

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Rotary Club Calendar

Happy 29th Birthday Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club!
Chartered August 4, 1980



Original charter night guest speaker, Maryland State Senator, Aris J. Allen, MD

**August 6 – 6:30pm Meeting – Normandie Farm
Club Assembly**

Bring your ideas for projects and activities, recommendations for club programs and speakers, and a listing of prospective members for a discussion of plans for the Rotary year. President Noel plans to roll out the calendar for the year, and is looking for your inputs to finalize the scheduling.

August 11 – 7pm Manna Food Center

August 13 – 6:30pm Meeting – Normandie Farm

Steve Naron: What's New and Useful in Technology

Steve will make a presentation on the easy to use technologies out there for all of us including Google, Smart phones, Skype Mp3 players and more.

August 20 – 6:30pm Meeting – Normandie Farm

August 27 – 6:30pm Meeting – Normandie Farm

August 29 – Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar

Orientation at the Rockville Library

August is Rotary Membership Month

Potomac-Bethesda Proposals Potentially Will Save Rotary International \$3.5M Per Year

Rotary International posted the 2010 Council on Legislation Proposals on their website on August 4 and three of the 210 proposals are from our own club. The three proposals were endorsed at the Rotary District Conference in May 2008 and provide the option for receiving the *Rotarian* magazine electronically, protect Rotarians' membership information from being disclosed to outside groups, and establish a committee on Information Technology. RI made an assessment of each proposal and notes that "currently postage, printing, and paper expenses for the official magazine are approximately US\$3.5 million". The proposal to insert a membership information policy in the RI Bylaws for the very first time would require each Rotarian's permission to release their membership information to external organizations. [Ref:10-174, 10-179 &10-183]

Speaker Reveals Secrets of the Secret Service at the Rotary Club Meeting on July 30

Just days before the release of his latest book, New York Times best-selling author **Ronald Kessler** gave us some very interesting insights of the Secret Service. This week he has been featured in the media and on



television commenting on the book released on August 4, *In the President's Secret Service: Behind the Scenes with Agents in the Line of Fire and the Presidents They Protect*. Ronald reported that there are 40 agents at the White House. He described the characteristics of a number of the Presidents including Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George H. Bush,

Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama. For example, agents reported driving Jimmy Carter for two years and never had a conversation. Reagan's comment on Gary Hart's dalliance was "Boys will be boys, but boys won't get to be President." Ronald Kessler said that Vice President Joe Biden doesn't understand security as he recently let slip the existence of a bunker at the Vice President's home. President Obama continues to smoke on a regular basis. Ronald Kessler told the amazing story of how a psychic was used to insure the safety of President George W. Bush (see this week's news



Alan Grant and his Dad

article with all the details on page 4). He told how he was able to determine the identity of "Deep Throat" and interviewed Marc Felt for one of his books. He also gave a little historical perspective noting that Abraham Lincoln had four policemen, but the assigned policeman was at a local tavern the night that Lincoln was fatally shot. He felt that currently the Secret Service is underfunded resulting in potential compromising of the President's security. Thanks so much to **Jerry Gross** for arranging the very timely presentation.

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Annual Annapolis Rotary Club Crab Feast Coming Up on Friday Evening

On behalf of the Annapolis Rotary Club, it is my pleasure to invite you to join us at our 64th annual Annapolis Rotary Club Crab Feast. This event, started in 1946, will be held on Friday, August 7th, 2009 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. If you can attend, you can purchase tickets on line at www.annapolisrotary.com or contact the Chairman of the Hospitality committee, Captain Dan Briganti, dantibrig@toadmail.com, 410 991 8668 to let him know that you are coming.

The Annapolis Rotary Club is very proud of this long-standing Maryland tradition which not only brings the 3,000 residents of our community together each year, but which also provides a source of funding for many charitable organizations in the Annapolis area. I sincerely hope that you can join us.

Best regards,

Vern Cunningham, President, Annapolis Rotary Club
jovetequ@comcast.net, 443-994-0633

From the E-Mail Bag...

