

Meeting Reminder: Hybrid

We are now able to meet again at Goodwin House. Come join us in person and enjoy breakfast. You can still join us on Zoom https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77153119272?pwd=0r6ro3oy3Qt_MApSdHmUoEVB69LB5p.1 Meeting ID: 77153119272, Passcode: xrt4TN if you are not comfortable meeting in person (or just want to sleep in).

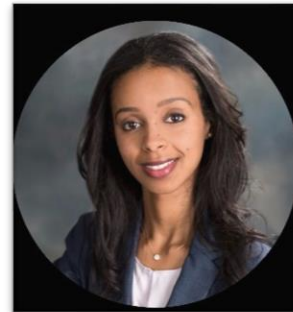


Today's Speaker: John Grant, Learning Alexandria History Through Our Ghosts

John Grant is a retired CIA analyst and a lifetime resident of Alexandria. He is enjoying his second career giving ghost and history tours in Old Town Alexandria and guiding visitors around the historic sites of D.C. This should be a fun meeting and perhaps we can plan a tour as a club outing.

Upcoming Speaker: 3 Mar, Dr. Tsega Solomon, Brighter Generation

Dr. Tsega Solomon is a biochemist who earned her undergraduate degree in chemistry from the University of Virginia and her PhD degree in Biochemistry from the University of Maryland. Dr. Tsega completed her postdoctoral appointment at the National Institute of Health (NIH) and worked as protein chemist at the National Institute of Standard and Technology (NIST). Dr. Tsega is currently working as a Scientist on vaccine development at the world recognized pharmaceutical company GSK. Aside from her professional background, Dr. Tsega has a passion for mentorship and empowering the next generation innovators and leaders. Thus, Dr. Tsega with the support of others, founded the Brighter Generation platform, a program that teaches the youth in Ethiopia and East Africa by connecting with diaspora and global volunteers.



Calendar Call, 25 Feb, Stuff the Cruiser

On Saturday, 25 Feb from 10 AM to 2 PM, BXRC, in conjunction with the FCPD Officers at the Mason District Station, will conduct a Stuff the Cruiser Food Drive at the Giant Food Store, 7137 Little River Turnpike in Annandale. Members of the Rotary Club, Officers from the Mason Station, members of Fairfax County Public Safety Cadet Unit 505, and the Mason Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) will be on site to accept the food donated by the very generous shoppers at the Giant. All collected food donations will be delivered to the ACCA Food Pantry in Annandale. In past food drives we have collected as much as 4000 pounds of donated food. We need volunteers for the following tasks: 1. To hand out leaflets to customers shopping at the Giant as they enter the store; the leaflet will provide shoppers with a list of items needed by the Food Pantry. 2. To collect the donated food from shoppers as they leave the store and place the donated food items in the police cruiser for later delivery to the Food Pantry. 3. To meet at the ACCA Food Pantry (located across Columbia Pike from the Giant) and offload the donated food in the pantry. Please spare some time to drop by for an hour or so, or the whole event if possible. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F4BAAAF2CA4FD0-bxrc1> to volunteer. (POC: Ben)

Calendar Call, 25 Feb, Justice PTSA Fundraiser

The Justice PTSA is hosting a fundraising event on Saturday, 25 Feb at the Moose Lodge from 7-11 PM. 5710 Scoville St, Falls Church, VA 22041. The Taste of the Town will be providing fun games to play and they will also be offering adult beverages; food provided by area restaurants. Three options available: \$ 25 for dinner and dessert, \$60 for food and unlimited games, and \$100 for food, games and three drink tickets. All proceeds benefit Justice HS PTSA. Attendees are encouraged to prepay at www.tinyurl.com/wolveslod.

