

Dec 9, 2021 | Disease Prevention and Treatment 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



# 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 hope that you will be able to join us Thursday at Noon in person or via Zoom for the always popular annual visit from the BHS Madrical Singers Choir.

Be on the lookout for a link to the zoom prior to the meeting!



### This Week's Program

Welcome back to the Blacksburg High School Madrigal Singers! We missed you. The award-winning Blacksburg High School Madrigal Singers Choir is a tradition that dates back to the early 1970's. They are the advanced mixed ensemble at BHS. Students are selected by audition and perform traditional music of the Medieval and Renaissance eras in the Fall Semester and more contemporary choral music during the Spring Semester.



The Madrigal Singers are under the direction of Mr. Tim Woolwine. He has been teaching music for 15 years and has been the choir director at BHS since 2014



### Congratulations, Blacksburg Rotary. We are the 2021 **Montomgery County Chamber of Commerce** Small Non-Profit of the year!

From our nomination: Rotarians live the Four Way Test in our personal and professional lives. The Four Way Test asks these questions, "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?" We apply the Four Way Test to the selection process when we recognize and award a First Responder of the Year and Citizen of the Year.







## Connect with us!



#### E-Mail

blacksburgrotary@gmail.com



#### **Twitter**

@RotaryBlacksbrg



### Instagram

BlacksburgRotary



#### **Facebook**

facebook.com/RotaryBlacksburg



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: Ken D'Amato President-Elect: Phil Araman President-Nominee: Tom Ryan

Secretary: L. Jester / R. Spencer

Treasurer: Fred Meyers



### **Club Directors**

Club: Phil Araman

Vocational: Eric Johnsen

Local: Tom Ryan

International: Peter Weimerskirch

Youth: Karen Stemen



### District and Global

RI President: Shekhar Mehta District Governor: Tara Ellis Area 9 Governor: Cora Gnegy District Secretary: Tim Carter

District Treasurer: Jacob Higginbotham



## District Grant Update

### Introducing Mars Base Camp and STEM Education: Blacksburg Rotary's 2021-22 District Club Grant

According to greatschools.org, cumulative test scores at Eastern Montgomery Elementary School (EMES) and Shawsville Middle School (SMS) fall below the state average, particularly in STEM subject courses. This suggests that many students may not be performing at grade level. In addition, the achievement gap between low-income/underserved students and other students is significant. At EMES, the percentage of low-income/underserved students scoring at or above proficiency in overall test scores is 26%, compared to 54% for other students. This gap is more concerning at SMS; 9% of low-income/underserved students with scores at or above proficiency compared to 53% for other students.

To help address this need, Blacksburg Rotary is partnering with the Virginia Cooperative Extension-Montgomery County 4-H youth development program to offer STEM programming for these communities supported by a district club grant and member volunteer



time. The grant has already supported the creation of an Aerospace after-school club at EMES that is introducing students to the principles of flight (manned and unmanned), aviation, rocketry, and the national 4-H initiative Mars Base Camp. Mars Base Camp explores the theme of sending humans on a mission to Mars. The club activities will supplement student education in STEM subject matter with hands-on activities that will support student learning and comprehension of STEM subject matter, with a perspective of real-world applications of the learning content. As the world has marveled at the most recent missions to Mars, we also hope to inspire students' innate curiosity about scientific achievements and how they might someday pursue a career in a similar STEM field.

An article from greatschools.org, "The most important thing happening (or not happening) in your child's class" describes how students of today will encounter a job market that is dominated by STEM fields, from health care to biotechnology, and more. Careers in STEM are among many worthy lifelong pursuits, and though not all students will become scientists or engineers, STEM classes still teach critical thinking and problem- solving skills kids need for success in many fields of study. The goal of the Aerospace Club and Mars Base Camp program is to help youth see the world outside of their own community and to demonstrate how their academic achievements today, in STEM or other subject areas, sets the trajectory for their futures.

The EMES Aerospace Club meets two to four times monthly from November 2021 through April 2022 with an awards program on May 6. Thanks in advance to Fred Meyers, Blacksburg Rotary Club Treasurer, for volunteering to arrange a field trip for the youth to the Virginia Tech Montgomery Executive Airport. We would like to further engage Rotary Club members with STEM expertise as caring adult volunteers and positive role models in this effort. In particular, the youth will be constructing rockets on January 7 and 21 and volunteers are needed to assist them with this activity.

For more information on the EMES Aerospace Club, Mars Base Camp, and/or volunteer opportunities connected to this effort please contact Dan Goerlich at <a href="mailto:dalego@vt.edu">dalego@vt.edu</a> 540-418-5768.





December 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			Tom Ryan			
5	6	7 Satellite Club	8	9	10	11
12	13 Jim Halferty	14	15	16	17	18 Marquita Hill
19	20 Mary Biggs	21 No Satellite Meeting Larry Hincker	22	23 No Meeting	24	25
26	27	28	29 Brenda Moses	No Meeting Stan Perkins Paula Alston	31 Ed Powell	

### **Upcoming Programs and Events**

Dec 16 - Jason Hardy, J.H. Bards Spirit Company

Dec 21 – Satellite Club will not meet

Dec 23 - NO MEETING - Merry Christmas

Dec 30 - NO MEETING - Happy New Year

Jan 6, 2022 - Paul Harris Fellows Ceremony

Jan 7 – STEM rocket construction at EMES

Jan 13 – COL Keith Parrella, U.S. Embassy security

Jan 14 - STEM rocket construction at EMES

Jan 20 – Citizen of the Year presentation

### Need a Make-Up?

### **Blacksburg Satellite Club**

Corporate Research Center – 1st/3rd Tues 5:15pm

#### **Montgomery County**

Inn at Virginia Tech – Wednesday, 7:15 AM

#### **Christiansburg-Blacksburg**

Blacksburg Country Club, Monday 5:30 PM

#### Floyd

Floyd Country Store, Wednesday Noon

#### Radford

Best Western Radford Inn, Wednesday Noon Kuhn Barnett School Building, Tuesday 5:30 PM

#### Salem

Salem Civic Center, Thursday Noon

#### Pulaski

Pulaski CC of Thornsprings, Monday 12:15 PM

#### Giles

Giles Community Hospital, Thursday Noon