

# THE ROTARY CLUB OF MARIETTA **ROTALIGHT**

*Putting "Service Above Self" in Marietta Since 1919*  
*February 6, 2019 • Volume 82, Number 26*



## **Program Today:**

### *Accountability Courts in Cobb County*

**George Kreeger,**  
Drug Court

**Mary Staley Clark,**  
Mental Health Court

**Tain Kell,**  
Intermediate Drug Court

**Ann Harris,**  
Parental Accountability Court

**Reuben Green,**  
Veterans Court

**Rotary**  
Club of Marietta



BE THE INSPIRATION



# "Because of the Brave" Check Presentation

by Mary Ansley Southerland



On January 22nd, the Rotary Club of Marietta was well-represented at a ceremony to bless funds presented to the WellStar Foundation Veterans' Hospice Program. Cobb Thanks You for Your Service made a \$10,000 gift from the proceeds of their **Because of the Brave** Veterans' Day Event which was sponsored and supported by Rotary Club of Marietta.

RCoM members President **Jesse Evans**, **Jeff Cooper**, Dr. **Tim Brown**, Past President **Reuben Green**, **Randy Rice** and **Mary Ansley Southerland** were actively involved in planning the event. Many of our club members and members from Marietta Metro Rotary and North Cobb Rotary attended the fun and important event.



President Jesse and Cobb Thanks You for Your Service Co-Chairman, Mark Maloney, discuss the symbolic challenge coins

# WHEN WE LAST MET

## Minutes from the January 30 Meeting

The January 30th, 2019, Rotary luncheon was called to order by President **Jesse Evans**, followed by a brief-yet-powerful invocation by **Joe Atkins**. Guests and visiting Rotarians were yet again introduced to the club by **Sandeep Kapoor**, who is quickly becoming the Charlie Culberson of our club (if that needs explanation, shame on your lack of Braves knowledge). President Jesse then transitioned to member announcements, beginning with introducing the name of Phillip Knight for a two-week member application circulation. **Deborah Marshall** updated the club on *Rotalight* issues and the necessity of scribes and others submitting content getting said content to her by NO LATER THAN CLOSE OF BUSINESS MONDAY. (\*Author's note: this diatribe will definitely be in by 5pm on Monday...).

President Jesse then recognized **Dan Kirk**, who provided an update on the Crutches 4 Africa program run by **Richard Cope**, reminding the club that Friday, February 1st will be shipment day, and that anyone interested and willing to sweat can assist by showing up ready to work. Also noted were social events, including the upcoming Marietta Wine Social and other events out in the community encouraging fellowship and giving back in the community. Next up was proposed changes to our bylaws, which had already been voted on by the Board, and which will be circulated amongst the club members for future vote on the suggested changes. Wrapping up announcements, President Jesse recognized Judge **Joyette Holmes** as a club member in the news. Joyette was recently presented with the Cobb Ministerial Alliance 2019 Thurgood Marshall Award, which was a well-deserved recognition for one of Cobb's (and Rotary's) best and brightest.

It was then on to the main feature, Van Pearlberg. A long-time attorney in the Cobb County community (both in private practice and as a prosecutor for a number of years), Van currently serves as Director of the Medicare Fraud Unit for the Georgia Office of the Attorney General and has done so since March 2013. While in that role, Van has led the Unit in recovering \$225 Million on behalf of the State of Georgia. Sounds like he's kind of a big deal, right? Well, Van was introduced by member **Brooke Cohen** who brought Van back down to earth before his presentation. She noted that Van is also famous for his elaborate and annual holiday inflatable display in front of his house in Marietta. On a personal note, Brooke shared that Van had taught her valuable lessons when she interned for him in the Cobb County District Attorney's Office: 1) never let the law get in the way of a really good case (DISCLAIMER: his/her words, not mine), and 2) all you need to do in a jury trial is be prepared to prove ID and venue, no other preparation necessary (SEE DISCLAIMER IN #1 ABOVE).

Van is also a famous local historian, and used his presentation to inform the club about the infamous murder of Mary Phagan and accompanying trial/lynching of Leo



VAN PEARLBERG

Frank. While many in the community are aware of the story, and although Van condensed his usually-over-two-hours presentation greatly, this member learned a great deal of interesting facts about the case that this member did not previously know. To begin with, Van covered a number of inconsistencies within the story, depending on the source, that have evolved and changed over the years. One thing that has remained consistent, provided the detailed timeline that Van provided, is that the journey from arrest to conviction in 1913 Cobb County was much quicker (and perhaps less thought out and vetted) than it is today. To say that the intervening years and research into the "trial" of Leo Frank called into question not only the legitimacy of the proceedings, but the very issue of Frank's guilt, would be a huge understatement. Including one of the main witness's likely being involved in (if not the main culprit) of the murder, the entire investigation, trial, and subsequent Grand Jury investigation into the investigation appeared to have been nothing more than "a mockery of a fraud of a sham." Noting that Frank was pardoned in 1986, Van concluded the presentation to a fascinated Rotary Club of Marietta.

Speaking of fascinating, the opportunity drawing was in full swing with **Jennifer Nelson** and **Paul Stewart** doing the honors. Unfortunately for **Mark Barbour** and **Jim Peeler**, there were no winners this week. Sandeep then returned to the spotlight to lead the club in the pledge of allegiance and the four-way test. A good time was had by all. 🌟

~ Chuck Boring, scribe  
~ Jim Kellogg, photos

## MORE PICTURES FROM OUR LAST MEETING



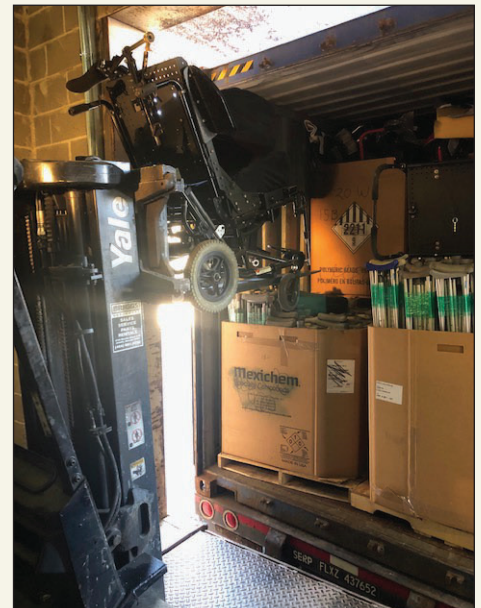
PRESIDENT JESSE



SANDEEP KAPOOR

# Crutches 4 Africa

by Richard Cope



On Friday, February 1 the **Crutches 4 Africa** team loaded nearly 3000 pieces of mobility equipment in this ocean container for shipment to Uganda. Rotarians **Walt Walker, Chuck Core, John Knox, Jim Fausett** and **Dan Kirk** all worked feverishly nearly all day to hand-load most of the 100+ wheelchairs and 630 walkers that went along with the pre-boxed crutches that you see in these pictures being loaded by forklift.

This was a giant undertaking that could not have been accomplished without the hard work of this team of Rotarians. Because of their efforts, hundreds of people in Uganda will not suffer the indignities they have in the past.

# I LOVE YOU BECAUSE

a modern day musical love story

Rotary Social Event at Marietta Wine Market, followed by the show.

Saturday,  
February  
23 at  
6:30



\$20 per ticket (enter code "Rotary" at  
[www.mariettatheatre.tix.com](http://www.mariettatheatre.tix.com))

Music by  
**JOSHUA  
SALZMAN**

Books and Lyrics by  
**RYAN  
CUNNINGHAM**

Orchestrations by  
**LARRY  
HOCHMAN**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, February 13, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – Tom Wilson
Thursday, February 14, 2019	10:30 AM	MUST Ministries Cook and Serve
Wednesday, February 20, 2019		No Meeting
Saturday, February 23, 2019	6:30 P.M.	Rotary Social Event - Marietta Theatre Valentine Play: "I Love you because.." Contact Blaine Clotfelter at <a href="mailto:blaine.clotfelter@mariettatheatre.com">blaine.clotfelter@mariettatheatre.com</a>
Wednesday, February 27, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – TBA
Wednesday, March 6, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – The Extension, <b>OFFSITE MEETING</b> , 1507 Church Street Ext NE, Marietta, GA 30060
Wednesday, March 13,, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – Dr. Hank Klibanoff; Georgia Civil Rights Cold Cases Project at Emory University

## MARIETTA ROTARY CLUB

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