

Rotary



Club of Asheville THE COG

Monday, March 25, 2024



CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Susan Harper

President Pat thanked **Debbie Francis** for the **CART** Match at today's meeting. If you would like to provide the match one week, see Kevin McRae. The CART buckets raise funds for Alzheimer's research.

President Pat also let the club know that **Mark (Janet Whitworth's husband)** is home and continuing to heal. He is expected to make a full recovery. He also shared that **Sandra Smith** is recovering from her fall and appreciates the Saturday meal train.

Incoming President **Eva-Michelle** reported that she and **Dave Mans** attended PETS (President-Elect Training Seminar) last weekend with 492 incoming Rotary officers in North and South Carolina. She also shared that our club is getting a **BOGO** during her year as President. She and her husband Elliot are expecting a child next year!

Bob Haggard needs volunteers to assist with the **Blue Ridge Honor Flight** check-in process from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm on **April 13th**. He also asks members of the club to come to the Asheville Regional Airport on **April 27th** to welcome home the veterans. Bob needs volunteers to fill in if a **guardian** slot comes open at the last minute. rhaggard@bellsouth.net

President Pat reminded the club about the dedication of the **Bee Pollinator Garden in Carrier Park at 9:30 on April 13th**, followed at **10:30** by a volunteer opportunity at **Riverlink** for a storm water mitigation project being funded with a Rotary District grant. Members were reminded that to be able to participate on April 13th, they will need to have completed the Youth Protection Training Class on the Rotary website.

Applications for **Tennant Scholarships** are due **April 14th**. Please help spread the word.

April 11-13: RYLA, (Rotary Youth Leadership Academy) will take place in Black Mountain. Our club has sponsored 7 students to attend. **Al Davis** will send out an email with details for volunteer opportunities. If you plan to participate, you will need to complete the, short and easy on-line Rotary Protection training.



Sharon LeDuc and the other members of the team who went to visit the Simple School in Guatemala shared that it was a beautiful and life-changing trip. They expressed appreciation to the club for its generosity in helping build this school and continue to support it. Each member shared something meaningful about the trip.

Club Meeting

Asheville
Meets at TUTION HALL, TRINITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH. To request
a Zoom simulcast link email
avlrotary1915@gmail.com.
60 Church St
Asheville, NC 28801
Time: Thursday at 12:30 PM

Speakers

March 28, 2024

[Skip Capone](#)
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion:
Remediating Inequity or
Creating It?

April 04, 2024

[Mary Michael, Virginia](#)
[Lawrence, Louise Blijesse](#)
New Member Talks

April 11, 2024

[April Burgess Johnson](#)
Helpmate update

April 18, 2024

[Edwin Horton](#)
Parkinsons Disease

Coming Events

April 2nd

[Board Meeting](#)

April 11th

[Discover Rotary](#)

Speaker: April Burgess
Johnson

Subject: Helpmate update

April 17th

[Third Wednesday at the](#)
[Watering Hole](#)

