

# THE ROTARY CLUB OF MARIETTA **ROTALIGHT**

*Celebrating 100 Years of "Service Above Self"*

*April 8, 2020 • Volume 83, Number 30*

## **Marietta Rotary Club's "Zoom"**

### **Regular Membership Meeting**

Led by President Christopher Bethel  
Assisted by Mark Barbour and Dan Kirk



**Rotary**  
Club of Marietta



**ROTARY  
CONNECTS  
THE WORLD**



## **Meeting begins at 12 Noon Today**

**Introduction and Call to Order - President Chris**

**Invocation - Mark Barbour**

**Introduction of Guests and Visitors (Self Introduction)**

**Announcements - Chris**

**March and April Birthdays - Lead Singing Mark Barbour**

**District Conference - Update**

**Hickory Hills Donation - \$1,000**

**Operation Meal Plan - \$1,000**

**News from District 6900 - Mark Barbour**

**In The News - Chris**

**Sunshine**

**Program:**

**What have you been up to?**

**Update from Officers and Members**

**PLEDGE AND 4-WAY TEST - Dan Kirk**

## **WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT**

by ADG and 6900 District Chaplin, Mark Barbour.



“Brother and Sister Rotarians. In the face of the anxiety evidenced in panic buying, school closings, profound fear of our older citizens being so vulnerable, economic concerns, political and governmental response, sadly, those diseased, the logistics of providing virus testing kits, our Rotary Clubs and District Training Assembly schedule changes, and so many other ramifications, we all need an affirmative, beneficial word. In The Message Bible, Philippians 4:6-7 reads: "Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when your faith displaces worry at the center of your life".

Whatever your faith, whatever the situation, whatever the need, Rotarians face the day with a positive, Rotary response to the critical circumstances that now challenge us. God knows our heartfelt concerns. God knows our goodwill. God knows we will do our best to give our best and be our best during this crucial time.”

# WHEN WE LAST MET

## Minutes from the March 11 Meeting

**ROAD TRIP!** What happens in Marietta stays in Marietta! Today we traveled to Marietta High School for our weekly meeting. President **Chris**, lacking the tools to ring the bell, opened our meeting by asking everyone in the room who attended Marietta High School to stand up and be counted! A great many alumni of all ages were in attendance. President Chris called out celebrities **Terry Pendley**, **Dawn McEachern** and **Mark Barbour**, who is back from meeting his new grandbaby in the frozen north. **Ralph Knight** was ready with the invocation and **Dan Kirk** introduced the guests in the audience. **Marla Blackstone** had two guests with her, Evan Morning and John Skelton. Andrew Hairetis and Rosser Southerland were guests of the Club and prospective members. We acknowledged the birthday of **Bill Hardaway** and **Don Barbour** announced that he only needs two more readers for Marietta Reads. Unfortunately, Marietta Reads has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 virus. Speaking of cancellations, the March 21 District Assembly gathering was cancelled as well.

PE **Mary Ansley Southerland** asked Marge Kellogg and Kristin Thompson to stand up and tell the members about the Reach Scholarships. So far MHS has had 4 Reach scholars go to college. Currently there are 17 scholars enrolled in the program. The scholars are nominated by teachers. An upfront \$5,000 is donated and then this amount is matched a few times over. Two of the current scholars in the program spoke to us. They did the program proud!

PE Mary Ansley then introduced our speaker, Marietta High School Head Football Coach Rich Morgan. Coach Morgan was accompanied by five of his senior players and four underclassmen. Coach was beaming with pride at his players. He bragged that the Senior players on the team posted a cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.35. Very impressive! Out of 22 seniors, 15 are going to college on a football scholarship. He considers his players as family, stating that he builds up the greatness inside of his players and then pulls it out of them.

The MHS football program's guiding principles that define greatness can be summed up by an acronym - IMPACT. This stands for Integrity, Mental toughness, Passion, Accountability, Courage and Teamwork. Coach Morgan expects them to keep growing - they have more to do. He was grateful that his kids recognize that they DO have to keep growing.

Coach then opened the floor for questions for him or any of his players. The first question was about playing the exhibition game in Las Vegas. He explained the road travelled to get to the exhibition game. First, they won the Corky Kell Classic by defeating the Rome GA football team. Next, they beat the St. Joseph's team and that's how they got to Las Vegas. And guess what???? They beat the

team in Vegas, East Catholic High School in Washington state. At the end of the day, MHS was ranked 7th in the country! **GO BLUE DEVILS!**

The seniors in the room said that they needed the entire team to give its all to get to championship. The seniors helped the underclassmen to step up and they did. They were the leaders for the entire team. Also, another senior said that they had to stay very focused on their daily routine. One also said that they continued to be successful by trying new things.

They were asked how they felt when hundreds of people lined Whitlock Avenue to welcome them home. All were clearly moved by the gesture.

Another question for the seniors was how they decided which school to go to. One said he liked the fact that the coaching team at Michigan State had been together for 10 years or more. Another, who is going to Troy University, said he liked the feel of the campus. Another said that he wanted to bring the MHS culture to the football team at Kennesaw State. And two of them who chose Florida State did it for the solid coaching staff and uh ... well the attractiveness of the co-eds. Some things never change!!!!

Coach said it all starts with integrity. He was asked about the upcoming season. MHS has been in the Top 10 ranked teams for the past two years and this year's schedule is no different. He then ended by inviting us to attend the State Championship Banquet on March 27th.

President Chris presented Coach Morgan and the players with a book in their honor, as part of our 100th Anniversary Literacy Program. He also asked them to see if there is a RotarAct Club at their chosen college/university, as their standards would make them ideal Rotarians.

There was no Opportunity Drawing today. Dan Kirk led us in the Pledge from a picture of the American Flag on Past President **Jesse Evans'** Smartphone. Who says Rotarians can't improvise? Dan also led us in the 4-Way Test and President Chris adjourned this uplifting and fun Rotary meeting!

*~ Scribe, Deborah Marshall*

*The Rotalight Staff and I will see you again in a few weeks as we practice social distancing to slow the move of the COVID-19 through our country. So, wash your hands, don't touch you face, get a flu shot and stay home if you are sick. When our weekly meetings resume we want to see everyone back at Rotary happy and healthy! God Bless you and yours.*

# Pictures from our Last Meeting

by Dale Covington and Chris Bethel



**PRESIDENT CHRIS, COACH RICH MORGAN, MARK BARBOUR**



**PRESIDENT CHRIS WELCOME EVERYONE**



**DEBORAH MARSHALL, TERESA JONES AND MARLYS WILLIAMS**



**TERRY PENDLEY AND MARK BARBOUR**

## Marietta High School Senior Football Players



PRESIDENT CHRIS AND COACH MORGAN WITH THE STATE CHAMPION MHS FOOTBALL SENIORS

## Rotary Members who attended Marietta High School



MARIETTA HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI

# STAY SAFE

Georgia state leaders moved Wednesday morning to extend the public state of emergency into May.

According to a statement from Gov. Brian Kemp's office, that state of emergency will be extended to May 13. It was set to expire on April 13.

State leaders say it's necessary to continue the state of emergency because the danger has not yet ended over COVID-19.

## MARIETTA ROTARY CLUB

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