



THE WHEEL

January Program Calendar

- ♦ **January 2** - No Meeting
- ♦ **January 9** - Sandy Duckworth
Rotary District Presentation
- ♦ **January 16** - **Dr. Tawainga Katsvairo** Haiti Soil Conservation Project update.
- ♦ **January 23** - Fairfax Police. Un-manned Drone Project.
- ♦ **January 30** - Meesh Peters - Update on Michelo Project

Up Coming Events

- ♦ **January 24**—Rotary International Convention. Singapore
- ♦ **January 28** - Chocolate Festival Fund Raiser
- ♦ **June 18**— McLean Day



SERVICE Above Self



Club Leadership

- ◆ Carmen Wu, President
- ◆ Savendra (Sam) Agarwal
Immediate Past President
- ◆ Vance Zavela, Vice
President,
- ◆ Cecilia Duran Closs,
President-Elect
- ◆ Janine Frank,
President-Nominee/Secretary
- ◆ Michael Arietti,
Treasurer
- ◆ Michael Falcone,
Club Services Director
- ◆ Deborah R Jackson,
Membership Director
- ◆ Robert F Jansen,
Youth & New Generation
- ◆ Carol A King,
Club Admin Director
- ◆ Matthew Melton,
Rotary Foundation Director
- ◆ Courtney Nuzzo & Cecilia Closs
Grants
- ◆ Lois Wilson,
International Service Director
- ◆ Barry Byer,
Club Committee Director
- ◆ Joann G Berkson,
Public Relations Director
- ◆ Paul M Sawtell, Paul
Kohlenberger, Paul Ward,
Sergeants-at-Arms
- ◆ Eugene Durman,
Club Program Chair
- ◆ Richard Golden, Webmaster



January is Vocational Service

Vocational Service calls on us to empower others by using our unique skills and expertise to address community needs and help others acquire or refine skills and advance their professional opportunities. By bringing together people from diverse professions and backgrounds, Rotary recognizes the importance of all skills and occupations. A vibrant Rotary club reflects the businesses, organizations and professions in its community, embracing diversity in experiences and perspectives. Your professional life and vocational service go hand in hand. Rotarians have a dual responsibility: represent their occupations within their club and exemplify the ideals of Rotary in their places of work."

Those ideals of integrity, honesty, fairness, and high ethical standards in our personal and professional lives, and the experience and skills we acquire through our occupations, careers, and volunteer activities, enable us as Rotarians to better serve our communities and society.

January 2024

McLean Rotary

Through Classification Talks, learn about the backgrounds, professional commitments, community service, and other vocational activities of fellow Rotarians.

As Rotarians, aim to behave ethically and to practice our professions with dignity and integrity, and inspire others to do the same through words and actions.

Use the extensive knowledge, skills, and experiences we've acquired through work and volunteer service to serve our community and to benefit others. Mentor, guide, encourage, and support others in their professional development.

Through RI Global Grants, District Grants, and our MRC Foundation grants program, provide support for vocational development programs internationally and domestically.

Here are a few examples of projects our Club has undertaken in support of vocational service and development.

Through our involvement with the McLean Safe Community Coalition and our local high schools, our Club supports and participates in Ethics Days that focus on helping students with ethical decision-making.

Our Club's longstanding Scholarship Program helps students with academic promise and financial need, to pursue higher educational options and to achieve their academic and career aspirations.

Our **Timber Lane Elementary School Reading Program** aims to instill a love of reading and lifelong learning in students K-3rd grade, the foundation for

future educational and vocational success.

McLean Rotary has provided support for essential clinical training, educational, and support services to medical, dental, and allied health professionals in **Honduras** and **eSwatini**, as well as business, entrepreneurial, and vocational training to women artisans, including refugees, in **Rwanda** and **Burundi**.

Locally, our grants have helped **Every1Can Work** provide vocational training and support for young adults living with intellectual disabilities employed by Cameron's Coffee & Chocolates, and the Literacy Council of Northern Virginia to provide ESL tutoring.



Visiting Rotarian – Hjalmar Schibbye, from the Rotary Club of Taby Jarlbanke, a suburb in Stockholm, Sweden. He is a mechanical engineer who has travelled the globe and started a Rotary chapter in Sweden 20 years ago. He also has the distinction of being a former sailor on the Swedish National Sailing Team, which won an Olympic bronze medal.



Paul Sawtell-Reclassification Talk December 5, 2023

Paul has been a Rotarian for 24 years and is a Past President. He was born in 1952 in San Francisco on the hottest day of the year. He has lived in the metro area for much of his life, attending Mount Blair High School in Silver Spring, followed by college at Southern Illinois University, where he met his first wife.

They moved to DC area in 1979, doing title searches for real estate companies. Tragically, his wife died at age 34, leaving Paul with a young daughter and son. He remarried in 1990, and he and his wife have now been married for 33 years. Recognizing that there was only so much money to be made from title searches, they created a settlement company – Dominion Title Corporation – in the late 1990s, and sold it in 2013. He also spoke with pride about his 3 granddaughters.

