

Rotary



Club of The Classic City of Athens

Sunday, August 8, 2021

August 9th, 2021 Speaker: District Governor Mike Berg

By Chris Taylor Sunday, August 8, 2021



The Classic City Rotary Club of Athens is extremely honored to have District Governor Mike Berg as our Guest Speaker on Monday August 9th at noon. District Governor Mike will share with our Club his philosophy and goals for the 2021-2022 Rotary year.

DG Mike is a great speaker who will motivate our Members to practice "Service Above Self" and to live by the 4-Way Test. Mike has been a Rotarian for the past 38 years having served as the President of the South Gwinnett Club during 1992-1993 and as an Assistant District Governor from 2017 thru 2020.

Mike Berg is a 38-year Rotarian starting with the South Gwinnett Club and President (1992- 1993) of the Snellville Club currently the Gwinnett Sunrise Club. He is a Major Donor, a GRSP Will Watt fellow, a Benefactor, a Paul Harris Society Member, an RLI graduate and an Area Four Assistant Governor (2017-2020).

Mike grew up in South Atlanta. He graduated from Sylvan Hills High School and was a multi-sport varsity athlete. His first job was selling vegetables to neighbors at the age of 10. During his High School years, he worked at Rich's downtown after hours filing transcripts. He Graduated from Georgia State University with a BBA in Management, Served in the Army and retiring as a Manager with the Georgia Power Company. He now is the principal for Mike Berg and Associates, Inc.; a government and business strategic planning company. He is also CFO for Marketing Incentives, his Wife's company that sells promotional marketing incentives.

In addition to his Rotary life, he is Vice President of the Lake Lanier Association, Board Member of the Coosa N. Ga. State Water Planning Commission, Board Member of the Civic Foundation for the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia, and Board Member of Drawdown Georgia (reduce Carbon in Georgia).

Mike is a former President of the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (2013-2014), Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Dawson County (2005-2017), District 3 Gwinnett County Commissioner (1985-1989), Institute for Georgia Environmental leadership board (IGEL), Chairman of the Georgia State Public Defender Council, Board member of the State Parent Teacher Association (PTA), Founder and past Chairman of the Gwinnett United in Drug Education (GUIDE)

Mike is married to and works for his wife, Jane Berg. They have two adult children and three Grandchildren. They live on Lake Lanier in Dawson County.

Here is the Zoom link for the [Monday Aug 9th Club Meeting @ Noon.](#)

Birthdays

Deborah Gonzalez
August 16th

Roy M. Legette
August 18th

Peter M. Wood
September 5th

Stephen Blake
Lavender
September 7th

Club Leaders



[Blair Dorminey](#)
President



[Michelle E Roberts](#)
President-Elect
Club Director
Service Projects
Chair



[Tammy Tate Gilland](#)
Club Director
Secretary



[Christine S. Waite-Morgan](#)
Club Director
Treasurer



[Emily K. Escoe](#)
Membership
Chair



[Beverly Harper](#)
Club Director
Membership
Chair

[Jeffrey Auerbach](#)
Bulletin

Previous Speaker: Congressman John Barrow

By Chris Taylor Sunday, August 8, 2021



We would like to thank Congressman John Barrow for his wonderful presentation to the Classic City Rotary Club of Athens on Monday August 2nd. The Congressman's insight into Washington politics and his knowledge of the inter-workings of the United States Congress were fascinating. We enjoyed his visit with our Club!

John Jenkins Barrow U.S. Representative from Georgia, 2005-2015.

When John Barrow was elected to represent Georgia's 12th Congressional District in 2004, he was the first Democrat to represent his part of the country in a decade, and the first Democrat to defeat an incumbent Republican in the Deep South in a quarter of a century. He was immediately gerrymandered out of his district.

Ten years later, when he was finally defeated after 4 wave elections and after being gerrymandered out of his home base not once but twice John had represented 3 different versions of the same Congressional district, served under 2 Presidents and 3 Speakers, and served in 5 Congresses that were as different from each other as can be. And he was the last white Democrat in Congress from the Deep South.

