

GEAR POST

Waynesboro
Rotary Club
5780

October 2021

President: Leonard Poulin
President Elect: Barrett Owen
Secretaries: Sarah Paiste & Margaret Hersh
Treasurer: Laurie Landes
Immediate Past President: Rebecca Shin
Directors: Frank Carey, Celine Reid, Tracy Straight and Anne Hudlow
Gear Post: Francine Johnston



September 16th



Youth & Peace in Action (YPA)

Bret Hrbek, who is the Youth Coordinator for our district, joined us virtually today to talk about the Youth and Peace in Action Initiative targeted to high school students for the creation of peace builders. The Interact Club at WHS, led by Jennifer Rudolph, will join with 25 other schools in District 4 for 20 hours of online training and these students will be certified to work with larger groups of students. The initiative kicked off on Sept 21st, the International Day of Peace.

September 23rd



Misty Ladd and Sophie Parsons

Pandemic Updates and Augusta Regional Dental Clinic

We began with an update from Mary Mannix who described how current high rates of Covid cases put Augusta Health at its capacity. Then Executive Director Sophie Parsons, explained how the Augusta Regional Clinic provides affordable dental care for about 1800 people a year and will be increasing capacity in the coming year. Only 70% of the population and 2 out of 10 children get regular dental care, which is vital for our general health. Misty Ladd shared stories of patients whose lives have been turned around with proper dental care. **NOTE:** The clinic is trying to raise \$5,000 to support free dental care for school children in the area. Our foundation is contributing \$500 but more is needed. See Rebecca Shin to make a donation.

September 30th



Mary Ann prepares the awards

Paul Harris Awards

After an introduction by Mary Ann, Vonda Lacy announced the Paul Harris Awards and past President Rebecca Shin pinned the recipients. New Paul Harris Fellow awards went to Rachel Pruitt (honored by Harold Cook), Barret Owen, and Jung-Bum Shin (honored by Rebecca). 2nd year pins went to Vonda Lacey, Jeff Cassell and Jim Hyson. 3rd year pins went to Steve Howlett, Andy Matherly, Lowrie Tucker and Francine Johnston. A 4th year pin went to Kathleen Heatwole for 2020. 5th year pins went to Dick Clark, Chad Hatter, and Carl Kerby. A 6th year pin went to Len Poulin. 7th year pins went to Maggie VanHuss and Mary Ann Everly-Maupin. An 8th year pin went to Laurie Landes and a 9th year pin went to Bill Watkins. Brett Hayes, Paul Dana, Doris Hulvey and Nancy Whitlock have all exceeded the \$9000 limit for receiving pins but remain sustainers. Congratulations and thanks to everyone!





Football is back but Jeff Fife needs your input. Please respond to Jeff's emails to complete surveys and contribute interesting information about yourself (or others) that members of the club might not know.

October 7th



Jerry Ratcliffe, the Voice of UVA Athletics

Krystal Moyers gave us an update on the effectiveness of vaccinations in preventing serious Covid illness and death and reported a downward trend in hospitalizations at Augusta Health. Then Jeff Fife introduced Jerry Ratcliffe who shared stories from his 40 years of award-winning sports reporting - including University of Virginia coverage. He told stories of interviewing coaches such as Woody Hayes and George Welsh, as well as playing golf with Sam Snead and Willie Nelson. If you are a UVA fan look for his podcast, website and books on the Cavaliers.

October 14th



BRITE Transit Services

Devon Thompson and Steve Wilson from BRITE Transit Services joined us live today. After giving us some background on public transportation in the area they described the current services and the different routes available. Bus service is available 12 hours a day around Waynesboro and Staunton and there are links between them, as well as to Charlottesville with the recently opened Afton Express. Disabled users can call for special door to door service.

October 21st



Iraqi Youth Leaders

Meg Huebeck moderated a virtual panel discussion featuring three young people trained by UVA's Center for Politics' IYLEP program. Joining us from Iraq were Zhanyan Farzen, Yousif-Habash and Hasan Saeid who talked about how the training helped them make connections and feel empowered. They described the projects they are developing to make a positive impact in their communities: helping young people impacted by war, teaching critical thinking skills, preserving traditional music, and educating people about oral hygiene.

Notes from the Board

Attendance is a major concern of the board. Plan to attend regularly in person or virtually and report make-ups to Sarah Paiste.



District 4 Day of Service

Saturday Oct 23rd was a day of service and all area clubs were invited to participate. 100 pounds of food was collected in a Hunger Drive for the Blue Ridge Area Foodbank and our club donated \$700. A job fair held in Staunton attracted over 20 organizations looking for employees. The annual Pints for Polio event was held at Skipping Rock Brewery. Over 30 people, joined by DG Tara Ellis, helped raise \$2500 for Polio Plus. Our club contributed over \$300.