Calendar Call, 4 Mar, Dinner and a Program

Rotarians, family and friends, mark your calendars for 4 Mar, 6 PM at Ava's home. Ava's brother-in-law, Greg Kaldahl, will speak to us about climbing Mount Kilimanjaro and will inspire us all. Greg retired in 2019 after an almost 40 year career in the aviation industry, capped by overseas assignments in Finland, Abu Dhabi and Ireland. He has also trekked around Mount Everest and many American National Parks. We will have a pot luck dinner; last name A-G bring side dishes, H-P bring main dishes and Q-Z bring desserts, followed by his talk. Join us for this informative and inspiring evening. Please RSVP by noon, 3 Mar. (POC: Pam)

<u>Today's Program</u>		<u>Rotary Birthdays</u>	<u>Rotary Anniversaries</u>
Pledge of Allegiance	Announcements	Max, 1 Mar	Juanita, 26 Feb 1999
Invocation	Program / Speaker	Arpine, 1 Mar	Paul, 1 Mar 2019
Birthdays / Songs	4-Way Test		
Guests			

Speaker Schedule

24 Feb	John Grant – Learning Alexandria History Through Our Ghosts
3 Mar	Dr. Tsega Solomon -- Brighter Generation
10 Mar	TBA
17 Mar	Nasrine – Update on Kabultec and Afghanistan
24 Mar	LJ Raspler – Cook for Vets
31 Mar	Juanita – 37th Annual Mustang Raffle
7 Apr	Club Forum

Calendar Call, 18 Mar, Rotary Leadership Institute

RLI will be held on Saturday, 18 Mar from 8:30 AM – 3:45 PM in Fredericksburg, VA. Register on DacDb.

Calendar Call, 22 Apr, District 7610 Conference

The District Conference is back. Saturday, 22 Apr from 9 AM to 5 PM at Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club in Kilmarnock, VA. This year, the conference is only one day. Go to DacDb for additional information and to register.

Service Opportunity—New Hope Housing

BXRC is partnering with New Hope Housing to assist individuals who have experienced homelessness with a new start in safe, secure, and well-equipped housing. Our District Grant funds purchase Welcome Home kits that include inflatable beds, comforters, bedding, pillows, and laundry baskets. On 2 Feb, Club members delivered 20 sets to New Hope, with more to come as these kits are provided to clients. We invite Rotarians, neighbors, and friends to increase the impact of this project by helping us fill laundry baskets with detergent, dish soap, and toiletries. (POC: Chris)



The Rotary Foundation Giving Update

January is an excellent time to make a donation to The Rotary Foundation (TRF). It is BXRC's goal to have every member of the club contribute at least \$25 to TRF. By making this small donation, our club is recognized with the Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY) award in June. To help both TRF and our individual members, if you give \$100 to TRF (\$8.33 a month), BXRC will give you 900 points to immediately make you a Paul Harris Fellow (1,000 points). For those already Paul Harris Fellows or Paul Harris Society members, if you are 200 points or less away from the next level, your next \$100 will be matched by BXRC to move you to the next level. This does not apply to major donor level. Currently, we are at \$18,087 of our \$21,000 Annual Fund goal. (POC: Polly)

37th Annual Classic Mustang Raffle Update

The 1966 Ember Glow (red) Mustang has arrived at Goodwin House, and it's beautiful! We are currently awaiting approval from the Virginia Office of Charitable and Regulatory Programs before printing tickets, announcing the raffle on the BXRC website and social media, and notifying you of the carside venues. The Mustang raffle is for all BXRC Rotarians - including YOU! Join the fun and get involved with the Mustang raffle. The Mustang Committee holds regular meetings on Fridays after the club meeting (in person or via Zoom) (POC: Juanita)



Editor's Prerogative—Wacky Weather

What is up with the weather this week. On Thursday, the temperature was 80 degrees (remember the date is 23 Feb). Then on Saturday, the temperature is expected to plummet and there may be some snow. No one knows how to prepare. The flowers are confused. The famed cherry blossoms in DC may set a record for the earliest peak bloom date. I'm not sure if I should drive with the top down or the heater set at full blast. No matter the weather, I am looking forward to Florida and Spring Training. Even if the flowers are confused, Spring Training is a sure sign that warmer weather is on the way north along with your favorite team. It's a much better indicator than some groundhog.