

Rotary



Club of The Classic City of Athens

May 8, 2023: Justin Bray of Books for Keeps



Justin Bray is the Executive Director of Books for Keeps, a local nonprofit organization that works to improve children's reading achievement by addressing barriers related to the accessibility and appeal of reading materials. Prior to taking the executive director position at Books for Keeps, Bray served as the director of operations and program manager for their flagship Stop Summer Slide program. He has served on the ACC Development Authority and, most recently, the library board for the county. Additionally, Bray serves the Classic City Rollergirls first as a referee and their head coach.

Want to connect to the meeting via Zoom?

To join the meeting with one-click, [CLICK HERE](#).

Meeting ID: 848 1309 0687

Passcode: Classic

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,84813090687#,,,,

*4448338# US (Chicago)

+16469313860,,84813090687#,,,, *4448338# US

Meeting Roundup:

Meeting Date	Greeter	Pledge	4-WayTest
May 8	Candace Crew	Rick Leffel	Milton Masciadri
May 15	Cindy Darden	Pam Shropshire	Tammy Dalton
May 22	Melissa Ellard	Mary Lillie Watson	Emily Escoe
May 29 (No Mtg)			
June 5	Beverly Harper	Dick Field	Allen Green
June 12	Kemp Gaskill	Robert Hardell	Al Hawley
June 19	Jeff Auerbach	CJ Johnson	Bowen Craig
June 26	Anjela Filipova	Rick Leffel	Leigha Streetman

Birthdays

Tina Kukanza
May 31st

Club Leaders



[Michelle Elizabeth Roberts](#)
President
Club Director



[Jeffrey Auerbach](#)
President-Elect
Club Director



[Jordan Bowen](#)
Club Director
President-Nominee



[Tammy Tate Gilland](#)
On-To Conference Chair
Club Director
Secretary



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



[Emily K. Escoe](#)
Membership Chair



[Beverly Harper](#)
Club Director
Membership Chair



[Lawrence W. Harris](#)
Membership
Retention Chair

[Marissa Leigh Chastain](#)
Club Director

Vic Chesnutt Songwriter of the Year Awards



Classic City Rotary's Vic Chesnutt Songwriter of the Year Awards was featured in a *Flagpole* article on May 3rd. "With representation across multiple music genres, past winners have included Elijah Johnston (2022), Cassie Chantel and WesdaRuler featuring Louie Larceny (2021), Jim Willingham (2020), Lydian Brambila (2019) and Linqua Franqa (2018). Each year nominations are made by the community based on a recorded work released in the prior year. After reviewing the pool of nominations, a panel of judges determine the finalists. This year's judges included hip-hop artist and 2021 winner Cassie Chantel, Atlanta-based singer-songwriter Caroline Herring, Nashville-based alt-country artist Boo Ray, Elephant 6 producer and musician Robert Schneider, and *Flagpole*'s own Threats & Promises columnist Gordon Lamb." Check out the the full article [here](#).

Many of our club members as well as a great community turn-out were at Classic City Rotary's 7th annual Vic Chesnutt Songwriter of the Year Awards show, held on May 4 at the 40 Watt downtown. Trvy (Trevor Wiggins) was recognized as the 2023 Songwriter of the Year, winning \$1500, recording time from Amplify, and a PR package from Team Clermont. Trvy performed along with other finalists Cardynal, Erin Lovett, Avery Draut (Night Palace), and Dylan Loftin, who each received \$250. Atlanta-based singer-songwriter Caroline Herring was the kick-off featured artist; last year's winner Elijah Johnston also performed, and 2021 winner and 2023 judge Cassie Chantel described how impactful the award has been for her career. Classic City Rotary also presented \$2,500 to Nuci's Space, the musicians resource and mental health center. A big thank-you to club members Ellen Bryson, Blair Dorminey, and Paul Matthews, along with other committee members Winnie Smith, Judy Long, Marissa Jones, and Bill Cody for leading the event and awards. See more at <https://www.vicchesnuttaward.com/2023-finalists-and-show>.



