

THE STAFFORD HIGHLIGHT

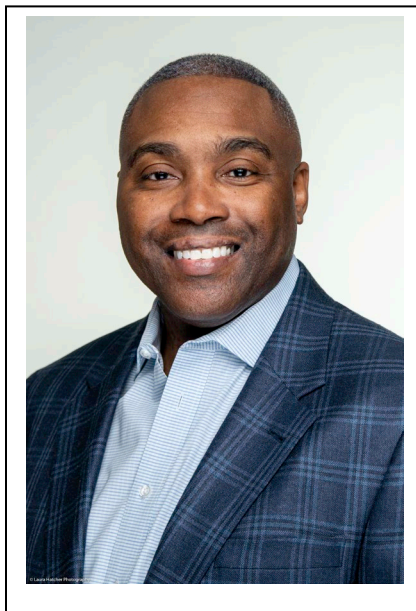
September 25,
2024



Rotary Club of Stafford **People of Action**

September 25 - Creating Future Global Leaders from Local Talent.

E. Sean Lanier is the Founder and Executive Director of Resolve Solutions Inc., an Alexandria, VA-based 501(c)3, a service-disabled veteran-owned and operated non-profit that has helped over 500+ students from 23 states earn over \$43 million in ROTC scholarships and service academy appointments toward their undergraduate degrees.



Sean was born in McDonald Army Hospital, Fort Eustis, Virginia, and raised in Petersburg, Virginia. After attaining the grade of E-5 in the Virginia National Guard and graduating from the Virginia Military Institute with a Bachelor of Arts in History, Sean was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Aviation Branch. In 2010, Sean earned a Master of Science in Business: Supply Chain Management & Logistics from the University of Kansas. Ed.D.,

Sean's social activities include serving as a member of the Virginia Military Institute - Board of Visitors, President, Petersburg Public Schools, Career & Technical Education Advisory Board, President, Prince George's County Public

Club Calendar

September Is Basic Education and Literacy Month

- ❖ September 25 – Evening meeting Sean Lanier
- ❖ September 28, 29 -Via Colori
- ❖ October 4-6, 2024 – District Conference
- ❖ October 10/12 -Rotary Leadership Institute (registration opened!)
- ❖ 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

Schools, Career & Technical Education PAC Committee, Field Force Liaison, United States Military Academy at West Point, The ROCKS INC – National Board Volunteer, former VMI Alumni Association Board of Directors, VMIAA Potomac River & George C. Marshall Chapter Vice-President, President Rotary International – Springfield, VA Chapter, The University of Kansas Alumni Association, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc and several other activities that help to create STEM & Diversity outreach, advocacy for higher education and service to country through military and civil service.

September 18 Meeting

President Jamie was out of town. Cheri presided and gave the Thought of the Day: “The adventure of life is to learn. The purpose of life is to grow. The nature of life is to change. The challenge of life is to overcome.”

Dylan Zoomed the meeting from Chicago where his mom was hospitalized. He reported that she is doing well. PDG Sandy had surgery last week.

Announcements

- ❖ The Via Colori signup sheet has been sent out. Please sign up to volunteer for this event.
- ❖ IPDG Rene announced some upcoming speakers.
- ❖ October 1 is National Night Out in Stafford.
- ❖ October 15 some of our club members will meet with the Stafford Board of Supervisors to observe World Polio Day and to receive a proclamation noting Rotary’s important role in the fight to rid the world of the disease.
- ❖ October 31 is the annual chili cook-off at UMW
- ❖ Register for District Conference, October 4-6.
- ❖ Kristy reported 17 students attended an Interact meeting at Colonial Forge High.

Program – Chloe Brackens from GMU



IPDG Rene introduced Chloe whom she met at George Mason University when they both attended a Rotary meeting on Peace and Conflict Resolution. Chloe is majoring in conflict resolution at GMU and has served as president of the campus Freedom Connection.

She spent the summer studying in the Philippines with an emphasis on learning about the human trafficking problem there. She gave a brief description of the geography and history of the Philippines.

The Philippines is located in Southeast Asia, on the eastern rim of the Asiatic Mediterranean. It is bounded in the west by the South China Sea; in the east by the Pacific Ocean; in the south by the Sulu and Celebes Seas; and in the north by the Bashi Channel. Its capital and main port of entry is Manila. The Philippines is an archipelago consisting of 7,100 islands with a total land area of approximately 300,000 square kilometers. It has three major island groups-Luzon in the north, Visayas in the middle and Mindanao further down in the South. The country has a tropical climate with two distinct seasons-wet and dry.

The current population of the Philippines is about 80 million people. Filipinos are basically of Indo-Malay racial stock, mixed with some Chinese and Spanish ancestry. The national language is Filipino, which is based on the language of Tagalog, although there are at least one or two dialects spoken in every region. There are more than 87 languages and dialects in the country. English is considered an official language as it is both spoken and understood throughout the Philippines and used in business, government and schools.

More than 80% of the population is Roman Catholic. Other major religions include Muslim and Protestant. The literacy rate in the country is 92.6%.

Human trafficking and the prostitution of children has been a significant issue in the Philippines, often controlled by organized crime syndicates. With the Philippines having a large migrant population, the men are used for fishing, construction, and farming. Women are exploited in more domestic and caretaker roles. Children are exploited for sex and labor trafficking. An undated United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) document estimated that 60,000 to 100,000 children in the Philippines were involved in prostitution rings as of 2009. According to the International Labor Organization (ILO) about 100,000 children were involved in prostitution as of 2009. There is a high incidence of child prostitution in tourist areas. An undetermined number of children are forced into exploitative labor operations.

