

Rotary



Club of Shelby

District Leader

Kamlesh (Kam) Chandan
District Governor

No story selected for story_2



President



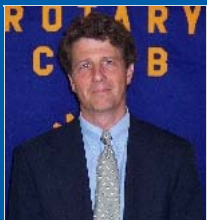
President-Elect



Secretary



Treasurer



Club Director



Club Director



Program Chair



Rotaract Chair



Bulletin Editor



Club Director

Shelby Rotary Schedule for Next Three Weeks

Shelby Rotary Schedule for Next Three Weeks

We will not have Rotary meetings on December 23 or 30 as you and your family celebrate Christmas and New Year's Day.

Our first meeting of 2023 will be on Friday, January 6 at the Don Gibson Theatre on Washington St. Stan Lowery, executive director of the Don Gibson Theatre, will share with us some of the recent improvements to the theatre and tell us about the upcoming season of shows and acts at the theatre.

Jeanette Sun will prepare a box lunch for us to enjoy as we will come together to start the new year.

Best wishes for a joyous and Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!



Shelby Rotary Club Time & Talents Survey -- Use Link to Respond to Survey

Shelby Rotary Club time & talents survey

As we work through the strategic planning process, it is essential that we understand the ways you would like to be involved in our club moving forward. It is very important that each member of our club take a moment to complete [this brief survey](https://forms.gle/4E5RG5kMRmXSXbkO7) by Dec 31. Audrey will bring paper copies on Friday in case anyone prefers to complete it that way.

Please take a few moments to provide some insight into your skills, talents, and experience! The survey link is <https://forms.gle/4E5RG5kMRmXSXbkO7>. Your honest feedback is very important.

Please don't hesitate to contact President-Elect Audrey with any questions (awg.rotary@gmail.com or 919-559-5376).



Public Relations Chair



Rotary Foundation Chair



Membership Chair
Past President



Sergeant-at-Arms



Community Service Chair



Youth Services Chair



Past President

Shelby
Meets at Cleveland Country Club 1360 East Marion Street
Shelby, NC 28150
1388 East Marion Street
Shelby, NC 28150
Time: Friday at 12:30 PM



December 27th



January 1st

January 6th

January 7th

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: ROTARY RINGERS

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: ROTARY RINGERS

By Dottie McIntyre

Special thanks to the SRC Bell Ringers for the Salvation Army at the Wal-Mart Super Center on December 16: David Allen, Stan Anthony, Peter Bagley, Dick Baker, Jerry Bumbaugh, Cecil Burton, Michael Cheng, Jonathan Davis, Thomas Fletcher, Bryon Gragg, Dottie McIntyre, Tom McNichol, Justin Merritt, Larry Moore, Jim Morgan, Page Morgan, Joe Ogburn, Rusty Patterson, Bill Plowden, Josh Propst, Randy Reed, Jamie Richard, Bobby Smith, and Jeanette Sun.

As always, we thank Joe Suttle for his leadership of the annual project and Sgt. Les Ashby of the Salvation Army. Joe reported that for our shift at Wal-Mart, we raised \$1,021.02.

We especially thank Joe for sharing the following words of the late Franklin Mabry, a member of SRC for over 50 years and a Past President:

We all know what friendship is...on a personal level. But there is another kind of friendship: Universal Friendship. It emanates from the realization that we are all God's children... rich or poor, young or old, black or white. And when problems afflict fellow human beings, they become a collective concern... because of our common humanity— because we are part of the human condition. The realization of Universal Friendship has been deeply embedded within the Salvation Army for over 100 years. Residences for the elderly, daycare centers for the young, emergency shelters for disaster victims, job placement for the unemployed...all attest to this.



DOING THE MOST GOOD[®]

Franklin Mabry
Chairman, Advisory Board
Salvation Army
February 19, 1976

The words of SRC PP Franklin, father of SRC Rotarian Will and former member Chris, remind us why we continue this much needed project in our community every year: we are all God's children. As such, we are charged by Jesus "to love one another." We show that love by helping one another. Franklin's eloquent message in 1976 is even more important today as we cope with diseases, disasters, and division in our country and all over the world.

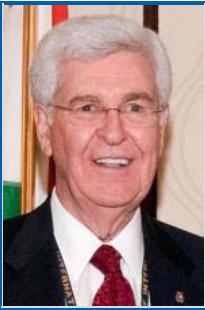
As Rotarians, we are "to do good in the world." We thank all members for "doing good" this year as we IMAGINE a world that can be better, as we continue to pray for peace and do what we can do to attain it.

Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah to one and all.

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day -- the Story behind the Poem

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day
by Jack Weller

One of my favorite Christmas carols is I Heard the Bells on



January 8th



January 12th



January 14th



December 29th

Years of Service

James W. Morgan
11-01-1985
38 Years

Robert McNeill Burns
11-01-1990
33 Years

No story selected for story_1

Christmas Day. Like many of us, I learned the words growing up and just enjoy the memories of singing this carol to friends and neighbors as we went to different neighborhoods to sing Christmas Carols.

I looked at who wrote the lyrics of the song and it was Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. I wondered, as Paul Harvey used to say, what is the rest of the story?

Doing my research, here is what I found, and more than ever the song had a greater meaning. We need to listen to God's promises and to believe that he will be with us as we face all types of challenges. I hope you enjoy reading about the story behind the song, I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day.

On Christmas day in 1863, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was inspired to write the poem we now know as the Christmas carol, ***I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day***. It was a testament to the resilience of the human spirit. He had lost his wife in 1861 when her dress caught on fire and he awoke and tried to put it out. He was severely burned and she died the next day. He was left with six children to raise. His oldest son, Charles, volunteered to join Mr. Lincoln's Army in 1862 and was severely wounded in a Civil War battle in late November 1863. As Longfellow heard the bells ringing on Christmas Day in Cambridge, MA, and the chorus of Peace on Earth Good Will to Men being sung, he wrote this poem.

The following are several of the verses of Longfellow's poem:

I Heard the Bells on
Christmas Day

Their old familiar carols
play,

And wild and sweet the
words repeat

Of peace on earth,
good will to men.

I thought how, as the day had come,

The belfries of all Christendom

Had rolled along the unbroken song

Of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head:

"There is no peace on earth," I said,

"For hate is strong and mocks the song

Of peace on earth, good will to men."

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:

"God is not dead, nor doth he sleep;

The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,

With peace on earth, good will to men."

Till, ringing, singing, on its way,

The world revolved from night to day,

A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,

Of peace on earth, good will to men!



HANNAKUH: DECEMBER 18-DECEMBER 26

HANNAKUH: DECEMBER 18-DECEMBER 26

As our Jewish friends celebrate Hannakuh this year, they can see the world's largest menorah (36 feet tall) in New York City. The menorah was erected on December 15.



The Lubavitch Youth Organization will feature a public lighting ceremony with music and dancing beginning on Sunday as the first candle is lit. Each candle will be lit every night of the eight-day holiday, celebrating the Jewish people's deliverance from people who wanted to harm them. When faced with darkness, the menorah served the Jews as a beacon of hope and light. It is still a symbol today as antisemitism is occurring in our country and other countries. Let us all stand up against antisemitism and pray for worldwide unity and peace.

THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE OF 1914

THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE OF 1914

by Dottie McIntyre



On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day in 1914 during World War I, German and Allied soldiers observed a ceasefire on the Western Front. Occurring five months after fighting had begun, the soldiers crossed trenches into No Man's Land "to mingle and exchange food and souvenirs," such as buttons and hats and tobacco and alcohol. The Germans reportedly had candles in their trenches. There were approximately 100,000 Allied and German soldiers who, in addition to exchanging their makeshift gifts, exchanged Christmas greetings, sang songs, shared stories, and even played soccer. They also had prisoner swaps and joint burial ceremonies. All of this reflected a mood of "live and let live" through Christmas. The ceasefire has been called "a symbolic moment of peace and humanity amidst one of the most violent conflicts in human history."

There are plays, songs, videos, TV series, films, and re-enactments of the truce. In fact, now streaming on PBS North Carolina, is a docu-musical titled "All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914." Advertisement for the production is this: "The Western Front, 1914. Out of the violence, a silence, then a song. A German soldier steps into No Man's Land and sings 'Stille Nacht.' Thus begins an extraordinary night of camaraderie, music, peace. A remarkable true story, told in the words and songs of the men who lived it."

The play is now available for licensing. There are roles for ten men who must be able to sing acapella. The set is minimal. It would be a remarkable production for a little theatre group but royalties are probably prohibitive right now for most of them. The ten men must also be young and very talented. So, for theatre goers who would be interested in seeing the production, the PBS docu-musical would be a good choice.

Ein gesegnetes! A blessed/joyous Christmas!
Stell Dir Vor Es Ist Frieden! Imagine Peace!

Christmas In the Military -- A Memory of WWII

Christmas In the Military -- A Memory of WWII

In November 2019, I became a charter member of the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 82, Shelby. It is sponsored by the American Legion and one is eligible to be a member if your father or grandfather served in the military. We had a program that talked about our military and Christmas. Many of you remember your Revolutionary War history and Washington's surprise attack on the British at Trenton and Princeton after he had crossed the Delaware River on Christmas Day.

