

## CLUB SERVICE

### 4-Way Test— February

2/25 Bob Byrne

### February Greeters-

Chrissa Matthews & Peggy Ford

### Guest-

Paul Bush

Jason Garrison

Colin O'Briant

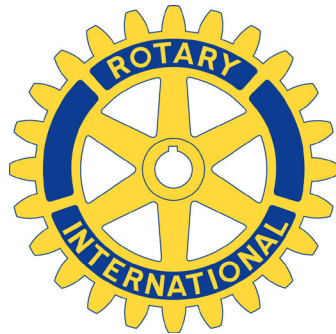
David Jameson

Aiken High

USCA-Student



Sign up to be part of the  
Aiken Rotary Team  
for the  
American Heart Association  
Heart Walk. March 9th @ 8:00 am



Get your Rotary Shirt!  
Tshirt \$10 • Polo \$30  
a portion of the sales will go  
toward Polio Plus

## Weekly Witticism

A good exercise for the heart  
is to bend down and help  
another up

## Margarita Make-Ups

The Willcox

5:15 pm - 6:15pm

Last Wednesday of each month

2018-2019

2/27, 3/27, 4/24, 5/29, 6/26

Remember to turn-in your Make-up  
to the Sergeant-at-Arms You don't need a make-up!!  
Just come spend time with fellow Rotarians



Rotary Club of Aiken  
PO Box 685  
Aiken, SC 29802  
(803) 508-4744  
Monday, 12:30 PM  
Newberry Hall  
117 Newberry Street, SW  
[www.aikenrotary.com](http://www.aikenrotary.com)

### R.I. President

Barry Rassin

### District Governor

Carol Burdette

### Club President

Will Williams

### President Elect

John Lindsay

### Vice President

Ellen Priest

### Past President

John McMichael

### Secretary/Treasurer

Rachel L. d'Entremont

### Sergeant-at-Arms

Richard Holley

### Board of Directors

Rick McLeod (RY 18-19)

Jennifer Hart (RY 18-19)

Betty Ryberg (RY 19-20)

Chrissa Matthews (RY 19-20)

Mallory Holley (RY 19-20)

Al Sorensen (RY 20-21)

Karen Poteat (RY 20-21)

John Dangler (RY 20-21)

### Sergeants-at-Arms

Chair: Richard Holley

Robert Stack

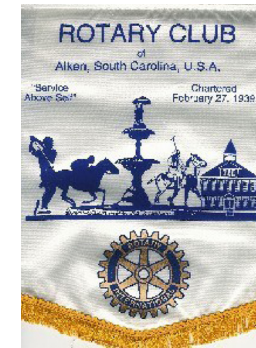
Rachel d' Entremont

Richard Herring

Josh Booth

# THE GEAR

FEBRUARY 25, 2019



## Rotary Club of Aiken



Chartered February 27, 1939

Club 6187—District 7750

Volume 52, Number 31

Editor: Tara Reeder - [tara@howellprinting.net](mailto:tara@howellprinting.net)

Photography: David Jameson

### PROGRAM LAST WEEK by Tara Reeder



Our guest from the February 11, 2019 meeting was Hartley Powell from the SC Department of Revenue. Many responsibilities falls under the DOR. For example, issuing retail licenses, collecting taxes, along with collecting monies for 72 taxes and fees. Mr. Hartley gave us an over view of where and how his department is running. This included items such as when most of could expect a tax refund to South Carolina's law suit with Amazon.

Last year this department processed 1.6 million individual refunds. The average refund was \$967. In regards to tax refund, one of the reasons we may see is delay is the enormous

increase of tax fraud. The IRS expects refund fraud to hit \$21 billion this year, up from \$6.5 billion two years ago. Mr. Hartley was able to give us information how the DOR is trying to combat this issue. One of the best ways he sees to fight against fraud is to move the department to all electronic and move away form paper. He went on tell us about the issue of collecting sales tax for goods sold on-line. One of the major contributors is Amazon. Mr. Powell stated that South Carolina has been in litigation with Amazon along with other states, Arizona, Minnesota, Washington, New Jersey and North Dakota. Mr. Powell made it clear that he didn't feel as though his department was being greedy, he just feels like Amazon needs to pay their fair share. Brick and mortar stores have to, and requiring on-line companies do the same just keeps the playing field fair.

