



**Chartered 1965 "Celebrating our 43<sup>rd</sup> year of service to the Community"**

**ROTARY CLUB OF VIENNA, Inc.**  
**Wednesdays 12:15 PM**  
**Award Winning Newsletter**

**Marco Polo Restaurant**  
**245 W Maple Ave.**  
**Vienna, VA 22180**



### Calendar of Events



- March 5 Fireside Chat
- March 15 Rotary Leadership Institute  
*George Mason University*
- Apr. 3 - 8 District Conference



### Upcoming Programs

- March 26 Doug Denny, Democratic Speaker for 11th District Congressional
- March 5 Hunter Herron
- March 12 AJ Oskuie Classification Talk
- March 19 Alan Webb
- March 29 Tom Hovis, Historian for American legion Post 177 Fairfax
- April 2 Cutler Dawson, Pres/CEO Navy Federal Credit Union
- April 9 Fran Fisher



### March is Literacy Month

A Rotary Foundation 3-H Grant that introduced the concentrated language encounter (CLE) method to Brazil in 2001 continues to boost literacy rates among low-income families throughout the country. To learn more, visit [http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/080125\\_news\\_brazilessay.aspx](http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/080125_news_brazilessay.aspx)



**Today's Program**  
**Doug Denny**  
**Democratic Speaker**

Doug Denny is Democrat representing the 11th District of Virginia. Doug is a New Generation Democrat, with recent, relevant, first-hand experience in national security issues.

### View from the Tables

Meeting called to order at 12:15 pm  
**Pledge:** Led by President Larry Warren  
**Song:** Happy Birthday in recognition of Rotary's 103rd birthday  
**Prayer:** Richard Lukens



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**John Brunow** reminded the Club that in **Larry Warren's** absence, the next Rotary Club BOD meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 27th at 5:30 pm at the 7th day Adventist Church in Vienna.

**John** also informed the Club that District 7610 will be holding its annual conference this year at The Homestead on April 4th through 6th. The deadline to register is March 3rd.

**Keith Bodamer** announced the updated results on the ongoing membership drive and Viva! Vienna! sponsorship and Vendors for the upcoming Viva! Vienna! festival. Keith announced that **Howard Svigals, Skip Jones** and **Ron Balderson** have sponsored three new members who will be presented to the BOD this evening for consideration. He said that the YTD total is 13 new members, which exceeds **President Larry Warren's** drive for 1 new member per month during his year as President of the Club.

**Keith** stated that Viva! Vienna! has \$35,500 in cash commitments from sponsors, \$11,000 in in-hand services, \$12,000 cash on hand and \$10,000 in in-kind services pending.

**Keith** further announced that our Club member, **Dr. Allen Garai** has donated rides and vendor tickets for all 500 of his patients to attend this year's Viva! Vienna! festival and that this is a significant donation to the club.

**Diane Poldy** announced that this year the Chamber of Commerce will be holding its annual Casino Night at the Westwood Country Club and that the theme is Mardi Gras.



### Rotary Leadership Institute

Don't miss this opportunity to develop your Rotary skills by attending a RLI seminar on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at George Mason University. To register, visit

[http://www.rli33.org/events/080315fai\\_va/2008-03-15%20Fairfax%20VA%20RLI.html](http://www.rli33.org/events/080315fai_va/2008-03-15%20Fairfax%20VA%20RLI.html)

**Continued on Back**



### Vienna Rotary Shares

#### Historic Vienna Society receives Club Donation

**Bob Marshall** presented Laine Hyde from The Historic Vienna Society with a \$1,000 check.



Ms. Hyde told the Club that the Historic Vienna Society is located in the town owned Freeman House in Vienna but that the Historic Vienna Society has to raise all of its own funds for its operations including for the contents of the Freeman House.



The Historic Vienna Society was chartered in 1976 to preserve historically significant places in the town.

#### Proposed New Members

The Vienna Rotary Club approved three new members for induction on March 12, 2008 subject to the review of our current club members.

