



Leonardtwn Rotary

Monthly Newsletter - July 2015



2015 – 2016 Officers Inducted! Charter Night a Success!

On June 25th at Fizzie's Restaurant and Pub, the Rotary Club of Leonardtown held their 29th Annual Charter Night. Master of Ceremonies, Chris Perlick hosted the evening and Past District Governor, Bob Parkinson swore in our new officers. Now past president Dave Elberti 'passed the torch' to our new President, Stuart Garlington. Cathy Askey and our Honored Guest, Mary Bowman Krum both received a Paul Harris Award for their outstanding contributions to Rotary. Cheers to a successful 2015-2016 year and congratulations to our award winners!

Speaker Highlight: Week 1

Introduced as the 'father' of Southern Maryland Mission of Mercy, Dr. Garner shared with our club the benefits and positive effect SM MOM has had on the region. Services offered at the 3-day free dental clinic include cleanings, extractions, and fillings. Over 700 patients line up with sleeping bags and wait for up to 24 hours to be seen. With hopes of expansion, Garner would like to have more patients treated, larger venues, and an addition of general health care services. More on last year's MOM event and Rotary involvement can be seen on page 3.



Dr. Garner (Butch Morgan)

International Spotlight

Thirsty Minds Initiative

Through his involvement in Marcala Clean Water Project, Rotary International Matching Grant #0762546, Leonardtown Rotarian Steve King learned that rural Honduran school children and their parents “thirst” for an understanding of modern science almost as much as they thirst for access to clean drinking water. In their text books and classrooms the students learn that some of the natural world is far too small to be seen with the naked eye and that some of the microscopic organisms are responsible for the spread of the water borne diseases that ravage their communities. Through the community health and hygiene training that is supplied as part of the Rotary International Clean Water Projects the students and their parents learn how parasites, viruses and bacteria adversely effect their health, how they can protect their drinking water and food from contamination and the public health benefits of following sanitary waste disposal practices. In particular they learn about the critical importance of properly chlorinating their new drinking water supplies to kill any pathogens that may survive the Rotary funded water treatment process.

Unfortunately, while working in rural Honduras Rotarian King learned from his Honduran colleagues that being told about and reading about such organisms, without the opportunity to actually see them, often results in people not truly believing that such pathogens exist. For this reason, it is less likely that good hygiene will be practiced and that the financially disadvantaged citizens of these communities will support the expense of buying chlorine. Rotarian King learned that in some of the communities served by new Rotary funded water systems the residents eventually stopped chlorinating their drinking water after



Club Member Spotlight

Dave Elberti

Now Past President, Dave Elberti grew up in the Annapolis/Edgewater Area and graduated from the University of Maryland, College of Engineering. He has worked for over 27 years as a Civil Engineer in Maryland, but started out working as a commercial crabber and marine contractor. Dave also started a small owner operated company, Chesapeake Shoreline Protection, Inc. which offers engineering design, consulting, and construction project management.

Dave loves living near the Chesapeake Bay and enjoys life with his beautiful wife, Patricia and daughter Katharina. Katharina will be a senior at Virginia Tech this fall. Dave has plans to be a lifelong Rotarian, working with fellow leaders to create positive change in our community.



Timothy Cameron
St. Mary's County Sheriff

Speaker Highlight: Week 2

Presenting the release of “St. Mary’s County Sheriff – 375 Years,” literature created to tell the story of every Sheriff through the history of Maryland. The book details the history of who they were, the weapons they used, the cars they drove, and sometimes-barbaric tactics dealing with crime and punishment. The in-progress literature is still growing as more research is obtained on these public servants. Sherriff Cameron also shared with us the involvement of the St. Mary’s County Police Department in the recent Baltimore Riots caused by the death of Freddy Gray.



1 Year Anniversary 2014 Mission of Mercy

This July marks the 1-year anniversary of the 2014 SM MOM Dental Clinic held in Waldorf, MD. Leonardtown Rotary club teamed with both Charlotte Hall and Lexington Park Rotary clubs to sponsor a grant totaling \$9,000.00 for needed equipment for SM MOM. Each club donated \$1,500 totaling \$4,500. Then based on a submitted application to Rotary District 7620, the District matched the clubs total amount, for a grand total of \$9,000. This money was used to purchase two (2) portable x-ray machines. These machines now allow for pre-screening of patients at many different locations throughout MD. As a result of successful pre-screening, a greater number of patients can be seen by the doctors/dentists during the two-day free clinics. Leonardtown, Charlotte Hall, and Lexington Park Rotary Clubs also provided volunteers at the Friday-Saturday free dental clinic.



the clarity of the water and the residents' health greatly improved. Such a mistake can often lead to tragic consequences.

To resolve this problem and to give the disadvantaged students of Honduras an opportunity to explore the wonders of the microscopic world, at the request of the Rotary Club of Leonardtown, the St. Mary's County Public Schools donated 56 technically obsolete and broken microscopes that were no longer being used. Leonardtown Rotarian King and his wife Karen cleaned, restored and packaged 50 microscopes for shipment to Honduras. Members of the Marcala Coffee Cooperative then raised funds to cover cost of shipping and members of the Rotary Club of Marcala, Honduras, distributed the microscopes to 25 disadvantaged public schools surrounding Marcala, in the La Paz District, in January of 2010. Educators who are members of the Marcala Rotary then trained the teachers at those schools on how to use the microscopes. Microbiology can now be incorporated into the local curriculum. In addition, as part of the Marcala Clean Water Project use of some of the microscopes was incorporated in the community health and hygiene training. Members of the Rotary training team reported that the microscopes greatly improved the effectiveness of the health and hygiene training, as children, parents and grandparents stood in long lines waiting to see the microscopic world for the first time in their lives.

Word of the "Thirsty Minds Initiative" is spreading throughout Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala and requests are coming in for more microscopes to be donated to impoverished schools throughout the region. The Leonardtown Rotary Club encourages all of the clubs in District 7620 to consider joining in on the project. Thousands of technically obsolete microscopes that are no longer being used throughout Maryland school systems could be put to good use in Central America, Africa, etc.



Rotary Club of Leonardtown Leadership:

Officers

President – Stuart Garlington
President Elect – Anne Forrest
Vice President – Brad Reeves
Secretary – Carolyn Egrie
Treasurer – Lynne Morgan Smoot
Past President – Dave Elberti

Contact Information:

sg@townecraftbuilders.com
annef@digshistory.org
brad.reeves@cdrassociated.net
carolyn@baldwin.cc
lesmoot01@gmail.com
delberti@metcom.org



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Upcoming Events



Speaker Highlight: Week 3

A capital grant for African American history preservation has been granted to Sotterly Plantation. Merideth Taylor is heading up the new "Land, Lives, and Labor" Exhibit. The exhibit is being built in the Corn Crib Building, which most of the grant money has gone into restoring. Showcased in the exhibit will be a look into the daily lives of laborers on Sotterly over the span of its history. A second exhibit is being built in the slaves cabin to show the conditions of a working family's living quarters. Exhibits will have a grand opening in September of this year.



Merideth Taylor
Sotterly Plantation



Leonardtown Rotary Club

July/2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
			Speaker: Chris Perlick		 Chris Perlick	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
			Speaker: TBD			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
			Speaker: TBD			
27	28	29	30	31		
			Business Meeting			

EVENTS

Running of The Balls – August 8th

ROTB is coming up fast! Make sure to sell as many balls as you can and get sponsorships!

Speakers for This Month:

July 6th – Chris Perlick
July 13th – TBD
July 20th – TBD

Speaker Information:

Chris will be speaking about his Brazil Trip!
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