

Rotary Club of Arlington



Hubcap

The Official Weekly Publication of the Rotary Club of Arlington

November 18, 2021

In this edition: [Zoom Link](#), Veterans Day, Angel Tree Gift Return this week, and more...

Clete's Corner

By Clete McAlister



Arlington is known as a "veteran friendly" city and Rotarians can claim much of the credit.

For eleven years, Rotarian, Jim Persons, a member of the Arlington Great Southwest Rotary Club drove past Veterans Park and noticed there was nothing about veterans in the park. He then enlisted his Rotarian friends into creating the Veterans Park Foundation which, in turn created a memorial area of the park. Eventually they raised enough money to match an Arlington Tomorrow Foundation (ATF) grant to build the first memorial. Our Rotarian, Joe Way, was on the AFT Committee at the time and Val Gibson was chairman of the Parks Board when it was dedicated.

After Jim Persons passed away, another Rotarian, Albert Ross, brother of our own Hugh, from the Great Southwest club became president of the Veterans Park Foundation. Working with the Vietnamese community, they received another ATF grant to build the Vietnam War Memorial in the park.

I was a part of a parallel effort at the time to recognize the only Medal of Honor recipient from Arlington, Neel Kearby, although I was not yet a Rotarian when we began.

(Continued on page 2)

THIS WEEK AT ROTARY

Sally Hopper
"Rotary Foundation"

COMING SOON

Nov. 25 **THANKSGIVING!** NO MEETING

Dec. 2 **Annual Meeting/Election of Officers**
&

Dec. 2 **Prudence Mathis** Organ Donation

Dec. 4 **Holiday Party** Julia and Mojoy Haddad
Home

IT HAPPENED LAST THURSDAY

BY CAREY F. WALKER

The weekly meeting was not held at FUMC-Arlington to allow everyone to attend the Veterans Day Ceremony at Veterans Park. The ceremony began promptly at 11:00 a.m. The emcee of the ceremony was Rotarian Col. James C. Quick, USAF (Ret.). The music was provided by The Cowtown Music Club featuring Judge Brent Carr of County Criminal Court Nine. The Presentation of the Colors was performed by AFROTC Det. 845, TCU, U.S. Marine Corps Recruiting Station of Fort Worth and the Republic of Vietnam Military Units. The

(Continued on page 2)



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Page 1

The Hubcap — November 18, 2021

(Meet Mia, Continued from page 1)

The Rotary Club of Arlington started the Arlington Heroes Run which contributed one third of its proceeds to the Veterans Park Foundation. The club also was one of the largest contributors each year to the Arlington Field of Honor. Our Rotarian, Paul Fulks, helped lead that project. Many of our club members volunteered to help. And, the very idea for a Field of Honor was originally suggested by our past president, Tom Ware. With the grant matching funds from those two events, the foundation has received yet another ATF grant; this time to build a memorial to Arlington's war dead and a memorial for Korean War veterans.

When Rotarian and former mayor Jeff Williams, was trying to convince the National Medal of Honor Museum to build here, it didn't hurt that we were in the process of holding our first Field of Honor or that the search committee had to walk by a statue of Neel Kirby when visiting city hall.

It is safe to say that Rotarians have had a lot to do with making Arlington a veteran friendly city.

Clete McAlister
Past President
2015-2016



PROPOSED MEMBER

Diego Jesus Pena

**Classification: Education— Legal Services/
Arbitration & Mediation (Active)**

Sponsor: Steve Klieber
Mentor: Sam Scott

(Last Thursday, Continued from page 1)

invocation and the pledge of allegiance was led by Michael Glaspie, U.S. Army, Vietnam, Bronze Star recipient with Valor. The national anthem was performed by Ms. Jenn Ford, a U.S. Army veteran.

Col. James C. Quick introduced the dignitaries in attendance. There were many elected officials in attendance, including but not limited to several members of the Arlington City Council, the Mayor and former Mayor of Arlington, Texas House Representatives and two members of the Tarrant County Judiciary. Arlington Mayor Jim Ross, a U.S. Marine Veteran, presented a proclamation during last Thursday's ceremony. Mayor Ross thanked the Arlington Veterans Park Foundation and the Arlington Great Southwest Rotary Club for organizing this special event.

