. Let’s hear it for the Family of Rotary!!!” And Julie, welcome to our Family!!!!

## *Friday’s Arrival In Pictures of Julie & Kids*

*(Photos by Jim O’Brien)*





*L-R, Greg Maciolek, District Public Image chair,  
PP Ed Jones, ADG Janice Mitchell,  
DG Al Clark & wife Shirley and President  
Megan Belcher*

## DG Al Clark Shares His Goals With Us

“This is what I call a classy club.”

Those were among the first words we heard from **District 6780 Governor Al Clark** on Wednesday at our August Club Assembly. Clark was in town this week making the DG’s annual visits to all of the Knoxville clubs and others in East Tennessee.

One of his primary goals this year is to have a net 10% increase in membership across our 65-club district to reach having 3,000 members in the district. He also wants for each club to reach having 30% of its membership to be women. Clark noted that women make up 24% of our club.

Clark said the club needs to be able to answer a pair of

### *Four-Way Test*

Rotary's Four-Way Test  
of the things we think,  
say or do:

- 1) Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2) Is it **FAIR** to all  
concerned?
- 3) Will it build  
**GOODWILL** and  
**BETTER**  
**FRIENDSHIPS**?
- 4) Will it be  
**BENEFICIAL** to all  
concerned?

### *Find Us On Facebook*

If you have not visited  
our Facebook page, give  
it a try!

Stephanie Markowitz  
does a great job of  
keeping the page  
updated. If you have not  
visited our page, we  
invite you to do so and  
to also **LIKE** the page!

Here is a [LINK](#) to our  
page.

key questions as we conduct our business:

1. Who are you...as an individual, a Rotarian, as a club and are we serving our community?
2. What do you stand for as a club? What is your brand? What are you known for in Rotary and your community?

DG AI praised PP Ed Jones for stepping up and taking on the job as chair of the district's new DEI Committee — Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. He also is hoping that each club will create a DEI Committee with its chairman being a member of the club's board.

Thanks for the visit, DG AI!

## Food Security Expert Speaks Wednesday

What in this world does “food security” mean? Glad you asked!



On Wednesday we'll find out from our speaker, **Kimberly Pettigrew**, Director of Food Security for the United Way of Greater Knoxville. She comes to the United Way with more than a decade of food system experience, most recently serving as the Local Food Initiative Coordinator at Nourish Knoxville, the Knoxville-Knox County Food Policy chair, and the chair of the KEMA Food Access Committee during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

With her new position at the United Way, she will work with the broad community, nonprofits, businesses, and government leadership to create a strategic food plan to realize a county-wide vision to build a more just and equitable food system while providing mentorship and support for up-and-coming food system leaders and organizations.

She joined UW here in August 2021. Kimberly is a UT-Knoxville graduate with a degree in Health and Human Sciences and Nutrition and Masters of Applied Community Change from Future Generations University.



## A Fun Day for a Few Guests

- President Megan's guest was her beautiful daughter, **Piper**, 13, who led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. She begins school next week at Farragut Middle. Time does fly!!!
- Julie Baylock's guest was **Andrew Vollman**, who was inducted as our newest member this week (see story below).
- Tony Kinson's wife, **Monica**, was visiting with us today but Tony was AWOL, something about meetings at UT-K where he'll be teaching this year.



- **Tammy Cheek** of the Farragut Press was back with us this week!

Glad you all joined us!!!

## Last Chance To Buy \$25 Raffle Tickets To Raise \$2,000 To Support Julie & Kids

It's been a slog to sell raffle tickets so we can raise \$2,000 to help support former Rotary Youth Exchange student Julie Tryukhan and her two children who arrived Friday from the war in Ukraine. Fundraising Co-Chair Scott Brockamp received permission to extend the "sell by" date to Wednesday. He was hoping every member would buy at least 2 tickets but that has not happened.

If we sell a ?? more raffle tickets Wednesday we'll have the additional \$2,000.

The raffle is sponsored by the Knoxville Volunteer Rotary Club. Tickets are only \$25 each and \$10 of each ticket goes to our club.

