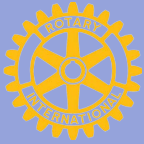
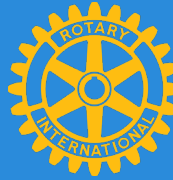


# ROTARY REMINDER

Club 63, District 5870

Rotary  
Club of Austin



## Club Meetings/Speakers

**April 15, 2025**  
Mayor Kirk Watson, City of Austin

**April 22, 2025**  
Bobby Jenkins, CTRMA Chair, (Central TX Regional Mobility Authority)

**April 29, 2025**  
Scholarship Awards

**May 06, 2025**  
G. Harris - Rotary Means Business - Fellowships - NEW Networking Grp. for Rotarians

## Other Meetings/Events

April 15th  
RCA Board of Directors Meeting

April 24th  
North Breakfast Cluster

May 2nd  
Early Act First Knight (EAFK) - Hart Elementary

May 7th  
Early Act First Knight (EAFK) - Wayside REAL Learning Academy

May 8th  
Early Act First Knight (EAFK) - Harris Elementary

May 9th  
Early Act First Knight (EAFK) - Pecan Springs Elementary

## Club Officers

**Darrick Wayne**  
Eugene  
President

**Cynthia Brummer**  
President-Elect

**Harold F. Ingersoll Jr.**  
Club Foundation (ARCF) Chair  
President-Nominee

**Sylvia Holmes**  
Past President

**Charles Holleman**  
Club Treasurer

**Naomi Val Bourgeois**  
Club Director

**R. John Fox Jr.**  
Club Director

**Mark D. Johnson**  
Club Director

**Kristoffer Sterling Lands**  
Club Director

**Paul Roger Williamson**  
Club Director

**Ann Marie Ellis PhD**  
Global Service Avenue VP  
Club Foundation (ARCF) Trustee

**Teresa Finney**  
Club Service Avenue VP

**PDG Scott Rainey**  
Membership Service Avenue VP

**Mary L. Reynolds**  
Community Service Avenue VP

**Andrew Swanson**  
Club Foundation (ARCF) Trustee  
Vocational Service Avenue VP

**Mary Bird Bowman**  
Club Foundation (ARCF)

## Rotary Meeting Speaker - Mayor Kirk Watson

By Matthew Dargis on Sunday, April 13, 2025



Mayor Kirk Watson



Rotary  
CLUB OF AUSTIN



Austin Mayor Kirk Watson has been immersed in public policy in both local and state government in Texas for over three decades. He won his first term as Austin mayor in 1997 and was reelected with 84% of the vote. He earned praise for bringing different political factions together around transformative environmental and economic development initiatives. Watson returned to Austin City Hall in 2023 for a third term as mayor after serving more than 13 years in the Texas Senate, where he led on issues such as public education, healthcare and government transparency.

He was honored multiple times in Texas Monthly magazine's analysis of the state's best legislators. In 1998, the magazine described him as "a man with a vision of what the community wants — and the moxie to carry it out."

Mayor Watson had multiple surgeries and chemotherapy related to metastatic testicular cancer when he was in his early 30's. He survived thanks early, effective, and frequent healthcare. The experience helped to shape his policy agenda to improve health and healthcare for everyone. In 2011, Watson laid out his 10 Goals in 10 Years to transform Austin, in part, by leading the creation of a medical school at the University of Texas at Austin. Travis County voters backed Watson's vision in 2012 and approved a local property tax increase to invest in the medical school, which welcomed its first class of students in 2016. Building upon the success of Dell Medical School, the University of Texas System recently announced a \$2.5 billion investment to create two new world-class medical facilities at UT Austin, including a partnership with the MD Anderson Cancer Center. Mayor Watson has also worked in the area of brain health both in the legislature and local government.

As a result of his numerous health care efforts, Watson has been honored by the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute and NAMI Austin. The American Medical Association recognized him with the prestigious Dr. Nathan Davis Award for Outstanding Government Service.

He is a recipient of the prestigious President's Citation from The University of Texas at Austin and the Pro Texana Medal of Service from Baylor University. The Baylor Line Foundation (formerly the Baylor Alumni Association) named him a Distinguished Alumnus. Austin Community College awarded him an honorary degree. The Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas gave him its Open Government Lawmaker of the Year award, and the Texas Press Association named him a Friend of the First Amendment. The Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce also has named him Austinite of the Year.

Since being sworn in last year, Mayor Watson has been focused on stabilizing city government and improving basic city operations. He has been a leader on addressing affordability in Austin, including by increasing housing stock and creating opportunities for more Austinites to participate in Austin's prosperity.

