

THE ROTARY CLUB OF MARIETTA **ROTALIGHT**

Celebrating 100 Years of "Service Above Self"

July 24, 2019 • Volume 83, Number 3



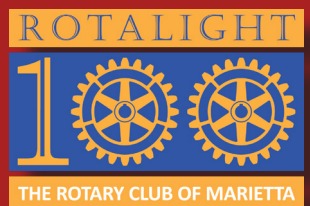
Our Newest Members

Chris Mitchell and Julie O'Meara

Rotary
Club of Marietta



**ROTARY
CONNECTS
THE WORLD**



Today's Speaker: J.C. Bradbury



J. C. Bradbury is an economist at Kennesaw State University. He is the author of *The Baseball Economist*, and he runs the weblog Sabernomics.com, which offers commentary on current topics in baseball economics. He received his Ph.D. in economics from George Mason University in 2000, and his B.A. from Wofford College in 1996.

On the cover....

Welcome our two newest members

Julie O'Meara is the CEO/CTAE Director at Marietta High School. Julie is married to Michael, and they have two sons, Matthew (29) and Daniel (25). Julie and Mike volunteer each week teaching English to international students at the International Learning Center at Roswell Street Baptist Church. They are both involved in the Senior Adult Ministry at their home church, First Baptist Church of Powder Springs. Julie and Mike enjoy volunteering at Camp Twin Lakes. Julie has a B.S. from the University of Georgia (Go Dawgs!), M.S. from Georgia State University and her Ed.S from Lincoln Memorial University. Julie is dedicated to education and is the director of the Marietta High School College and Career Academy.

Chris Mitchell is married to the lovely Ashley, and they have three amazing kids named Levi, Colton, and the irrepressible Eliana, Daddy's girl. Chris earned his B.S. in Marketing and International Business from the University of South Alabama and specialized in helping entrepreneurs strategically buy or sell businesses.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY BOYS TO MEN 2019

Boys to Men 2019 is an event that will give Foster, Adopted boys and At-Risk young men the opportunity to experience an exceptional day of royal treatment and exposure to some of life's lessons. From haircuts, manicures, and pedicures during the week of the event, to getting dressed up in business attire, walking the red carpet, and attending a formal dinner and concert. During the event, the participants will be given the opportunity to talk and ask questions of successful entrepreneurs, professional athletes, radio personalities, and more. They will also be taught how to tie a Tie and learn other types of etiquette. At the end of the event, the children will keep their business and/or athletic attire, as well as become connected to a Male Mentor.

The Board of Directors of Marietta Rotary voted to sponsor some of these young men so they can benefit from this great opportunity. Rotarians who would like to volunteer should contact :

Tyler Stephens
404-213-4228
steph2@nationwide.com

WHEN WE LAST MET

Minutes from the July 17 Meeting



Recently sworn in President **Chris Bethel** summoned the gathering amidst sundry portable air conditioning units in the Hilton dining room and began with this week's announcements:



Supremely, if not divinely gifted, Facebook-obsessed Rotarian, **Mark Barbour**, was not in attendance but on a well-deserved holiday. In his absence Chris Bethel announced Rotary support for the Boys to Men project which will occur August 18 from 11:30 am – 4:30 pm at the Smyrna Community Center. Marietta Rotary is supporting two children.

Volunteers are needed, so if you are available, please contact Mark Barbour upon his return.

Rotary will be preparing lunch at MUST Ministries on August 8 and needs additional volunteers. If you would like to cook or serve, please show up at 9:30 am to cook or 11:30 am to serve. Please contact **Harold Hobbs**.

Chris then requested all social media followers to please "Like" Marietta Rotary's Facebook page. Chris is placing **Dan Kirk's** most recent Marietta Daily Journal editorial out there for all to peruse, and will be adding entries to the site during his tenure as president.

New Marietta Rotary members, **Chris Mitchell** and **Julie O'Meara**, were inducted and bestowed a new membership package and temporary red badge by **Kelly Maxwell** and

Tyler Stephens. Please introduce yourself and welcome them if you have not done so already. Chris Mitchell, who also owns a flag company, presented the club a golden eagle finial to be placed on top of the American flag.

Daniel White then provided the invocation and announced visitors and guests. Visiting Rotarian Jennifer Barker was in attendance as a guest of Chris Bethel. Mary Evelyn White, daughter of Dan White, attended her first Rotary meeting with her Dad.

Sunshine was facilitated by **Walt Walker**. Chris Bethel was first in honoring new Rotary members. **Bill Dunaway** recognized the presence of Past President (and daughter) **Dawn McEachern**. All Sunshine monies are donated to the Polio Fund.

Fred Beloin introduced the speaker. Sam Newton graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1968 with a Bachelor of Science Degree and then from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in 1969 with a Master's degree in Management. He resides in Lee's Crossing and is a neighbor of Fred Beloin. In 1985 Sam moved to Marietta to join the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations, a non-profit organization formed by the nation's nuclear utilities as the industry's response to the Three Mile Island accident. Since retiring he has done some consulting work in the nuclear industry. Sam and his wife, Sandy, have four children, two of whom are Naval Academy graduates, and two of whom are University of Georgia graduates. They have seven grandchildren and one of them is attending the U.S. Air Force Academy. Sam will discuss the Three Mile Island incident.