When Rotary President, Paul researched the international history of Rotary and learned that Rotary Clubs in 21 countries organized a conference

in 1942 to design an international cultural and scientific organization. Post-WWII, this organization became UNESCO, with a charter largely written by Rotarians. In addition, 5 Rotarians have served as UN President, and Rotary has board representatives on 5 major UN Agencies, including the FAO, World Bank, and OAS.



Cecile Hult—Classification Talk December 12, 2023

Cecile thanked the club for welcoming her and noted that the French people don't usually talk about themselves. However, her family has lived in France for numerous generations. She grew up in the area where Luxembourg, Germany, and France meet. She talked about stories her grandmother told about their town being occupied during WWII. She came to the US with her family and settled in Indiana. She was good at tennis and was recruited by U of Indiana to play tennis on a scholarship. She became captain of the tennis team in her senior year and met her husband there. She felt playing tennis gave her a number of life skills that have been useful since.

January 2024

McLean Rotary

She was offered a job doing financial planning which took her to Virginia. She stayed with her husband's aunt and found out the president of the company was a tennis fan and helped her obtain a work visa. At that point she had a start in financial planning but it was 2008 when the economy had a down turn.

She moved to several jobs but assisted an older financial advisor who supported her as well. In 2012, she took certification exams as a financial advisor. She also met her business partner and was part of a mostly women team which is her focus. She married in France in 2012 and had their first child 3 years later. Working and being a Mom was difficult but she persevered even having a son 2 years later. The children are in a French immersion school. The family is fortunate to travel a lot. She is still active in sports and did 3 marathons last year, Paris, the Marine Corps and the Maui marathons. She and her husband also travel for various concerts and to hear music. She became a US citizen in Dec 2020 with very few people as it was during COVID but although alone, her family welcomed her with a driveway full of US flags.

Cecile and colleagues started Argent Bridge Advisors in May 3, 2019, her own company. The group's values are based on doing good and valuing the customer. Since it was at the start of the pandemic, they were only 4 and started slow. The group is now 12 financial planners and does investment as well as financial planning. One of

the main specialties is managing divorce. Cecile recognized a great need for this. There are plenty of clients. So half her time is traditional planning (retirement, education, etc) and half is helping managing divorces. In Va, divorce is supposed to be 50-50, so planning focuses on what are assets and dividing them. They also help create budgets for those who may not have a large income. She finds the work rewarding as she sees results some years after a settlement.

In 2019, she started a nonprofit called "Done With Divorce" to help folks with education, counseling and helping people feel more empowered. They work with various professionals who provide help, sometimes pro bono. She is proud of the ability to give back to the community and have an impact for those in need. She ended with being happy to be part of Rotary where she is learning more about giving back to the community.

**5K Jingle Bell Run/Walk
Fund Raiser
December 16, 2023**





5K Jingle Bell Run/Walk Fund Raiser

Oh what fun it was to jingle our way through the streets of McLean! On Saturday, December 16th, we kicked off our Inaugural "Jingle Bell 5K Run/Walk" under blue skies, bright sun, and the enthusiasm of 119 participants! Plus, it was PERFECT race weather at the 8:30 am start. With the guidance and support of Potomac River Running & Commonwealth Race Management, our vision of offering another fundraiser for the club became a reality, and we cannot wait to see how this grows in the years to come! Here are some fun highlights from our morning:

The 1st participant to cross the finish line was in a little over 15 minutes - wow!

The youngest participant was 8 months old, and finished in under 50 minutes - yes, his grandfather had lots of fun pushing him in the stroller!

All participants were given bells to tie on their shoes - we wanted to make sure our jingle was heard in

the community!

Santa in the antique fire truck made his appearance to cheer on participants & wish everyone good luck!

One of our sponsors was on-site making some of the BEST hot chocolate - it was a BIG hit and one of the best people have had

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who sponsored, donated, and registered for the event. We hope you will join us in 2024...we will see you with bells on! By Janine Frank

White Elephant Exchange December 19, 2023



January 2024

**Holiday Party At The Home of Matt
and Janine Frank
December 9, 2023**



Rotarians gathered at the lovely home of Matt and Janine Frank to celebrate the Holiday season. A delicious catered dinner was served and enjoyed by all. Several of our newer members showed up along with their spouses. It was a good time for Rotary fellowship and to visit with old friends.



Club No. 5817 - Founded 1965

McLean Rotary



Joann Berkson with Courtney Nuzzo

Happy January Birthdays

Pamela Danner	02 December
Janine Frank	19 December
Robert Hahne	25 December
Marshal Hyman	15 December
Rose Risley	13 December

**January Membership
Anniversaries**

Martha Child	12/05/95	28 yrs
Janine Frank	12/06/22	01 yrs
Carol King	12/03/19	04 yrs
Bob Rosenbaum	11/16/71	53 yrs



**Ling Mangan with Brenda
McEvilly**

District 7610



The Four Way Test

of the things we think, say and 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?