Mayor Watson's current priorities notably affordability, but also transportation, public safety and homelessness.

In July 2023, Watson brought together several community partners to work with representatives of the Texas Department of Housing and

Treasurer  
**Dale Lowe**  
Club Foundation (ARCF)  
Trustee  
Club Foundation(ARCF)  
Vice Chair  
**Vlad Bahrencu**  
Club Foundation (ARCF)  
Trustee  
**Amy M. Jackson**  
Club Foundation (ARCF)  
Trustee  
**Peter R. Meeker**  
Club Foundation (ARCF)  
Trustee  
**Jaime Phillips**  
Club Foundation (ARCF)  
Trustee  
**W. Gaines Bagby**  
Rotary Foundation  
(TRF) Liaison  
**John Anderson**  
**Barclay IV**  
Sergeant-at-Arms  
**Michael Abelson**  
Club Programs Chair  
**Jennifer Olsen**  
Club Executive  
Secretary  
Executive Director

**Birthdays**

Thomas R. Locke Jr.  
April 17th  
Earl L. Yeakel III  
April 18th  
Teresa Finney  
April 20th  
Michele M Heyman  
April 21st  
Charles M Rohaut  
May 2nd  
William J Martin  
May 6th  
Jill Johnson  
May 7th  
Peter R. Meeker  
May 11th

Community Affairs and the Governor’s Office to address the City’s homelessness crisis with a \$64 million partnership to increase shelter capacity in Austin.

Watson, who grew up in North Texas, graduated from Baylor University and Baylor Law School, where he graduated first in his class. He and his wife, Liz, have two adult sons and two delightful granddaughters.

**04-08-25 Meeting Highlights**

By Darrick Wayne Eugene

IMG\_6956.jpg



**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

The special thing about this meeting is that it was led by our President Elect Nominee Ellen Hunt. Ellen had the opportunity to get her feet wet leading the meeting, and drumroll please..., she was also the keynote speaker delivering a stirring presentation about the life and contributions of Sears & Roebuck’s first CEO, Julius Rosenwald. However, before Ellen’s keynote address, we had the opportunity to celebrate Robert and Mary Bird Bowman for their significant contributions to the Rotary Foundation. PDG Shannon Coleman was on hand to recognize Robert and Mary Bird as Level 2 Major Donors.

As mentioned, Ellen Hunt illuminated the club regarding the life and times of Julius Rosenwald, the leader and first CEO of Sears & Roebuck. We learned that the eponymous store was not run by Mr. Sears but that in 1890 Julius Rosenwald purchased Mr. Sears’ shares and lead the institution to its ultimate success. In 1904 Sears & Roebuck went public, making Julius Rosenwald the 25th richest person in America by 1912 a mere 8 years later. Rosenwald was a prodigious philanthropist who believed in motto “Give while you live.” During his lifetime he focused on three areas of giving including museums in his hometown of Chicago, Jewish philanthropy and the main subject of Ellen’s talk, the Rosenwald schools.

The Rosenwald schools were funded by the generosity of Julius Rosenwald that provided education for black children in segregated areas of the country where they had few if any educational opportunities. In all, Rosenwald helped build over 5000 such schools in the rural south. Rosenwald worked with Booker T. Washington the legendary educator and founder of Tuskegee University on a funding scheme that was in essence a challenge grant. Julius Rosenwald would provide 20% of the funding while the remaining funds came from local contributions, primarily rural black families involved in subsistence farming. Because of the segregated system, before the Rosenwald Schools black children were educated in deplorable conditions. The Rosenwald Schools became a system of private funding for public education for black families that desperately wanted their children to receive a quality education. By the time of the 1954 Brown v. Board decision abolishing segregated schools, more than a third of all black children were being educated inside the walls of a Rosenwald School. Julius Rosenwald is a shining example that even in difficult times, one can find the humanity to do what is right.

**Club Meeting Details: Join us in-person or on Zoom!**

**This week's meeting will be held in-person at Ben Hur Shrine Temple (7811 Rockwood Lane, Austin, Texas) and also live-streamed on Zoom!! *Note: A link to last week's Zoom meeting recording is included below.***

*For those of you who can't join us in-person, you're invited to LIVE-STREAM our Weekly Lunch Program!*

**When: Every Tuesday (almost) Noon to 1 PM Central Time (US and Canada)**

**\*\*\*For our Zoom guests, please clear your caches and bookmarked Zoom meeting links and check your time zone settings.\*\*\***

**QuickLink:**  
<https://rotary-austin-org.zoom.us/j/85690378301?pwd=bXMxcDBqK1drNmNqZW1hZVZ3JlZ2FFdz09>

**IMPORTANT STEPS TO CONNECT TO OUR WEEKLY MEETING, USING THE FOLLOWING MEETING ID & PASSWORD TO LOGIN:**

**When the Rotary year begins on July 1st, we have a new meeting link.** You should always be able to connect by **typing in the Meeting ID and password** as shown here.

