Club of Downtown Gainesville



Club Information

Rotary

Rotary Club of Downtown Gainesville, Florida #27544 chartered September 18, 1990 Charter President J. Ben Rowe

Our in person meetings are temporarily (we hope!) suspended. Please join us Virtually on Wednesday's at Noon - See ZOOM link information in bulletin Club Website:

https://downtowngainesvillerotary.org/

Club Meetings

Temporary Virtual Zoom Meetings Every Wenesday at Noon Please find link in our Club News

Club Leaders



Diane Marie Robar President RYLA

Brenda Chamberlain Membership Chair Club Director President-Elect



lennifer Watson-Reddish ecretary



William S. Combs reasurer



Stephanie Esposito Social Media and Public Relations Chair

Albert Anthony Losch Jr.

Bulletin Editor

oseph E. Lowry Jr. Club Director



Clay Martin III Club Director

Megan Olson Club Director

Welcome

Welcome to the Virtual Rotary Club of Downtown Gainesville

ROTARY THEME FOR FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY

"Peace is not the absence of conflict but the presence of creative alternatives for responding to conflict – alternatives to passive or aggressive responses, alternatives to violence.'



C Đ PREVEN 0 MONT

TAKE ACTION: Get Involved, Join Rotary

RNATIO

Rotary

ITS A ROTARY THING!





Carl Smart Club Director



Perry Pursell Sergeant-at-Arms

Jim �Jimbo � E. Skiles III Speaker Chair



Chessie Flanders iPast President



<u>Mary Kate Walker</u> Assistant Governor

Birthdays

Clay Martin III March 3rd Neal Peter Cohen March 9th

Zoom Meeting Link

Welcome to the Rotary Club of Downtown Gainesville Join us for our Virtual Zoom meeting (temporarily) at noon Wednesday

Topic: Downtown Gainesville Virtual Rotary Meeting Time: 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) Now online Wednesday's at Noon

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system. Weekly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/uZwvduqsqzksnLXgB5WICgWAgDnJJUfBXw/ics?icsToken=98tyKu2grDopHtGXtlztRbAtA53-b-HqkX9ikqR_ySjMICdkQwTSOMhoB7RdKM-B

Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/482134526?pwd=VC8xYmcyY2VRZFdUOU1Vc2xqYUhVZz09

Meeting ID: 482 134 526 Password: 621885 One tap mobile +13126266799,.482134526#,.1#,621885# US (Chicago) +16465588656,.482134526#,.1#,621885# US (New York)

:

FAMOUS ROTARIANS

Charles Horace Mayo (July 19, 1865) May 26, 1939) was an American medical practitioner and was one of the founders of the <u>Mayo Clinic</u> along with his brother William James Mayo, James Mayo, Augustus Stinchfield, Christopher Graham, E. Star Judd, Henry Stanley Plummer, Melvin Millet, and Donald Balfour. He was an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Rochester MN