Thanks from Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar

Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2009 4:45 PM

Dear Mr. Nelson-

Just wanted to say thanks for including my story in your Rotary bulletin. I'm a recent Georgetown grad (Class of 2008) and a Rotary Scholar for 2009-2010 (heading to LSE this fall). So, it was especially nice to see it mentioned by the Potomac-Bethesda club-DC/MD is practically a second home because I spent my college years there.

In any case, I wish you and your club all the best. If we in California can be of any service to you, please don't hesitate to contact me. Also, I'm working on a polio event at Georgetown for this fall in October. If it goes well, I'll extend an invitation to all those in your club who'd like to attend.

Best wishes and continued success.

Esha

Esha Chhabra [ec2440@gmail.com]
Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar Dist 5240
Georgetown grad

From the E-Mail Bag...

Thanks from the New Southern Frederick County Rotary Club

Date: Sun, 02 Aug 2009 11:43:41 -0400

To: Potomac-Bethesda Rotary<rotary.pb@gmail.com>

Subject: Recognition and publicity

Todd:

Thanks so much for the excellent article in your newsletter. Bob Nelson was so kind to help us with our Charter Night.

To keep a good history of our club, please have Bob send copies of pictures he took. We are truly indebted to this effort.

Thanks for your kindness and support. Not only did I send this note to our club, but wanted DG Paul Frey to see what you did.

Southern Frederick County Rotary
Past Interim President
Lynn Shanton

— Forwarded Message

From: John Shanton <lshanton@edurostream.com>

Date: Sun, 02 Aug 2009 11:11:27 -0400

Subject: Recognition and publicity

Fellow Rotarians:

Got a note from fellow Rotarian Pastor Bert Lane: "nice article and photo in the August FREDERICK Magazine." Have not seen it.

One club really recognized us [Potomac-Bethesda].

Unfortunately, there has been nothing in any of the local newspapers on our Charter Night. Yet Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News did recognize us...am sending thanks for this excellent article.

It's time to move on and make our club what we want it to be and apply the motto — Service Above Self!!!
Let's get community service rolling!!!

Southern Frederick County Rotary
Past Interim President
Lynn Shanton

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Innovative Membership Meeting: "Extreme Makeover" for Small Clubs

By Darrell Nevin from the District Newsletter

District 7620 held its first Membership Seminar of the new Rotary year on Monday, July 20th with 85 Rotarians attending. With 50% of all of the clubs in the District now under 25 members, Membership Chair Darrell Nevin and Governor Paul Frey's Leadership Team believes it is time for an "Extreme Makeover". The seminar focused on the basic tools Rotarians need to form and energize a small membership committee to lead the charge to reverse this downward trend.

A main thrust of this seminar is that **SIZE MATTERS!** Small clubs struggle with burn-out, succession planning, sharing the workload. It is tough to create excitement and an image of importance and impact in the community when there are so few in the seats at a Rotary meeting. Let's face it: a club of 20 official members will usually average 10-12 members present at a meeting. No matter how good that meeting is, it will be difficult to WOW a prospect with so few Rotarians in the room.

Here are the basic conclusions from the seminar:

- 1) Define your WHY. Before you can successfully step into a recruitment leadership role, you must clearly define your why. Are you passionate about Rotary? Your club? Your fellow Rotarians? Your community service projects? More hands are needed for hands-on service. More hands are needed to run a club successfully – 30 Rotarians at a minimum! The new Southern Frederick County Rotary club chartered July 1 with 41 new members! That is a great start!
- 2) Find a Rotary Club to emulate. You don't have to feel isolated nor reinvent the wheel each week. Seek out mid-sized clubs in your area and learn how they have managed to stay above the magic 30 number, keep their members happy and meetings lively.
- 3) Form a Membership Committee. This is vital. It should have 3-5 Rotarians max! New Rotarians (less than a year in the club) are fine additions to the effort. They are energized and eager to show their stuff.
- 4) Make a HIT LIST. "Prospect List" doesn't carry the action image that "Hit List" does. You have to congeal up the image that you are actually "hitting on" that prospect. There should be only one hit list per club

and everyone should have the same list. It should be reviewed weekly by the committee in a HIT PARADE. You march through every name and task assigned from the previous week to assure follow up and accountability of your committee members.

5) Run your club like you would a BUSINESS. Every new member is no different than your new employee at work. Treat them that way. Train them. Coddle them. Put them to work so they feel important, needed, wanted by the group.



Another important tip is to never invite someone to your Rotary "meeting." Most business people are meeting'd to death, and will automatically react negatively to the thought of another "meeting" in their lives. Instead, invite them have breakfast, lunch or dinner at your Rotary club. You will find more success that way!

A more detailed seminar will be held in Mitchellville, Gaithersburg and Towson on three successive Saturdays in September (12, 19 and 26) from 9 a.m. – 12 noon. All of them are free. Round up your troops and bring them out for an action packed training. There is no reason at all that every small club in the District can't achieve 25% annual membership growth. If they do, they will double in size in three years. How exciting would that be! It can be done if the simple steps put forth in the trainings are followed religiously, especially in the first 3-6 months. Clarksville Rotary did that last year and grew from 18 to 26 members – the only club out of 22 in the District that had fewer than 20 members and grew above 20 members. They had the highest percentage growth in the District last year and received a Certificate of Recognition from last year's RI President D.K. Lee! Go Clarksville!

"The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands".

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Maasai Warrior Hopes To Work For Diplomacy

By Ryan Hyland RI News – 29 July
2009

*Wilson Kimeli Naiyomah, incoming
Rotary World Peace Fellow,
collaborated on 14 Cows For America
describing his Maasai tribe's response
to the 9/11 attacks in New York City.
Rotary Images/Alyce Henson*



When Wilson Kimeli Naiyomah returned home to Kenya months after witnessing the 9/11 attacks in New York City, he found that most of his fellow Maasai, a nomadic warrior tribe, had only a vague understanding of the events of that day.

Naiyomah, an incoming Rotary World Peace Fellow, shared firsthand accounts with the East African tribe, using the oral tradition it has relied upon for years. Deeply moved by his story, Maasai elders felt compelled to do something to help.

That something turned out to be a decision to send a herd of cows to the United States as a display of sympathy and regret.

Naiyomah has collaborated with award-winning author Carmen Agra Deedy on *14 Cows for America*, an illustrated children's book about his tribe's response, which received international attention. The book explains how cows are sacred to Maasai and valued above all other possessions.

"The cow is a symbol of life for us," says Naiyomah. "What happened that day was devastating to me."

Although the cows were never shipped to the United States – State Department officials decided it would cost more than the value of the herd to import them – the tribe decided to keep them for the Americans, setting the cows apart and vowing never to slaughter them.

"The story focuses on healing and solution," says Naiyomah. "I think children can best understand that, because their hearts are so innocent. The future of a more compassionate world starts with them."

In February, Naiyomah will attend the Rotary Center for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution at the University of Queensland in Australia.

"Rotary International answered my prayers to belong to an organization that embodies what I silently believe in my heart: that using compassion can help solve problems," he says. "Rotarians are ordinary people taking extraordinary actions to foster relations with countries around the world."

Naiyomah says he hopes the peace studies program will help him find ways to promote peace.

The 9/11 attacks "showed me there's something very wrong with world relations," he says. "There is something lacking in diplomacy that I want to find out."

Naiyomah believes world leaders need to practice "compassionate diplomacy," valuing the lives of people over political expediency.

"Compassionate diplomacy must start by understanding and approaching conflicts with a caring aspect," he says. "Yes, one person can make a difference in the world. But only if they see themselves as the world, not as individuals."

Chosen as the state of Georgia's selection for the 2009 National Book Festival, *14 Cows for America* goes on sale 1 August. Naiyomah says all proceeds from the book will benefit victims of the 9/11 attacks.



Secret Service Took Psychic's Advice on Bush Assassination Plot

By Jeff Stein | July 31, 2009 2:20 PM

The Secret Service changed a motorcade route for the first President George Bush based on a psychic's vision that he would be assassinated, according to a new book about the presidential protective agency.

In the President's Secret Service: Behind the Scenes with Agents in the Line of Fire and the Presidents They Protect, by veteran author Ronald Kessler, evidently is stocked with such juicy items, considering the steady drip of leaks about the book over the past few weeks.

It's a curious development, considering that the White House protective detail is supposed to see everything

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but say nothing about its main client, the President of the United States.

But Kessler, a former investigative reporter at *The Washington Post* and *Wall Street Journal* and author of several "inside" books on U.S. intelligence, has obviously drilled a hole in the Secret Service's wall of silence, which began crumbling in earnest a few years back with former agents telling tales about President John K. Kennedy's mistresses.

Today Kessler passed along the following anecdote about the psychic, the Secret Service and the 1992 reelection campaign of Bush, taken from his new book, scheduled for publication Aug. 4.

(A Secret Service spokesman at first told *SpyTalk* it was "false," which he later amended to a far less strenuous denial: "It doesn't make sense.")

In Kessler's telling, Bush was scheduled to give a speech on September 17, 1992, at the civic auditorium in Enid, Oklahoma.

"Agent Norm Jarvis was assigned to run intelligence investigations for the visit, and a detective from the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation called him," Kessler said by e-mail.

"He said that a woman who was a psychic had told her police contact, whom she worked with on a homicide case in Texas, that she had had a vision that President Bush was going to be assassinated by a sniper."

The police contact, a detective, "told Jarvis that this psychic's visions had actually helped police find buried bodies and had provided useful leads in criminal investigations," Kessler said. "Another seasoned law enforcement homicide investigator from Texas also told Jarvis that he needed to pay attention to her."

Kessler continued:

"Jarvis interviewed the woman, who provided more details from her vision. Jarvis asked her to pinpoint where the president's limo was. She said it was at the Air Force base near Enid. He asked if she could take him to it; she agreed.

"As they drove toward the five hangars on the base, the woman gave Jarvis directions."

Kessler quotes Jarvis as saying:

"As we got close to this one hangar, she said to slow down."

The woman said, "Something is in that building right there."

"What do you mean?" Jarvis asked.

"Something important is in that building there."

"Okay, but not the limo?"

"No," the woman said.

Kessler says, "As they drove past another hangar, the woman said it contained the limo. She then identified another hangar as containing something important.

"Jarvis's hunch was that the limo was in the firehouse bordering the runways. As it turned out, he was wrong and the psychic was right.

"Secret Service agents guard the president's limo until he steps into it. Jarvis checked with them and learned that the hangar identified by the psychic as housing the limo did indeed contain two presidential limousines.

"As more details from the psychic turned out to be right, the advance leader decided the psychic could not be ignored. Never mind if anyone thought they were crazy. Better safe than sorry, he and Jarvis thought."

The leader of the Secret Service advance team ordered the motorcade to take an alternate route, avoiding the overpass, Kessler says. Bush was unharmed.

Secret Service spokesman Edwin Donovan said Kessler's story, "doesn't make sense. We don't make practice of changing a motorcade route based on a psychic."

But Donovan, who spent five years on the presidential protective detail, conceded that Agent Jarvis could have told the story to Kessler.

"You'll have to ask the agent," he said.

Kessler said he would not make Jarvis, who is retired, available for an interview.

"The Secret Service cooperated on the book, the first time it has cooperated on a book about the agency," he said in an e-mail.

One result is Kessler's report that the agency's "management has been cutting corners since the agency's absorption by the Department of Homeland Security, risking the assassination of President Obama, Vice President Biden, and future presidential candidates."

In an interview with Kessler for the book, Secret Service Director Mark Sullivan "denied that the agency has been cutting corners," Kessler said.

Thanks to Jerry Gross for providing the above article.

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