- 1) Go to zoom.us/join
- 2) Enter the meeting ID in this box and passcode if prompted  
(Meeting ID: **856 9037 8301** Passcode: **361851**)

**IMPORTANT:** *We'll have complimentary cookies, coffee, tea or water available at the meeting. If you'd like a full meal, however, please bring your own lunch with you, or you can order from Jack Allen's Kitchen on Anderson Lane and have it delivered. Click*

[HERE](#) for instructions on ordering.

Did you miss last week's meeting or want to view the presentation? Here is the Zoom recording of [Ellen Hunt, Speaking About Julius Rosenwald](#)

#### Major Donor 2 Recipients



CONGRATULATIONS!

PDG Shannon Coleman and Gaines Bagby presented Mary Bird and Bob Bowman with their Rotary Major Donor

#### Early Act First Knight - Pecan Springs Elementary



The students at Pecan Springs -Austin had their eafk knighting ceremony for the trait of Integrity today. This character-building program is sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of University Area and Austin. The selected students receive a medallion from Lady Amber and their parents join them on the stage.

These Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Austin attend these ceremonies regularly to cheer on the kids, teachers and parents during the ceremony. Thanks Rotarians!

#### NEW Member Incentive Plan & 2025-2026 Rotary Member Dues

During our April 1st lunch meeting, at the request of the RCA Board of Directors, Past President Mary Bird Bowman gave a detailed explanation of our upcoming 2025-2026 Rotary Member Dues and also introduced an **EXCITING NEW Membership Incentive Plan** that provides members with an easy way to earn back a refund of almost 100% of them!

# NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM



- Beginning NOW – until June 30, 2026
- Bring in 2 new members - Get a rebate of ½ of your **2025-2026 local dues** –
- Local dues are \$698.50
- Rebate is \$349.25 for 2 members
- \$698.50 for 4 new members

If you'd like to learn more, just click the "Read More" link below... [Read More](#)

## Congratulations to our Newly Elected Board of Directors & President Elect Nominee-Nominee!!!

Please join us in **CONGRATULATING** Tom Anderson, Leslie Bagby and Andy Barclay as our newly elected members on the RCA Board of Directors (serving 2-year terms from 7/1/25-6/30/27)!

We're also thrilled to announce that **Ellen Hunt** will be following Cindy Brummer and Harold Ingersoll as Club President in 2027-2028!

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS OF OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Serving 2-year terms (7/1/25-6/30/27)*



TOM ANDERSON



LESLIE BAGBY



ANDY BARCLAY

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES FOR ALSO AGREEING TO RUN:

GABRIELLA COOPER  
JILL JOHNSON  
JULIANNE SHIVELY  
TERESA TAYLOR  
COREY WILSON

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW CLUB PRESIDENT ELECT NOMINEE!!!



**ELLEN HUNT**  
Club President  
2027-2028  
(following Harold Ingersoll)

Rotary  
Club of Austin

## ARCF's Election for the Board of Trustees is Coming Up!

Our annual election for the *Austin Rotary Club Foundation's Board of Trustees* is coming up at the end of the month, and you'll be asked to vote for **three (3)** of the following candidates (to serve three-year terms from July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2028):

\*\*\*All 6 of the following candidates have been approved by the current Board of Directors, in accordance with our By Laws\*\*\*

**Michael Abelson**



**Mark Johnson**





**Ron Mullen**



**Jack Nash**



**Roy Springer**



**Andy Swanson**



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### **[Next Week's Speaker/Program Preview - Bobby Jenkins](#)**

By Matthew Dargis on Sunday, April 13, 2025



Bobby Jenkins is the owner of ABC Home & Commercial Services, a Texas-based, family-owned company founded in 1949, with offices in several Texas locations, including Austin, San Antonio, College Station, Bell County, Corpus Christi, the Rio Grande Valley, and Waco. ABC employs over 1,100 people and offers a broad range of services, such as pest and termite control, lawn care, landscaping, tree trimming, air conditioning and heating, plumbing, electrical work, pool cleaning and repair, handyman services, window cleaning, power washing, and appliance repair.