Club Leaders



[Patrick A. Snyder](#)
President



[Eva-Michelle G. Spicer](#)
President-Elect



[David Mans](#)
President-Nominee
Club Director
International Service
Chair



[Janet L. Whitworth](#)
Past President
Treasurer



[Betty A. Doll](#)
Secretary



Frankie L Adkins
Club Director
Youth Protection
Officer
Youth Services Chair



Celeste B. Collins
Club Admin Chair
Club Director



Michelle Daniels
Attendance Secretary
Sergeant-at-Arms



Catherine Jo Early
Club Director
Vocational Service
Chair



Anthony D Lynch
Attendance Secretary
Sergeant-at-Arms



Alvin Ward Peacock
Jr.
Club Director
Membership Chair



Timothy L Owings
Club Director
Rotary Foundation
Chair



Richard T. Devereaux
Diversity Equity &
Inclusion
Webmaster



Linda Nelson
CCO-Club Comm.
Offcr
Club Director
Club Public Image
Chair



Alexander P. Pence
Club Director
Community Service
Chair
Club Service Chair



Andrew Mercurio
Club Fund Raising
Chair



Chris Werts
Diversity Equity &
Inclusion



Marcia Whitney
Diversity Equity &
Inclusion



Skyler Duncan
Environmental Service
Chair



Daniel M. Crupi
RYLA Point of Contact



Mary J. Michael
Club Programs Chair



Ross Sloan
iPast President

Birthdays

Kristy Wilson
March 28th

HONORING OUR VETERANS

By Betty A. Doll

Recruiting Help to Honor our Veterans



The next Honor Flight, taking approximately 95 veterans to Washington D.C. for a day of celebrating and honoring them, is scheduled for **Saturday, April 27th**. A significant part of this day is the "Mail Call" that occurs on the flight home. Each veteran is presented with a packet of cards and notes thanking them for their service to our country. At an upcoming club meeting, we will take just a few minutes to write notes to the participants. Additionally, on **April 15th**, we will have a gathering at **Highland Brewing** to sit together, share a beer, and spend some time together writing additional notes. Come and join us! Bring a friend or family member to help. It's a fun and meaningful way to participate.

If you have a church group, a school group, a civic group, or ANYONE else who would like to help with this project, you can contact Betty Doll (BettyADoll@gmail.com) for more info or simply write notes addressed to: "Dear Veteran" and mail them to Blue Ridge Honor Flight, Attn: Mail Call, PO Box 18057, Asheville, NC 28814 to arrive by **April 22nd**, so they can be sorted and packed for distribution to these heroes.

These notes mean the world to these veterans and are tangible and cherished mementos of the **Honor Flight experience**.

VISIT TO GUATAMALA

By Ross Sloan



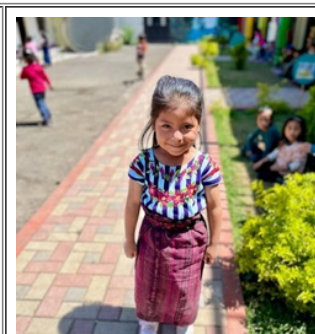
A team from the Rotary Club of Asheville, led by **Sharon LeDuc**, traveled to Guatemala from March 8 through March 15. Other Rotarians were **Debbie Francis**, **Laura Uherka** (and her mother Janice), **Carol Bornstein** (with her daughter Mady), and **Ross Sloan** (and his wife Martha). The primary purpose of the trip was to visit and take supplies to the private school for indigenous children in Santiago Atitlan which our club has supported for several years, along with a local Rotary Club. The team was hosted from start to finish by Sarah Robinson, an employee of the not-for-profit started for the school.

The trip started with two nights in Guatemala City, where the team stayed on a Catholic mission. They woke both mornings to the nuns and others singing in the chapel. Highlights in

Guatemala City included being there on International Women's Day, which was grandly celebrated in the plaza in front of the National Palace, and a visit to Safe Passage. Safe Passage is a not-for-profit school for children whose families spend their days in the city's landfill looking for anything they can sell.

On March 10th the team travelled to Santiago Atitlan. They stopped in El Tejar in route to visit a music school supported by Asheville's own LEAF. The group contributed a banjo from Sharon LeDuc's son and a guitar contributed by Asheville area musician David LaMotte. The team made its first visit to Escuela Comunitaria, now named for David LaMotte, on March 11th. They had a great time delivering supplies, playing with the children, and visiting with the faculty and staff. It is an amazing school, serving preschool and first-grade children to help them prepare for public school since Spanish is spoken in public schools but is not their native language. Most of the time in Santiago Atitlan was spent at the school; but the team did have a chance to take a tour of the town, visit a public school, tour a coffee growing and roasting collective, and town hop on Lake Atitlan. The last day included a wonderful thank you program presented by the students, after which the team traveled to Antigua for an afternoon of shopping followed by a wonderful dinner.

Thankfully, all made it safely home on March 15th after a fantastic and heartwarming Rotary experience.



