



The Rotary Club of  
Columbia/Patuxent

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leaders in the community.  
making a difference through unity.



JOIN US: Fridays, 7:30 a.m. Vantage House, 5400 Vantage Pt. Rd. Columbia, MD

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## Barbara Allen

March 14, 2014

**Greeter/Gracer:** Laurie Reuben enlightened us with a poem about spring, and ended with "Happy Spring, y'all!"

**Make-ups:** Board Meeting, Laurie was in Cancun (and thought about it, but didn't want to go to the 9pm meeting)

**Guests:** Ryan Rom, guest of Brad Myers. Works at Comcast and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce.



**Vocational Moment:** Karen Dixon informed us her current vocation is "looking for a job". She recommends [interviewsuccessformula.com](http://interviewsuccessformula.com) – a website dedicated to helping job searchers ace interviews. The website provides personalized answers to common questions for your particular vocation. Also has sample thank-you notes and you can even do a virtual interview.

**Foundation Moment:** Laurie Reuben told us that when she gets phone calls from people seeking money for charities, she asks the caller to spell the name of the organization and makes a big production of looking it up on Charitynavigator.com or Guidestar. 9 times out of 10 the caller hangs up. These sites rank how well the charitable giving is spent on actual charity, instead of marketing/overhead. Rotary has the highest possible ranking on each.

**Announcements:** Pete Kunz reminded us the club is matching

Paul Harris points on contributions between \$100-\$500 through midnight, March 15th. Pete also let us know that there is a happy hour on 4/21 at the Corner Stable. Why Monday you ask? \$6 off rib dinner. 15% of proceeds get rebated back to club.

Darrell Nevin spoke of the Rotary District Conference on 5/9 at the Baltimore Hilton (overlooking Camden Yards). Great opportunity to get a broader view of the Rotary organization. For more info, check out the district website.

Anne London reminded us that Souper Sundae is coming up at end of March. Buy tickets! Also, motel boxes are still needed for the 4/4 meeting. We need 80 and we currently have 30. Let Anne know if you're planning on bringing a box in.

Joan Athen informed us that decisions have been made for grant day. Giving away \$36K to 28 dif-

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ferent organizations. Not included on the list is the \$5K for Service Above Self Award, \$3,500 for HCC/Rouse Scholar, and a matching \$1,500 for Grassroots from a District Match. Next year, the committee will be more strict in ensuring that all of the forms have up-to-date information. Many forms have been carried forward from year-to-year. Grant day will be 4/11. The member who nominated the organization

should reach out to make sure that a representative from that charity is present that day to receive the check.

**Program:** Our speaker today was Barbara Allen, Executive Director of James' Place, Inc. James' Place is working to shatter the stigma of the disease of addiction through education and scholarships for recovery services.

Most believe that substance abuse "happens to someone else". Not true. It can happen to anyone, anywhere. Many are surprised there is heroin in Howard County. Even found in the Elementary Schools. It's also a myth to say that "good people" do not use illegal drugs. They do and substance abuse is a disease. "Just Saying No" is not so easy as most believe. Barbara discussed the differences between substance use, abuse, and addiction. The new term for addiction is SUD (Substance Abuse Disorder).

Barbara shared a few shocking facts, 105 people die every day in drug overdoses. The government spends \$40 billion a year on law enforcement and incarceration on the War on Drugs. It only spends \$39 million on treatment and recovery. Barbara asked what would the world look like if those numbers are reversed?

Barbara is personally passionate about this topic as she's lost 3 people very close to her due to drugs – a brother who was murdered by a meth addict, a son who OD'd, and a niece who took her own life due to substance abuse. This led directly to her work with James' Place and Compassionate Friends.

There is an Exhibit at the Maryland Science Center that debuted in February called "Target America". Its goal is to reach 300,000 Maryland schoolkids. The exhibit contains a drone submarine packed with heroin (not the real stuff, of course), items confiscated in Maryland related to

drug seizures (including a wave runner, Batmobile, etc), MRI scans of what the brain looks like on drugs, a (fake) meth lab, pot growing, etc. Lots of interesting and interactive stuff for the kids. On the legislative front, two key bills for Maryland that need attention. One is the Good Samaritan Law, it protects from prosecution those who report ODs to the authorities. The other is the ability to use NARCAN, which is a medication that can save lives.

#### Happy Dollars:

Roy, "to Tom's better 7/8". Doc Walt, Brad, Cliff, Blaine, Laurie, Karen, Mary, Lon, Pam, Dushant, Charlie, Mark, DaveL, Tom – gave Happy dollars solely for the Program. Pete – For his birthday. Ken gave \$5 for his 30-year anniversary in the Financial Markets. He now claims to have 100% accuracy on predicting the stock market, so he's going to try a new challenge – managing Rotary! Joan for Anne and the Committee's work on the grants. San for a great visit in Dallas with grandkids. Anne for the Grant committee and a free weekend. Doris gave \$10 for the Program and let us know substance abuse is not just for young people, older adults suffer too. Finally, Dave B gave \$1 for "one awesome dude" to another (Tom Allen).

UPCOMING PROGRAMS		UPCOMING EVENTS	
March 21st	The National Aquarium in Baltimore		
March 28th	Dr. Gerard Cabunoc		
April 4th	Grassroots Service Project		

DATE	GREETER/GRACER/ FOUNDATIONER	VOCATIONATOR	MEMBERSHIP
March 21st	Dan Scherr	Charlie McCabe	None
March 28th	Helena Seidel	Darrell Nevin	Bradley Myers
April 4th	Caroline Sherman	Sam Krupsaw	None

#### March Rotarian Birthdays:

Karen Dixon  
Pete Kunz  
Blaine Milner  
Bradley Myers  
Dawn Audia

#### March Rotarian Anniversaries:

Dave Lerer  
Charles McCabe

#### The Other Howard County Rotary clubs:

**Clarksville, Claret Hall,**  
Tuesdays 7:45 a.m.

**Columbia, Eggspectations,**  
Tuesdays @ 6:30 p.m.

**Columbia Town Center,**  
Sheraton Inn,  
Wednesdays @ 12:15 p.m.

**Elkridge, Furnace Inn,**  
Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.

**Ellicott City Sunrise,** Tersiguel's,  
Thursdays @ 7:15 a.m.

**Ellicott City, Tersiguel's**  
Thursdays @ noon

## NEXT MEETING: MARCH 21, 2014