John graduated from the University of Georgia in 1976 and, at 20, became one of the youngest members of his class at Harvard Law School. He came home and practiced law in Athens, Georgia, until his election to Congress in 2004. During that time, from 1990 to 2004, John served in one of the few consolidated local governments in the country on the Athens-Clarke County Commission where he compiled a record as a fiscally conservative progressive who never voted for a tax increase. While in Congress, John served for 8 years on the powerful House Committee on Energy and Commerce, including the Subcommittee on Health; the Subcommittee on Telecommunications; the Subcommittee on Energy and Power; and the Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Manufacturing. Along the way, John also served on the Committee on Agriculture, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the Committee on Small Business, and the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

As a leader of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition, John earned a reputation for working with Republicans and Democrats. He pushed for smaller government and spending reforms at the federal level, and he consistently introduced legislation to make responsible cuts in federal spending while fighting for regulatory reform to help businesses grow and succeed. Among other things, John secured passage of legislation to increase the mileage reimbursement rate for disabled veterans for the first time in over 30 years. While in Congress, John was recognized for his work and earned the endorsements of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Rifle Association, the National Federation of Independent Businesses, and the National Association of Manufacturers. And in 2014, the National Journal named John the most bipartisan member of Congress running for reelection that year.

Barrow is married to the former Angelle Hawkins of Atlanta. Together they have 5 children: Charlie, Manette, Alex, James, and Ruth



Editor



Lauren Corcino
Club Director
Public Image
Chair



Sarah G. Morang
Family of
Rotary



Henry Clay O'Pry III
Laws of Life
Contest
Chair



Deanne Rosso
Rotary
Foundation
Chair
Club Director



Pamela Shropshire
Family of
Rotary



Marilyn Appleby
Club Service
Chair



Becky Engel
CCO-Club
Comm. Offcr



Robert A. Hawley
Sergeant-at-Arms



Paul H. Matthews
Club Admin
Chair
Club Director



James J. Milner
CART Chair
Club Director
iPast
President



Mary Lillie Watson
Club Director
Club
Programs
Chair

Ellen Bryson
Club

Rotary District DEI Statement

By Chris Taylor Sunday, August 8, 2021



To ensure our organization values and lives the principals of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), the RI Board of Directors, with guidance from the DEI Taskforce, recently updated and strengthened the organization's DEI statement, adopted in 2019. Read the updated commitment and learn more about how we are reinforcing diversity, equity, and inclusion as part of Rotary's culture.

[Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement](#)

The Classic City Rotary Club of Athens Club Board Meeting Minutes

By Jay Milner Sunday, August 8, 2021

Thursday June 10, 2021 at 12:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 by Jay Milner on Zoom. Attendees: Pam Shropshire, Tiffany McElroy, Cris Waite-Morgan, Jay Milner, Michelle Roberts, Noris Dias and Lauren Corcino. We do not have a quorum.

Jay asked for suggestions to improve our weekly bulletin and for members to send in pictures for the hall of fame section.

Jay asked for feedback on continuing the Zoom option at our meetings. Would it encourage more people to attend in person? Michelle does not think this is the best time to require people to return in person and take away the Zoom option. Pam brought up the issue with the food cost at Trumps. We've been giving Trumps an estimate head count of 30 people each week and we've been running in the low 20's. Trumps has a minimum number of attendees to make if feasible for them to open the kitchen and pay the staff. Each week Jay is taking about 8 left over meals to Our Daily Bread at \$18 per meal. We may need to address this in a special meeting soon. Jay would like us to encourage people to return to in person as soon as possible. We are currently averaging half of what we normally had in attendance pre-pandemic. Cris suggested doing away with the reduced dues for Zoom and people may return if they are paying full dues. Jay and Pam do not think we can drop the weekly head count below 30 to make it feasible for Trumps. We are very limited on venue options in Athens.



Fundraising
Chair



[Roy M.
Legette](#)
International
Service Chair



[Milton
Masciadri](#)
International
Service Chair



[Jordan
Bowen](#)
Youth
Services
Chair



[Melissa
Ellard](#)
Youth
Services
Chair

Noris suggested we offer the extra meals for purchase to our members and have them pay the \$18 or a reduced cost. They can pay in person or Cris can invoice them. We will need to defer this discussion to the next board meeting when we have a quorum.

The Chamber of Commerce has invited us to the July 28 legislative forum. It would cost us \$250 to rent the room and the Athens club will cover the other \$250 for the room. Our attendance cost would be \$450 if we have 35 people attend. Jay will confirm this as our meeting for that Monday.

We will need to vote on the VCSOY chair position, Jay will send that out to the board via email. That would bring us to a total of 13 board positions.

Please send signed conflict of interest forms to Tammy Gilland if you haven't done that already.

Secretary's report: We had 58 members at the end of May and 69.4% attendance, including makeups. The list of active members with 50% or less attendance over the last 6 months has not really changed. Charlie Flemming has used all makeups and has not attended since October of last year. Linda Maples may be calling into the meeting, but her attendance cannot be recorded if she does not identify herself on Zoom. That goes for anyone that calls in and it may only show up as iPhone, etc. May want to mention this to the virtual members. Two members resigned this month, Karen Jacobsen and Adam Mosley. At the end of this month Mary Hurst will be resigning. We will be inducting two new members on June 14, Tammy Dalton and Janet Schatten with Friends of Advantage.

Treasurer Our current checking balance is \$32,124.66, money market \$33,765.97, district grant account \$1.45, Venmo \$156.00, DAF \$27,130.96 (we used \$1000 this month for our 2 philanthropy donations). Accounts receivables are in good shape, Caleb Brown and Deanne Rosso are the only 2 that have not paid dues this quarter. Profit/loss statement, not much to note, it is even. We made about \$7,000 on VCSOY event. We are considering a Venmo account for members to pay dues. Cris opened this to see if we could use it as a personal account instead of a business account. We should be able to move ahead, if not, Cris will close the account. We should not be charged any fees for this since it is set up as a personal account. It is under the name Classic City. Cris and Jay worked with Kemp, now Cris can view our account statements online now. We have not received the refund from RYLA, but they have not cashed the \$1000 check yet either. The second shipment of masks from the district has not been received and we should not pay the \$30 shipping if we receive an invoice.

Membership: Mary Hurst is retiring and has resigned. We will be inducting Tammy Dalton & Janet Schatten on Monday. Charlie Fleming, Corbett Chandler and Sarah Morang all plan to return to meetings this summer. We have not seen or heard from Blake Lavendar for 6 months. Jay will reach out to him. Paul will turn over membership to Beverly Harper and Emily Escoe next month.

Administration: Chair positions and voting positions, we currently we have 11 as Michelle holds 2 positions now. The VCSOY will bring us to 13 voting positions.

Programs: Everything is booked through the end of the 2021 program year (June). Jay and Blair will review for the new program chairs and make sure the schedule is filled and backups are in place.

Foundation We currently have \$23,000 and have until the end of the month to make donations for this year.

Service: Proposed budget for next year has been completed, high level/tentative (see board report). Philanthropy has a request for \$500 to Oconee Resource Council for their Summer Food for Kids program. The \$2000 JJ Harris match funds have not been sent yet, this was to go to a school in Mexico and we need to write a check as soon as possible and send this to JJ Harris. Jay has asked Cris to send this check. Michelle or Cris will need to ask Dr. Harper how to make out the check. This was not a matching grant but a service project. We can apply to Synovus for a corporate donation, application process opens on July 1, and we can apply for funds for a specific service project. Jay asked if we could increase the Denny Tower budget amount to \$2000 as we should be able to start our quarterly cookouts again soon. Jay included the PPT presentation from our service committee's activities and has shared this

with the district. This Saturday is our clean up on Sunset from 9:00-11:00.

International: We have \$3700 in the budget; 3 students have purchased tickets and there should be 1 more. Some of this will carry over to next year as we had budgeted for 6 students ✦ airfare. Milton will include the carry over in his budget for next year.

We are waiting on a \$1000 matching grant from the district. This will be for boxed meals for Denny Towers. With the total \$2000, we may be able to get 2 meal trips.

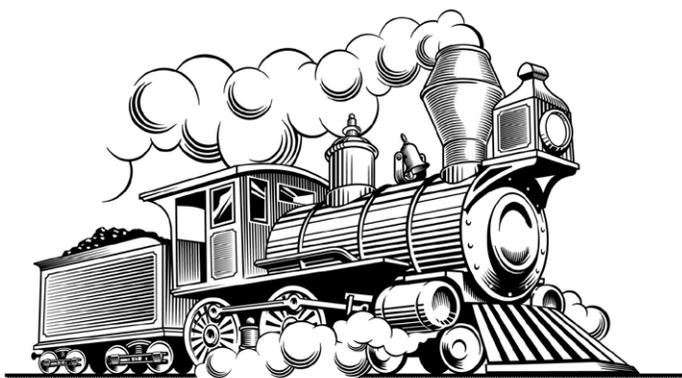
Meeting adjourned at 12:54. Next meeting, Thursday July 8 at Noon on Zoom.

Gerry Tracker: ALL ABOARD!!!

The Gerry Train is rambling down the tracks, right on schedule! Kick back and relax, as this countdown continues on Gerry Taylor's journey to District Governor!

Days Remaining:

322



Events

No Events found