

*In this edition: [Zoom Link](#), Board Bites, awesome anniversary, minority business, and more...*

## Victoria's Vignettes



I was reading the newest edition of my Rotary International Magazine and was drawn to the story entitled "Forever Young" about the sixtieth anniversary of Interact. As I perused the timeline of how Interact was formed and how it came to be such a vital part of Rotary International, I found myself thinking of our own Interact Club at the Dan Dipert Career and Technical Center. These high school students from throughout AISD have been so active this year with their own community programs for which they asked us to partner. The career roundtable in which our club members participated led to opening doors for these students. For example, a Rotarian from our Club, because of his own vocation, was able to provide additional ideas of pathways for the welding program.

The work this year on exploring the reformation of a Rotaract Club with UTA met a lot of milestones. The advisor and students compiled the necessary bylaws and foundations for beginning the formation of the club. We received support from our District Governor to move forward. We learned a lot of lessons about recruitment and how an Honors College-led club would have to be expanded to ensure that not only would we have the twenty members necessary for the creation of the Rotaract Club, but also that we create a pipeline for future growth and development. Hopefully, in this next Rotary year this foundation can be built upon to see the creation of a truly vibrant UTA/ community-based Rotaract Club.

This time of year also provides opportunities to

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## THIS WEEK AT ROTARY

### Dick Hill 40 Years on the Beat

### COMING SOON

May 4	Bud Kennedy	Fort Worth Star-Telegram
May 11	Juanita Hargrove	DFW National Cemetery

## IT HAPPENED LAST THURSDAY

BY CAREY F. WALKER

The weekly meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by President Victoria Farrar-Myers. Jeff Haviland offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Everyone sang a beautiful rendition of "God Bless America". Jeff Haviland introduced visiting Rotarians and guests. Visitors were Teresa Whitaker, Robby Martin and Jollyn Mwisongo. Karina Cassell and Becki Gerro were our visiting Rotarians.

Announcements: Victoria reminded us to utilize social media and check in using #ArlingtonRotary and #ArlingtonRotary100. She also reminded us to utilize the club website in order to sign-up for prayer, pledge and greeter opportunities. Additionally, tickets for our club's Centennial

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*(Victoria's Vignettes, Continued from page 1)*

reach out to young individuals throughout Arlington to let them know about Rotary and show them why it is worthy of their time and consideration when they begin their careers. Our Youth Director, Jill Regina, is working hard to ensure we have a Rotarian at each of the sixth-grade award programs. Please consider signing up as you will find this to be one of the most gratifying opportunities in Rotary. Tommy Thompson, our Webb Scholarship Director, is hard at work ensuring all Webb graduates now graduating from high school receive a medallion and are notified about their eligibility for our Webb Scholarship program. Our own foundation's restricted funds go toward providing these scholarships and help these students imagine a better future. The funds we will continue to raise will ensure our local foundation remains healthy and we are able to provide the promise of bright futures for years to come. I cannot think of a more lasting impact or a greater cause to work towards.

In this Centennial year, we have spent time looking back and understanding who we are and how we got to this juncture. Given all I have discussed above, it is clear we are paving the pathway to the next century. The impression we are leaving on each of these individuals touched by these programs will hopefully be a lasting one. Perhaps it is not too far-fetched to think that all these young individuals we are introducing to Rotary will become those who will take our place and carry on the tradition of making sure Rotary's mission and our club's vision remain vibrant in the years to come. Just imagine ...

*Victoria*  
**President, 2022-23**



**This is the last week to bring new or gently used coffee mugs to Rotary for the Arlington Life Shelter.**

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Celebration, scheduled for June 10, 2023, can be purchased on the website. Derrick Kinney and Stephanie Melchert thanked the club for agreeing to be "Mugged for a Cause". The club responded by bringing numerous new and slightly used coffee mugs. Jill Regina asked for club members to volunteer to present youth service awards for the 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> students in the AISD.

Don Mebus presented a Rotary Historical Moment. Don told us about the Foundation Funded Scholarships that began in 1947. Some of the recipients of these scholarships include Paul Geisel, Ph.D., Sadako Ogato, Bill Moyers and Joan Tuxen. Rotary has an Ambassadorial Scholar Program and Kate Goodrich was a recipient and was able to attend Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. Global Grant Scholars include Veronica Rodriguez and Samantha Reich. Our District is seeking a Global Grant Scholar for 2024-2025.

