

# **Rotary Opens Opportunities**

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#### Club Leaders



Wanda Weegar President-Elect

Wayne Ellison President

Joe Godfrey Secretary

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Mark Willis

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Jeff Alexander Rotary Foundation Chair

Rodney T. Brundidge District Grant Chair

Schelly Tennant Marlatt Public Image Chair

Kelly Herndon Patterson Laws of Life Contest Chair

Robert Rule Attendance Secretary

Marlon Allen On-To Conference Chair

David Thomas Upchurch ROCK Chair Club Polio Plus Chair

Shantell R. Wilson Club Director Club Programs Chair

Mike Fulton Community Service Chair

Jennifer S. Hibbard Past President Webmaster

Derek Higgs Youth Services Chair

Terry Swaim iPast President

Michael R. Smith July 21st Sherwin M. Levinson July 24th dy Anderson McClung y 27th Matthew Holtkamp July 28th Louise Radloff August 4th Chris Dooley August 7th Jasper Watkins III August 10th Joe Godfrey August 11th Bobby Robinett August 11th

# About Rotary

Rotary International is an international service organization whose stated purpose is to bring together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian service and to advance goodwill and peace around the world. There are 34,282 member clubs worldwide, representing 200 countries and 1.2 million members.

RI President-elect Holger Knaack sheme for 2020-21, Rotary Opens Opportunities, asks Rotarians to create opportunities that strengthen their leadership, help put service ideas into action, and improve the lives of those in need.

### **Upcoming Programs**

Upcoming Program: Mark Farmer, Economic Development Manager with Gwinnett County's Office of Economic Development - Overview of the Gwinnett County Entrepreneur Center and Small Business Support



Beginning with the March 2nd meeting, you must REREGISTER to get a new Zoom link for our weekly meetings. That link is: https://wst?uweb.zoom.us/meeling/register/171sd-murDMrHN02LIKkImSgWcEF\_ShnkPA1

Mark Farmer is an Economic Development Manager with Gwinnett County, Georgia. Part of a team of three charged with enhancing economic development in Gwinnett, Farmer focuses on small business and entrepreneurship.

Prior to joining the county team in January 2017, he was for six years the Director of Entrepreneurship & Information Services for Partnership Gwinnett, a public-private economic development initiative of the Gwinnett Chamber. Before taking on entrepreneurship support, Farmer served for three years as Partnership Gwinnett  $\phi$ . Research Manager.

Farmer came to Partnership Gwinnett with 20 years of business experience, including several as entrepreneur with Words & Pictures, a writing and photography business he owned. His clients included Emory University s Public Health magazine, Georgia Tech, and the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games.

In addition to starting his own business, Farmer has also held public relations and photography positions in academia and transit, paralegal positions with a technology firm and top Atlanta law firm, as well as editing roles with two city newspapers. Farmer holds a B.A. in journalism from the University of South Carolina and Astate & degree in economic development policy from Georgia Tech.

#### Upcoming Programs - Be sure to visit the DACdb calendar to see all upcoming events.

July 27th - Rodney Bullard, VP of Corporate Social Responsibility and Executive Director - Chick Fil A Foundation August 3rd - Michael J. Skordeles, Senior US Macro Strategist - Truist Advisory Services, Inc. - US Economic Update August 10th - TBA

## Recap of last week

#### Recap of Last Week

District Governor, Mike Berg visited our Club this week and he shared his vision and objectives for the new Rotary year. No stranger to Gwinnett, Mike began his Rotary service in the Gwinnett Club thanks to Buck Lindsay who brought him into our Club many years ago.

Mike shared with us that our Rotary Zone comprises of 35 thousand clubs, spanning across 28 countries. He intends to grow our zone so that smaller clubs don't become extinct. Our new Rotary motto is to "Serve to Change Lives" and Mike indicated that this can be done through several ways. One new way is by protecting the environment which is Rotary's new focus area and Mike shared that Scheliy Marfatt is the Service Chair for the district. Fifty percent of the points to be considered for Club of the Year require clubs to participate in environment and projects.

He indicated that other areas we can grow our club and community is through membership, the foundation, public image and through our youth engagement.

We presented Mike with a \$150 donation to the Rotary Foundation in his honor, specifically to be used towards environmental efforts.

Thank you for visiting Mike and sharing your vision and objectives for our district - we look forward to serving alongside you!





Rotary Champion Jennifer Hendrickson presented May's Rotary Champion Award to Mark Willis. She shared that Mark's committment to working on the District Conference ensured it's success. In addition to many countless ways that he serves our comminity, his dedication and service to not only our county's school board association, but to associations across the United States, Mark deserves to be recognized for all that he does. Congratulations!

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CART Fund CART is Change for Alzheimer Is Research Trust, an organization founded by Rotarians and operated by Rotarians. One hundred percent (100%) of donated funds go to cutting edge research to find a cure for Alzheimer Is disease. Thanks to your support CART was able to provide \$1,000,000.00 in Grants again this year. The bad news is that District 6910 has only raised \$38,000.00 as of March 31st and in 2020, we contributed over \$65,000.00. Please consider contributing in the next ten days to help us get closer to or previous levels of support. Individuals who would like to make a CART Contribution and get Tax or personal Credit: you can go to Login Form (mycartfund.org) and using your DACdb credentials to log in. once you are logged in click on Make a Contribution on the left-hand side of the page. Not only will you get credit, but so will your Club.



The 10th annual event's goal is to provide 300 pairs of shoes to children in a few short hours and we need your help. Please consider donating money to provide shoes and/or volunteer during the event on July 24th. You should receive an email soon with details on how to volunteer but if you have questions, please contact Marion Allen who is leading this effort.

Gwinnett County Rotary Club and Victorious Living Church in Dacula, is partnering with Dick sporting Goods - Mall of Georgia, Gwinnett County Department of Family and Children Services and View Point Health to help those students be able to return to school with a new pair of shoes as a part of the Kicks for Kidz program on Saturday, July 24th.

RICKS FOR KIZZ For some students returning to the classroom next month, the fact that they won I have a new set of shoes like many of their classmates opens up the possibility of being told they aren to cool enough because of what I have a new set of shoes like many of their classmates opens up the possibility of being told they aren to cool enough because of the shoes like many of their feet.

We believe that all people hold visible and invisible qualities that inherently make them unique, and we strive to create an inclusive culture where each person knows they are valued and belong. In line with our value of integrity, we are committed to being honest and transparent about where we are in our DEI journey as an organization, and to continuing to learn and do better

Recognizing that individuals from certain groups have historically experienced barriers to membership, participation, and leadership, we commit to advancing equity in all aspects of Rotary, including in our community partnerships, so that each person has the necessary access to resources, opportunities, networks, and support to thrive.

At Rotary, we understand that cultivating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive culture is essential to realizing our vision of a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change. We value diversity and celebrate the contributions of people of all backgrounds, across age, ethnicity, race, color, disability, learning style, religion, faith, socioeconomic status, culture, marital status, languages spoken, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity as well as differences in ideas, thoughts, values, and beliefs.

Our Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



Rotary International's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement Rotary International recently adopted the following revised DEI Statement:

Paul Harris Fellow Pinning Mace Hibbard, spouse of Jennifer received his Paul Harris Fellow pin during our meeting. Clara helping Jennifer during the pinning ceremony made this day extra special!