

THE ROTARY CLUB OF MARIETTA **ROTALIGHT**

Celebrating 100 Years of "Service Above Self"

July 31, 2019 • Volume 83, Number 4

TODAY'S SPEAKER



CHIEF DAN FLYNN

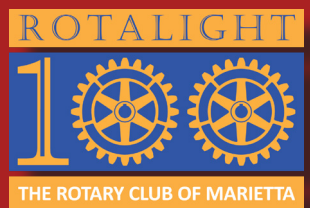
Marietta Police Department

Topic: "Innovative Initiatives to Fight Opioid Abuse"

Rotary
Club of Marietta



ROTARY
CONNECTS
THE WORLD



Today's Speaker: Chief Dan Flynn

Dan is currently the Chief of Police with the Marietta Police Department. He was appointed on January 15, 2007. He has enjoyed a 46-year career in law enforcement rising to the rank of Major with the Miami-Dade Police Department where he served as District Commander. After Miami-Dade, he served as Chief of the Savannah Police Department and ultimately, Chief of the 800 members Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department.

He holds Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Public Administration as well as post-graduate certificates from the University of Miami and George Washington University and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and Senior Management Institute for Police. Dan has authored several law enforcement publications for the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Police Executive Research Forum and Community Policing Consortium. He served

as a consultant to numerous law enforcement agencies and worked in homeland security planning, assessments, and training. He served as a consultant to multiple law enforcement agencies and worked in homeland security planning, assessments, and training associated with Critical Incident Solutions organization.

In 2017 Dan was named Chief of the Year by the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police.



Mark Adams is awarded the *Service above Self Award* and a golden bell, as he was the one to find our missing bell

Happy Birthday

Ben Worley - August 1

Bill Allred - August 2

Ralph Knight - August 8

James Eubanks - August 24

Morgan McNeel - August 25

WHEN WE LAST MET

Minutes from the July 24 Meeting

President **Chris Bethel** struck the bell to start our meeting. He invited **Jim Trapnell** to the podium to give today's invocation. Jim prayed for God's continuing blessings for the Rotary Club of Marietta so that we may help others here and around the world. He thanked the Lord for his abundant blessings and to pray for our country. **Daniel White** was tasked with introducing Guests and Visiting Rotarians. Our first guest was Maddox Kilgore, guest of member **Carlos Rodriguez**. **Irv Smith** introduced his daughter Heather Smith, and granddaughter Ivy Bethea. There were no Visiting Rotarians this week.



DANIEL WHITE

Announcements: In PP **Jesse's** absence, President Chris called up **Mark Adams** to receive his Service above Self Award and a golden bell, as he was the one to find our missing bell. Committee sign-ups: Please sign up for a committee. For your convenience, several sign-up sheets are on each table. President Chris praised **Lewis Lipsius** for being the first member to turn in his sheet. Judge **Adele Grubbs** suggested that we read the document and then sign up. Good advice, Judge Grubbs!



DR. J.C. BRADBURY

Our club has agreed to sponsor two young men for the Boys to Men 2019 event. Volunteers are needed on August 18, from 11:30 AM to 4:30 PM. If interested, please contact **Tyler Stephens** at 404.213.4228 or at steph2@nationwidw.com.

The 6th Annual Thanksgiving Golf Tournament will be held on November 11 at the Marietta Country Club. All proceeds benefit the Kennesaw State University Cares Program. The goal this year is to clear over \$100,000.

In the news: once again our very own **Dan Kirk** had another of his articles published in the MDJ. **Neera Bahl** was sworn in as a member of the Cobb County Board of Elections. Congrats Dan and Neera!

There was plenty of sunshine at the Marietta Hilton as **Walt Walker** announced that **Fred Beloin** now has a granddaughter AND a grandson! **Lee Pence** threw sunshine to Hedwig "Hedy" James. She is a native of Switzerland and after WWII came to the United States and became a productive citizen. Neera gave sunshine for her mother who has congestive heart failure, and was able to come home from the hospital on Tuesday.

Newly minted Grandpa twice over, Fred Beloin rose to introduce today's speaker Dr. J. C. Bradbury. J. C. graduated from Marietta High School and worked at the MDJ. Currently he is an economist at Kennesaw State University. He is also a huge fan of the great game of baseball and jokingly titled his presentation "An Economist Ruins Baseball". Play Ball!

As a person who attends a major league baseball game 2-3 times per year, this scribe thinks that the game is only part of the entire experience. We're there to chat with friends, sit outside, perhaps with a cold adult beverage and a bag of popcorn. The Home Depot Tool Race is the highlight of the game and the seventh inning stretch is tradition. Oh yeah...and there's a baseball game going on in case you didn't know.... Our speaker today believes that statistics will help us better understand the game of baseball. Statistics? I took that course in college and the professor never mentioned baseball! Nor did he mention Sabermetrics, which apparently is very important to baseball. Our speaker gave us some great examples of Sabermetrics, and I'm hoping that these minutes help to de-mystify this subject for you.