**\*Brendan Bernhart\***

Prosthodontics

Sponsored by *Skip Jones*

**\*Dean Southee\***

Office Equipment

Sponsored by *Ron Balderson*

**\*Peter Vlantis\***

Remodeling Contractor

Sponsored by *Howard Svigals*

Questions can be directed to either the proposer or to Keith Bodamer, Membership Chairman, at 703-938-1366.





Visitors to the Vienna Club



<b>Visiting Rotarians</b>	Pauline Compton from the Dunn Loring, Va. Club and Gordon Payton from the Alexandria, Va. Club.
<b>Guests</b>	<b>Woody Bentley</b> again introduced his wife, Claire while <b>Skip Jones</b> introduced Brendan Bernhardt, DDS who is before the BOD tonight for membership.

Gambling

	<b>Al Miller</b> won the small pot and donated it back to the Club. He then drew the Ace of Spades and the large pot will carry over to next week.
	<b>Bob Easton</b> won the pie donated by <u>The Pie Gourmet</u> .

Members Caught Making a Difference...

Vienna Club Members can now access dozens of photos of our "Members Making a Difference" taken by our very own **Gerry Hamilton**. Visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/16224073@N07/collections/72157602706602214/> to share in these special moments.

Food for Thought

Adult illiteracy in the United States alone carries a \$17 billion per year price tag in lost income and tax revenue, welfare, unemployment, crime, and training costs in business. The illiteracy problem isn't new. "the malady... has grown to epidemic proportions in which nearly one-third of all U.S. school children have serious literacy deficits," wrote William J. Moloney, Colorado's commissioner of education, in a *USA Today* editorial in 2006.



Today's Speaker  
Christine Todd  
CEO of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors (NVAR)

George Creed introduced today's speaker, Ms. Christine Todd, CEO of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors (NVAR). Ms. Todd has been CEO of NVAR since 1989 and in real estate since she first got her start in Boston, MA in 1978. Ms. Todd gave a very informative talk on the state of the current real estate market both locally and nationally. Ms. Todd stated more than once that "all real estate is local" and to understand real estate trends you have to know what is going on in your local market. Ms. Todd's presentation was roughly captioned "Fact vs. Fiction" in the Real Estate Market. She said that each market has its own DNA. She traced U.S. home prices from 2001 to the present and showed how the market had multiplied, in some cases 4 times between 2001 and 2005. She described 2006 as a smaller increase and showed in graphs how 2007 had a small decline in Northern Virginia as compared to other areas of the country which have fared far worse.

The worst real estate market at the present time is Detroit, MI, which is in the "rust belt." Miami, Fla. is having a resurgence as foreign investors bring their Euro dollars to the U.S. to buy what they see as cheap real estate. This view is prompted in part by the fact that the Euro is extremely strong against the U.S. dollar at the present time.



Ms. Todd explained that the real estate run up in prices between 2001 and 2005 was due to low mortgage rates, stock market crashes which led investors to look into real estate, a dramatic increase in U.S. government spending in the region, the unregulated excesses of the sub prime mortgage market during these years and that Wall Street entered the real estate market through Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) to carve out a share of the action.

Ms. Todd stated that affordability is the #1 reason for a decline in the real estate market in this area as housing has become unaffordable for many families.

The 2007 recovery stalled because of too many sub prime mortgages with adjustable rates coming due. She described the current market as a foreclosure and short sale market. It's the 3rd cycle she has witnessed since she got into the real estate business in 1978 and sees that the current market is driven, in addition to a lack of affordability, by investor flight from the market and low consumer confidence. However, mortgage rates are at a 45 year historic low and it is truly a buyers market at the present time.



The Virginia foreclosure rate is better than most of the rest of the country, partly due to a 2.3% unemployment rate that is half that of the rest of the country.

The turnaround will be driven in this area by job growth and absorption of the current oversupply of inventory. Ms. Todd described the Washington, D.C. market as among the top five global markets in the world along with New York, NY, London, Paris and Shanghai.

