



Monday, April 19, 2021 Meeting

PATRICIA SHAFER Rotary Peace Fellow



Patricia Shafer is Senior Fellow for Peace Education at Washington, DC-based Alliance for Peacebuilding; a Rotary Peace Fellow; Rotary Positive Peace Activator; and Executive Director of nonprofit NewGen Peacebuilders. On behalf of NewGen Peacebuilders, Patricia – along with Outward Bound Center

for Peacebuilding - is a co-implementing partner for the Rotary Zones 33 & 34 signature initiative "Youth & Peace in Action: Engaging 100,000 Young Community Peacebuilders." NewGen Peacebuilders was founded in 2014, and has since expanded to provide peace education, training and mentoring for young people in the US, South America, East Africa, Lebanon, and Western Balkans.

Patricia was chosen as a Rotary Peace Fellow based on her nonprofit work providing primary and secondary school education to students in South Sudan, Uganda and Rwanda. Later, Patricia was nominated by the government of South Sudan for a UNESCO prize for girls' and women's literacy. Previously, Patricia held senior positions in change management and communications in two global Fortune 100 companies. She holds an MSc in Consulting and Coaching for Change – a joint-venture of Oxford University, UK, and HEC France; an MBA, Northwestern University Kellogg Graduate School of Management; and MA, Journalism from The Ohio State University.



Via the web:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84330344512?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84330344512?pwd=dGhMWjNFQzJwdk1NG93dDA3VWVjZz09)

Meeting ID: 843 3034 4512

Passcode: Yellowbowl

Via phone:

+1 312 626 6799

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Meal Reservations: Deadline Thursday @ Midnight

Link For April 19, 2021

<https://www.dacdb.com/index.cfm?EventID=77487897>

RCSV Does Good...COVID Be Damned

Tornado Damage in Fultondale

One of the many stories and needs to come out of this disaster is the story of Arnolda Gonzales. Arnolda Gonzales lost his leg when a large tree fell on their home and trapped him under the tree. The emergency teams worked to free him but ended up having to amputate a leg to do so. He, naturally, is still recovering and adjusting. His wife is Eloisa and they have three children. A family with no home, no insurance, no ability for an unforeseeable future for Arnolda to earn income!

Many sources came together to acquire this family a home that is valued around \$70,000. The home is in Fultondale and renovation activities are underway by the family, friends and volunteers!.

Your help is needed! Mike and Bill have done a terrific job in leading our club's involvement and continue to do so. They have committed to 'hands on assistance' Saturday, April 24 and need about 4-6 of our members to help! About a half day is all required as the work is mainly some painting and light maintenance. **Please respond, Please assist, You will make a difference!**

Tornado Damage in North Shelby

Your urgent financial help is needed for this relief! A trailer park, similar to the Fultondale Rusk park, sustained major damage and remains without power service to the homes. The owner of the park has been hospitalized and is in no position to provide direction or assistance to the approximately 40 homes in the park. The power issue is one of replacing and setting service poles throughout the park and can only be done by companies licensed and authorized for such work. Hands on volunteer assistance is not an option, therefore monies are needed! Imagine the lives of these people not having power...no refrigeration, no heating and cooling, no stoves or ovens, etc. All in addition to the other impacts of damage to their homes. **Please consider donating now!** Your contribution to the Shades Valley Rotary Charitable Foundation today, designated Disaster Relief on the memo line, will again make a huge difference in the lives of these people! Thank you to all who have already responded!

(See full report on next page)

Annual UMCOR Cleaning Buckets

Another hands on opportunity for you. The date for assembly of the approximately 140-150 buckets is set. Monday April 26 as the big day. announced by Community Services Director Richard Sanders. The assembly generally engages about 20 –30 volunteers arriving early for the regular club meeting and in assembly-line fashion putting about 16 specific items into 5 gallon buckets for delivery to the UMCOR disaster relief warehouse in Decatur Alabama. In our current mode of social distancing and provision of safe environs adjustments will be made to assure compliance with requirements. **YOU are needed!** Please let Richard know of your willingness to assist. Exact time to arrive will be shared soon.

Shades Creek Greenway Trail Project

Member and Community Service Projects Chair Richard N. Sanders is encouraging volunteer participation at the Greenway Trail Service Project on **Saturday, May 1, 2021**.

The project will run from 8:00 to 11:30 a.m. Come anytime and stay as long as you wish.

- Parking is at the Homewood Soccer Fields on South Lakeshore Drive off of Columbiana Road.
- We will meet on the Greenway Trail just below the parking lot.
- Please bring gloves and a shovel if you have one.
- Bring a weed eater if you have one, along with gloves and goggles.

We will be planting 20 trees, mulching trees and hydrangeas previously planted, and trimming back grass and weeds in the area.

Water and snacks will be provided.

A fun time is guaranteed!

Your help is wanted! Please plan to be a part of this effort!

North Shelby Disaster Report

Mike Evans and Bill Dean visited the Nix Mobile Home Park in Columbiana and met with Keith Brown with Shelby Baptist Disaster Relief and Wesley Criswell of Bethel Baptist Church. Keith lives within 2 miles of the trailer park. The following is what we saw and heard about the situation:



The Nix Mobile Home park is owned by George and Gail Nix. It is a park with approximately 40 mobile homes. Mr. and Mrs. Nix live in a double wide mobile home approximately 200 yards from the park. Their home was completely destroyed. They were severely injured in the tornado. Mr. Nix is still in the hospital on a ventilator. His wife is staying with their daughter. Obviously, they are in no condition to help with restoration at the park.

Four mobile homes were completely destroyed, and most others had significant damage to roofs, siding and windows. All but one of the destroyed homes have been removed. Most downed trees have been cleared to the street. Older mobile homes have been donated to replace the ones destroyed but the cost to move them to the park and set them up properly is significant, ranging from \$2,000 to \$4,000 each.

Several churches in the area assisted in the clean-up and provided food and clothing.

(continued next page)



The most pressing problem at the park is that most homes still do not have electricity. When the storm hit most of the power service poles that provide power to each home were destroyed. **Alabama Power cannot restore power to these homes until a licensed electrician sets new poles and prepares the wiring from the pole to the mobile home.** Once that is done Alabama Power can then restore service.

Shelby Disaster Relief and several churches have tried to locate electricians to perform that service pro bono but have had no success. They did, however, locate a local electrician willing and capable of doing the work. The problem is that the material and labor cost for this effort is \$17,000.

Shelby Baptist Association and several churches have donated \$10,000 for this effort.

Our ROTARY Challenge:

- Our immediate challenge as Rotarians is to raise the other \$7,000 so they can quickly get power restored.
- Provide funds to move and set up the donated homes. Approximately: \$2,000 - \$4,000 each
- Provide funds to allow residents to restore their home!

We can reach out to Alabaster, Hoover, Magic City and Vestavia Hills Rotary Clubs to solicit their partnership in this humanitarian effort. Please review this information and let us know how you wish for us to proceed.

Bill Dean



Rotary Opens Opportunities