Chloe discussed visiting a center for sex trafficking survivors where the survivors are given shelter, therapy, and vocational training. She shared some examples of paintings from the center's art program.



Rotary **END HT** TAKE ACTION CONTACT DONATE

Together we can end it.
and you can make it happen

In the time it took you to read this, over a thousand women and children have been trafficked into the Midwest against their will. Don't wait, do something about it right now.

Who we are
Rotary chapters in 100+ counties
Partnering together with Rotary clubs in
Illinois and the surrounding
Midwest, North America and parts of
Canada. [Learn More >](#)

Know the facts
Human trafficking is the exploitation of
a person for commercial sex or forced
labor. It is the fastest growing and
most profitable criminal enterprise that
impacts every community in the world. [Learn More >](#)

What you can do
Learn critical signs and symptoms
and how to help. Partner with Rotary
Club chapters near to support their
efforts or join Rotary's ongoing
initiative on a project or sponsor. [Learn More >](#)

Resources
Find out what your local community
has to get started that organizations
and agencies who are working to end
human trafficking in your area. Find a
Rotary Club near you. [Learn More >](#)

1-800-842-2666
214-988-5275-2888
or call 911
TEXT: 252733
TAG: Confidant

"It ought to concern every person because it is a dehumanization of our common humanity. It ought to concern every community because it tears at the social fabric. It ought to concern every business, because it distorts markets. It ought to concern every nation because it endangers public health and basic resilience and organized society. I'm talking about the injustice, the outrage, of human trafficking, which must be called by its true name -- modern slavery."

Col James Jenkins, Our Speaker on September 11



Some Sad News and a Bit of Club History

When the Rotarian of the Year is awarded each year, we remember Al Brewster who gave the big eagle trophy to the club in honor of Shirley Heim. I learned today that Al had died. He was so proud of being named Rotarian of the Year.

Albert Brewster Obituary

Brigadier General, U.S. M.C. (retired)
Brigadier General Albert E. Brewster "Pop" died peacefully in his sleep on September 12, 2024, at his home in Frisco, TX. He was born on May 25, 1930, in Pine Bluff, AR. Al was an avid reader growing up and passed the Naval ROTC scholarship exam. He earned a BA in Business at the Univ. of New Mexico in 1952.

He served during the final days of the Korean war as a Mortar Platoon Leader for the 1st Bat., 1st Marines on the front lines during the Battle of the Imajin River. He then went on to flight training in Pensacola and later (1955) to NAS in Corpus Christi for Advanced flight training. In 1962, as part of VMA-225 he operated off the USS Enterprise during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He logged 108 carrier landings during this mission. In 1968, as the XO for VMA-221, he flew 105 combat missions in Vietnam operating from the MCAS Chu Lai airfield. In 1971, he became the XO of Marine Aircraft Group 11 based out of El Toro, CA. In 1972, while still in the USMC, he earned an MA in Education from Pepperdine U. In Aug 1973, he was promoted to



Colonel.

Al was also an avid skier and met his current wife, Suzanne Brewster (née Stuewe) during a ski trip to Big Bear Valley. They were married 6 months later on June 16, 1974. He was now stepfather, or "Pop", to Suzie's 3 boys: Pat (10), Mike (8), and Mark (7). That same year he was promoted to Brigadier General. BGen Brewster served as the Legislative Assistant to the Commandant from August 1977 to May 1980. During this assignment he helped the USMC in getting a permanent seat on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He retired from the Marine Corps on July 1, 1980 after 29 years of service. He went on to work for Northrop Corporation as the Vice President of Legislative Affairs. He worked on the sale of the B2 Stealth bomber to Congress.

After 10 years there he retired to go on a sailing adventure with his wife on their sailboat, WingNPrayer. Over the next two years ('89-'91) they sailed down the chain of islands to South America and back, having many memorable adventures. In 1992, as the GC, he oversaw the building of their dream home on St Leonard's Creek off the Chesapeake Bay. It was at this time that Al joined a Rotary International club and was an avid member over the next 20 years, donating his time to charitable causes, with a special interest in the charity, the Snowball Express. The Snowball Express annual event of fun and entertainment for the children of fallen service members with the cost dependent totally on donations. Therefore, Al has requested that in lieu of flowers, to please consider donating to Snowball Express on their website. Al Brewster had a positive influence on anyone who came within his sphere of influence. It may have been as a mentor or as inspiration. He was uncommonly generous with his time as well as with his resources. He will live forever in the hearts of all who knew him.

Al was preceded in death by his son, Albert E Brewster Jr, and sister, Barabara Owen. He is survived by his wife, Suzanne; his stepsons, Patrick McNeil of Fort Washington, MD, Michael McNeil of Frisco, TX, Mark McNeil (Debbie) of Tucson, AZ, grandsons, Sean Brewster (Alexis) of Gresham, OR and Bryce Brewster (Kristen) of Newberg OR; and granddaughter Lacey Jane Brewster (Scott Markle) of Anchorage, AK.

Family and friends are invited to a Visitation at Turrentine-Jackson-Morrow Funeral Home, 8520 Main Street, Frisco, Texas 75033, on Monday, September 30, 2024, from 4 to 6 p.m. with a Rosary beginning at 4:30 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 8000 Eldorado Parkway, Frisco, Texas 75033, at 11 a.m., followed with a reception. Interment will follow at DFW National Cemetery, 2000 Mountain Creek Parkway, Dallas, Texas 75211, beginning at 2:15 p.m.

Published by The Washington Post on Sep. 22, 2024.

Al took part in the Library of Congress Veterans Oral History Project. His interviews are available at the LOC link below.

<https://www.loc.gov/item/afc2001001.69206/>