

# Rotary



## The Mediator Official Bulletin of The Rotary Club of Charles County (La Plata)

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

### Happy Hour

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

The Rotary Club of Charles County (La Plata) will have a happy hour on Thursday, March 28th, 6:30pm at the Blue Dog Saloon. The Blue Dog is located at 7940 Port Tobacco Rd, Port Tobacco, MD 20677. Rotarians are encouraged to bring a spouse or guest to enjoy fellowship, an important part of club service.

### Virtual Access

If you can't attend a meeting in person, feel free to join us virtually using the following link.

<https://businesstrainingworks.adobeconnect.com/rotary/>

For questions or assistance, contact Chris at 240-320-6694.

### Rebuilding Together

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

On Wednesday, March 13th, Alvin Stewart, President and Board Chair of Charles County Rebuilding Together spoke to the club about recent efforts and future opportunities to get involved with helping needy families. Rebuilding Together Charles County, formerly known as Christmas in April, is the volunteer organization started in 1990 that, in partnership with the community, rehabilitates the houses of low-income homeowners, elderly and disabled, so that they may continue to live in warmth, safety, and independence.

Alvin, also the owner of the local Starbucks, is husband of County Commissioner Amanda Stewart. For more information see the Rebuilding Together website at <http://rtcharlescounty.org>.

Also on the theme of helping homeless and needy, visiting guest Kate Heichler of Christ Church La Plata announced her effort to collect prom clothing for homeless teens, so they can enjoy the tradition of going to prom without the embarrassment of not having the appropriate attire. Collection will be at Christ Church on March 23 and 24 from 9am to 1pm. See <https://www.facebook.com/events/358880248171697/> for more details.

### Past President "Smooth" Gordon Schrader Fundraises for Cancer Prevention

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

The La Plata Rotary Club was proud to donate \$2,300 to support Past President Gordon "Little Larry" Schrader of Fit Life Training LaPlata in his fundraising endeavor for the National Brain Tumor Society in memory of Kevin McKay. In total, Past President Gordon raised \$7,785 in support of Race for Hope.

As a challenge to the community, Gordon offered to shave his beard and head if he was able to raise more than \$2,500. Kevin was a local Charles County native who died of brain cancer on July 30, 2018.

The Race for Hope fundraising continues on May 5th with a 5k run starting at Freedom Plaza in Washington, DC. For more information about the Race for Hope see

### Club Leaders



[Chelsea R. Brown](#)  
President



[Christopher T. Zabriskie](#)  
President - Elect



[Kathryn Brooke Riegan](#)  
Vice President



[Catherine A. Bender](#)  
Secretary



[Thomas G. Hill](#)  
Treasurer



[Christopher Simpson](#)  
iPast President



[Janet Salazar](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Barbara R. Thompson](#)  
Assistant Governor

### Speakers

**March 20, 2019**

[Rtn. Lucy Masiye Lungu](#)  
Gender Based Violence

**March 27, 2019**

[Kenneth Cross](#)  
Current status of Jude House

**April 03, 2019**

[Chelsea Brown](#)  
Club Business Meeting

**April 10, 2019**

[Michaela Pape and Jake Burgess](#)  
Experiences at 2019 RYLA

**April 17, 2019**

[Jacqueline and Steffan](#)



[http://www.brainumorcommunity.org/site/TR?sid=2018&fr\\_id=3220&pg=informational](http://www.brainumorcommunity.org/site/TR?sid=2018&fr_id=3220&pg=informational). Or to make a donation, contact the Rotary Club of Charles County at [LaPlataRotaryClub@gmail.com](mailto:LaPlataRotaryClub@gmail.com).

Maryland Stuffed Stuffed Ham

## Birthdays

No Birthdays Found

## Charles County Talks Affordable Housing

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

On Wednesday, February 27th, Christina Pompa from Charles County Government's Planning & Growth Management, talked with the club about affordable housing in Charles County. The presentation centered on increasing public awareness about the need for affordable housing and engaging the public in a discussion on ways to improve it. This presentation was the second in two days on the topic as part of a campaign to raise awareness in the county.

Ms. Pompa said that there is a shortage of affordable housing in the county among working people and described how people in professions that include law enforcement, education, and social worker with a family of four, cannot easily find affordable housing. She defined affordable housing is that which is less than 30% of gross income. When someone pays more than 30% they are identified as housing-cost stressed, and when they pay more than 50% of their income on housing, they are highly housing-cost stressed. Several members participated in a lively discussion. One member asked about whether the county was investigating a municipal bond to convert existing housing to qualify as affordable, and another member asked about criteria used to qualify candidates for affordable housing and suggested that financial management training be incorporated into eligibility.

## Warfighter Advance

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Mary Neal Vieten and Jim Buckingham attended the Rotary Club of Charles County's weekly meeting to inform club members about what Warfighter Advance has been accomplishing with helping veterans reintegrate into society after the trauma of combat.



Warfighter Advance is a non-profit that offers veterans a week-long reintegration camp, typically held at Lions' Camp Merrick in Nanjemoy. Veterans are given the opportunity to come to terms with the grief of losing comrades during war and are helped to find meaningful/gainful employment thereafter. For more information about Warrior Advance see <http://www.warfighteradvance.org/>

## Rotary Looking Forward to Lobster Festival 2019

Wednesday, December 26, 2018



The Rotary Club of Charles County (La Plata) has announced the date of the 44th Annual Lobster Festival as Sunday, September 29th, 2019. This event has been taking place each year in Charles County since 1976 and is the clubs largest fund raiser. Rotary is the world's largest and oldest community service organization and in 2018 the Lobster Festival raised more than \$64,000 that the Rotary Club will use to fund local projects.

In 2019 the Charles County Rotary expects to feature a performance by Trilogy, the same band that has performed each of the last few years. In addition to the food and drink, Rotary will again feature a silent auction, games of skills and chance.

Although tickets won't officially be for sale until the summer of 2019, you can reserve tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/44th-annual-rotary-club-lobster-festival-tickets-51942398111>.

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## 2019 Rotary Convention-Capture the Moment in Hamburg Germany

By Catherine A Bender on Monday, December 31, 2018

Join Chris, Attie, and Melissa in Hamburg June 1-5th for the Rotary International Convention.

Registration is still open to attend the Annual Rotary Convention! This year it's in Hamburg, Germany.

register at [www.riconvention.org/en](http://www.riconvention.org/en)

Attie and Melissa have been to a number of RI Conventions, and this will be PE Chris' third straight after having attended conventions in Atlanta and Toronto. The Rotary International Convention is a great way to learn more about what Rotary is doing in the world, collaborate with other Rotarians, and gain energy and knowledge to start the Rotary Year.

For those unable to travel to Hamburg, Germany in 2019, please consider Hawaii in June 2020.

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### Club Meeting

Charles County (La Plata)  
Meets at Green Turtle LaPlata  
6 Street Mary's Avenue  
La Plata, MD 20646  
Time: Wednesday at 07:30 AM

