

W. GREGORY WIMS

President, Victims' Rights Foundation 14224 Ashleigh Green Rd. Boyds, Md. 20841

Gregory Wims is a local businessman and community activist who founded the Victims' Rights Foundation (VRF) in response to the senseless killings of three Washington D.C. area women in 1996. Moved by the grace of God, Gregory is dedicated in supporting victims and their families of violent crimes and attacks. He was instrumental in forming and supporting the Sniper Victims' Fund in response to the sniper attacks in the Washington D.C. metro area in 2002.

In the grand scheme, however, he is really a man with a long volunteer career and a burning desire to bring comfort and aid to those in need. In the last 39 years, he has raised more than \$2 million dollars, logged more than 500,000 miles, and volunteered more than 30,000 hours.

He began his volunteer career in 1969, when he was elected vice president of the State of Maryland Youth Commission. The next year, as president of that organization, he played a pivotal role in lowering the voting age from 21 to 18. In the 1970's, he served as the youngest person ever appointed by the County Executive as Commissioner of the Montgomery County Maryland Human Relations Commission. In this role, he worked with community officials to hire the first African American to the police department.

From 1974 to 1976, he was the first male Head Start teacher in Montgomery County, Maryland. In 1976, Greg Wims became the first African American in Montgomery County, to work for a member of Congress, the 8th Congressional District. In the 1980s, he led the Social Concern Committee at Goshen United Methodist Church and set up a prison ministry program. He also founded United Brothers, Inc., organized the first "gun turn-in" program in Montgomery County, and chaired the "Get Out to Vote" campaign.

In the early 1990s, Gregory Wims served as the membership chairman for the NAACP, recruiting more than 1,000 new members. In 1994, he was elected president of the Montgomery County Chapter of the NAACP, and one-year later; he was voted President of the NAACP's Maryland State Chapter. In this role, he led more peaceful demonstrations than any previous president and organized with Janice Washington the first federal employment task force for the National NAACP. During this, he was also appointed by President George Bush as a Board Member of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Employment

Victims' Rights Foundation, Inc. - Founder/President - 1996 - Present (Volunteer)
Founder of non-profit organization, national and international.

Bold Concepts, Inc. Vice President for Public Affairs - 1994 - Present
Government relations/liaison with officials from state, local and federal governments. Provide strategies to President and Executive Committee on achieving goals and objectives for the company.

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission - 1996 - 2004 Chairman/Vice Chairman/Board Member Appointed by the County Executive, 8 year term. Presided over public hearings, voted on public policies and financial issues, assisted in establishing a training program for executive and line employees and represented WSSC to the media.

Hammer and Nails, Inc. - Founder and President - 1999 - 2008

Independent consultant for small business, non-profit organization, political campaigns and government agencies. Provide leadership and guidance to clients on marketing strategies, business development, fundraising activities and human resource development.

Awards

- Hall of Fame for Civil Rights, Montgomery County, MD.
- Hall of Fame "The History Makers" Chicago, Ill.
- YMCA Metropolitan Washington, DC Community Service award
- Key to the City "Gaithersburg, Maryland
- State of Maryland Board of Victims Services "Henry Gleim Memorial award
- Boys and Girls Club, Greater Washington, DC
- Leader of the Year, Leadership Montgomery
- Chamber of Commerce, Montgomery County, MD. Community Service award
- Montgomery College Outstanding Alumni Achievement award
- Installed into the National Chapter Omega Psi Phi along with Shaquille O'Neal and Hank Aaron
- WETA - Public Television (The Hometown Hero Award)
- National Volunteer of the Year for Victims - United States Justice Department
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity - Martin Luther King Award

Organizations Served

- Attorney General's Task Force on Voter Irregularities for the State of Maryland
- Congressman Albert Wynn's Task Force on Public Safety
- County Executive Isiah Leggett's African American Advisory Committee
- Children Charities Foundation - Board Member
- Maryland Center for Assault Prevention - President/Board Member
- Hospice Caring Board - Board Member
- University of Maryland Dental Board - Board Member
- Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce - Board Member
- Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington, MC Region - President and Board Member
- Leadership Montgomery - Board Member - Vice President for Development
- YMCA, Bethesda - Chevy Chase - President - Board Member
- NAACP, State of Maryland - President
- NAACP, Montgomery County Chapter – President
- John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts - Board Member
- Montgomery County Commission on Aging - Commissioner
- Montgomery County Commission on Human Relations – Commissioner
- Montgomery College Foundation Board – Member
- Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee - Co-Chair Voter Registration Drive