Randy Hendricks and Sally Hopper presented Rachel Slossan and Jock Bethune with their blue badges.

Sally Hopper announced Rotarians with anniversaries and birthdays. Celebrating birthdays were Bill Coppola, Randy Hendricks, Valerie Landry and Wella Mack. Sally received a birthday check from Tommy Thompson. Rotarians with anniversaries are Jock Bethune, Stephen Zimmer, Heidi Hardy and Michelle Deuell.

Mayor Laurie Bianco presented a classification talk. Laurie is Mayor of DWG and was elected in 2018. Part of the Mayor's duties includes running the DWG city council. She is the CEO and CFO of the city as DWG has no city manager. Additionally, she is the sole member of the Economic Development Committee.

Vera McKissic made a presentation of our Minority Business Awareness and Recognition Award to Jollyn Mwisongo. Ms. Mwisongo is the owner of ACARI Management Group, Inc. ACARI is located

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The Rotary Club of Arlington  
PO Box 121045 Arlington, Texas 76012 – [www.ArlingtonRotary.com](http://www.ArlingtonRotary.com)  
Founded May 29, 1923 – Charter Number 1493 – Issued June 11, 1923 – District 5790 – Club 1763



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at 1901 North HWY 360, Suite 650, Arlington, Texas 76006. ACARI is an award winning program management support firm, specializing in Diversity Program Management, Community Outreach and Program and Construction Management.

Sally Hopper made Paul Harris Fellow presentations to Tim and Mary Jean Moloney. This is plus 3 for Tim and plus 2 for Mary Jean.

Barry Bondurant announced the program for today. The program was presented by Shannon Porter, Executive director of the River Legacy Foundation and by Becki Gerro. Ms. Porter began by giving us the history of the Foundation. The Foundation was created in 1988, the River Legacy Park opened in 1990 and the River Legacy Nature Center opened in 1996. Originally a family graciously donated 400 acres to the foundation and now the park has grown to 1300 acres. The Foundation's mission is focused on fostering future generations of environmental stewards. The Foundation is a 501c(3) organization with a one million dollar budget. The River Legacy Foundation works in partnership with the City of Arlington.

The Foundation must fundraise in order to maintain the facilities. The Foundation conducts four main fundraisers. A sporting clay shoot is scheduled for May 5, 2023, at Defender Outdoors Clay Ranch. The Foundation hosts the Charity Classic Golf Tournament on September 22, 2023, at the Riverside Golf Club and a Fall Festival scheduled for October 7, 2023, at the park. The last fundraising event of the year is A Night with Nature held at the park on November 3, 2023.

The park has over 1500 students that visit for field trips. The students can experience aquariums and terrariums as well as the Discovery Room that opened in 2018. The Discovery Room required \$2.5 million to make it a reality. To accommodate all the visitors to the park, over 2,000 volunteers are needed. For more information about River Legacy,

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**There are more than 18 million people walking the earth today who would have otherwise been paralysed by polio. And none of it would have happened without you."**



**Bill Gates**



## Need Help Registering for the Centennial Gala?

Members of the Board will be available at each club meeting to assist anyone with registration for the gala.



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Some of the club volunteers helping with Read with Rotary 2023.

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please visit [www.riverlegacy.org](http://www.riverlegacy.org).

Victoria presented a book to the Webb Library to honor Shannon and Becki.

Victoria informed us that next program will be on April 27, 2023. The program will be Dick Hill-Arlington Police Dept.-40+years on the beat in Arlington.

The quote for this week: "Peace is the soil where hope takes root". – Gordon R. McNally.


President Victoria reminded us that we are "People of Impact", so go make a difference this week!

Victoria thanked the special guests and everyone else for coming. She then led us in the Four Way Test, and we were adjourned.



Jollyn Mwisongo, owner of ACARI Management Group, receives the minority owned business award.

**MISS LAST WEEK'S MEETING?**  
The recording of last week's Zoom meeting can be viewed by Clicking [HERE](#). Password is: **0eBYbNj%**



## BIRTHDAYS

Bob Cooke Birthday Fund  
April 23 – April 29

**April 25 Coy Garrett**  
**April 27 Norman Douglas**

Our club has a tradition of writing birthday checks to the **Rotary Foundation** in the amount of the number years they are celebrating (or rounding it up a little higher if they chose). The gift sent to the **Rotary Foundation** goes into a pool that eventually funds our club grants and also earns you points toward your next Paul Harris pin. Checks can be mailed to Sally Hopper, 3409 Viscount Drive, Arlington, TX 76016. (Please note this is the **Rotary Foundation** not the Arlington



## CONGRATULATIONS!

Rotarians celebrating their club anniversary of "Service Above Self."