So, let's discuss Batting Averages. Currently in the National League the Pittsburgh Pirates have the highest batting average, (the Braves are 4th), but in the rankings, the Pirates are in 10th place, (our Braves are in 3rd place). This statistic needs a little help from other statistics though, (ie. On Base Percentage and Slugging Percentage), as a meaningful way to rate hitters. Then there is the OPS (On-Base plus Slugging) stat, which is the ability of a player both to get on base and hit for power. So, if we rated a team using OPS, the current NL leaders for highest runs per game are the Los Angeles Dodgers, (the Braves are in 2nd place). Confusing, right? Read on!

Earned Running Average is the way most of us rate pitchers. The lower the ERA, the better. There are many caveats as to how to calculate ERA such as the pitcher must pitch at least 5 innings and his team must be leading at the end. So since ERA is a measure of how many runs are given up per 9 innings pitched, 70% of results are due to the players behind the pitcher. A better way to assess the ability of a pitcher is to use Defense Dependent Pitching. Examples are the strike out to walk ratio and home runs allowed per 9 innings pitched.



PAST PRESIDENT FRED BELOIN AND SPEAKER DR. J. C. BRADBURY

Finally, the Fielders can be assessed by using the Defensive Runs Saved statistic which is the number of runs saved or given up relative to the average player.

With that, our speaker asked for questions and apologized for ruining baseball. There were several great questions “fielded” by the audience such as:

How can baseball speed up the game? Dr. Bradbury responded by saying that they have cut off about 10 minutes of playing time, per game. Much more time could be saved by disallowing team members to hold conferences on the pitching mound. He also stated that most attendees really don’t care about how long the game goes.

What about Wins Above Replacement? Dr. Bradbury said that most players’ numbers are negative.

What about exit velocity, a measure of how fast the ball comes off the bat and launch angle? Dr. Bradbury said that this stat is getting better because of better ball technology, allowing hitters to hit the ball farther. One theory is that new ball design uses thicker laces, resulting in a more spherically symmetric ball which “could” have the unintended side effect of reducing the ball’s drag. (Thank you, Google!)

Why are owners’ revenues going up faster than the players’ salaries? Owners have other outlets such as social media to exploit and create more wealth opportunities than do the players.

What is baseball doing to protect the fans? Our speaker said that many ball parks have pushed seats closer and closer to the

action and the league is finally coming around to requiring extra netting on the field.

Dr. Bradbury ended his comments by saying that the jury is still out on some of these statistics.

President Chris stood up to thank our speaker and donate a book to a local school in his honor. The book du jour was *Wonky Donkey*.

The Opportunity Drawing was administered by **Jim Kellogg** and PE **Mary Ansley Southerland**. **Morgan McNeel** drew the first ball, but struck out. Next up was Carlos Rodriguez, last week’s Opportunity Drawing winner, but he was unable to repeat his performance.

Daniel White led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4 Way Test. President Chris rang the bell and called this meeting a grand slam home run!

President Chris had a few parting comments: Please come next week to see our very own Rotary Club member and the Chief of Marietta’s Finest, **Dan Flynn**. Chief Flynn will enlighten us about the Opioid Epidemic.

If you need to do a make-up, please send proof in to **Jeff Cooper**. Finally, on Thursday, October 24 we will have a joint meeting with the Kiwanis Club of Marietta.

Scribed by **Deborah Marshall** with assistance from Perry Dillman, Joe Luranc and Google

~ Photos, Dale Covington



DOWN 7 UP 8 INC. PRESENTS

Registration
NOW OPEN

Boys to Men 2019

*Join us for a SUPER fun & IMPACTFUL day
Volunteers Needed!!!!*

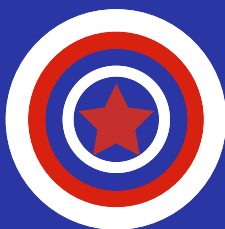
Super-Heroes & Human Heroes needed to encourage and uplift foster, adopted, and at-risk young men from our community, ages 3-10, as well as accomplished professionals and mentors to provide exposure to some life's lessons, and Man talks for ages 11-18.

Sunday, August 18, 2019

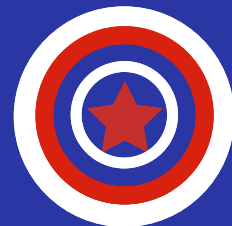
11:30 AM- 4:30 PM

**Smyrna Community Center
200 Village Green Circle SE
Smyrna, GA 30080**

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER
WWW.DOWN7UP8INC.ORG



IN PARTNERSHIP



UPCOMING EVENTS

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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