Meeting Notes – May 4, 2021

Lewis Lowe was responsible for the Rotary Program today and he invited as his guest Bill Nichols, chief administrator for East Alabama Medical Center-Lanier. Mr. Nichols discussed the very effective and timely response of both hospital campuses to the COVID crisis, which highlighted the importance of having community hospitals. He praised all of the hospital team members for their hard work during the crisis, from the first days in March 2020 through the current vaccination clinics. He noted how much had been learned in the ways of treatment in the earlier months and what better outcomes were seen as time went on. The hospital has been actively recruiting both general practice physicians and well as specialty physicians. The surgical clinic will now be performing many more surgeries at EAMC-Lanier and there are plans to build to a free standing ER in Auburn. EAMC will be renamed soon to East Alabama Health and East Alabama Lanier Health to more accurately reflect their focus on overall health and wellness. In two years it will be time to vote to renew the 8 mil tax used for the hospital and we were encouraged to show our support for that vote.

Diane Sherriff

Immediate Past President