

THE STAFFORD HIGHLIGHT

October 16, 2024



Rotary Club of Stafford **People of Action**

October 16 – Update on Scouts – Kristy Freeman

Kristy is the Executive Director of the Aquia District - National Capital Area Council, Scouting America.

Rotary International has been a partner with the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides in serving young people since their inception. As Rotary spread around the world, its support of Scouting and Girl Guiding also spread. In 1916, Rotarians in Edinburgh, Scotland, joined by 100 local Scouts, organized a special Christmas party for children whose fathers were serving in World War I. In 1922, the Rotary Club of Manila, Philippines, established a local Scout council. Rotary Clubs from Australia to Brunei built huts for Girl Guide groups.

The principles and goals of Rotary, Scouting and Guiding are closely allied. Character-building; service to country, to others, and to self; teaching leadership skills; and becoming aware of the world around us—these are all incorporated into the programs and activities of each organization. The values expressed in Rotary International's Motto and the Four Way Test greatly parallel those articulated in the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan.

Rotarians have long served as role models, demonstrating leadership, character, and the value of selfless service to the community. Rotary founder Paul P. Harris was himself a recipient of Scouting's prestigious Silver Buffalo award in 1934. His and others' efforts represent to a high degree the slogan "Every Rotarian an Example to Youth."

One of the first interactions between Rotary and both Scouting and Guiding were in

Club Calendar

October Is Economic and Community Development Month

- ❖ October 16 – Scouting Update – Kristy Freeman
- ❖ October 23 - Chuck Fennell and Anne Darron, Washington Heritage Museums
- ❖ October 24 - World Polio Day!
- ❖ November 2 - District Foundation Day!
- ❖ January 7 Get the Puck Out Polio! Noon game v. Rangers!
- ❖ February 20-22 – RI Peace Conference in Istanbul
- ❖ June 21-25 – Rotary International Convention in Calgary, Alberta

helping provide camps. Many early camps were called Camp Rotary and many such camps still exist. Rotary clubs also chartered or otherwise supported Scout and Guide groups.

Today, Rotarians remain among the foremost sponsors of Scouting and Guiding, seeing it, like Rotary, as an excellent way to serve others. Rotary clubs in the United States charter over 1,400 Scouting units (Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout Troops, and Venturing crews) serving about 45,000 Scouts.

October 9 Meeting

President Jamie presided and welcomed our guest online speakers, Montana DeBor and her husband Facundo Kramer from Menagerie Productions.

Cheri gave the Thought of the Day, “Rotary is a fellowship of noblemen; not a hereditary nobility but a nobility that must be earned and re-earned.... Nobility is measured by its obligations, not by its rights and privileges...service above self.” James S. Fish, who served as the President of Rotary International from 1955 to 1956. This quote reflects the values of service, leadership, and integrity that Rotary members are expected to embody through their continuous actions and contributions.

Announcements

- ❖ There is a sign-up sheet for October 15th Board of Supervisors meeting to receive the proclamation for World Polio Day.
- ❖ Discover Rotary event on October 15th at 6:30pm at Howell Library
- ❖ The annual Chili Cook Off is scheduled for October 30, 5:30, at the University of Mary Washington. The Rotaract Club will host the event. There will be a sign up for chili.
- ❖ Dues statements will be sent out this week.
- ❖ Membership Committee -Let Donna know if you have any leads.
- ❖ Kristy to coordinate with Nikki about alternatives to dictionary project and updated the club on Toys for Tots.
- ❖ President Jamie discussed potential speaking opportunities with the Special Olympics and the Planning Commission office, emphasizing the importance of these connections for future partnerships and volunteer opportunities
- ❖ There was a Hurricane Relief Supply at the Fredericksburg Eagles on Saturday, October 12. Cheri agreed to shop for supplies and deliver them to the event.
- ❖ Cheri announced that the Rotary Foundation Banquet and Training has been moved to January 11 at Laurel Ridge.

Program - Montana DeBor and her husband Facundo Kramer from Menagerie Productions

Montana DeBor and Facundo Kramer entertained attendees at the recent District Conference. They have a lifetime of experience in entertainment. Montana is a classically trained musician, composer and a multi-generation Rotarian (district 7610). Facundo is a 6th-generation circus artist, director and producer.

After working for a multitude of entertainment companies from around the world they have combined their skills and experience to create Menagerie; a production company designed to bring together the most prestigious variety acts from around the globe to give back to charitable organizations.

Menagerie Productions strives to inspire and create lifelong memories for international communities. Some of their previous partners include Clowns Without Borders, Make-A-Wish, and Boys-And-Girls Clubs.

During the Question-and-Answer session there was a discussion of the possibility of using their circus as a Rotary fund raiser.

Young Brigade Takes Charge

Posted on May 14, 2024



A Rotaract member in Pune watches polio drops being administered to a young child during a national immunization day.

By Jigneshh Karria, president, Rotary Club of Pune Baner, India

Seeing a twinkle in the eye of a baby you have helped gives you a happy feeling. When you see someone with a disability run or dance, you get inspired. My conviction in community service was strengthened when I realized how Rotary enables us to touch lives in a million different ways. During my presidency, I vowed to participate in as many Rotary signature projects as possible. One of those involved Rotary's top priority, the eradication of polio. Rotary members are a huge reason India is polio-free.

In Pune, we observed a national immunization day on 3 March. Rotary District 3131

joined hands with our municipal government. In association with the Indian Institute of Education and Business Management (IIEBM), my club helped organize volunteers and set up immunization booths three days before.

On the day of the drive, an army of volunteers from the Rotaract club based at the Institute turned out to ensure its resounding success. We all met bright and early at 6:30 a.m. and reviewed our plan for the busy day. We set up 82 booths covering the neighborhoods of Aundh, Baner, Pashan, Bopodi, and some adjoining areas. We were joined by 25 Rotary members and five Rotary Anns. Our job was to assist and participate in administering the polio drops.

The enthusiasm among our young brigade was incredible. We divided into 82 teams. Each team put up posters, distributed promotional materials, and helped doctors and staff at the booths. They watched each baby and mother with care as the drops were administered into tiny mouths. Some of the youth got to administer doses themselves.

Dr. Ganesh Damale, Ward Medical Officer for the Pune Municipal Corporation, and Dr. Maya Lohar, Dhanori Ward Medical Officer, had their teams stationed with vaccine supplies. People from every corner of the city showed up to get their babies immunized. Many applauded our efforts.

Lata Pawar, a young mother with an 18-month-old toddler, asked one Rotaractor if he was a doctor. When the young man corrected her that he was a business management student, she praised Rotary for the great job we are doing.

The Result:

A total of 11,705 infants received doses of the vaccine. We thank Dr. Bhagwan Pawar and Dr. Rajesh Dighe, Assistant Immunization Officer, for their guidance throughout the drive. We also thank Girish Dapkekar, Assistant Commissioner of Aundh Baner Ward, who helped us coordinate with the medical teams from the Pune Municipal Corporation. Jai Singh Marwaha, Managing Director at IIEBM, Dean Dr. Poonam Nikam, and faculty members Dr. Vishal Bhole, Sandeep Kanse, and Chandrakala Rai, also assisted us.

But it was youth power that made this day possible. We could not have done it without the large Rotaract turnout. Let's go Rotary!