Much more information, including the numerous charts and graphs that Ms. Todd employed in her very informative presentation, can be found at [www.nvar.com](http://www.nvar.com),



### Happy Talk

**Tom Kylo** was happy to announce that the Madison H.S. softball team has now won 26 games in a row and is ranked 12th in the state.

**John Tate** was happy to be back from Costa Rico.

**Al Miller** announced that **Jim Purdon** is currently at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore for a second opinion. As many Club members are aware, Jim is scheduled to have brain surgery for an aneurism. The surgery is currently scheduled for Georgetown Hospital.

**Al** was also happy to have now been retired for over one year. Al retired as Postmaster of the Vienna, Va. Post Office.

**Lou Zone** made a happy announcement on behalf of **Butch McGonegal**, who is presently in Key West for his daughter's wedding.

### Rotary International Announcements

The *Rotarian* magazine is looking for former Peace Corps volunteers. They should be Rotarians who are using the skills or contacts they made in the Peace Corps to work on current Rotary projects.

If that describes you, or you know a Rotarian we can contact, e-mail [Barbara.Nellis@rotary.org](mailto:Barbara.Nellis@rotary.org)

### Are You a Paul Harris Fellow?

The Rotary Foundation is fulfilling its promise of creating a polio-free world, helping children and families live healthier lives through Rotary's Humanitarian Grants Program, and educating young people about cultures worldwide. Rotary World Peace Fellows are engaging in the study of peace building, which may allow them to participate in resolution efforts in some of the world's most challenging situations.

Below are totals as of 31 January 2008.

- Arch C. Klumph Society members -- 194
- Major Donors -- 9,388
- Bequest Society -- 5,860
- Benefactors -- 76,315
- Paul Harris Fellows -- 1,092,425

It's not too late!

### Rotarian Rises to the top in South Korea

A Rotarian has risen to the top position in the South Korean government.

Myung-bak Lee, of the Rotary Club of Seoul Samchung, Seoul, won a landslide victory in December to become the country's 17th president. RI President-elect Dong Kurn Lee attended the inauguration festivities on 25 February.



This week the Learning Center will focus on the fifth of Nine Structured Programs within Rotary International...  
**# 5: Rotary Volunteers** program increases Rotarian participation in volunteer activities by providing service opportunities in a volunteer's local community and communities abroad. At the international level, two directories are available to match registered Rotary Volunteers with service projects.

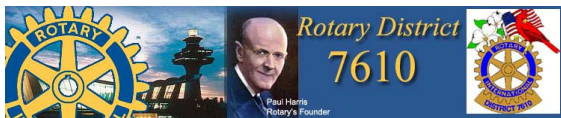


### Viva! Vienna!

## 2008 Memorial Day Festival

We are still looking for more vendors for Viva! Vienna! Spread the word!

**Saturday MAY 24, 2008**  
**Sunday MAY 25, 2008**  
**Monday MAY 26, 2008**



## NEWS from the DISTRICT

**Group Study Exchange Begins Early for 2008-09 Year**

District 7610 is exchanging with District 3211 in India, a new Rotary District in southern India. Team Leader Applications deadline – May 23, 2008  
Team member Application deadline – June 30, 2008  
Outbound Team Departs for District 3211 – India – Saturday, November 29, 2008  
**Jerry Foltz, GSE Chairman, Dulles RC, [jfoltz@erols.com](mailto:jfoltz@erols.com)**

**District Conference @ The Homestead April 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6th**

Annual District Conference 2007-2008 will be April 3 – 6<sup>th</sup> @ The Homestead in Hot Springs, VA. Come and join your Rotary friends and family in a celebration of our achievements during the past year. See some of the projects completed by other clubs in the district. Join the wine tasting, or Scotch, if you prefer. There are many other activities to join in such as Friday's Fellowship Casino Night, bowling and golf. Come and learn how "Rotary Shares". Visit <http://www.rotary7610.org/homestead.html> for more information and to register.

Visit <http://www.rotary7610.org> to link directly to the District Website.