Our own Clete McAlister, President of the Arlington Veterans Park Foundation, Past President of the Rotary Club of Arlington and a U.S Marine Corps Combat Veteran gave an historical perspective on Arlington Veterans Memorial Park. Clete also discussed future memorials to be erected in the Park. Clete also recognized Lt. Col. Jim Persons, U.S. Marine Corps (Deceased), Mrs. Sheri Persons and Mr. Albert Ross, Captain, USAF (Deceased) for their contributions to the Arlington Veterans Park Foundation.

Former Mayor Jeff Williams talked about the National Medal of Honor Museum that is to be built in Arlington, Texas with an anticipated opening date in 2024. The National Medal of Honor Museum will preserve the legacies of our Medal of Honor recipients. An estimated 40 million individuals have served in the U.S. Armed Forces since the Civil War. Fewer than 4,000 have received the Medal of Honor- our country's highest recognition for valor in combat.

Jeff Williams introduced the keynote speaker, Captain Florent A. Groberg, U. S. Army, Medal of Honor Recipient. Captain Groberg received the Medal of Honor for his sacrifice and bravery in

(Continued on page 3)



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Stacy, Susie, and Sally are just three of the many Rotarians in attendance at the Veterans Day ceremony.

(Last Thursday, Continued from page 2)

Afghanistan in 2012. Captain Groberg was born in Poissy, France in 1983. Captain Groberg became a naturalized citizen in 2001. Captain Groberg joined the Army in July 2008 and attended OCS at Fort Benning, Georgia. Captain Groberg was severely injured losing 45 to 50 percent of his left calf, a blown eardrum, and a mild traumatic brain injury. Captain Groberg spent almost three years in recovery at Walter Reed National Medical Center. In addition to the Medal of Honor, Captain Groberg received a Bronze Star Medal with one Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, the Purple Heart, the Meritorious Service Medal, as well as many others.

The Cowtown Music Club played a medley of service anthems. These included the anthems for the Navy, the Air Force, the Army, the Coast Guard and the Marines. All those veterans in attendance were asked to stand and be recognized when their anthem was played.

Mr. Trung Nguyen provided reflections of a Vietnamese-American Veteran. The Vietnamese Unknown Soldier Song was performed. Chaplain Rich Stoglin, CDR, U.S. Sea Services (FMF) Ret. Provided the closing prayer. The Honorable Brent A. Carr played Taps and the ceremony was dismissed.



A thankful heart is not only the greatest virtue, but the parent of all the other virtues."

Marcus Tullius Cicero



Rotary
Club of Arlington



Holiday Party	Sat. Dec. 4, 6 pm	Mojy and Julia Haddad's home
"Sister Act"	Thurs. Mar.10, 2022, 6 pm	Theatre Arlington
Installation Banquet	June 16, 2022 6 pm	Home Plate Restaurant Texas Rangers Golf Clubhouse



This year's Arlington Veterans Day Ceremony was very well attended.



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With sadness, we report the passing of our beloved Patsy Jenkins. Patsy was an Honorary Member and the widow of long-time Rotarian, Dr. Ray Jenkins, M.D. Patsy loved Rotary and we all loved her. Patsy's Memorial Service will be at Trinity United Methodist Church, November 20 at 2:00 PM.

RECORDING OF LAST WEEK'S MEETING
FACEBOOK LIVE: ARLINGTON TX—CITY HALL

[**CLICK HERE**](#)



CONGRATULATIONS!

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

Don Duke	25 Years	Nov. 14, 1996
Marc Prda	15 Years	Nov. 16, 2006
Chad Bates	6 Years	Nov. 19, 2015
Angie Meister	8 Years	Nov. 21, 2013



Rotarian, Jeff Williams, greets individuals from the crowd after the Veterans Day Ceremony.



BIRTHDAYS

Bob Cooke Birthday Fund
Nov. 14 – Nov. 27

Kris Landrith	November 17
Scott Hendricks	November 19
Michael Wade	November 21
Esteban Blanco	November 23
Jock Bethune	November 27

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. (Please note this is the **Rotary Foundation** not the Arlington Rotary Foundation. Thanks!)

Salvation Army and Rotary

Holiday Service Opportunities

ANGEL TREE
Gifts should be returned this Thursday.
(Or at the Board Meeting this Friday).

coordinated by
Tanis Garrett
tgarrett313@msn.com

BELL RINGERS
At Hobby Lobby December 10
— coordinated by Derrick Kinney
derrick@goodmoneyframework.com



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