

Rotary Club of Blacksburg The Bulletin



Rotary 

District 7570

Club 5753

This Week's Program:
VT Prison Book Project

July 20, 2023 | Transition Month

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves. – Rotary Mission Statement



In this issue...

This Week	2
Local News	3
Monthly Theme	4
Calendar	5
Sponsors	5

Rotary Club of Blacksburg

(Club 5753)

Join us for Lunch!

Meets every Thursday at Noon

Blacksburg Country Club

www.rotary.org | www.rotary7570.org



Join This Week's Meeting

We look forward to seeing you at noon at the Blacksburg Country Club. Our program this week is two part, both on advancing literacy! Read below for more details. **THERE WILL BE NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION RIGHT BEFORE THE MEETING.**

This Week's Program:

Today's speakers are Dr. Brian Britt, professor of religion and culture at Virginia Tech, as well as 2 VT students, Savannah Greene and Annabelle Owens. They are involved in the VT Prison Book Project which began in 2021 in partnership with the Appalachian Prison Book Project (APBP) which sends free books to incarcerated people in six states.

The VT Prison Book Project (housed in the Virginia Tech Department of Religion and Culture) sends approved and requested reading materials to those incarcerated in Virginia state and federal prisons and jails. In addition to recreational reading, incarcerated readers request a wide array of topics: self-help books, books on parenting, addiction recovery, textbooks, books on electrician and plumbing skills. Each book is sent with a personal note providing encouragement and hope to those receiving it. As part of our District Grant we will participate in at least two book wrapping parties following club meetings, a community book drive, and purchase some of the highly requested books. Dr. Britt and the students will share their interest and commitment to the project and share some of the feedback they have received from those receiving the books.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MEETING WE NEED AT LEAST 15 MEMBERS TO STAY AFTER THE MEETING TO DO OUR FIRST BOOK WRAPPING PARTY

Our speakers arrived early to set up for our Book Wrapping Party today. They will explain the process and immediately following our meeting we will get to work. We plan to match 40-50 letters to books, include a note and package the books for mailing. Work on this project will count towards our grant and give you a makeup too. This project honors our DG Paula - Giving Hope Through Literacy.

This week's bulletin is sponsored by:

PLOTT & FRENCH
FINANCIAL ADVISORS



About VT Prison Book Project

We send books to incarcerated readers in Virginia. We believe Virginia Tech's educational mission extends to Virginians behind bars, and we recognize the value of sharing books as a form of educational justice. We respond to letters from incarcerated persons requesting books. We partner with the Appalachian Prison Book Project, Blacksburg Books, VT Engage, and several student organizations. Sponsored by the Department of Religion and Culture and the Center for Humanities.

We accept donations of new and used paperback books in good condition. There is a selection of books you can purchase for donation at Blacksburg Books, 401 S. Main St. You can also bring your own books for donation to one of three drop-off locations:

- Virginia Tech's Women's Center front porch (206 Washington St.)
- The Lyric Theatre Lobby (135 College Ave.)
- Major Williams Hall 107 (collection box in hallway)



Connect with us!



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www.blacksburgrotary.org

The Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say, or do...

Is it the Truth?

Is it Fair to all concerned?

Will it build Goodwill and Better Friendships?

Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

Club Leadership

President: Tom Ryan
 President-Elect: Eric Johnsen
 President-Nominee: Bruce Roulstone
 Secretary: Leslie Jester
 Treasurer: Fred Meyers

Club Directors

Club: Eric Johnsen
 Vocational: Jim McAlister
 Local: Jamie McReynolds
 International: Chuck Burress
 Youth: Mary Biggs

District and Global

RI President: Gordon McNally
 District Governor: Paula Alston
 Area 9 Governor: Terri Fisher
 District Secretary: Nancy Whitlock
 District Treasurer: Jacob Higginbotham



Meet Area Governor Terri Fisher

Terri Fisher is the Lost Communities of Virginia Program Manager at the Community Design Assistance Center, an outreach center of the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design, at Virginia Tech. She is the co-author and face of the Lost Communities of Virginia book which won several awards when it was published in 2011 including the Library of Virginia People's Choice Award for Non-Fiction. If Terri looks familiar, you may have seen her interview on the Blue Ridge PBS show, Write Around the Corner. She has written several other local history books about Blacksburg and Giles County and developed several Lost Communities of Virginia driving tour brochures. She is also a past Executive Director of the Giles County Historical Society.



