



Rotary Roundup

The Sykesville-South Carroll Rotary Club, Sykesville, MD
<http://www.rotary7620.org/>

Club Leaders



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President



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[Amy L. Giannakoulas](#)
CCO-Club Comm. Offcr



[Dawn M. Wittfelt](#)
Club Membership Chair



[Charles L. Reese](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair



[David P. O'Callaghan](#)
Past President
Webmaster

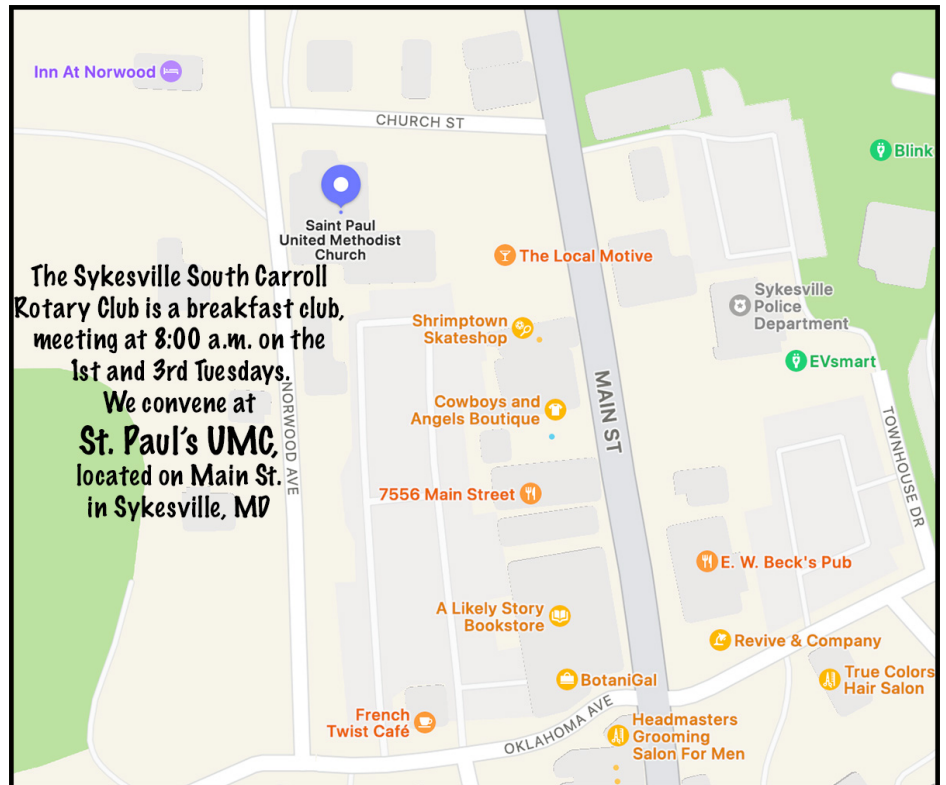
2024 Presidential Logo



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

Rotary Roundup for March, 2024

Where We Meet



The Sykesville South Carroll Rotary Club is a breakfast club, meeting at 8:00 a.m. on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. We convene at **St. Paul's UMC**, located on Main St. in Sykesville, MD

Dates to Remember

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 5 – Regular Meeting – St. Paul’s UMC (8 a.m.) Joe diMonda, guest

March 9 – Service Project -- Food Pantry needs help (9:30 a.m.)

March 11 – Head count due to Amy for March 13th Social.

March 12 – No regular meeting

March 13 – Social Rincon Italian Grill (5:30-7:30 p.m.) 577 Johnsville Road, Sykesville.

March 19 – Regular Meeting – St. Paul’s UMC (8 a.m.).

March 23 – Food Pantry needs help (9:30 a.m.) and donations.

Service Opportunities

Continue to support the Food Pantry on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays with a donation or send a check to the Sykesville Freedom Rotary Foundation and say it is for the Sykesville Food Pantry. Community needs have continued to increase. Money and help are always needed and appreciated. The Maryland Food Bank especially needs cereal, jelly, canned fruit, pasta, rice, and cash.

Please continue to contribute to the district-wide service project to support Ukraine by contributing to Disaster Aid USA or to the Rotary Foundation’s official channel for relief funds: The Disaster Relief Fund.

Meeting Notes

February 6, 2024

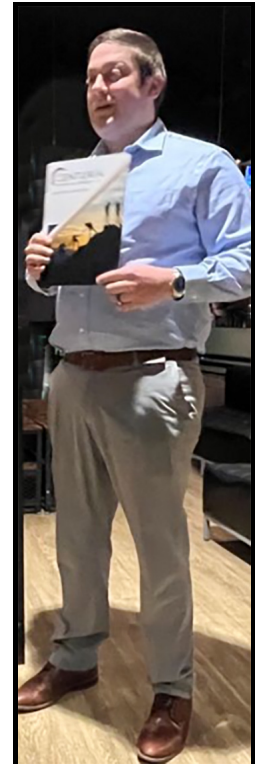
The following announcements were made:

- Virginia mentioned that there will be a meeting February 14 concerning the future of the Eldersburg library.
- The guest speaker, Nate High, was introduced.
- An update was given on the Super Bowl Squares.