The Grand Prize is a \$3,750 Cub Cadet ZTI 50" cut Kawasaki Twin grass mower. Second prize is a one-week vacation worth \$2,625 in a small motor home courtesy of Berkshire Hathaway. Third place is \$200 and fourth place \$100. The date for the drawing is on August 20.

## Family of Rotary News for the Week

As we all know **Scott Brockamp** is a huge advocate for the American Cancer Society and this year it has really hit home. His father, who visits with us typically yearly, is battling throat cancer. “He is just over halfway through his radiation and chemo treatments with roughly three weeks left. He has been undergoing radiation five days a week and then chemo one day a week since the first week of July,” Scott says. Please keep Scott’s father and the family in your prayers. Scott adds: “One of my employees has been battling lung cancer. She had surgery to remove the cancer, which they thought would be it, but unfortunately it flaked and she is now battling chemo as well.” He also is looking for companies that would like to be a corporate sponsor of my “Real Men Wear Pink” campaign. “I will be taking a break after this year and with cancer hitting so close this year, I have an outrageous goal of \$100,000 so all help is needed and appreciated,” he said.



**Ben and Julie Harkins** have a new grandson — **Baker William Harkins**. He was born Friday at Ft. Sanders Medical Center at 11:51 p.m. and Ben says “he came in healthy and whole and weighed 6 lbs. 10 oz. Mom and Dad Brent Karley are doing well. We were at the hospital to welcome Baker into the world. God is good.” Congratulations to the Harkins family!

**Benji Bash** has had a rough week mentally, **Denise** says. “We’re looking for a urologist to start getting a second opinion. He’s continuing to do his physical therapy but still can’t do a lot for rehab until we get things cleared out with a urologist,” she said. Benji’s Dad Alex is down there this weekend visiting.

**Bill Rice** has been fighting off COVID. Here is his report: “I don’t care how healthy, big or bad you are, this bug can lay you out!! It hit me last Sunday but was on the upswing by Wednesday. Then Christa got it and I had to play nurse. Everyone is on the mend. Expect to be back at it next week.”

Keep everyone in your thoughts and prayers!!!

## *News & Notes of the Week*

# Andrew Vollman Inducted; Vols Needed For Fall Fundraiser & DIE Committee

It's rare when we have a district governor around to induct a new member, but it happened this week with new member **Andrew Vollman** being inducted into our membership by Dist. Gov. Al Clark. Andrew's sponsor is Julie Blaylock but she missed the ceremony due to a Farragut West Knox Chamber event a ways away. Vollman, 43, and wife Kayla and their two teenagers live in Maryville. In May he moved from SunTrust/Truist to FirstBank at 10216 Kingston Pike and is now a vice president / licensed relationship manager. Welcome to our Family of Rotary, Andrew!



Our **Board of Directors** Wednesday voted to award three scholarships to a trio of members in the Pellissippi State Community College Rotaract Club. The \$1,800 in scholarship funds will be divided between the three — Cami Lloyd, \$700; Fabrice Kamamba, \$600; and Jonathan Kostmayer, \$500

Fund-raising Co-Chair **Scott Brockamp** says he is looking for volunteers to help with a major fall fundraiser! He says the date, time, and location have been tentatively set, and “the evening is going to be amazing. Join us to help facilitate our annual fall fundraiser be the best it can be!” There’s a rumor floating around about wine!!! If you can help please email SCOTT or text him at 865.441.0420 or email his Co-Chair JERRY SCHWALLIER

**PP Ed Jones** is still looking and hoping a few members will step up and be a part of a new **DIE (Diversity, Inclusion & Equity) Committee** for our club. Ed is the chair of the District 6780's first-ever DIE Committee.

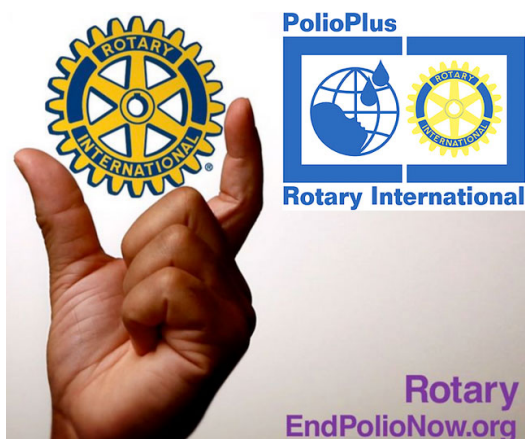
Who was the guy in the classy gray suit with the long black ponytail? It wasn't a guest!!! My gosh it was **Paul Sehgal** for real, Farragut Rotarian who last joined us back on Nov. 11, 2021. We hear he and wife Judy have been trotting the globe. Good to see you Paul!



