

# Rotary

## Club of Jonesboro



### The Big Wheel

Club 2520, District 6150  
June 29, 2020  
Volume 102, Issue 53  
Rotary Club of Jonesboro  
P.O. Box 654  
Jonesboro, AR 72403  
Chartered August 1, 1919

### This Week's Program - June 30, 2020



#### News, Awards, Passing of the Gavel.

Join us!

Rotary Club of Jonesboro Weekly Meeting - Tuesdays 12:00 noon

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### ... and MORE!

By Brian Rega

We started this Rotary year with great expectations, full of hope, and ready to celebrate 100 years of existence in Jonesboro. "Cent' anni" was the phrase meaning "100 years," to which we replied "And more!" (Note to future societies here, never challenge anyone to be creative in defining "And MORE".) "More" indeed . . . .

*Random Acts of Rotary* was introduced, encouraging members and others to do something nice for someone else. That was a hit, if only in my own mind . . . Be the good you wish to see in the world.

Just a couple weeks in, the settlement from the 2019 Sports Show was released. Um, wait. What? Ok, this is going to be more of a challenge. We had to get to work re-booting the Sports Show, and we needed to get a handle on it from the club's standpoint. Done. It's a club project, not a stand-alone entity. **Bill Skinner** took the reins, recruited a team, and they turned it in the right direction. From \$12,000 to upwards of \$30,000 in a year. Thank you, Bill and the Sports Show committee. There's more work to be done, so get involved.

Right around the Sports Show in February we started hearing about this weird, new virus popping up in parts of the world. It couldn't get here, could it? Nah. Wait, what?? Really?

Who would have figured we'd have to pause our weekly meetings, and then come back with the first-ever virtual meeting for our club? (And they say centenarians won't embrace technology.) Rotary truly did connect the world as we hosted program speakers from Sydney, Australia, and Lake Charles, Louisiana.

We got some good press, made a big splash with the plaza dedication, and we continued offering members a reason to come to meetings, to hear our great programs. With so much uncertainty, here's one thing we do know in this, our centennial year, the Rotary Club of Jonesboro became a 100% Paul Harris Club. Thanks to **Carl Cates** who had the idea and saw it through.

It's been said it takes a village to raise a child, and apparently to lead a Rotary Club. Thanks to every Past District Governor (PDG) in our club who reached out to me at one time or another -- some regularly -- with a kind word, or just to check my pulse. **Marilyn, Ray, Jerry, Dr. Bob,** and **John**, your support and encouragement to a club president is invaluable. Thanks, **Lisa Golden** (future DG?), for setting the example. It isn't lost on me that Lisa has been part of the team named Club of the Year in each of her four year presidential thread. (-Nominee, -Elect, President, and Immediate Past-) Pretty amazing! To our Executive Secretary, Board and Area Chairs, thank you for your work. You embraced your role, fulfilled your obligation, and served with honor. I appreciate your wise counsel

### Club Leaders



[Brian Rega](#)  
President



[Gary Higgins](#)  
President - Elect



[Nancy Elphinstone](#)  
Secretary



[Jennifer Elizabeth Hannah](#)  
Secretary-Elect



[Gary Clark](#)  
President - Nominee  
Treasurer



[Will Branch](#)  
Club Director



[William D. Burnett](#)  
Club Director  
International Service  
Chair



[Carl M. Cates](#)  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair  
Club Director



[David A. Eckert](#)  
Club Director



Lillie Fears  
Club Director



Nanette Heard  
Club Director



Dana L. Kennedy  
Club Director  
Community Service  
Chair



Marie-Jose Patton  
Bulletin Editor



Russell E. Shain  
Public Image Chair



Norman Edward  
Stafford  
Club Director



Joe Williams  
Club Director  
Membership Chair



Barbara J. Widner  
Club Executive  
Secretary  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Eugene J. Wing  
CCO-Club Comm. Offcr



Rachel R. Jones  
Youth Exchange Chair



Lisa K. Golden  
iPast President



Eugene J. Wing  
Assistant Governor

## Events

*All face-to-face events have been postponed due to the coronavirus.*

**June 30** -- Online Meeting --  
Passing of the Gavel

and your input. It has been a pleasure to serve with you. Actually, most everyone has been very supportive. Even the member for whom I could do very little right, I choose to believe had the best interests of the club in mind.

I want to thank each of you for the opportunity to serve as President of the Rotary Club of Jonesboro. I am humbled, truly humbled to walk in the footsteps of those that came before. **Russ Hannah** tells me that I'm about to start the best job in Rotary, *Past President*. I don't know, Russ, this job has been pretty sweet. To my wife, **Jennifer**, who paid us the ultimate compliment by joining Rotary this year, I want to say thank you for your patience. My "homework" sometimes resulted in schedule conflicts, but you never showed that you were disappointed. You bought into the commitment I made to the Club, and you supported me every week. Same is true for my employer, St. Bernards. I could not have even thought about being president of this club if I didn't have their blessing (pun intended . . .)

Finally, I hope I didn't embarrass anyone, or come across as irreverent to some Rotary standards and traditions. I told you when I started this was going to be a little different. In **Jerry Brackett's** version of the 4-Way Test -- "Is it? Is it? Will it? Will it?", we tried to add another "Izzit" -- Is it FUN?

Rotarians of Club #2520, four-time and still *reigning District 6150 Club of the Year*, raise a glass with me (virtual or literal) one last time and toast to 100 years past, AND MORE! (clink) It's been a wild ride.

## New Board Seated

July 1 marks the start of our next Rotary year. The centennial is officially over, and we begin anew. Thank you to Directors completing their terms on the Board-- **David Eckert, Chad Harbison, Nanette Heard, and Norm Stafford**. **Lisa Golden** winds up her four-year commitment from President-Nominee all the way through Immediate Past-President.

Directors to continue their two-year term are **Will Branch, Bill Burnett, Lillie Fears, Dana Kennedy, and Joe Williams**. Joining them will be newly-elected Directors **Carl Cates, Lori Chandler, Ruth Hawkins, Neelam Joshi, and Hatton Weeks**.

**Gary Higgins** takes the reins of the club July 1 as your next President. **Gary Clark** is elevated to President-Elect, and **Erika Chudy** joins the thread of succession as President-Nominee. **Nancy Elphingstone** and **Jennifer Hannah** begin two-year terms as Club Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. **Brian Rega** rounds out the 16-member board as Immediate Past-President.



## Club Honored at Virtual District Conference

By Brian Rega on Saturday, June 27, 2020

To say your Rotary Club of Jonesboro *took home* honors at the June 27 District Conference wouldn't be quite right, because we were all *at home* while attending. The first-ever virtual District Conference was produced by Past President **Sam Hummelstein** for District Governor George Fray. Our own **Hatton Weeks** made us proud serving as moderator of each panel topic.

The club was recognized for attaining status as a 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club, and for earning the Governor's Banner. For the fourth time in as many years, the Rotary Club of Jonesboro was named District 6150 Club of the Year in the large club category! PP **Gene Wing** was honored with an Assistant Governor Award. **Sam, Hatton**, and PP/District Chief-of-Staff **Mark Morrow**, along with District Administrator Sydney Gilbert and West LR RC member Dr. Jennifer Dillaha were recognized for Outstanding Service to the District. Congratulations are also in order for our friend Adam Sartin, President of the Jonesboro-University Club, for receiving a Governor's Award for Leadership. Adam will serve as our Assistant Governor for 2020-23).

## 4-PEAT!

By Brian Rega on Saturday, June 27, 2020

Taken from HANNAH WHITTEN in ESPN April 2016 Winning a championship is a special feat for any team. But winning three or more championships in a row? That's nearly impossible, and few have been able to do it.

Take a look at some special teams that have won multiple titles in a row -- sometimes more than once:

Boston Celtics  
Championship streak: 1959-66  
The Celtics won eight NBA championships in a row from 1959 to 1966. Their streak is the longest consecutive title run of any professional



team in U.S. sports history.

**Montreal Canadiens**

Championship streaks: 1956-60, 1976-79

The Canadiens have taken home the Stanley Cup more times than any other NHL team. They have won 24 all told, including five in a row from 1956 to 1959 and four in a row from 1976 to 1979.

**New York Islanders**

Championship streak: 1980-83

The Islanders won the Stanley Cup four years in a row. They won an astonishing 19 consecutive playoff series during that streak. The franchise was a dynasty in the 1980s.

**New York Yankees**

Championship streaks: 1936-39, 1949-53, 1998-2000

The Yankees boast an astonishing 27 World Series titles, which is an MLB record. They've gone on numerous streaks, taking home four championships in a row from 1936 to 1939, five in a row from 1949 to 1953 and three in a row from 1998 to 2000.

**North Carolina Tar Heels**

Championship streaks: 1986-94

In perhaps the most impressive championship streak, the North Carolina Tar Heels women's soccer team won *nine* national championships in a row from 1986 through 1994. The Tar Heels have won 21 of the 31 NCAA soccer championships.

**UCLA Bruins**

Championship streak: 1967-73

The Bruins won seven consecutive national titles in men's basketball from 1967 to 1973 under head coaching legend John Wooden. The Bruins won 10 titles in a 12-year span under Wooden. UCLA also went undefeated four times in 1964, '67, '72 and '73.

**Rotary Club of Jonesboro**

Championship Streak: 2016-19

District 6150 Club of the Year, large club category, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20

Kinda puts it into perspective, doesn't it?

## University Club Fundraiser

<p><b>MEAL 1</b>  <b>BOILED SHRIMP</b>          One pound of jumbo, domestic gulf boiled shrimp served with potatoes and corn</p>		<p><b>MEAL 2</b>  <b>FRIED CATFISH</b>          Five crisp fried US farm raised catfish &amp; all the trimmings: slaw, pickle, onion, hushpuppies &amp; fries</p>
<p><b>\$20 per meal • Carry-out only • Good all of July 2020!</b></p>		
<p><b>3228 S Caraway Rd • Jonesboro, AR • 870-520-6420</b></p>		
<p>SPONSORED BY</p>		
<p><b>Jonesboro-University Rotary</b> </p>		
<p>To purchase tickets contact your favorite Rotarian or Mary Tucker at <b>870-919-1350</b>.          Proceeds benefit the Math and Science Backpack Program!</p>		

## Birthdays

Henry A. Germer  
July 2nd

Tom McDonald  
July 2nd

Wesley R. Eddington  
July 9th

Claudia Shannon  
July 11th

Kathleen Doty Pruitt  
July 21st

Our fundraiser for the Math & Science Backpack Program is selling tickets for a FABULOUS dinner from Delta Crawfish The Cajun Cafe, owned by Rotarian Devalyn Duke. Each ticket is \$20 with the choice of two meal options; one pound of shrimp with potatoes and corn OR a five piece fried catfish with slaw, pickle, onion, hush-puppies, and fries. This supports a very needed cause, provides an easy and delicious dinner, and supports a local business. Talk about a win-win-win! Oh, and you do not have to redeem the ticket on a specific night. Nope! You can pick your dinner up any day in July!

## Good News, June 23, 2020

The anonymous benefactor is still covering the Good News.

**Carl Cates** announced that Bob Bidewell has donated \$100,000 to the music department.

**Emily Still** is expecting girl #2 in September!

## Last Week's Program, June 23, 2020

Last week's speaker was Slade Mitchell, Energy Marketing Administrator for Jonesboro City Water and Light. He talked about the new clean energy project coming to Jonesboro. With two coal-fueled power plants shutting down within the next decade, the city is looking for other ways to generate electricity.



One of the ways to generate this power is a solar power system. The plant will be built on 98 acres at the Craighead Technology Park. The system will bring 125 new jobs to Arkansas, including consultants, engineers, construction, and other related workers. The first year, it is expected to generate 24,292 megawatts hours (MW) of energy, which is enough to power 1600 homes annually. The plant should be operational by December 2021.

Why solar power? Mainly, the price has come down, it enhances a diversified portfolio, and it serves as a viable alternative to the impending "cease to use coal." CWL continues to work hard keeping the rates low and the service reliable. Its electricity cost 60% of the national average, its water 33%, and its wastewater 28 - 44%.

For more details on the report, watch the video of the program on June 23.

## June 23, 2020 Online Meeting CWL's new solar park - Slade Mitchell


Our June 23, 2020 meeting featured Slade Mitchell with City Water & Light who presented an update on CWL's current status and a preview of the new solar park.

You can view the meeting by clicking below:



## Report Card - June 23, 2020

Membership



Total Active Members - 140  
Active members - 49  
Active-Modern - 11  
Active-Partner - 5  
Active-Service - 48  
Active-LOA - 0  
◆Active Rule of 85◆ members - 27  
Honorary members - 6

**Total Attendance - 40**

Active Members - 37  
Honorary members - 0  
Proposed - 0  
Guests - 3  
Honorary - 0  
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