



BULLETIN JERUSALEM ROTARY CLUB

Chartered 1929
Club #13459 District
2490

9 December 2020



Rotary Opens Opportunities

Club #13459

Club Officers 2020-2021

President

Dieter Ziulkowski

Secretary

R/ Geert Cohen
Stuart

Treasurer

Robert Hammer

Immediate P/P

Robert Hammer

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P/P Eli Kenner
P/P David Seligman
P/P Dan Shanit
P/P Don Edelstein
PDG Irène Lewitt
R/Carry Polak
R/Louis Polak
R/Mark Mina

Upcoming Events

16 December, 2020
tba



Today's Program – "U.S. Administration Transition — the Embassy Experience"

Brian M. Grimm, Political Counselor, Tel Aviv Branch Office, U.S. Embassy Jerusalem

Brian Grimm joined Embassy Branch Office Tel Aviv as the Political Counselor in August 2019. Previous to this position, Brian served as the Counselor for Syria Affairs at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. In this position, Brian co-chaired with UN and Russian officials two task forces to reduce levels of violence and deliver humanitarian assistance. Prior to this position, Brian served as the Deputy Director for the UN Political Affairs Office in the International Organizations Bureau; Economic Counselor in Amman, Jordan; and Deputy Director for Regional Affairs in the Near Eastern Affairs Bureau. Other assignments include Economic Officer in Muscat, Oman; International Transportation Officer in the Office of Aviation Negotiations; and consular assignments in Lisbon, Portugal and Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Prior to joining the Foreign Service in 1999, Brian worked for the Hawaii State Legislature, Hawaii Pacific University, and Hawaii Public Schools. Brian graduated with both a master's and bachelor's degree in political science from Penn State University.

The meeting on 9 December will start at 12.45 !!!!! 15 minutes earlier than usual

We have a virtual meeting again using the internet application ZOOM. Please log in as follows: just before 12:45 pm (12:45), of the meeting date, log-in with the numbers **82628643933 in the log-in window of ZOOM and the password: **993943** or at internet site:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82628643933?pwd=N3lxaml3NFQYm1COGF1a3psYnBxUTO9>

You might be informed that you are in a 'waiting room' and the host will admit you shortly. Please have patience. Our host Robert Hammer will let you in.

Fellowship Greetings

No birthdays or anniversaries during this week. Best of health to all of you



The President's Corner

For all of you who celebrate Jewish holidays we are wishing you 'Hag Sameach le Hanukkah' – a happy Hanukkah holiday. Enjoy your time with family or friends, respecting the limitations enforced by the Corona crises. For our dear Christian friends and all others the X-mas and New Year greetings will follow in due course.

Dieter Ziulkowski



International Toast – Rotary Club of Providence, Rhode Island

Three noteworthy historical events that happened on 9 December, the day of our meeting:

1640 Settler Hugh Bewitt banished from Mass colony when he declares himself to be free of original sin. He claimed that all the sins he committed were copies of other people's sins. The leaders of the colony, who were Puritans, couldn't deal with that level of creativity and escorted him out of the colony before he could infect the rest of the population. Bewitt went to the only place he could – Providence Plantation. That was where all the heretics, separatists, Jews and religious troublemakers went. Its founder, Roger Williams, had himself been banished from Boston for not following the party line and he created the first community in history that observed a careful separation of church and state. Roger Williams (c. 21 December 1603 – between 27 January and 15 March 1683) was a Puritan minister, theologian, and author who founded Providence Plantations, which became the Colony of Rhode Island. He was a staunch advocate for religious freedom, separation of church and state, and fair dealings with Native Americans, and he was one of the first abolitionists. Williams was expelled by the Puritan leaders from the Massachusetts Bay Colony for spreading "new and dangerous ideas", and he established the Providence Plantations in 1636 as a refuge offering what he called "liberty of conscience". In 1638, he founded the First Baptist Church in America, also known as the First Baptist Church of Providence. He studied the Native American languages and wrote the first book on the Narragansett language, and he organized the first attempt to prohibit slavery in any of England's North American colonies.



Roger Williams



Traffic lights



John P Knight



Rod Blagojevich

1868 The first traffic lights are installed outside the Palace of Westminster in London. Resembling railway signals, they use semaphore arms and are illuminated at night by red and green gas lamps. The humble but ubiquitous road safety system was first unveiled at the junction of Great George Street and Bridge Street in Westminster on December 9, 1868, after Nottingham engineer John Peake Knight decided to bring the railway signalling system onto roads. It was a fairly simple set up - the signal used red and green gas-powered lamps under the manual control of a policeman. However, the trial only lasted a month because a gas main leak resulted in one of the lights exploding and seriously burning the policeman on duty.

2008 The Governor of Illinois, Rod Blagojevich, is arrested by federal officials for a number of alleged crimes including attempting to sell the United States Senate seat being vacated by President-elect Barack Obama's election to the Presidency. Rod Blagojevich (born December 10, 1956), is an American former politician, political commentator, and convicted felon who served as the 40th Governor of Illinois from 2003 to his 2009 impeachment following charges of public corruption for which he was later sentenced to federal prison. A member of the Democratic Party, Blagojevich previously worked in both the state and federal legislatures. He served as a congressman for Illinois from 1997 to 2003 and an Illinois state representative from 1993 to 1997. Starting in December 2008, an investigation and trial found Blagojevich guilty of public corruption after he attempted to solicit bribes to occupy the U.S. Senate seat vacated by then president-elect Barack Obama. Blagojevich was impeached in 2009, later convicted, and ultimately sentenced to 14 years in federal prison. After an appeal for his release, U.S. President Donald Trump formally commuted his sentence in 2020; though Blagojevich was imprisoned for nearly eight years, the executive order ended his sentence six years early.

Today we are toasting the Rotary Club of Providence, Rhode Island, founded in 1911! We are toasting Providence on the remarkable early settlers Hugh Bewitt and Roger Williams who established the Providence Plantations in an early attempt for religious freedom and the separation of church and state.

Dieter Ziulkowski



Some other news

Some of the participants of last ZOOM meeting, courtesy of Eli:



Hag Sameach le Hanukka. Enjoy the holidays:



E-mail received from Rotary Club Dubai:

Dear President Ziulkowski

Your invitation to raise our glasses for a toast in celebration of 49th UAE National Day is highly appreciated and reciprocated in the spirit of true Rotarian friendship. Please join us to celebrate this special day. Thanks
Best regards

Best Regards,
Pasquale Della Penna
President Rotary Club Dubai



The Jerusalem Rotary Club meets every Wednesday at 1 p.m. (13.00) at the Jerusalem International YMCA on King David Street. On the last Wednesday of every month it meets in the evening at 7 p.m. (19.00). NIS75 covers lunch/dinner, the Rotary program and a presentation by selected speakers. Kosher meals can be ordered until 90 minutes before the start of the meeting, by sending a message to our secretary 054-4295680. Visiting Rotarians and visitors are welcome.