July 2017 Newsletter

One of the First 300 Clubs in the World

Founded 1917

A Century of Service Upcoming Meetings & Events

July 18 Club Meeting

July 25 Club Meeting

Lunch Buffet begins at 11:50 am for meetings.

July 21 Board Meeting 12 noon

Birthdays Bob Blevins, 7/10 Art Clark, 7/11 Georgia Fauber, 7/9 Mike Goetz, 7/22 Dan Payne, 7/10 Bill Perkins, 7/26 Kris Shabestar, 7/7

www.lynchburgrotary.club



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The Rotary Club of Lynchburg

President's Corner



elcome to July and the new Rotary year! If I were to convey nothing else in this message it would be to recognize and congratulate Marie Waller for her steering of The Rotary Club of Lynchburg into its second century.

The club accomplished a lot this past year: We sent three students to RYLA. We gave a boat load of money to the Salvation Army. We rang the Salvation Army bell and loaded up stockings for them for Christmas. The centennial celebration Friday night March 3 was a huge success. We're on the way to a major international initiative with the Malawi solar lights. But I believe Marie's greatest coup, and the accomplishment for which she'll not soon be forgotten was her inspired belief that a bingo event would sell. It did, and because of it, we were able to initiate what is going to prove to be a lasting project for this club – that of providing the book *Frederick*, by Leo Leonni, to first graders in the Lynchburg school system.

Speaking of *Frederick*, I hope everyone has had a chance to read the July edition of the *Rotary Informer*. I should suggest that there be a quiz at the next meeting to find out who has, but I'll spare it. Scroll down to page 32 of the *Informer* to read Kris Shabestar's article devoted to the *Frederick* project. Kris, I AM sorry that they misspelled your name!

If you haven't yet done so, do check out our club's new website at: <u>http://lynchburgrotary.club/</u>. It's quite remarkable, and content is being added to it almost daily. My hat is off to Ben Cowgill. Ben opened up that Black Box that is website design and made the whole thing happen. Speaking of Ben, he is not only our incoming secretary, but has also agreed to replace Allyson Ramsey as public relations chair.

Our one-week-postponed, July 18 meeting is going to be given over to what Rotary International calls a "club assembly." The new president is expected to lay out his vision for the year at the first meeting, and so that's what I'll be doing. Following that, we'll break into committees. Every member of the club is expected to serve on at least one committee. If you're not sure what committee you're on, that's not a problem. Board members chair the committees. Members can play musical chairs and find one or more committee's plan for the year, and everyone can get an early start on implementation.

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Mark your Calendars . . . Sign up to Volunteer . . . Get Ready to Have Fun!

"A Big Thank You" to all that have promised to help with Café Bon Ami. There is room for more helpers and we need 4-6 foot tables, 7 coolers, 3 wagons and baked goods. Make sure you sign up to help! *Bill & Jackie*

President's Corner, continued

Speaking of laying out the vision, I'll spare the details for meeting time, but here are some (not all) of the initiatives, from, let's say a 5000-foot perspective:

- 1. Engagement of members. No member of this club will slip through the cracks because he hasn't been asked to participate in our mission of service, or because he or she doesn't have transportation to a meeting, or because he or she was not informed about a meeting.
- 2. Attendance. Rotary International expects 100% attendance of its members, and our club is going to meet that expectation.
- 3. **Fundraising.** The wine festival has been sidelined, but we WILL undertake a major fundraising project. We're also going to build on the bingo success, and we're ALL going to sell tickets for the August 5 Hillcats game.
- 4. Service. This goes without saying. The very essence of Rotary is service. For what other reason is any of us a Rotarian? We will identify and execute at least one major service project in addition to continuing and enhancing our standing service projects.
- 5. Foundation giving. Need I say more? Well, probably, but I'll save it for later.

This club has accomplished remarkable things in its first hundred years. As I've said before, pinch yourself to make sure you're not dreaming; you are among the few, the happy few, the band of brothers – a member of The Rotary Club of Lynchburg, with its century-long legacy of bettering our community through service! Ah, but along with all of the rights, privileges and immunities that come with holding oneself out as a Rotarian, come also the responsibilities. To whom much has been given, much is expected. Let's keep the momentum through our 101^{st} year.



The Four Way Test

- 1. Is it the TRUTH?
- 2. Is it FAIR to all Concerned?
- 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Officers & Directors 2016-2017

President Robert Blevins President Elect Edwin Clever President Nominee (Open) Treasurer Shanda Rowe Secretary Ben Cowgill Past President Marie Waller

Committees: Communication Kris Shabestar **Community Service** Shannon Watts Foundation Neville Rowland **International Service** Manfred Mibus **Membership Robert Roberts** Program Edwin Clever **Public Relations** Alyson Ramsey **Resource Development** Tom Illingworth Sargent-At-Arms William McPherson **Vocational Services** Mike Goetz