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#### Prospective Member(s) 10-Day Notice(s)

Per the request of the Board of Directors, all prospective/transferring members will now be posted in the *Rotary Reminder* (newsletter) for an open review period by all members. We've received the following Proposed Member Application(s) for consideration:

**Greg Cavitt (sponsored by Gaines Bagby)**  
**Anetta Paver (sponsored by Andy Barclay)**

Please notify **Jennifer Olsen**, RCA's Executive Director, if you have anything you'd like to share about **Greg** or **Anetta**.

**Here's a little about Greg (from his member application):** *I've been a Community Banker for 17 years and have lived in Austin for the last seven years. My wife Sarah and I were married in December 2024. :) I have a fourteen-year-old son who lives in Illinois, and I typically spend one week a month there.*

**And here's a little about Anetta (from her member application):** *Anetta first arrived in Austin in 2002 to attend the University of Texas, where she obtained a degree in Business Marketing and French. Though she loved the University, she didn't venture beyond the Forty Acres until 2005, when she fell in love with the city by running Lady Bird Lake.*

*In 2008, she moved to Glendale, Arizona to obtain her MBA from The Thunderbird School of Global Management, then went to work for McKesson. Shortly after returning to Austin in 2014, she had three beautiful children, Max, Sarah and Sam. Her desire to give her young children unforgettable moments inspired the founding of Enchantment in 2017.*

*Known for her positive outlook, Anetta is able to find the most talented and hardest-working Austinites and put them to work in the pursuit of making Austin the best place to live, work and visit.*

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#### Congratulation on Your Rotary Major Donor Level 2 Award!!!

**Congratulations, Mary Bird and Bob Bowman!**

Please join us in congratulating **Mary Bird and Bob Bowman** for reaching Major Donor Level 2 with Rotary International! On behalf of RI, District 5870 and our Club, sincere thanks to you both for your generosity and ongoing philanthropic support!



From left to right: Past President Mary Bird Bowman, Bob Bowman, Past District Governor Shannon Coleman and Past President Gaines Bagby.

## TRF MAJOR DONOR- LEVEL 2

**TODAY WE HONOR:**

# MARY BIRD & BOB BOWMAN

**Major Donor**

Level 1: \$10,000 to \$24,999  
 Level 2: \$25,000 to \$49,999  
 Level 3: \$50,000 to \$99,999  
 Level 4: \$100,000 to \$249,999

Rotary  
Club of Austin

**DISTRICT 5870 WOULD LIKE TO HELP YOU EARN A PAUL HARRIS FELLOWSHIP!**

## MEMORIAL PHF MATCH IN HONOR OF PDG JIM ROBINSON

**LIMITED TIME—MARCH 1 – APRIL 30, 2025**

**Are you a Rotarian in District 5870? Are you a PHF +7 or less?**

**If you answered "yes" to both questions then, GOOD NEWS, you're eligible and BETTER NEWS, the rules are as simple as 1 ... 2 ... 3!**

- 1) Notify Rich Kaye that you want to participate (**NOTE: Must be done before Step #2 so the match points can be "earmarked" for you**)
- 2) Between 3/1/25 – 4/30/25, make a single \$250 - \$500 donation to Rotary International/The Rotary Foundation—Annual Fund-SHARE (**NOTE: Only donations designated to this account will apply**)
- 3) As soon as your contribution posts, an equivalent match will be made on your behalf (**NOTE: Match is limited to one per donor and is made using TRF points**)

Please contact **Past President Gaines Bagby** if you have any questions or would like to take advantage of this generous LIMITED TIME offer!

### Meet and Greet w/ President Elect Cindy

## Meet and Greet

Sign up for an informal chat with President Elect Cindy

**April-June 2025**

Open to Rotarians and Friends  
Available for small groups

Cindy Brummer  
President Elect  
[Sign Up Now](#)

Who is the incoming president of the Rotary Club of Austin? Now's your chance to get to know President Elect Cindy Brummer and find out more about her vision and plans for the new year. These informal, small group, in-person sessions are hosted on various Wednesday and Thursday evenings from April 1-June 7 and are intended for groups of up to 10. [Read More](#)

### RCA Sounding Board – Chat with President-Elect Cindy!

Have thoughts, ideas, or questions about our club? I'm here to listen! Whether you have suggestions for the future of RCA or just want to connect, I'd love to hear from you. [Read More](#)

RCA Sounding Board

## I'M LISTENING

Schedule a chat, share your thoughts

With:

PRESIDENT-ELECT CINDY



- \* Advertising space costs only \$250 for 6 months of promotion (\$500/yr)!
- \* ALL PROCEEDS go toward helping CLUB OPERATIONS!
- \* Contact the Rotary Office for details.