Dottie McIntyre shares a story in this bulletin about the informal ceasefire that occurred in WWI when a German soldier stood up in No Man's Land and started to sing *Stille Nacht* and the British troops responded in English with *Silent Night*.

Reading these stories reminded me of the eight Christmases my older brother, John, was in the Far East during the Vietnam Era serving in the Air Force. My mother still continued the tradition each Christmas as we set the table for Christmas dinner, to set a place for my brother. In the 60s and 70s a long distance phone call was really expensive and he usually had a three or five minute limit on the call because other servicemen wanted to call home as well. Just to hear his voice, to know he was all right, was gift enough for my Mom. I am sure there are fellow Rotarians who served in the military who have similar stories of not being home for Christmas and how their family celebrated the holiday.



My Dad served in the US Navy during WWII aboard the USS Starr, an attack cargo ship, as a Radarman Third Class. He joined the Navy in 1943. He was married and had two small daughters. He never talked about being in the military, but my sister shared this story with me as they tried to keep their Dad a part of their life, even if he was 10,000 miles away in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

The first Christmas, they set the table with a place setting for Dad. They talked about what he was doing in basic naval training. 1944 arrived, and the song *I'll be home for Christmas* was at the top of the charts. The verses describe a soldier thinking about Christmas Eve and what he would find if he were home, if only in his dreams.

His 6 and 4-year-old daughters wanted to be sure he had something special for his Christmas on board his ship. Everyone was reminded that you needed to mail early to get an item for your military personnel by Christmas.

She shared how my Mom and the girls thought about what they could send him that he would enjoy. The decision was made to make his favorite cookies, sugar cookies, and send them to him by September 30, almost 90 days before Christmas. Billie, my older sister, talked about the discussion of how to ship cookies at such a long distance. It was decided that popcorn would be a great way to cushion the cookies as they went through the mail. They were sure that Dad would enjoy his favorite cookies on Christmas Day 1944.



In March 1945, they got a letter from my Dad telling the girls how much he enjoyed their gift of popcorn. Everyone on his watch enjoyed some sugar-flavored popcorn. His naval group had been on patrol and did not get their Christmas packages until January, when they met with a mail ship.

One of my Christmas memories, on Christmas Day each year, there were sugar cookies on our plates that we had set the night before for Santa to fill, along with an apple, an orange, and some hard candy and chocolate drops.



Dorothy Duffy shared that her husband Roger celebrated his Christmas 1944 as a replacement for the soldiers who had held off the Germans at the Battle of the Bulge. Here is a picture that she shared of them having a Christmas Meal in 20 degree weather with about a foot of snow. That was a lot different than the guys in the Pacific where it was in the 70's most of December.

As you and your family sit down on Christmas Day to enjoy your Christmas meal, add to your prayer that God be with all those who serve and protect us around the globe, in our own community, such as police, firefighters, EMT's and medical personnel.

Maybe enjoy a sugar cookie as well.

KWANZAA 2022: HABARI GANI!

Thursday, December 22, 2022

KWANZAA 2022: HABARI GANI!


by Dottie McIntyre

Kwanzaa, a non-religious holiday celebrating African culture and heritage, begins on December 26 and ends on January 1, 2023.



Originating in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga as a way for African Americans to reconnect to their roots and honor African American and Pan-African culture and traditions, celebrants give gifts, share feasts, and light candles over the seven days. Although created for African-Americans, all races and ethnic groups are welcome to attend the festivities organized around Nguzo Saba (Seven Principles), and today attendees represent that inclusion.

The festivities-which include delicious foods, poetry, narratives, gifts, music and dance-ends with a day dedicated to reflection and recommitment to core cultural values and the Seven Principles: Unity, Self-Determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, and Faith.



For those interested in attending any or all of the seven day activities, Charlotte is celebrating the 56th anniversary of the holiday at various venues. Rock Hill, SC, is also celebrating. Check out the websites for more information.

Prior to 2020, I attended Kwanzaa events in Rock Hill, SC, and had a wonderful time. It was educational, enlightening, and fun. I learned to say Habari Gani (Wishing you a blessed Kwanzaa). I also bought souvenirs, books, and clothing. Of course, I tried and loved the desserts, especially the sweet potato pie. The word Kwanzaa is based on the Swahili phrase matunda ya Kwanzaa (fresh fruits) and the food is representative of harvest vegetables and fruits. It is truly a gourmet's delight!