We'll be back in the bed-building business this fall with our good friends at **“Sleep In Heavenly Peace”** according to Service Projects Co-Chair Scott Bertini. Maybe in October. You'll be hearing more details from Scott when he nails them down.

## The Latest From RI About Polio

We've written about the discovery on July 21 of a case of variant Poliovirus type 2 (VDPV2) in Rockland County, N.Y. As the first case of polio identified in the United States in nearly a decade, this demonstrates that until polio is fully eradicated everywhere, all countries remain at risk. Just this past month, WHO and UNICEF released official data confirming the largest sustained decline in childhood vaccinations in approximately 30 years.



Increased rates of vaccination will be essential in delivering a polio-free world, and it is more apparent than ever that childhood routine immunization is crucial to avoid resurgence. The detection of polio in New York and drop in childhood vaccination rates represents the urgent need to protect children and communities from all preventable diseases like polio and build a healthier world.

Also, in an article published this month, the former and current WHO Regional Directors for Europe, Dr. Marc Danzon and Dr. Hans Kluge, remind us that until we stop all forms of polio, every country remains at risk. As the European Region reaches 20 years since being certified as free of polio, the recent detection of variant poliovirus in London's sewage samples is a clear example that this progress is fragile.

To keep Europe free of polio and end the disease everywhere, the Regional Directors call for fully funding the Global Polio Eradication Initiative's strategy at the programme's pledging moment during the World Health Summit in October. Here is a [LINK](#) to the article.

## Today's Medical Moment: Vaccinations

Here is today's medical commentary from **Dr. Charlie Barnett** and it's spot on!

For reasons beyond my comprehension, vaccination has become a political issue, not a health related issue where it belongs. Please allow me to present a few facts:

1. As you are well aware, Rotary has a multiyear international campaign to eliminate polio. It has been hugely successful but has been stymied by the human nature of stubborn, obstinance and ignorance.

2. Polio has been recently reported in an unvaccinated individual in New York. Even more worrisome is the fact that the poliovirus has been detected in the city's sewage, meaning that even more victims are infected. This is highly significant because even if the entire world is vaccinated, there is a percentage of folks who will not respond to the vaccine and remain susceptible to disease. Hopefully the outbreak can be contained and children aren't facing the iron lung again, but.....

3. Our modern-day polio, i.e. COVID, has killed millions worldwide and its long-term sequel of "long COVID" is beginning to appear. Much of this could have been prevented by vaccination. However, the Internet-educated naysayers doubt the science. Hard facts are ignored. For example.....

4. A local critical care physician reported he has pronounced 45 COVID patients dead in the past two years. Of those 45, 43 were unvaccinated. The other two deaths were in individuals with chronic disease older than 85, but a huge percentage remain unvaccinated.

My point in all this is that Rotary, with its international experience in vaccination, perhaps should serve, on the local level, of encouraging vaccinations, exploring the origin of any resistance, explaining the science and removing doubt.



## A Mystifying Mystery for August

Well well well....an **August Mystery Rotarian** has stepped forward with a boatload of great clues to mystify one and all. That said, let's proceed with the mystifying!

- Has lived and worked in five states coast to coast.
- From an immigrant family of farmers and coal miners.
- Was an apprentice commercial construction carpenter.
- Is a U.S. Army Reserves veteran.



Submit your best guess (one a week please) via email to TOM KING and the first correct guess wins a bottle of wine from the Taylors at **Dixie Lee Wines & Liquor**.

## A Good Thought for the Week

“If you want to be successful, it's just this simple. Know what you are doing. Love what you are doing. And believe in what you are doing.” — **Will Rogers**