## PROGRAM TODAY

Vahid Majidi  
SRNL

### FUTURE PROGRAMS

#### **March Theme**

Water and Sanitation Month

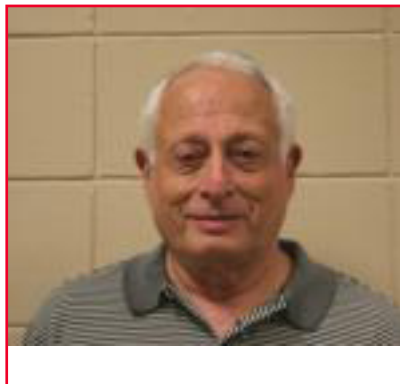
### BIRTHDAYS

Jim Marra	25 February
Rachel d'Entremont,	28 February
Grant Wiseman	02 March
Aimee Rusch	03 March

### CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Dannette Rowe,	02/26/18
Liz Stewart	02/26/01
Jenifer Granade	02/27/17
Rick McLeod	02/27/12
Richard Holley	02/28/11
McDonald Law	03/01/82
Rick Osbon	03/01/94
Bill Tucker	03/01/84
Judy Chun	03/03/14
John Dangler	03/03/14

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



**CHARLES LEOPOLD**

Classification:

Public Schools-Retired

Date of Induction: 07/02/2018



**PATSY G. LEWELLYN**

Classification:

University Professor

Date of Induction: 01/07/2019

# HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO US!

Anniversaries are always a time for celebration and we have good reason to celebrate as our Rotary Club commemorates its founding eighty years ago this coming Wednesday, February 27th. Sponsored by the Augusta Rotary Club, sixteen of Aiken's leading citizens gathered at the Commercial Hotel and held their first meeting as a Rotary Club on February 27, 1939. They elected Benjamin King (**Bill Howell's** uncle and the Publisher of the Aiken Standard) as the club's first President. At its "Charter Presentation Exercises" held on March 30, 1939, the club members received our official charter (discovered in a yard sale in more recent times) and had various items of club property (bell, gavel, banner, flags, song books, etc.) presented by Rotary Clubs from Augusta, Columbia, Charleston, Waynesboro, and Orangeburg. The evening concluded with music provided by "Elmer Snowden and his Society Orchestra and Entertainers." We held anniversary banquets at our 50th anniversary in 1989 and again five years ago for our 75th anniversary. A special 80th anniversary event is planned for later in the spring although it is unlikely that Elmer Snowden is still performing. Stay tuned for details.

Anniversaries are also a time for reflection. A quick review of our archives shows that most of Aiken's prominent citizens and civic leaders have graced the membership roster of this Club in the last eighty years. Our charter members stepped away from their daily lives to fight in World War II, returned to their occupations and professions, raised their families, and substantially contributed to the progress made by the Aiken community. As the years went by, they encouraged others to join the club who carried the torch as we gradually lost our charter members to the passage of time. Our club has helped educate our community's children, first through a Student Loan Program started with a \$500 war bond and now with a generous and growing Scholarship Fund. We have contributed to Rotary International's fight to eradicate polio from the world and taken on Alzheimer's disease through the CART fund. Along the way, we have introduced high school students to Rotary, cleaned the side of local roadways, rung the bells for the Salvation Army, and performed countless daily tasks of kindness and generosity to those in need on a local, national, and international level. We have contributed three District Governors to Rotary International and sponsored the establishment of the North Augusta and Aiken Sunrise clubs as well as Rotaract and Interact Clubs.

Eighty years is a long time and yet it should only be the beginning of many decades of further service to our community and the world. A glance at our old club directories reveals how quickly our membership changes through death, resignations, and relocations from the community. We need to always be vigilant for talented, energetic, and committed members who will carry on the legacy of service and progress that those who have gone before entrusted to us.

Happy 80th, Rotary Club of Aiken members.