It has been 40 years since a meltdown of Three Mile Island became the most significant nuclear accident in U.S. history. On March 28, 1979, one of the reactors at that power plant partially melted down, releasing radiation and revealing flaws within both the system and in how authorities respond to emergencies.

Where Is Three Mile Island?

Three Mile Island is a strip of land in the Susquehanna River, a little south of Pennsylvania's capital Harrisburg. It is a little more than 2 miles long and is 3 miles downstream from Harrisburg International Airport.

What happened in 1979?

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission reports that a mechanical or electrical failure caused an issue with the reactor core's cooling system leading to an automatic shutdown. A relief valve then opened to relieve the rising pressure in the nuclear area of the plant but got stuck in the open position, despite a readout indicating to plant workers that it had closed once the pressure was stabilized. As a result the plant staff was unaware that cooling water was pouring out of the stuck-open valve.

Without proper cooling, the nuclear fuel got too hot, and a significant portion of the core melted. According to the commission, the building contained much of the radioactive material preventing a larger disaster. Remediation efforts lasted for more than a decade after the incident and changed the way nuclear plant processes were managed, and the methods of communication for reporting disasters.

Nobody died or was injured in the initial incident at Three Mile Island. However, the meltdown released radiation, which scientific studies have linked to cancer cases that cropped up in the years following the accident.

Is Three Mile Island Closing?

In September of 2019 Exelon will close the facility due to economic reasons. Unit 1 was not involved in the 1979 accident. This TMI-2 accident is one of the reasons for the decline of new reactor construction. The 1979 accident did not initiate the demise of the U.S. nuclear power industry but did halt its historic growth. Federal requirements to correct safety issues and design deficiencies became more stringent. Construction times were significantly lengthened and costs skyrocketed. Three Mile Island Unit 2 was too badly damaged and contaminated to resume operations, the reactor was gradually deactivated and Unit 2 permanently closed. It had been online only 13 months. Cleanup started in August 1979 and ended in December 1993 with a total estimated cleanup cost of \$1 billion with an estimated property damage of \$2.4 billion. In 2017 it was announced that operations would cease by 2019 due to financial pressure from cheap natural gas, unless law makers stepped in to keep it open. When it became clear the subsidy legislation would not pass, Exelon decided to retire the plant by September 30, 2019.

Lessons Learned

The Three Mile Island accident occurred from an unanticipated interaction of multiple failures in a complex system. Such modern, high-risk systems were prone to failures however well they are managed. The advice was to better contemplate a radical redesign or to abandon such technology entirely.

Several authors blamed operator error, inadequate training, lack of skill, but whatever the cause some operators contributed to the incident and accident. President Carter ordered a study which reached the same conclusions. The major factor was inappropriate actions caused by insufficient training, poor design, and federal commissions regulating nuclear power. There were weaknesses in planning on everyone's part. Utility and NRC did not coordinate press releases. Everyone was saying different things. Radiation numbers were reported incorrectly. Thus, an evacuation was advised, and women and children within a 5 mile radius were evacuated. All resulted in a loss of confidence in nuclear power in the U.S. The NRS instituted changes and developed operational and info sharing processes. An assistance program resides in Cobb County.

Sam's closing statement was that the general population was scared to death and one of his neighbors commented




GUEST SPEAKER SAM NEWTON

that's your job, but I hope they never have a nuclear plant. Interestingly the people residing around the plant did not benefit from the plant itself.

The speaker then closed and requested questions from the audience.

Sam Newton graduated from the Naval Academy with a very famous American, Oliver North. Ex-Marine Dan Kirk then posed the question was Oliver North's behavior as outrageous as reputed. Dan proceeded to tell a story of being in a dining room with a bunch of other marines having lunch, whereupon Oliver North enters, jumps on a table, and begins firing an M16 in the room full of marines. Oliver's message was be prepared for the unexpected. Dan questioned the wisdom of this action. Sam responded that stories of Oliver's escapades were legend; however, since Dan was present at this one, it was not another urban legend.

The Opportunity Drawing was managed by sportily attired **Jim Trapnell** and **Holly Walquist**. This week the green bag contained 14 marbles including the red. The first winning ticket was in the possession of **Carlos Rodriquez**. Carlos deftly drew the red marble and emerged as this week's winner.

PE **Mary Ansley Southerland** led the Pledge and 4-Way test. President Chris gonged the bell and adjourned the meeting promptly at 1:00 pm. 

~Scribe, Marlys Williams

~Photos, Dale Covington

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, July 31, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – Chief Dan Flynn, Marietta Police Department
Wednesday, August 7, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – Evan Mercer, "Crushing your Challenges"
Thursday, August 8, 2019	10:30 AM	MUST Ministries - Cook & Serve
Wednesday, August 14, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – Past District Governor Bob Hagan, "Polio Eradication Update"
Wednesday, August 21, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – TBA
Wednesday, August 28, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – TBA
Wednesday, September 4, 2019		NO MEETING
Thursday, September 12, 2019	10:30 AM	MUST Ministries - Cook & Serve
Wednesday, September 18, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – District Governor, Jim Squire

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Meeting makeups may be emailed to:
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www.mariettarotary.org



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