Event Calendar



~~~~ DETAILS FOR ALL EVENTS ARE LOCATED IN THE BULLETIN ~~~~~				
FEBRUARY 20 8:30 - 11:30	SANTA FE RIVER CLEANUP with CURRENT PROBLEMS SIGN UP BY FEBRUARY 12TH IF YOU WANT A KAYAK OR CANOE call/text352-467-9865 or emailing TJ Pyche pycheti@gmail.com	High Springs Canoe Outpost, 21410 US-441, High Springs, FL 32643		
FEBRUARY 25	FARM TO TABLE fundraiser for GRACE Marketplace	farmtotablegnv.com		
FEBRUARY 26	Rotary - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion seminar	https://www.rizones33-		
I pm	Embracing Our Differences	34.org/infinite-possibilities/		
March 26	Rotary - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion seminar	https://www.rizones33-		
1 pm	Investing in Equity	34.org/infinite-possibilities/		
April 30	Rotary - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion seminar	https://www.rizones33-		
1 PM	Celebrate Diversity	34.org/infinite-possibilities/		

#### SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

### WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE ?

#### WANT TO HELP CLEAN UP OUR WATERWAYS?

# HERE'S YOUR OPPORTUNITY



Current Problems was recognized by our club with a Wes Skiles Water Stewardship award in 2018. It is a local organization, actively dedicated to keeping our area's rivers, creeks and other waterways clean.



The Downtown, Gainesville and Rotaract Clubs are joining together for a Santa Fe River Cleanup with Current Problems on Saturday, February 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Meet at the High Springs Canoe Outpost, 21410 US-441, High Springs, FL 32643.

There will be no charge for kayak/canoe rental. You will be provided with tools to help pick up trash floating in or alongside the river. If you do not want to be on the water, there will be other options to help onshore.

PLEASE NOTE: in order to have a correct count for the kayaks, it is required that all interested parties must sign up by noon, Friday, February 12, so we have an accurate count of attendees and number of kayaks/canoes.

Sign up by calling/texting 352-467-9865 or emailing TJ Pyche pychetj@gmail.com .

If you sign up, please make every effort to come or find someone who is willing to replace you. There is a cost associated with this, but the organization graciously covers it.

Masks will be required when you are near others.j



Have YOU submitted your MEMBER MOMENT yet? We have had a great response from several members to this request@but there are still a few we have not heard from.

In these days of COVID restrictions, we really have missed being able to socialize with one another.

The MEMBER MOMENT is just a quick way to keep fellowship going it is a way to let other members know a bit more about you, just like they would if they were sitting across from you at Paramount Grill.

It will only take a quick minute to complete the following questions and send them back to Stephanie at

Stephanie_Esposito@mbhci.org

Here are the questions:

- Your profession. Years in Rotary
- Why Rotary.
  What people may not know about you.
- A fun photo

And that is sit! Again, please return your answers to Stephanie, as she is our talented techie who will transform your answers into a dazzling Member Moment.

**Rotarian Action Group** 

# **Rotarian Action** Groups A World of Service

#### https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1M_IIIY6bIg

#### What are Rotarian Action Groups?

#### Rotary Action Groups support causes around the globe

Rotarian Action Groups help Rotary clubs and districts plan and carry out community development and humanitarian service projects in their area of expertise. The groups are organized by Rotarians and Rotaractors who are proficient, and have a passion for service, in a particular field.

Each group functions independently of Rotary International establishing its own rules, dues requirements, and administrative structure. Membership is open to Rotarians, their family members as well as participants and alumni of all Rotary and Foundation programs

By joining a Rotarian Action Group, you can engage in meaningful service activities outside our own club, district, or country.

For more information, see https://my.rotary.org/en/take-action/empower-leaders/rotary-action-groups

Here is a list of the categories of current Rotarian Action Groups:

AIDS and Family Health www.rfha.org Alzheimer @s and Dementia http://adrag.org/ Blindness Prevention http://www.rag4bp.org Blood Donation http://ourblooddrive.org/ Clubfoot www.rag4clubfoot.org Dentistry http://www.ragdv.com Diabetes http://www.ragdiabetes.org Disaster Assistance www.dna-rag.com Endangered Species http://www.endangeredrag.org Environmental Sustainability http://www.esrag.org Food Plant Solutions http://foodplantsolutions.org Health Education and Wellness www.hewrag.org Hearing http://www.ifrahl.org Hunger and Malnutrition http://www.alleviatehunger.org Literacy http://www.litrag.org Malaria http://www.remarag.org Mental Health http://ragonmentalhealth.org Microfinance and Community Development http://ragm.org Multiple sclerosis http://rotary-ragmsa.org Peace http://www.rotarianactiongroupforpeace.org Polio Survivors and Associates http://www.rotarypoliosurvivors.com Population and Development http://www.rifpd.org Preconception Care http://www.raghphc.org Slavery http://ragas.online Water and Sanitation www.wasrag.org

#### Let's Support Grace Marketplace!

**GRACE Marketplace** 1st Annual Farm to Table Gathering to End Homelessness It's <u>#FarmtoTableFriday</u> and our dinner menu has been set!! All four-courses were crafted by Bert Gill of <u>Blue Gill Quality Food</u> and <u>Mildred's Big City Food</u> Vegan options will be announced in the coming weeks. (Pricing below)



Please refer to <u>farmtotablegnv.com</u> for information on purchasing tables, tickets, and event sponsorships.

A pair of tickets, either in-person, or at home, is \$250. A half-table (four seats) is \$500, and a full table (8 seats) is \$1000. Anyone who comes in person will *only* be seated with the people they come with, as part of our many COVID precautions.

Sponsorships start at \$2500 (Gold level). At that level, the sponsoring organization gets 12 seats and recognition throughout the event. We also have platinum and one title sponsorship available. All of the information is on the site above.

### Rotary - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion seminar

Shared by District 6960

use this link to register: https://www.rizones33-34.org/infinite-possibilities/



As we bring major Rotary International speakers to the forefront, we have every confidence you will find each one-hour webinar well worth your time and attention. The following is our series schedule:

Register NOW for Infinite Possibilities � Strength In Diversity, 1:00 pm EST January 29, 2021

- February 26, 2021 Embracing Our Differences, hosted by Rotary International Director Stephanie Urchick, with featured speakers Past RI President Barry Rassin and Rotarian Brian Rusch of District 5150 in California.
   Register NOW for Infinite Possibilities Embracing our Differences, 1:00 pm EST February 26, 2021
- March 26, 2021 Investing in Equity, hosted by District 6960 Governor Darryl Keys, with featured speaker Xavier Ramey, fellow Rotarian from Chicago.
- Register NOW for Infinite Possibilities Investing in Equity, 1:00 pm EDT March 26, 2021
   April 30, 2021 Celebrate Diversity, with special guest speakers Rotary International President Holger Knack, Rotary International Director Peter Kyle and Anna Ekb & Celebrate Diversity, 1:00 pm EDT April 30, 2021

Register NOW for Infinite Possibilities Celebrate Diversity, 1:00 pm EDT April 30, 2021 for Infinite Possibilities - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

We look forward to seeing you there!

USE THIS LINK TO REGISTER FOR THESE WEBINARS: <u>https://www.rizones33-</u> 34.org/infinite-possibilities/ 
 Darryl Keys
 Cyndi Doragh

 Governor, District 6960
 Chair, Infinite Possibilities

 Rotary
 Rotary

# **Speaker Coordinator Schedule**

#### FEBRUARY SPEAKERS:

- February 3 : Dave Melosh VP of Heartwood Stage and coordinator of Farmers' Market at Heartwood (Downtown)
- February 10 Joe Lowry, Jr
- February 17 Nick Banks The State of Real Estate in Gainesville
- February 24 tba

Please be sure to let Jim Skiles know of your speakers as soon as you schedule them. ***If you are the speaker coordinator, please send your speaker the Zoom link for our meeting. It is recurring weekly to make it easy.

Coordinator	Jim Skiles	352-538- 0293	
February	Lowrys		
MARCH			
April	Carl Smart		
Мау	Bob Taylor		
June	Stepanie Esposito		
JULY			
August	Matt Bowman		
September	Perry Pursell		
October	Brett Buell		
November	Becky Hunt		
December	Al Losch		

Jim Skiles is the Chief Speaker Coordinator- please have all speaker submissions in to Jim and social media chair Stephanie Esposito as soon as you have confirmation .

Jim's email:- jimskiles3@gmail.com Stephanie's email: Stephanie_Esposito@mbhci.org

# **GRACE NEEDS LIST**

By Cheryl Poe Yes, It's OFFICIAL.

GRACE MARKETPLACE is now taking donations at the front gate.

Donations will only be accepted on **Tuesdays**, **Thursdays**, **and Saturdays between 11am - 4 pm**. Our truck will be parked outside of our gate during these times. You can place your items right on the truck and get a receipt from staff. Send us a message if you have any questions!



#### We need YOU!

By Jim �Jimbo � E. Skiles III



THANKS to the club members who have signed up to provide speakers for the 2021 meetings. JULY is the only month still needing a "speakerfinder". We could really use your help with this! Here is the link to sign up:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4fa4ac2aa2fd0-speaker

