

THE ROTARY CLUB OF MARIETTA **ROTALIGHT**

Celebrating 100 Years of "Service Above Self"

November 13, 2019 • Volume 83, Number 16

TODAY'S SPEAKER:

Dr. Avril Beckford

Chief Pediatric Officer

Wellstar Health System



Rotary
Club of Marietta



**ROTARY
CONNECTS
THE WORLD**



TODAY'S SPEAKER:
Dr. Avril Beckford

Dr. Avril Beckford is a well-known Pediatrician practicing in Atlanta and is Past President of the Georgia Chapter of the Academy of Pediatrics and prior District X (Southeast USA) member of the National Nominating Committee of the Academy of Pediatrics. She is currently the Chief Pediatric Officer of WellStar Health System and is a member of the WellStar Board of Trustees, WellStar Medical Group Executive Board and WellStar Clinical Partners. She has served on a number of other volunteer Boards, including that of The Lovett School, The National Council for Spiritual and Ethical Education and the Board of Camp Kudzu (a camp for children with Juvenile Diabetes) and the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta 1998 Society Board, and as Chair of the Cobb Area Pediatric Society. As a member of the Board of the Georgia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, she has also served as the Chairperson of the Section on Families and Professionalism and as Chair of the Georgia Chapter AAP Foundation Board. She served on the board for SafePath Advocacy Center as well as the Boy Scouts of America and the Youth Protection Seminar that is held annually. Beckford is a member of the Alpha Omega

Alpha Honors Society and has held teaching position at Penn State University Children's Hospital. Beckford is the author of the parenting book: "Allow Your Children to Fail if You Want Them to Succeed." As well as the children's books: "I Love You 65 Bulldozers," and "The Tooth Fairy." She has given talks internationally to parents, teachers and pediatricians. Beckford has previously written a chapter in a major Pediatric Textbook and has written other articles for Medical Journals, and parenting and teaching publications and has appeared as a guest on CNN, PBS and Channel 11 Live Atlanta broadcasts. Dr. Beckford was awarded the Hospital Hero Award from the Georgia Hospital Association in 2016.

Dr. Beckford is passionate about parenting and practicing pediatrics, with special interest in Early Childhood Brain Development and Emotional Intelligence.

She founded the Pediatric and Adolescent Center of Cobb with offices in Vinings and Austell and joined WellStar in 1995. She is married to Lawrence Rowley MD, an OB Gyn and they raised two wonderful sons, Justin and Derek.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF MARIETTA

Monday, November 18, 2019 @ 6-7:30pm

RSVP to chris@cmbesq.com by Friday, November 15, 2019



The **fireside chat** is a tradition that has endured as a fun, welcoming social activity that provides new members with a history of **Rotary** and an explanation of the various opportunities for involvement. This is an informal way to learn about Rotary.

Dinner & Drinks @ 1590 Gilbert Road, Kennesaw Georgia 30152

WHEN WE LAST MET

Minutes from the November 6 Meeting

At approximately twenty minutes past high noon, our adept, highly regarded, crackerjack, meticulous President **Christopher Bethel** rendered forth the familiar clang of our Rotary Bell to call our Veterans Day Mid-week Rotary Club of Marietta Meeting to order. President Chris then issued forth an enthusiastic welcome to all present and called upon this Scribbler to offer our routine invocative petition of the Almighty followed by our customary introduction of visiting Rotarians and Guests. The ever steadfast devoted Rotarian **Marlys Williams** made known to us that Mark Maloney (guest of the Club), Christine Daniel (invited by President Chris) and James “Chop” Southerland (‘surgically altered’ with hip replaced)



MARLYS WILLIAMS

husband of PE **Mary Ansley**) were present; Marlys then called on Rotarian **Jim Peeler** to introduce his special guests – his beloved wife, Janet, and his new Pastor, the Reverend Dr. Julie Boone of the First United Methodist Church of Marietta. Thereafter, our winsomely engaging President Chris introduced two exceptional, extraordinarily wonderful guests...namely his gracious and kind parents, Charles and Dottie Bethel (yeah, verily such blessed parents to have given life, sustenance, and nurture to such a charmingly debonair ‘dreamboat’ of a son).

Following the introduction of his stellar parental units, President Chris made various noteworthy announcements: “Because of the Brave Veteran’s Day” event, Saturday 11/9/19, 7 PM, MCC; Rotarian franchised Chick-fil-A on Macland Road is offering free meals to military service members and immediate family from 5-8 PM on November 11, 2019; “Bring the Heat Chili Cook Off” supporting Veterans Court, Ga. National Guard Family Support Foundation, and the Cobb Public Safety Foundation, on Thursday 11/14/19, from 4:30-9PM @ Jim R. Miller Pavilion; “Fireside Chat” – Monday 11/18/19, 6:30-8 PM @ 1590 Gilbert Rd. (for our newest members over past 5 years and anyone else who wants to attend); 100th Centennial Celebration donations are encouraged (if you have not given already!); our “Peanut Butter Drive–Let’s Beat Kiwanis Again” Center for Family Resources food drive is underway; Polio Poster Fundraiser – President Chris needs all good Rotarians to sign the Polio Poster! Then Chris called on Rotarians to make several other service opportunity announcements for the benefit of the our Club members: Rotarian **Richard Cope** petitioned all present to assist with our “Crutches 4 Africa service project this coming Friday; Club Service Director, **Tyler Stephens**, informed the Club of the upcoming Salvation Army Bell Ringing service project at our local Cobb Parkway Sam’s Club on Saturday, December 7th, 2019; Rotarian **Holly**



HOLLY WALQUIST

Walquist then reminded all of our annual “Franklin Road Holidays Around the World” service opportunity on Friday, December 13th, 2019, 6 PM until 8 PM, at 877 Franklin Gateway, Suite 200. Our esteemed President then recognized new Rotarian **Jeff Couch** as officially “Blue Badged”; and, thereafter our President called for ‘solar radiance’ from our Club members.

Longtime Rotarian **Buck Northcutt** came forward to offer a poignantly gleaming reading from our awarding winning ROTALIGHT archives as penned by his Rotarian father, Guy Northcutt, then Associate Editor of our ROTALIGHT, on December 7th, 1951, related to Woodrow Wilson’s arrival in Paris after World War I for the Paris Peace Conference. Moving and meaningful to be sure for our Veterans Day recognition gathering!

Other ‘Sunshiners’ included Rotarian **Lee Pence** radiating regarding an encounter in our local ‘Krogers’ with a MARIETTA READS student he had read to years ago; Rotarian **Joe Atkins** glowed emittingly so with justified pride about his Army son receiving a noteworthy high honor and being in attendance (methinks brother Joe said, ‘in New Mexico’(?)) when his son received the commendable U.S. Army commendation. Notwithstanding all of the above, President Chris then called on guest Boy Scout Logan Mossor to ‘briefly’ (ummmmm...) communicate information about his Eagle Scout Project involving purchases of handmade cards through “Operation Gratitude”. Potential ES Mossor pontificated extensively and enthusiastically about said project which offers much needed seasonal support to our brave service men and woman who are away from family and friends during the holidays. Good luck with your Eagle Scout project Logan!

Subsequently, before our President offered a concise, informative summary of the evolution of Veterans Day, he acknowledged Jim Peeler to read the highly emotive poem, “*In Flanders Field*”. In prelude to the beautifully



JENNIFER BRETT

done reading, Jim shared touching insights about his grandfather who served gallantly in World War II. After the well-done reading, President Elect Mary Ansley Southerland then came to the podium to introduce our Guest Speaker of the day, Jennifer Brett. Ms. Brett is a multiplatform Senior Journalist and Digital Coach at

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

She is a North Carolina native and graduate of the University of North Carolina. Ms. Brett, titled her talk as, "Triumphs and Tragedies". She then shared captivating insight regarding her journalism career that included the "triumphant surprise" and overwhelming "viral popularity" of a retirement story of "a local Marietta U.S. Mailman, Mr. Marshall, who served as a mailman for 35 years." She claimed, "I still cannot believe the response to the retirement story" and, "will probably never do another story like this with this kind of response again." She heard from folks as far away as Japan, who bonded and resonated with the story. A media outlet in Japan actually sent a Production Team to make a movie of Postman Marshall who was, as we all will recollect, the Grand-Marshal of our Marietta 4th of July Parade. "I live in a great town, and a great story landed at the end of my driveway." Likewise, she spoke of the "tragedy" of one of her first assignments with the AJC which was the maniacal mass shooting that occurred on July 29th, 1999, in Buckhead when Mark Barton, a day-trader, killed 12 people, including his wife and children. This "grim assignment", stated Ms. Brett, "initiated a twenty-year journey that has spanned from Clinton to Trump". She has covered many "mass shootings" since that day in July in many states, and these are the "tragedies" in her career. "The tragedies are similar yet unique, all terrible in newly terrible ways. Each time I have been dispatched to a city convulsing in grief, it has been wrenching to talk with mourners, heartening to see communities band together and draining to see it keep happening." At the outset of covering these tragic moments, "the familiar 'hashtag'", according to Ms. Brett, was "never again". "But with the continuing re-occurrence of these mass shootings, as I reported from one chaotic scene after another...I've noticed they don't say 'never again' anymore."

