



THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM & NEWS: Nov 19, 2009

The Rotary Club of Blacksburg, Club #5753

P.O. Box 770 Blacksburg, VA 24063 / [T.O. Williams](mailto:T.O.Williams), President

*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:

THERE WILL BE NO BULLETIN OR MEETING NEXT WEEK DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.

- November 19 - Auction for Local Foundation
- November 26 - No Meeting / Thanksgiving
- December 3 – TBA
- December 10 – Blacksburg High School Madrigals Singers
- December 11-13 - Rotary Youth Leadership Seminar, Inn at VT
- December 17 – Ed Weathers, VT English Professor organizing an internship for Professional Writing students
- December 24 & 31 – no meetings
- February 18 – Mardi Gras Event (**SAVE THE DATE**)

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: We will be highlighting our new club members over the next few weeks. These bios will be included in our [online club directory](#) along with their contact information.

Chris Winston lives in Christiansburg, Va., where he is married to former journalist Bridget Bradburn and plays father to two wild boys, Charlie and Jackson. A native of South Carolina, he graduated with honors from the South Carolina Honors College. As the New River Valley Bureau Chief of *The Roanoke Times*, where he has worked since 2005, he oversees 15 reporters, photographers and editors. Prior to that, he worked for nine years at the Herald-Journal newspaper in Spartanburg, S.C., as an assistant city editor, business editor, health reporter and sports reporter. In addition to his work with Roanoke Times, he serves on the board of the New River Writers Project and as a community adviser to the Community Foundation of the New River Valley and Junior Achievement of Southwest Virginia. He is a member of Blacksburg United Methodist Church. Chris is a 2009 graduate of Leadership Roanoke Valley and the former chairman of Involvement through News and Civics, an Atlanta-based organization that uses free daily newspapers to encourage civic engagement among low-income families.



Berfun, our Turkish exchange student and her next host-family sister, Jenni Daniel. They cooked dolma (Berfun's mother's recipe) at the Bracken home on November 15. It was delicious!

FROM FRED MYERS, CHAIR LOCAL FOUNDATION COMMITTEE: We will hold the **Fall Auction** this week. Those of you who may have already paid your annual \$100 contribution to the Local Foundation will receive five tickets. If you have not made a prior contribution, you can purchase 5 raffle tickets for \$100 or individually at \$25 each. A pair of tickets to the sold out Manheim Steamroller Concert in Roanoke this coming Monday evening is one of the auction items. Proceeds from the Fall Auction benefit our Club's Local Foundation which supports vocational scholarships and many other local causes. Any questions contact me at fmeyers172@aol.com or 953-1713.

FROM LESLIE FRANZ, CHAIR YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE: We have **selected two juniors**, Sarah Dorrell and Caman Skelton, from Blacksburg High School to attend the **Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Seminar** being held at the Inn at Virginia Tech on December 11-13, 2009. This is an event that offers a weekend for young people who want to learn more about leadership, leadership skills, and how to effectively use these skills in their daily lives. The seminar provides an atmosphere fostering personal and interpersonal growth and development and gives an opportunity for meaningful exchange of ideas between peers and between generations. It teaches and promotes individual leadership values and examines one's behavior on critical issues. It provides an opportunity to meet new people, share feelings and beliefs.

FROM PAULA ALSTON, CO-CHAIR COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE: The [Montgomery County Christmas Store](#), located at 30 W. Main St in Christiansburg, is an all-volunteer, community-wide, nonprofit organization which assists low-income families in Montgomery County during the Christmas season. Serving families with children is their first priority. The store expects to serve more than 1,500 needy families this year. The dates the store will be open for "Shopping Days" are: **December 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12**. If you have not signed up to work the store and would like to please contact me

by email palston@mfrl.org or cell at 757-651-0338.

***Christy Brown will be collecting coats for the Christmas Store at our meeting on December 3. Coats of all types and sizes are needed. These coats should be clean and ready to wear with all closures working.**

FROM JIM HALFERTY, CHAIR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE: Recycle those old cell phones! Eastern Montgomery High School (EMHS) has organized a drive for old cell phones. Each phone that gets recycled puts money towards a phone card for a soldier (www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com) to call home while stationed overseas. If you know an EMHS student, give them the phone. If not, drop your old cell phone in the recycle box in the foyer at the Blacksburg County Club and we'll take care of it. You can also circulate this information at your places of work to further make the program a success. Any questions contact me at jhalferty@egpp.com. **See attached /following information.**

FROM ANN BRACKEN, CHAIR YOUTH EXCHANGE COMMITTEE: The holiday season is upon us! As you make plans for your family outings and celebrations, please consider inviting Berfun Guner, our 18-year-old exchange student from Adana, Turkey. The holidays are an excellent time for the sharing of our culture. Berfun is currently living with Ann and Wes Bracken, but will be moving to the home of Cheryl and Ron Daniel in December. To include Berfun in your plans, please contact Ann at 951-1180 or annbracken@aol.com.