#### **Downtown Rotary friends at Rotary Generation park**

Downtown Rotary friends at Generation Park, proudly showing off the Rotary logo which is inscribed on the tennis and the pickleball courts...



#### hmmm....

what do YOU think about having an online auction?

#### **TRIVIA FUND**



Aside from not being able to enjoy fellowship with our fellow Rotarians each week, another repercussion of having to meet virtually is that our Trivia fund, sadly, has no means by which to be replenished. Trivia serves two purposes for our club. First, it is an enjoyable part of each meeting as we either learn something new or, even better, we know the answers and are able to add more points to our final score. But even more importantly, Trivia enables our club to give back to the community, via charitable donations made by the club members who have scored the highest number of Trivia points at the end of the Rotary year.

If you would be interested in helping this tradition to continue, please continue to the Survey Monkey link below. In the Survey, you will be asked to indicate how much you would like to donate. Since we do not have meals being charged to our invoices, it may be an opportune time to consider reallocating some of those monies to this effort.

THE DONATION AMOUNT YOU CHOOSE WILL BE BILLED TO YOUR QUARTERLY CLUB INVOICE IT IS NOT A WEEKLY DONATION AMOUNT. (ie, if you select \$25, you will see only one \$25 charge on your next Rotary invoice). This donation will continue for subsequent billing cycles, unless and until we are able to return to in person meetings or you notify Billy Combs you wish to discontinue the donation. (A donation of \$25 would be the equivalent of dropping around \$2.00 in the kitty each week.)

Thanks!

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BQNGFXP

**WE ARE** 



**Our District** 

We are 63 clubs, two satellite clubs, 15 Rotaract clubs and 44 Interact clubs strong, serving 31 Northeast Florida communities in 12 counties with over 3,300 men and women. Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

# **ESTABLISHED 1915**



Profession: Semi-retired Travel Agent

#### Years in Rotary: 29

Why Rotary? I have always felt very blessed in life and felt a strong need to give back somehow. I served our club as President in 2000-2001 and have attended 10 Rotary International Conventions.

What you might not know about Bob - Being a Military Brat, I attended 10 elementary and 4 high schools. One of the two I went to in Italy was in an Italian girls school, but that's another story! I worked for 25 years with Eastern Air Lines in Miami, Roanoke, Sarasota and Gainesville. I was Chief Agent here when Eastern suddenly declared bankruptcy in 1991. But I hit the ground running, starting two travel agencies, one of which was chosen by Florida Trend Magazine as one of the two best Florida Travel Agencies. I married Diane 8 years ago and we have traveled to 15 different countries together ranging from Hungary to New Zealand.

#### **MEMBER MOMENT**



Rotary (Composition of the second sec

Profession: General Manager at Gainesville Raceway for Centerplate, an international food & beverage management company.

Years in Rotary: Members since April 2012

Why Rotary? Rotary has provided an opportunity give back to the community and to participate in international projects. I enjoy the club speakers and member fellowship.

What you might not know about Ray - In my 30 year career I have worked a wide range of events, a nine week season at Saratoga Race Course , hematology convention in Miami, Ozzfest in Wisconsin, and Belmont Stakes. Other diverse events include World Cup, Frank Sinatra, Grateful Dead, Hank Williams Jr, and Sesame Street. Each event is a learning experience and has made for an interesting career.

#### **OCT 21 MEMBER MINUTE**





Profession: "Graduated" from being an Independent Insurance agent 5 years ago.

#### Years in Rotary: 22 years

Why Rotary? My granddad, Dad and lifetime mentor Howard Hall all were men that demonstrated giving back to the community. Rotary offered the best combination of service to others and networking with other business leaders. Howard was my sponsor and Ben & Connie Rowe were already friends so the new Downtown Club where my office was located was a natural fit.

What you might not know about Jim - Following graduation from UF and a couple years of work as the Youth Director for First Baptist Church Gainesville, Sharon and I were married and were headed to Southern Seminary in Louisville, KY for my Masters degree. At the last moment, we decided to stay in Gainesville to help build and manage Sensation Basin Skateboard Park and Sharon began her teaching career. Interesting to note, Ben & Connie's 3 boys were in my youth group at FBC and Howard Hall insured the Skateboard Park. Hmm, see the path?