In conclusion, our Guest Speaker commented, "I see increasingly and distressingly an 'ideological shift in truth'... 'from biased perspectives'; "I am so glad to come home at the end of the day to my home off of Church Street and do a little gardening and visit with my neighbors...I am not political, I see solutions to our social problems in this room. Because of your commitment to 'Service Above Self', I believe our problems can be resolved with people living better lives." Consequently, restricted space here does not allow for additional remarks related to this EXCEPTIONAL Guest Speaker's journalistic career, challenging experiences, insights, and professional encounters. Nonetheless, a wonderfully done program offered by our commendable Guest Speaker!



PRESIDENT CHRIS WITH PARENTS CHARLES AND DOTTIE

Questions for our Speaker were presented from the floor as usual. Most touchingly, **Dan Kirk** stood to share a deeply personal insight related to Ms. Brett's assignment to cover the mass shooting aforementioned that took place on July 29th, 1999 in Buckhead. Dan noted that his office then was "adjacent to where the July 29, 1999 shooting took place." "I woke up that morning with laryngitis and told my son, 'I don't think God wants me to go to work today'". "Because I couldn't talk, I stayed home." "At ten minutes to three in the afternoon, someone called our home and without identifying herself, told my daughter, 'Just turn on the TV'". "My daughter, age 15, turned on the TV and told me, 'Dad, there's been a shooting at your office in a day-trading firm'". Dan noted that, "my secretary was the first to attend to the wounded. The shooter, Mark Barton, whom I had seen many times in the hall and the restroom, shot about 13 folks next to my office, then went across the street and shot about the same number at Piedmont Center. Ms. Brett today reminded me that 12 people died. At the time, that was the biggest massacre in Georgia since the Civil War." "My son who was 13 at the time asked me, 'Dad, what would you have done to that guy with your Marine Corps sword (which hangs on my office wall)'. I said, "Well, you don't bring a sword to a gunfight." Dan shared that, "I picked a good day to miss work." We are grateful Rotarians that God's providential care and grace prevailed that day in Dan's life.

Then our Opportunity Drawing ensued and this Scibbler did not take note of the Rotarians drawing, losing, or winning!?

Richard Cope was called upon to conclude our meeting with our traditional recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag and unison acclamation of our Rotary Four-Way Test. President Chris then vigorously gaveled the bell and we were once again pronounced adjourned after a very commendable Rotary Club of Marietta Wednesday mid-week meeting.

*Respectfully Submitted – Mark Barbour, Scribbler
Photos by – Richard Cope / Chris Bethel*

Marietta Rotary Veterans

We Honor Our Members who Served

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|-----|
| Reuben M. Green | United States Marine Corps | 4 |
| Daniel F. Kirk | United States Marine Corps | 4 |
| Morgan Robertson | United States Navy | 20 |
| Christopher Phillips | United States Navy | 4* |
| Clem Doxey | United States Navy | 13 |
| James Peeler | United States Navy | 6 |
| Harold Hobbs | United States Navy | 4 |
| William D. Smith | United States Navy | 2 |
| Lewis Lipsius | United States Navy | 3 ½ |
| Ralph Knight | United States Army | 28 |
| Lee Pence | United States Army | 20 |
| Dale Covington | United States Army | 2 |
| Debra Day | United States Army | 15 |
| Guy Northcutt, Jr. | United States Army | 2 |
| Irvin Smith | United States Army | 3 |
| James Trapnell | United States Army | 2 |
| Charles Kilgore | United States Army | 4 |
| Thomas Maloy | Army National Guard | 6 |
| Dan Oliver | Army National Guard | 6 |
| Don Smith | United States Air Force | 4 |
| Glenn Owens | United States Air Force | 4 |
| Joseph DeSantis | United States Air Force | 35 |
| Jack Corn | United States Air Force | 2 |
| James Faucett | United States Air Force | 5 |

* = Still in Reserves



Rotary Club of Marietta

13th Annual 'Holidays Around the World' Children's Party

Franklin Rd. Marietta Police Athletic League: 200-250 Kids

DATE: Friday, December 13, 2019 from 6-8pm

LOCATION:

Location Christ Harvesters Global Outreach Ministries, 877 Franklin Rd.(now Franklin Gateway) Suite #200 , Marietta, GA, 30067

Dear Rotarians:

Every year we ask each member of our club to participate in some way for our annual Children's Christmas Party. This year, similar to last year, we will be working with the Franklin Road Community Association, the Marietta City Police Department Police Athletic League (PAL) & a variety of other local organizations & businesses. We will be purchasing 2 - \$10 children's gifts for over 200 underprivileged children of all ages. We are providing toys/gifts, pizza & drinks, toiletry bags, and a craft table. *Below are all the many ways you and your family can help, as many hearts & hands are needed to accomplish this community event.*

1. The easiest thing for you to do is to please consider donating a check or cash for up to \$75. Your donation must be collected during Rotary meetings no later than the December 4th Rotary Meeting. We will collect these at the meetings each week.