Public Image Chair



[Tammy Dalton](#)
Family of Rotary



[Richard J. Leffel](#)
Training Officer



[Deanne Rosso](#)
Club Director
Rotary Foundation
Chair



[Pamela Shropshire](#)
Family of Rotary



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



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



[Blair Dorminey](#)
Club Director
iPast President



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



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



[Paul H. Matthews](#)
Club Admin Chair
Club Director



[James J. Milner](#)
Past President
Club Director
Club Programs
Chair

[Mary Lillie Watson](#)

Enviro/Sustainability (ES) Committee

Our May 15 Rotary Meeting Guest will be Dallas Hetherington, from C-Change. Check out the C-Change Conversations Trailer here: <https://youtu.be/BqTeVpUa07Q>



Dallas Hetherington is an approved presenter of "Climate Change 101," the C-Change Conversations Primer presentation about the science and effects of climate change.

In 2017 Dallas retired from a 31-year career that began with National Starch and Chemical Company and ended at AkzoNobel Surface Chemistry, both global specialty chemicals concerns. His career spanned technologies such as adhesives, polymers and food ingredients, customers like PepsiCo, Monsanto and Procter & Gamble, and included nearly 1.5 million miles of travel across four continents. He addressed diverse markets such as personal care, packaging and foods and served in functions such as marketing/sales, financial planning, and business management. Dallas' passion ultimately became innovation, including the leadership qualities, processes, and training needed for innovation projects impacting hundreds of people in different functions and locations around the world.

Dallas graduated Beta Gamma Sigma from the NYU Stern School of Business MBA program in 1989 where he majored in Finance and Economics. He received his Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from Lafayette College in 1984. He has served on local charitable boards and is currently president of the board of trustees of Raritan Headwaters Association, which serves as a water quality watchdog of almost 500 square miles of northern New Jersey.

Dallas first encountered C-Change Conversations in the fall of 2017 when his wife, Lesley, invited him to attend a meeting of the Garden Club of Somerset Hills, where Kathleen Biggins presented "Climate Change 101." Kathleen asked if there was anyone interested in helping her reach more people with non-partisan, science-based information about climate change. Dallas raised his hand. He is passionate about delivering the Primer because he knows that unless we together act more decisively, Lesley's and his adult children and their future families, as well as millions of others around the world, will pay an increasingly high price for a warming planet.

Service Committee Announcements

The Service Committee will meet on Wed., May 10 at 2 pm via Zoom. The Zoom



Club Director
Club Programs
Chair



Heather J. McElroy
Club Fundraising
Chair



Roy M. Legette
International
Service Chair



Milton Masciadri
International
Service Chair

meeting information is as follows: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8991384699?pwd=L1RkZmNcjFPWDqS3FzbGVKTjQrdz09>; Meeting ID: 899 1384 3699 Password: Service. All members are welcome to attend. We'll discuss next Rotary year's budget and potential projects.

Upcoming Service Opportunities

Be a kid again at the J.J. Harris Field Day on Fri., May 19 from 8 am – 11:30 am. Help the teachers and staff with setting up for the annual field day and help with games for students. Plan to run, jump, pass out snacks and have fun. Be sure to wear something you can get dirty and/or wet. Contact Jordan Bowen at jordanbowen1@me.com to sign up. J.J. Harris is located at 2300 Danielsville Rd.

A cookout for the residents of Denney Tower, a senior citizen hi-rise building located at 250 W. Dougherty St., will be held on Mon., June 5. Ray Watson will direct the grill volunteers to cook hamburgers and hot dogs. Volunteers will be needed to help organize other food, set up tables and chairs, and serve food. Members are asked to attend this off site meeting to chat with residents and have lunch with them. Pam Shropshire will call bingo for the residents. Members are asked to provide small household items as prizes for residents. Items could be soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, hand lotion, etc. More details to follow.

The Classic City Rotary Club will prepare and serve a meal at Our Daily Bread on Fri., June 16. There are two shifts – food preparation is from 10:30 am – 11:45 am and serving is from 11:45 am – 1 pm. Our Daily Bread is held in the community room at First Baptist Church at the corner of Pulaski St. and Hancock Ave. Please consider taking a lunch hour to help with this community event to alleviate hunger among the homeless and underemployed. Signups will be available soon.

Adopt-a-Highway litter pickup date – TBD soon.

Here's your chance to dig in the dirt at the Georgia Botanical Garden. The garden had a beautiful display of daffodils this spring. They need assistance with digging up bulbs, which in turn Advantage Behavioral Health will be able to use to plant in the fall to enhance their grounds in the fall. Daffodil bulb planting at Advantage will be a Classic City Rotary Club project this autumn. Cindy Darden will have more information shortly.