Patrick A. Snyder
April 3rd
Dan A Rogers
April 8th
Richard Travis Hall
April 8th
Linda Nelson
April 8th
Edward J Snyder III
April 12th
Tanya N. Fletcher
April 12th
Stephen E. Aschmann
April 13th
Angela Nicole Ferrell
April 14th
Daniel M. Crupi
April 14th
Walter Zachritz
April 14th
Rebecca A Robertson
April 15th
Mary Frances Allen
April 16th
Janey Cope
April 17th
Jane Brody
April 18th
Beverly Jurenko
April 19th
Scott E. Raines
April 20th
Patricia M. Puckridge
April 23rd

Wedding Anniversaries

Kyle R. Boyd
April 8th
Edward J. Sullivan
April 9th
Patricia M. Puckridge
April 10th
Benjamin J Wann
April 15th
Albert Davis
April 18th
Lynn Savage Dimoff
April 19th
Thomas A. Cannon
April 20th
Mark A. Knollman
April 23rd



LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

By Susan Harper

International Diplomacy "Glocal"

Janet Whitworth introduced our speaker, **Dr. Elizabeth Colton**. Dr. Colton is a native of Asheville and talked to us about **GlocalDiplomacy**, a topic she has written about extensively and presented around the world, urging all people to practice citizen-diplomacy. Dr. Colton lectures at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), and has served as Diplomat & Journalist-in-Residence at Warren Wilson College. She is an Emmy Award-winning former international journalist/diplomatic correspondent, author, retired US Foreign Service officer and Peace Corps volunteer. Dr. Colton holds a Ph.D. in social anthropology from the London School of Economics & Political Science.



Dr. Colton talked about two trends she sees that are linked. The first is the rise in conflict and people attacking each other on social media and in civic spaces. She attributes this to the rise of social media. The second trend is the recognition that all of us can be diplomats and that citizen-diplomacy is being acknowledged both nationally and globally. She believes strongly that each person has the ability to engage in "glocal diplomacy" through local actions that have a global impact. She made the case that diplomacy is as old as mankind and began when earlier civilizations negotiated their survival with others around them.

Diplomacy is defined as nonviolent activities which try to solve problems between people, resolve conflict and bring about peace. Colton recommended two books - **The**

Diplomat's Dictionary or **The First Resort of Kings** - for those interested in this topic. If you are interested, you can listen to a recording of the meeting with the link that

Betty Doll following the meeting. Colton closed by saying that Rotarians are citizen-diplomats and shared that she thinks Rotary should get the Nobel Peace Prize for all the global humanitarian work Rotarians are doing in the world. ***If you want to feel good about being a Rotarian, I recommend listening to the recording.***



PAUL HARRIS FELLOW

By Linda Nelson

President Pat presented **Jim Deuel** with a PHF +3 pin (Total giving \$4,000). The Club thanks him for his generosity and support to "Create Hope in the World."

Earning a Paul Harris award is a Rotary honor given to those who have donated a minimum of \$1,000 to the Rotary International Foundation over any given length of time. Annual giving to the Foundation through EREY (Every Rotarian Every Year) is one way to give.

Tim Owings, who is our club Foundation Chair and will be happy to help new Rotarians learn more about how you can make your own contribution. tlowings@gmail.com



THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

By Sophia Stefanidis Ungert

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION: REMEDIATING INEQUITY OR CREATING IT?

DEI programs at colleges and universities are currently being challenged nationwide as a form of reverse discrimination against whites and Asians. This presentation will discuss the genesis of DEI, the reasons why it is being criticized and the strategies being employed to change or terminate it with a focus on how that is impacting DEI programs at North Carolina institutions of higher education.



Bio: Mr. Lucien Skip Capone III is an attorney who consults on legal matters with several nonprofit boards in the United States. He was University General Counsel with the University of North Carolina at Asheville and held that position from April of 2010 until his retirement in 2015. In the two decades before that he was the University Counsel at the University of North Carolina Greensboro. From 1977 until 1991, he was employed by the North Carolina Attorney General's Office and was Special Deputy Attorney General in charge of the Corrections Section from 1986 through 1991. He received his B.A. degree from North Carolina State University and his J.D. from Wake Forest University School of Law. He is active in his professional organization, the National Association of College and University Attorneys ([NACUA](#)) and was a member of the NACUA Board of Directors from 1999 to 2002. He has served as a public member on four national and

international higher education accreditation boards.

Capone was a Navy Reservist in the Judge Advocate General's Corp (JAG) from 1982 to 2002. He served on active duty during Desert Storm and retired as a Commander. Mr. Capone received the North Carolina Bar Association's Citizen Lawyer award in 2008. He is a general aviation pilot and an active flight instructor.