### **MEMBER MOMENT Megan Forbes**





Profession: Director of the University of Florida English Language Institute (ELI)

Years in Rotary: Rotarian since January 2001, Rotary GSE Team member 1999-2000.

Why Rotary? Rotary provides an opportunity for service and fellowship in our local community. while also being engaged in the international efforts of Rotary and the Rotary Foundation. Plus, our Club rocks!

What you might not know about Megan -I'm a Foreign Service Kid. Prior to moving to the US to attend university, I grew up in Jamaica, the Yemen Arab Republic. Bangladesh. and Pakistan.

The picture: This picture was taken at the end of the Celebration Half Marathon in January. Little did I know it was the last race I'd be running this year, thanks to COVID. Small things we took for granted...

#### **BRENDA CHAMBERLAIN MEMBER MINUTE**



Rotary (2017) Rotary Opens Opportunities MEMBER MOMENT BRENDA CHAMBERLAIN

Profession: I am a database admin and community advocate for the homeless. I work for United Way of North Central Florida and I have been doing my current job for 6 years, though not all of those years were with United Way.

Years in Rotary: I have been in Rotary for 3 years doing various roles from sergeant at arms up to currently the president elect for the next rotary year.

Why Rotary? Rotary is all about service to others and that is my passion.

What you might not know about Brenda - What people may not know about me is that I was born in Japan and I spoke more Japanese then English up to the age of 3. My father was in the Navy for 23 years and to this day if you ask me where I'm from I'll tell you the Navy due to all the moving around.

# Member Minute Jennifer Watson Reddish

Here's the Member Minute featuring our club secretary, Jennifer





# **MEMBER MOMENT**

# **JENNIFER** WATSON REDDISH

Profession: Branch Vice President, VyStar Credit Union

#### Years in Rotary: 2 years

Why Rotary? As a member of Rotary, you have the opportunity to build relationships and meet new people. I love what Rotary works to accomplish not only in our communities, but across the globe... making a difference everywhere.

What you might not know about Jennifer - I played tennis in high school! A little rusty now, but always up for a good match!

### **Becky Hunt Member Moment**

Becky has been a Rotarian for 24 years!



Years in Rotary: 24 years

Why Rotary? Rotary project to eradicate polio. A friend in elementary school here in Gainesville died of polio. The Four Way Test was an excellent guide for me as a professional business woman.

What you might not know about Becky is...Bet you didn't know I was an accomplished actress-I've performed as a California Raisin, Village People Police Officer and Cyndi Lauer, as well as screen time in a major motion picture.

# **CARL SMART MEMBER MINUTE**



Rotary 🛞 **MEMBER MOMENT** 

**CARL SMART** 

Profession: Assistant County Manager, Public Safety and Community Services

Years in Rotary: 2.5 years

Why Rotary? Rotary is a great organization for providing assistance to the many persons in our community

What you might not know about Carl is...I am a minister at my church, Mount Zion AME Church in Hawthorne.

Joe Jr Member moment



Years in Rotary: Since December 2004

Why Rotary? I belong to Rotary because I love regular people coming together to do good in their community and the world. We benefit from connections with those of different backgrounds and Rotary can help bring people together.

What you might not know about Joe is...l served as a Spanish-speaking mission of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in San Diego and Imperial County. CA for two years (1998-2000).

# **Billy Brame Member Moment**

Honoring Billy Brame in our Member Moment as the member of our club with the longest history of Rotary service....44 years, as a matter of fact! THANKS, BILLY, for your dedication to Rotary!



#### **Member Moment**

Fellow Downtown Rotarians, meet your newest club member, Stephanie! She had been a member for a short time a few years ago; however, her work schedule at that time prevented her from being able to fully commit to the club. We are delighted to have her back with us!!



Rotary (2014) Poens Profession: Director of Advancement, Merdiam Behavioral Healthcare Years in Rotary: New Member!

Why Rotary? She is passionate about giving back to the community and that this club focuses on the springs - Stephanie is an avid scuba diver in our local springs.

What you might not know about Stephanie is...she has also signed up to be a mentor this year with Take Stock in Children. Hopefully this still happens even with the pandemic (all up in the air)! She is also terrified of tree frogs.

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