- Parenting Plus - Board Member
- Family Services Agency - Board Member
- Rotary International-Bethesda Chevy Chase Club - President elect 2009
- United Brothers – Founder
- Victim's Rights Foundation - Founder

Education

Howard University, Washington, DC
Montgomery College, Rockville, MD

Training

Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government " JFK School for State and Local Officials"



ACTION NEWS

ROTARY DISTRICT 7620 NEWSLETTER

CENTRAL MARYLAND AND WASHINGTON DC, USA

Rotary District 7620 Newsletter NOVEMBER 2017

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975 TREES PLANTED IN OCTOBER IN THE DISTRICT

by Governor Greg Wims

October was a fast and wonderful month for me and the members of Rotary District 7620. I visited my 50th Rotary Club on October 18th (La Plata Club) and my 51st on October 25th (Hunt Valley). I officially have 9 more Rotary Clubs to visit as the District Governor. All of the Clubs are "Making A Difference" in the communities they live or work in.

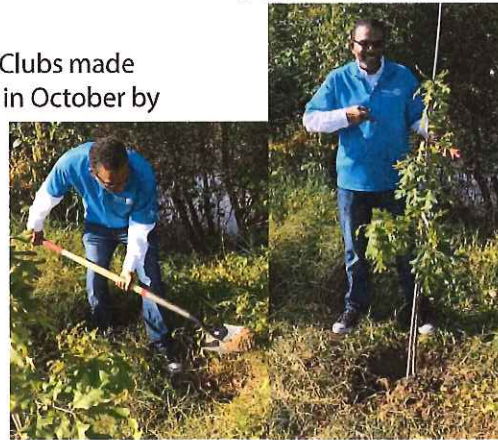
The Frederick-area Rotary Clubs made an outstanding difference in October by planting 775 trees.

Planting trees is one of the top goals this year from International President Ian Riseley. I let him know about the 775 trees planted in one day by the Frederick-area Clubs, 100 trees planted by the Columbia-Patuxent Rotary Club and 100 trees planted earlier by the Prince George's and College Park Rotary Clubs joined by the Washington, DC, Rotaract Club, Federal City and Bethesda-Chevy Chase Clubs. We have planted a total of 975 trees in our District in October.

My hat goes off to PDG Bob Grill and his team at Disaster Aid USA for bringing in over \$225,000 to help victims from this year's hurricanes. Disaster Aid USA was started by Bob Grill when he was District Governor. Rotary International President Elect Barry Rassin thanked Disaster Aid USA this month for helping the hurricane victims.

Good news on starting Satellite Clubs. Montgomery Village Rotary Club is the

sponsor of the Historic Emory Grove Satellite Club with 13 members and Carroll Creek Rotary Club will sponsor the Brunswick Satellite Club with 14 members. All we need is one more Satellite Club to reach our goal for this year. The Historic Emory Grove Club had their first meeting on October 26 and Brunswick will have the official swearing in ceremony on November 17th.



[Above] Governor Greg Wims planted trees as part of the Rotary initiative to plant one tree for every Rotarian in the world. 975 trees were planted in October by District Rotarians and Rotaractors.

I want to thank each Rotary Club for participating and educating their members and community on the opioid crisis. Chairperson Tom Allen and his wife Barbara have visited several Clubs this month and will continue thru next year. State and County leaders

have praised the work Rotary is doing in the area. We are "Making A Difference."

Bill Shillito, Chair, CART (Coins for Alzheimer's Research) announced District 7620 as an official CART Giving Rotary District.

Finally I was honored to listen to Past District Governor John Sever speak at the Gaithersburg Rotary Club for Rotary Polio Day. Dr. Sever is the Rotarian who pushed to make ending Polio Rotary's number one project of the last 30 years. He reported that only a handful of cases remain in the world. Past District Governor John Sever is "Making A Difference."

NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH



ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE