

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM & NEWS

June 4, 2009

The Rotary Club of Blacksburg, www.blacksburgrotary.org

Club #5753 P.O. Box 770 Blacksburg, VA 24063

2008-2009: Bob Hoover, President / rdh041@hotmail.com

*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?*

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

June 4, Gen Jerry Allen and Col Rock Roszak, VT Corps of Cadets

June 11, Sgt. Nathan O'Dell, School Resource Officer

June 18, Jean Ann Hughes, Girl Scouts

June 25, Erica Williams, Montgomery County Clerk's Office Update

July 2, NO MEETING

July 9, New Rotary Year Begins: Year End Review / President's Inaugural Report
Goals for 2010

August 22, Rotary Yard Sale (Saturday event)

ROTARY NEWS THIS WEEK

FROM CHUCK LEE: Our guest speaker is General Jerry Allen. Here is his outstanding bio.

-Served 4 years in United States Marine Corps Reserves.

-Transferred to U.S. Army Airborne in 2002 and was NCO honor graduate of U.S. Army Airborne School in 2002.

-Deployed to Iraq in 2004 for 13 months under the 101st Airborne. Conducted 280 combat/route clearance patrols throughout the Sunni Triangle.

-Deployed to Iraq in 2007 with 1st Batt. 116th Reg. 29th I.D. Awarded the Bronze Star

FROM KARIN CLARK : We had great coverage on our Talbot Park rededication.

Linked here is the article in the Roanoke Times

<http://www.roanoke.com/news/nrv/wb/206425> and the newsletter from VT

<http://www.vetmed.vt.edu/news/vs/may09/index.asp#talbotmp>

We also had the News Messenger cover the Vocational awards and hope to have a similar article in the Roanoke Times on our recent youth scholarships.

Our club presented the 2009 Outstanding **Career and Technical Education Student Awards** to four Montgomery County high school seniors. These annual awards include a \$750.00 scholarship towards the student's continued education at a Community College or a Vocational School. Technical Education teachers nominate students and the Rotary Club selects the recipients based on superior performance,

initiative and dependability in their chosen fields- plus their activities that exemplify two of Rotary's ideals- high ethical standards and service to others.

The honorees for 2009 are:

- ◆ Brooke Maxfield, health occupations, Eastern Montgomery HS
- ◆ Katelyn M. Blackburn, carpentry/cabinetmaking, Auburn HS
- ◆ Julian Iford, HVAC and carpentry, Christiansburg HS
- ◆ John Jones, automotive, Blacksburg HS

In recent weeks we also recognized outstanding high school senior fine arts students within the Montgomery County School system with scholarships towards continuing education. The 2009 \$750 **Fine Arts scholarship** recipients are:

- Ashley Koelling of Blacksburg High School for Visual
- Leah Simmerman of Blacksburg High School for Visual
- Carmen Graves of Christiansburg High School for Visual
- Melissa Umberto of Eastern Montgomery High School for Visual
- Reed Yearwood of Christiansburg High School for Vocal Music
- Rachel Wilkins of Christiansburg High School for Vocal Music

Students are nominated by their teachers for their art in vocal, instrumental, visual, theater, dance or literary. The Club's Fine Arts committee selects the winners based on their auditions or a portfolio.

FROM JIM JOHNSON: We would like to enhance the membership directory this year with a short, two-paragraph "spot light" on each member. Here, you have free range to give a little more background on you. Share with the club your hometown, hobbies or interest, career highlights/degrees, children/grandkids, other community involvement, awards and more. Send the information, Word format preferred, to Jim Johnson **by June 15** if possible. The Member Directory will be published in early July. There is a note book in to review your listing. You can also go online at (<http://www.directory-online.com/Rotary/Login.cfm>), log in, and make your own changes. The two- paragraph would be entered under "description".

FROM DAVE KUCHINSKI: Available for purchase- The History of Rotary "A Decade of Service Above Self- A Recent History of Rotary District 7570, Western Virginia and Northeastern Tennessee 1995-2007". Cost \$15. See me or the History Committee for your copy.

FROM KARIN CLARK Below is a letter from one of Michael Abraham's guest last week, Frankie Martin, who are working on the research project "*Journey into America*". This project is designed to examine the status of Islam in the United States, minorities in the United States, especially Muslims, and general attitudes towards Muslims in the United States by non-Muslim Americans.

How do Muslims fit into contemporary American society? And how have the uniquely American ideals of pluralism, openness, and cultural integration held up in post-9/11

American society? Those are the driving questions behind “*Journey into America*,” a cross-country adventure led by Ambassador Akbar Ahmed, renowned Islamic scholar and author, and his team of enthusiastic young Americans. They will explore America and American identity in a post-September 11 world during their journey, which will take them to cities big and small, from Birmingham, Alabama, Nashville, Tennessee, and Salt Lake City to New York City, Boston, Chicago, and Los Angeles.

A similar journey through the Muslim world resulted in the book *Journey into Islam: The Crisis of Globalization*. The result of this adventure will be a unique anthropological study of American identity as seen through the eyes of Americans—both Muslim and non-Muslim.

