

# Rotary



# Club of The Classic City of Athens

## March 11, 2024: Eric NeSmith, Publisher & Partner -- Bitter Southerner Magazine



Mr. NeSmith has been the Publisher as well as a Partner at The Bitter Southerner online magazine since 2016. He is also the Vice President of Community Newspapers, Inc., a position he has held since 2013. Eric is a 2002 graduate of The Grady College of Journalism at UGA.

The Bitter Southerner has a single aim: to uncover the American South in all its truth and complexity -- and in the process to break stereotypes about the region and its people by pushing out important, difficult, uncomfortable, irreverent, witty, and addictive stories online. Its work is intended to keep the region honest, inspired, and moving forward. The publishing arm at BS Publishing works to do the same through new books and the full-format, print magazine.

## Next Meeting Programs

- March 18 -- Offsite at Athens Cooks
- March 25 -- Dainella & James Adams, Grove Creek Farm

## Meeting Responsibilities

Date	Greeter	Pledge	Four Way Test
March 11	Anjela Filipova	Michelle Roberts Kelterborn	Marilyn Appleby
March 18	Paul Matthews	Richard Leffel	Roy Legette
March 25	George Raymond Watson	Jennifer Scott	Mary Lillie Watson
April 1	Bowen Craig	Gerry Taylor	Melissa Ellard

## Rotary Leadership Institute

Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is for all Rotarians, not just the leaders! Whether you're brand new to Rotary or have been a member for years, please consider attending one of the two 2024 events being held in February and March:

Saturday, March 16 in Thomson

Bring someone from the club to share the excitement of learning more about Rotary outside your own club and to make new Rotary friends from across North Georgia and beyond.

- To register:
- Login to DACdb
- Go to the District Tab
- Go to the Calendar Tab; make sure PETS & Multi-District Events are checked at the top
- Choose the date for which you wish to register

The \$100 registration fee includes your courses, course materials notebook, breakfast, lunch, snacks, facility fees and course completion certificate.

## Service Committee

**Tuesday, March 12** -- We will continue the work we began last year planting native species along The Greenway at the new Chimney Swift Tower with Athens-Clarke County Sustainability Office. Chimney Swifts are efficient insect-eating birds. The newly constructed tower will allow them to nest and roost. We'll begin working at roughly 5 pm and work until 6:30. More details to follow.

**Wednesday, March 20** -- The next Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful litter pick up will be held at 5:30 PM. Meet at the VFW parking lot at 835 Sunset Drive. We'll begin promptly at 5:30 and will work for an hour cleaning up litter along this popular thoroughfare. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and bring work gloves.

## Birthdays

Kenneth Scott Collins  
April 7th

## Club Leaders



Jeffrey Auerbach  
President  
Club  
Director



Jordan Bowen  
President-Elect  
Club  
Director



Tammy Tate Gilland  
Club  
Director  
Secretary



Laura Iyer  
President-Nominee



Heather J. McElroy  
Club  
Director  
President-Nominee



Christine S. Waite-Morgan  
Club  
Director  
Treasurer



Selena Blankenship  
Membership  
Chair



Jennifer Scott  
Membership  
Retention  
Chair



Thomas J. Kramer  
Public  
Image Chair



Mary Lillie Watson  
Club  
Director  
Rotary  
Foundation  
Chair

**Tuesday, April 16 and Wednesday, April 17 -- The annual Books for Keeps spring book distribution at JJ Harris Elementary School, 2300 Danielsville Rd., needs volunteers to assist students with selecting 12 books that they will take home to read over the summer to continue building their reading skills. Shifts are 8:30 AM to 11:25 AM and 12:1 PM to 2:00 PM. We'll be donating \$1,500 which will cover books for three entire classrooms. Volunteers are asked to register through the Give Pulse website. [Click here to sign up for your preferred day and time on our Givepulse page.](#)**

**Friday, April 18** We are scheduled to make and serve lunch at Our Daily Bread, located at First Baptist Church at the corner of Hancock Ave. and Pulaski St. The food prep shift is from 10:30 to 11:30 AM and the serving shift is from 11:45 AM to 1:00 PM. Please wear comfortable closed-toes shoes and a hat.

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[Marilyn Appleby](#)  
Club  
Director  
Service  
Projects  
Chair



[Ellen Bryson](#)  
Club  
Director  
Club  
Fundraising  
Chair



[Becky Engel](#)  
CCO-Club  
Comm.  
Offcr



[Robert A. Hawley](#)  
Sergeant-  
at-Arms



[Richard J. Leffel](#)  
Club Admin  
Chair  
Club  
Director



[Michelle Elizabeth Roberts](#)  
Kelterborn  
Club  
Director  
iPast  
President



[Candace Crew](#)  
Club  
Service  
Chair



[Paul Skinner](#)  
Club  
Programs  
Chair



[Beverly Harper](#)  
Youth  
Services  
Chair