<h2 style="text-align: center;">NASA CRUISES</h2> <h3 style="text-align: center;">JOSEPH HANG</h3> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;">  </div> <div style="width: 65%;"> <p><i>Need help planning your dream cruise??</i></p> <p><i>Luxury to Mainstream—I book all cruise lines!</i></p> <p><i>With my decades of experience, I'm a "one-stop shop" for your cruise vacation. From start to finish I can help with it all (including assisting with airfare, hotels, etc.)</i></p> <p><b>(281) 543-4793 / JoeHang@gmail.com</b></p> </div> </div>	
<h2 style="text-align: center;">KIDD ROOFING</h2> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Since 1982</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Commercial &amp; Residential Roofing Professionals</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>All Roofing Types -Metal, Shingles, Tile, Modified TPO, PVC, Custom Sheet Metal Fabrication, Gutters, Downspouts</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Corey Wilson</b> President</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>1212 East Anderson Lane, #200 Austin, Texas 78752 www.kiddroof.com</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Austin, Dallas, San Antonio Houston, Denver Main (512) 671-7791 cwillson@kiddroof.com</p> </div> </div>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">RESIDENTIAL &amp; INVESTMENT SALES</h2> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;">  </div> <div style="width: 65%;"> <h3 style="text-align: center;">TILLERY CASTILLO</h3> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>BROKER ASSOCIATE   GLOBAL REAL ESTATE ADVISOR</small></p> <p> <small>c</small> 956.341.8455    <small>o</small> 512.831.6577  <small>w</small> <a href="https://www.kuperrealty.com/">https://www.kuperrealty.com/</a>  <small>e</small> <a href="mailto:tillery.castillo@kuperrealty.com">tillery.castillo@kuperrealty.com</a> </p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> </div> </div>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>1011 W Anderson Lane, Austin, TX 78757 512.459.7603 www.karavelshoes.com</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  <h2 style="text-align: center;">CENTRIC COMMERCIAL</h2> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Commercial Real Estate Leasing and Sales</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Andrew Swanson swanson@centric.com 512-777-9916</p> </div> </div>	
<h2 style="text-align: center;">JOE KOEN &amp; SON JEWELERS</h2> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Since 1883</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">AUSTIN'S OLDEST AND FINEST JEWELER TREATING YOU LIKE FAMILY SINCE 1883</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BILL KOEN, III</b> Graduate Gemologist</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>611 Congress Ave. Austin, Texas 78701 www.JoeKoenJewelers.com</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Phone: 512-478-2595 Fax: 512-472-6903 Bill@JoeKoenJewelers.com</p> </div> </div>	

### ROTARY CARES HOW YOU'RE DOING!!!

#### HOW ARE THINGS IN YOUR LIFE?!?

Is there anything that your Rotary Club of Austin "family" can support you with (i.e. family changes, death of a loved one, illness or other health concerns, lost a job, other professional needs, etc.) or do you know of another Rotarian who may need help?

Click [here](#) to let us know  
(or you can send an e-mail to  
office@rotary-austin.org)

#### ROTARY CARES



### Ordering Your Tuesday Lunch For Delivery From Jack Allen's Kitchen

**YES, THE RUMORS ARE TRUE...LUNCHES HAVE RETURNED TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF AUSTIN!**



If you're planning to attend one of our regularly scheduled Tuesday Rotary meetings and would like to enjoy a meal, you can pre-order one from Jack Allen's Kitchen on Anderson Lane and have it delivered directly to Ben Hur! Or, if you're not hungry, you can skip lunch and grab a complimentary cookie and/or coffee, tea or water instead.

It's easy, and you can order from your PC or even your smartphone! **If you've ordered before and remember what to enter for delivery, just click the Jack Allen's Kitchen icon (or go to [www.jackallenskitchen.com](http://www.jackallenskitchen.com)).**

**IMPORTANT NOTE: Lunch orders are only accepted on Tuesday mornings for same-day delivery and must be placed no later than 10:30 am!**

If you've never ordered before, or if you've forgotten how, here are the instructions (including HOW and WHAT to specify that your order is for delivery) --> [Steps to Order Rotary Lunch](#)

All meals will be "made-to-order" from Jack Allen's Kitchen on Anderson Lane (across the street from Ben Hur) and will be delivered by them, too. Each will be individually packaged and labeled with your name.

One Austin icon serving another Austin icon...Don't you just love this town?!?



Club Meeting Place and Time

Austin  
Meets at Ben Hur Shrine Temple  
7811 Rockwood Lane  
Austin, TX 78757  
Time: Tuesday at 12:00 PM

RCA Vision Statement: *To build a diverse fellowship of Austin-area business and community leaders transforming lives throughout the world.*