Board 1 was doing well; Board 2 still had some empty places. Dawn will post the results.

- Transportation has been arranged to go to the Westminster Rescue Mission to pick up food for the pantry.
- On the 24th, Cindy and Dawn will be away so Todd will try to get the UMYF to help with the food pantry on that day.
- Today is the last meeting to be held at Stratosphere. Future meetings will be held in room 202-204 at St. Paul's UMC at 8:00 a.m. Entrance can be accessed from the ramp entrance in front of the church or from the back entrance off the big parking lot behind Main Street. If not planning to attend the meeting, please notify Dawn, Cindy, or Amy by e-mail the day before. Panera will cater the food.
- The next Social will be March 13.

The speaker, Nate High, is a Financial Planner and Prudential Advisor affiliated with the Centuria Financial Group, located in Finksburg. He is a 2012 graduate of FSKHS and is moving back to Finksburg. He is involved with investments and insurance, but is not a CPA. He talked about the value of high yield savings accounts as they have no minimum and no restrictions on withdrawals. He said one offered by American Express is a good one. CDs are risk free and some yield over 5%. A money market account is also a good idea. Nate can advise people if they are setting up a small business and can also advise on a 529 plan that is saving money for college. If that money is not used for college, it can be shifted to a retirement plan.



There was no 50/50 drawing today, but happy dollars were still collected.

After the usual closing exercises, the meeting adjourned.

February 20, 2024

The following announcements were made:

- The plans for the next Social were announced. (See above.)
- New Rotary pins were distributed to each one present (15.)

- Virginia reported on the Library meeting concerning what to do about the Eldersburg building, which suffers from inadequate parking, poor lighting in the kids's section, lack of meeting spaces, lack of a quiet room, and shelves that are too high. She reported a feasibility study is underway to help decide a plan for the Library to resolve some of the above issues. At present, there are three options: tear the building down and rebuild it in the same location, move to a different location, or redesign what is already there.
- Although there are some questions about the results of the second board in the Super Bowl contest, Dawn expects we will have made \$5,000 to be used for the operation of the Club.
- Thanks to Lucy Reese and Greg Fuchs who are helping to pick up food for the food pantry.
- Dave gave a report on the County's budget and also reported on the scholarships. Two are given to students at the local high schools and one to a Career and Tech student, plus the Metz scholarship.

Todd was the speaker along with help from Bill and Richard. Todd spoke on the Heritage of the Club. The Club was formed on April 25, 1941. Westminster Rotary sponsored this Club, and this Club later sponsored Damascus. Sykesville Rotary was granted its charter in May of 1941 with 30 members. They met at St. Paul's at 6:30 p.m., and for 30 years the women of the Church served the dinner. One of the officers was the Superintendent of the Strawbridge Home for Boys; another was associated with the B & O R.R. Over the years they met at St. James UMC, the Sykesville Firehall where Benny's Kitchen catered the meals, Liberatore's, Springfield, Glory Days, Salerno's, Mo's, Fairhaven, Stratosphere and now back to St. Paul's 82 years later. In 2006 it changed to a breakfast club. Along the way they added South Carroll to the Club's name. In the early years attendance was strict. The 35th Anniversary was held at Peter Pan, the 50th at the Fire Hall. In 1987, women were allowed to join. We now have 29 active members, about where we started in 1941. The first quiz question was what is the motto? Answer was Service above Self. Three District Governors have come from this Club. Dawn is the third. Long-standing members Richard Howes, Bill Hudson and Lewis Wimmer were recognized. (Todd was one as well.) Rotary was founded in 1905 by Paul Harris

one as well.) Rotary was founded in 1905 by Paul Harris. The HQ is in Evanston, Illinois. In 1954-55, the Four Way test was accepted. Another quiz question was what is the District number? Answer: 7620. Todd then recalled some of the various fund raisers: oyster and ham dinners and the Cadillac raffle, which was started by Robert Tabler and for which the car cost \$6,000. They also sold roses. For many years, the Club worked bingo for the Fire Department. There have been a variety of social activities over the years: they challenged the Lions Club to softball, dinner theaters, trips to ballgames at 33rd street and later to the Frederick Keys, Christmas parties, and steak nights. Some of the projects have been raising money for Polio Plus, River Blindness, and supplying rec equipment. For 36 years, they had song books and would sing at meetings. In 2007 the Foundation was formed as a 501(c)(3) corporation. The Super Bowl money goes to support the Club and is the only fund-raiser. The money from Oktoberfest goes to the Foundation and supports things like the hospital, CCC, and the Boys and Girls Club, among others. The Rotary Foundation is a separate entity. Rotary International expects each member to give \$100.00 a year to the Rotary Foundation. Todd, Lewis, and Richard each have over 50 years of perfect attendance. Richard has 60 years of perfect attendance. This was an excellent presentation, and it is hoped that Todd will write it up for posterity.