<b>Melody Fowler</b>	<b>5 Years</b>	<b>April 26, 2018</b>
<b>Valerie Landry</b>	<b>12 Years</b>	<b>April 28, 2011</b>
<b>Sal Capuli</b>	<b>30 Years</b>	<b>April 29, 1993</b>

## WORLD IMMUNIZATION WEEK

24-30 April 2023 [endpolio.org](http://endpolio.org) | #endpolio






## The Hubcap — April 20, 2023

### BOARD BITES

Our Club's Board met this past Friday, and here are the primary items we discussed and actions taken:

- ◆ Each Director was asked to review their section of the club's website for any updates, edits, or changes and provide to our Club's webmaster, Bill Daley.
- ◆ Centennial Planning is moving right along. The Park's Department broke ground on the new Rotary Dream Park with the hopes (depending on weather) of having our section done by Memorial Day. The Club has paid its pledge to the city of \$160,000 for purchase of the Jenn Lewin custom designed public art piece. This sum included the \$15,000 district grant we received, and the remaining funds came from our local foundation. We currently have sold thirty-six tables (out of a possible 60) for a total of two-hundred and eighty-nine guests thus far. Kurt Bartley announced that we have raised \$58,000 in sponsorships as of 4/17/2023, however we secured a \$15,000 top donor this past week bringing the total raised in sponsorships for the Centennial celebration to \$73,000. The Board was encouraged to be sure they are reaching out to members, former members and relatives of such, local businesses, and related networks to ensure that everyone locally who wants to attend the Centennial celebration is able to purchase a ticket, sponsor a table, or donate if they cannot attend. Susie has arranged to have our Centennial Celebration invitation sent out to our Rotary District. Grace Whetstone is currently organizing the high/low raffle for the event and will be collecting items closer to the event. She encouraged the Board to be in contact with her with any potential items.
- ◆ The final report has been completed for our district grant. All that is needed is the bank statement of the cancelled checks. Scott Henderson will oversee the final submission.
- ◆ The Club received a request to sponsor a new club being formed for Roatan, Utila and Guanaja (the primary islands of the Bay Islands of Honduras). The Board was provided with Rotary International's guidelines for club sponsorship. We have done many international projects with the existing club in Roatan. Our Director of International Service, Scott

Hendricks, discussed the situation as he knew of surrounding the formation of the new club. The Board decided it would like to learn more about what is transpiring before acting on the request. The discussion was tabled until next month's meeting so more information from our partner club can be obtained. Scott agreed to bring back additional information for the club to decide at next month's board meeting.

- ◆ The President requested that each Board member send her items for the final club report. She indicated that they could email her bullet points of what each area achieved, or particular programs/actions they are most proud of, or how they met their individual goals they set for themselves at our Board's retreat last June. This information will be used to compile the report and hopefully for an article and a baseline for planning for the next Rotary year.
- ◆ District Conference is May 19-20 at the Crazy Water Hotel in Mineral Wells. Members of our Club are encouraged to attend. We will host a table at the conference showcasing our community involvement and also promote the Centennial events. Due to the timing of this conference (our next Board meeting was scheduled for Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>), the Board agreed to move our Board meeting to directly after the Club meeting on Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Since that meeting is off-site the President and Secretary will notify the Board of meeting arrangements.
- ◆ Upcoming important dates ... Stacy Bridger reminded us of the Rotary Social on May 18 at Theatre Arlington to see On Golden Pond which includes a pre-theater reception.
- ◆ Jill Regina reminded the board she will be scheduling award presenters and asked for assistance in filling all the slots.



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ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



**KALYAN BANERJEE**

*Chair, The Rotary Foundation, 2016-17  
President, Rotary International, 2011-12*

## MESSAGE

I am delighted to know that the Rotary Club of Arlington is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023. That will be a very special day for celebrating the Centenary for an institution which has lived through a century in these tumultuous and changing times, I have always found that while an individual grows old with age, an institution always evolves.

Keep going. You don't know where you will be going in the next 100 years.

Good luck. God Bless.

**Kalyan Banerjee**  
**(Past RI President, 2011-12)**



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