A survey they are asking us to complete follows. A CNN cover story about the project is linked here:

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/LIVING/wayoflife/02/09/muslims.america/index.html>

Dear Karin,

Thanks so much for hosting us so hospitably at the club yesterday and offering to circulate our questionnaires. The opinions of the people from southwest Virginia are very important to our project and we appreciate your support. Please find below a description of the project and a link to an article about our travels throughout America to study American identity. Please share our blog address (www.journeyintoamerica.wordpress.com) with the Rotary members as they may find it interesting. The questionnaire is attached—it's up to you how to best collect them, you could have them fill them out and email it (fm9645a@american.edu) or print them out and collect them and give them to Michael Abraham to send back at the next Rotary Club meeting as we're doing for the ones distributed yesterday. Again thank you for your support.

Regards, Frankie

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

to: kclark@lunainnovations.com)

(Sorry if we missed your birthday. Send a note

June 7	John Spicer
June 9	Peter Thompson
June 10	Tiffany Anderson
June 16	Bane Atkinson
June 16	Dave Reemsnyder
June 18	Todd Murray
June 24	Bob Oliver
June 25	Judy Ridinger
June 30	John Brown

DO YOU NEED A CLUB MAKE-UP? Spend just a ½ hour online at the Rotary eClubOne Web site learning about Rotary programs and activities around the globe, fill out the make up form and you're there. This link is available on our club website, www.blacksburgrotary.org. Or, make up at an area club. See the list of clubs online at http://blacksburgrotary.org/area_meet.html

To include news in the weekly Rotary email bulletin, noon lunch bulletin or Web site, please forward to Barbara Newton bjnewt@comcast.net or Karin Clark kclark@lunainnovations.com

Rotary International District 7570 (WWW.ROTARY7570.ORG) covers Western Virginia and Northeastern Tennessee

QUOTE:

Wisdom is the right use of knowledge. To know is not to be wise. Many men know a great deal, and are all the greater fools for it. There is no fool so great a fool as a knowing fool. But to know how to use knowledge is to have wisdom.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834 - 1892)

The following pages contain the survey we would like you to print off and fill out and bring to the meeting.

THANKS!

5. Do you think Islam is portrayed accurately in the media? Why or why not?

6. What are your three favorite TV shows? And Movies?

7. What is shameful behavior among men? And Women?

8. Is America a Christian country? Why or why not?

9. What, in your opinion, is the greatest threat to America? How should America counter this threat?

10. On a personal level, if you could ask anyone for advice on a religious issue, who or what institution specifically would you consult? Why?

11. How would you rank the following in order of importance to you?
A. religion B. nationality C. political beliefs D. ethnic loyalties/heritage?

12. If your religious beliefs are in conflict with law, which takes precedence?

13. Can a Muslim be an American? Why or why not? Would you vote for a Muslim for public office?

14. What makes a “good American”?

15. In your estimation, who represents Islam today?

16. Is there gender equality in Islam?

17. Have you ever experienced religious or racial prejudice? In what context?

18. What is the War on Terror? Who is the enemy? Is the War on Terror succeeding?

19. There is a debate about justifying violence in the name of religion. How do you see this?

20. How would your community react to a terrorist attack in America?

21. Have you ever met a Muslim/Jew /Christian or member of another faith? If so, what kind of interactions do you have with member of other faiths? Have these interactions shaped your view of these people?

22. How do you feel others perceive your religion?

23. Do Muslims, Jews and Christians worship the same God?

24. What, do you believe, are the best steps towards fostering greater understanding and bridging relations between the U.S. and the Muslim World?

Part 3

Name of Interviewer:

Special Remarks (interviewer impressions):

Informed Consent

Journey into America is a research project designed to examine the status of Islam in the United States, minorities in the United States, especially Muslims, and general attitudes towards Muslims in the United States by non-Muslim Americans. The Principal Investigator and his team of researchers seek to interview people of all religions, ages, genders, races and ethnicities in order to understand their beliefs and attitudes towards several different issues both personal and societal. We will use either the questionnaire to record the answers or written notes by the interviewee in lieu of the questionnaire. The questionnaire is anonymous and confidential. We understand that you may become uncomfortable if your responses are identified with you. Data gained from the questionnaire or in personal interviews will help us understand the problem better and will not be circulated. Data gained and used by the researchers will only use the interviewees' age, gender, city of residence, country of birth and religious persuasion. The research team may quote your answers for publication. In the case that they do, your identity will be protected by the research team limiting personal details to general demographic information (age, gender and city). If the subject becomes uncomfortable at any time during the questionnaire or interview, or does not wish to answer a question, the subject reserves the right to do so without

question.

Subject Signature _____

Contact information for Research Team:

<p>Professor Akbar S. Ahmed 4400 Massachusetts Ave NW Washington, DC 20016 akbar@american.edu 202-885-1961</p>	<p>Peter Jaszi Chair, Institutional Review Board American University Washington College of Law 4400 Massachusetts Avenue, NW Room 394 Washington, D.C. 20016-8181 (202) 274-4216</p>
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Yours,

Barbara Newton Email: bjnewt@comcast.net HPhone: 540-951-9616 OPhone: 540-230-5255