Terri grew up in a small quintessential New England town and holds a B.S. and M.S. in Computer Science from the University of New Hampshire. She worked as an Artificial Intelligence Engineer developing Navy decision aiding prototypes for Lockheed Martin in New Jersey prior to making a career change to focus on historic preservation. Terri found her way to the New River Valley when she attended Virginia Tech beginning in 1998 for the Masters of Architecture program and stayed when she met her future husband (and fellow Rotarian), Terry Nicholson, on the first day of class when they bonded over their first names.








Terri is an aspiring artist who enjoys designing patterns for fabric and home décor and drawing animal faces. She plays the clarinet in the Blacksburg Community Band, is a member of the Narrows Downtown Revitalization Management Team, and a member of the Council of Former Directors of the Community Foundation of the New River Valley after spending 10 years on their Board. Terri and Terry enjoy traveling and combine trips to visit her family in New Hampshire with exploration of the Northeast, always finding the best seafood and ice cream stops along the way. Terri and Terry live in Narrows in Giles County.



Terri joined the Rotary Club of Christiansburg-Blacksburg in 2013, sponsored by Terry. She served as Club President in 2019-2020, helping the club navigate the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Terri is a graduate of the Rotary Leadership Institute, a Paul Harris Fellow, and a member of the Polio Plus Society. She is serving in her second year as Area Governor for Area 9.



Calendar

July 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 	5	6 NO MEETING	7	8
9	10 Jeff Mitchell 	11 MICAH'S backpack 	12	13 Noon Meeting Mike Snyder 	14	15
16	17	18 Satellite Club 5:30 PM MICAH'S backpack Jamie McReynolds 	19	20 Noon Meeting	21	22
23	24	25 MICAH'S backpack 	26	27 Noon Meeting	28	29
30 Ben Jackson 	31					

Upcoming Programs and Events

Jul 27 – VT Football

Aug 3 – Committee Day

Aug 10 – Tour of new Blacksburg Police Station

Micah's Backpack Update: This summer, our club has volunteered to increase our packing frequency with Micah's Backpack. Starting on June 6th, our club will be sending volunteers to help every Tuesday during summer.

Need a Make-Up?

Blacksburg Satellite Club

Corp. Research Center – 1st/3rd Tues 5:30pm

Montgomery County

Inn at Va. Tech – 1st/3rd Wednesday, 7:15 AM

Christiansburg-Blacksburg

Blacksburg C.C. 2nd/4th Monday 5:30 PM

Floyd

Floyd Country Store, Wednesday Noon

Radford

Long Way Brewing, Wednesday Noon

Salem

Salem Civic Center, Thursday Noon

Pulaski

Pulaski CC of Thornsprings, Monday 12:15 PM

Giles

Location varies; please call, Thursday Noon



Thank You to our Primary Sponsors!

PLOTT & FRENCH
FINANCIAL ADVISORS

David & Julie Reemsnyder

Patrick K. Moore, PC
Attorney at Law

Primary Sponsorship is a gift of \$3,000 Annually with your commitment for a period of 3 years to our 501C3 Foundation. The Primary Sponsor program is limited to 15 Primary Sponsors who will have their name and/or Logo on signage to be displayed at every Rotary Club of Blacksburg meeting and event throughout the calendar year, your name and/or logo displayed on emails sent to club members throughout the calendar year as well as your name/logo displayed on our weekly club bulletin. We will highlight our Primary Sponsors through our Rotary Club of Blacksburg social media sites as well.

If you are interested in more information on becoming a Primary Sponsor for the Rotary Club of Blacksburg, please contact Leslie Jester!