- Please make your check out to: **MRFF** or you can pay cash.

We **CAN NOT** add it to your bill. Please indicate on the check: **Christmas Party**

2. Sign up to help assemble the toiletry bags on Tuesday, December 10th at 5:30pm at the above party location.

3. Please attend the evening event & help with the Rotary craft or refreshment tables, handing out gifts/toiletry bags/pizza or be a Santa's helper. We'll find the perfect thing for you to do.

4. Attend the Rotary Family Shopping Day by being an elf & help with the shopping event on Sunday, Dec. 8th from 1-3pm at Walmart on Cobb Parkway.

Deliver the gifts to location Monday, Dec. 9th by 9:30am. If you do this you will need to come to the shopping day to fill your car up with the toys that are purchased. (see Holly for more details)

Questions contact: Holly Walquist at 404-518-4664 or via email: holly@hollyenterprises.com

RING FOR A CHANGE



The Salvation Army's Red Kettles are a symbol of our community Doing the Most Good. Donations collected directly impact more than 57,000 people in metro Atlanta each year through homelessness services, youth enrichment and anti-trafficking programs.



#RingForAChange

SalvationArmyAtlanta.org/Ring-for-a-Change

JOIN OUR GROUP VOLUNTEER PROGRAM, RING FOR A CHANGE, AND RING THE BELL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.



Red Bell

One Day

Branding on kettle stand, website inclusion and seasonal impact reporting



Silver Bell

Three Days

Red Bell benefits plus social media spotlight and e-newsletter feature



Gold Bell

One Week

Silver Bell benefits plus media outreach and organization impact reporting

Volunteer **Monday - Saturday** at a variety of locations throughout metro Atlanta.

For more information, please contact Donna Roper at 404-486-2961 or at Donna.Roper@uss.salvationarmy.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------|--|
| Thursday, November 14, 2019 | 10:30 AM | MUST Ministries - Cook & Serve |
| Wednesday, November 20, 2019 | 12:15 PM | Luncheon Meeting – William J. de St. Aubin |
| Wednesday, November 27, 2019 | | No Meeting – Happy Thanksgiving |
| Wednesday, December 4, 2019 | 12:15 PM | Luncheon Meeting – Lt. Jose Valentin "Today's Salvation Army" |
| Wednesday, December 11, 2019 | 12:15 PM | Luncheon Meeting – Santa Secrets: Fun and Spirited Christmas and End of the Year Celebration |
| Wednesday, December 18, 2019 | | No Meeting – Due to joint meeting w/ Kiwanis |
| Thursday, December 19, 2019 | 12:15 PM | Luncheon Meeting – Joint Meeting Kiwanis "Annual Christmas Meeting" |
| Wednesday, December 25, 2019 | | No Meeting - Merry Christmas |
| Wednesday, January 1, 2020 | | No Meeting - Happy New Year. |

MARIETTA ROTARY CLUB

CLUB OFFICERS 2019-20 Christopher Bethel, *President*

Mary Ansley Southerland, *President Elect*
Marla Blackstone, *Co-Secretary*
marla@skeltonblackstone.com

Jeff Cooper, *Co-Secretary*
Brad Leskoven, *Treasurer*
Reuben Green, *Presidential Advisor*

DIRECTORS

Joseph Atkins, *Administration*
Tyler Stephens, *Service*
Kelly Maxwell, *Membership*
Thomas Sherrer, *Public Relations*
Brooke Cohen, *Foundation*

Meeting makeups may be emailed to:

jeff.cooper@wellstar.org

www.mariettarotary.org



THE ROTALIGHT FOUNDED AUGUST 25, 1937

Published Weekly by

The Rotary Club of Marietta
Post Office Box 711, Marietta, Georgia 30061

ROTALIGHT STAFF

Deborah Marshall, *Editor*

Joseph Atkins
Mark Barbour
Marla Blackstone
Chuck Boring
Dale Covington

Warren Gordon
Abbott Hall
Jim Peeler
Marlys Williams

We welcome and encourage all contributions.

Send articles, photographs and editorials to:

Deborah.Marshall@uss.salvationarmy.org

DISTRICT 6900

Jim Squire, *District Governor*
Mark Barbour, *Assistant District Governor*
mmlbarbour@bellsouth.net

www.rotary6900.org

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Mark Daniel Maloney
President

www.rotary.org