FROM KARIN CLARK, PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR: In honor of Veteran's Day at our lunch meeting last week we showed a PowerPoint of our Rotary Veterans. I would like to update this to include **ALL of our club's veterans**. So if you have not sent me your information please do. I will then post it on our Web site. Send me a photo of yourself captured from your years in service and provide a short write up on the branch of service, number of years served, what the photo is of and anything else relevant you would like to include. Email to me at karinclark507@comcast.net. If you do not have the means to scan the photo then I will pick it up at a future meeting.

Also, thanks to all those who came out to the social at the Blackstone Grille last week. This bi-monthly event (which began with the Christiansburg club) is getting bigger and better all the time. We will have another **social in the January** with the date and location to be announced.

FROM MARILYN BOWMAN, KROGER GIFT CARD: The total spending for August, September and October was \$26,593.09 which translates into \$1,329.65 for our Rotary Club. Using your Kroger gift card is a lot easier than buying raffle tickets, holding yard sales or club auctions. Everyone in our club uses groceries, prescription drugs and gasoline. Kroger even sells flowers, wine and Hokie products. According to the Roanoke Times many residents of Blacksburg favor tofu and sushi and Kroger sells both. So load your cards and spend for the good of Rotary and its projects. Anyone who needs a card, please contact me at mabbowman@usit.net more details on our Rotary web at http://www.blacksburgrotary.org/proj_cur/kroger.html .

FROM JIM JOHNSON, SECRETARY: Rotary Make ups are easy and fun! The Rotary Club of Blacksburg **strives for over 85% attendance.** We have many members with 100% attendance who help maintain our good average. Each of us can help the club by doing make ups when we cannot attend a meeting. The following are the ways that you can make up:

- Attend the meeting of another club. All you have to do is sign in at the club you are visiting and pay for your meal. Send an email to me, Jim Johnson (jfjohnso@netlos.net) telling me that you made up. The secretaries of the Montgomery County, Christiansburg, and the Christiansburg-Blacksburg clubs exchange makeup list at the end of each month.
- If you are traveling and want to plan a makeup, request to borrow a copy of the Rotary Directory from me or go on line to www.rotary.org to learn where clubs meet. If you arrive at a meeting place and they are not meeting that day, you call still report that as a make up.
- Participate in roadside pickup, a committee meeting, board meeting, or other club activity. The chair of these events usually send the secretary a list of who has participated.
- Do an online make up (<http://www.rotaryclubone.org/programs.htm>) . It takes about 20 minutes to complete and the makeup form is emailed directly to me.
- Technically, you are supposed to make up two weeks before or two weeks after you have missed, but in our club your makeup's are banked. Right after the last meeting of the month, any makeups that you have accrued will be used to offset any times that you have been absent. Any left over makeups will be maintained in the "bank" for another month.

If you have any questions about your attendance or makeup's, please call or email me.

FROM TOMMY LOFLIN, VOCATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN: The Vocational Service Committee is seeking nominations for the **Club's 2009 Citizen of the Year Award**. Citizen of the Year nominees must be a non-Rotarian and Montgomery County resident. Selection for the award will be based on the nominee's character, business practices, and lifestyle activities that exemplify the Rotary ideal of – Service Above Self, and the Four Way Test. Please find nomination forms on our club website (www.blacksburgrotary.org). Nomination forms will also be available at each meeting. The **nomination deadline is December 3**, with the Citizen of the Year to be announced in January. if you have questions please contact any member of the Vocational Service Committee or me at TLOflin@hometownbankva.com.

FROM FRANKLYN MORENO, CHAIR GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE COMMITTEE: The Rotary Clubs of Christiansburg-Blacksburg and Blacksburg (noon) will be working together to host the **Brazilian GSE Team** which arrives Monday, April 4, 2010 and departs for home on Saturday, April 10, 2010. The team consists of a leader and four members from the Sao Paulo region. Their vocational interests include education (1 member and the team leader), dentistry, journalism, human resources management (organizational psychologist). We are **looking for volunteers to host individual members** of the team, to provide transportation, to help organize and coordinate the vocational day, to plan and coordinate a day at Virginia Tech, and other activities. Please check any of the activities you are interested in helping with below and return to Les Myers, les_myers@msn.com or call 540-230-9376.

I am interested in providing transportation__

I am interested in helping to plan and coordinate a vocational day.____

(Name the vocational interest from those listed above _____)

I am interested in helping arrange other activities_____

Name: _____ . E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH: Send a birthday wish to you fellow Rotarian. If your birthday was missed, email kclark@lunainnovations.com .

03 November - Randy Leslie

09 November - Mike Drzal

13 November - Bev Walters

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 makeup form and you're there. This link is available on our club website, www.blacksburgrotary.org. Or, make up at an area club. Rotary International District 7570 (WWW.ROTARY7570.ORG) covers Western Virginia and Northeastern Tennessee.

To include news in the weekly Rotary email bulletin, noon lunch bulletin or Web site, please forward to Karin Clark at kclark@lunainnovations.com or call 230-5812.

