



Rotary Review

The Official Newsletter of District 6880



From the Desk of Coach & DG Howard

Where did half a year go? March has come and gone and April is upon us. “In like a lion, out like a lamb” kind of characterized the weather in our District and much of the nation. Mardi Gras, St. Patrick’s Day the transition from the gridiron to the hardwood court. But don’t let that fool you, “the glass is still half full” and as Rotarians we have several months left to fulfill our responsibilities to be **“ALL IN”** with the **“MAGIC of Rotary!”** It is time however to review our goals and aspirations for the RI fiscal year. Whether you are an AG, a club President or other club leader or you are an individual Rotarian. Look back at the last six months and review what you have accomplished and what you still want to accomplish through Rotary. What can you do for the rest of the 2025-2026 Rotary year to shift your focus from “being a member of Rotary to being a Rotarian?”

As I write this, we share a degree of unprecedented change globally, nationally and within Rotary. We understand that most people resist change. Change forces us to reevaluate and that can be tough. Where are you in your personal goals and club goals? If you are a club or area leader, how best can you leave a positive legacy for Rotary this next year and beyond? What can you do to help your club meet your goals in your community? How have you done personally at growing Rotary? What areas can you invest in to make your club more **irresistible** and more inviting? Does your club have a process to help develop or execute strategic goals for the next three years? How are you doing at visioning your remaining meetings, social events and any fundraising opportunities to impact your community? Are any of your folks exhausted or burned out? What can you personally do? I’m going to give you some low-cost high value suggestions and it matters not if you are a new Rotarian or a long-time part of your club. **I’m going to call it the “ALL IN” challenge of three.**

- 1) Find three people a month in your club who you appreciate and tell them thank you!
- 2) Find three people not currently in Rotary you will invite to a club function over the next three months.
- 3) Pick a Rotary or club cause you are not currently giving to and give \$30 (or more) a month over the next three months. Polio, District Foundation Disaster Relief, TRF Paul Harris giving, a local club project fund like books for the library or collection for another vetted cause.

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March/April 2025 SUPER PETS EDITION

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- 4) If your club does not have a regular after hours social, ask three fellow club members to bring their spouses or a friend and all go out together at least once a month for the next three months. Report it to your club secretary and ask it be counted as a “make-up.”
- 5) Talk to your club leaders about making sure at least three members from your club go to the yearend Conference in Orange Beach as a group. Socialize, meet other Rotarians and come back home with new ideas for your club to try next year. **YOU NEED TO REGISTER AND GET A ROOM NOW!**
- 6) Ask your incoming President to appoint at least three members to be your Club’s “Disaster Response contacts” and identify something your club will do when the next hurricane, tornado or flood strikes your community or your neighboring clubs within a 3hr radius

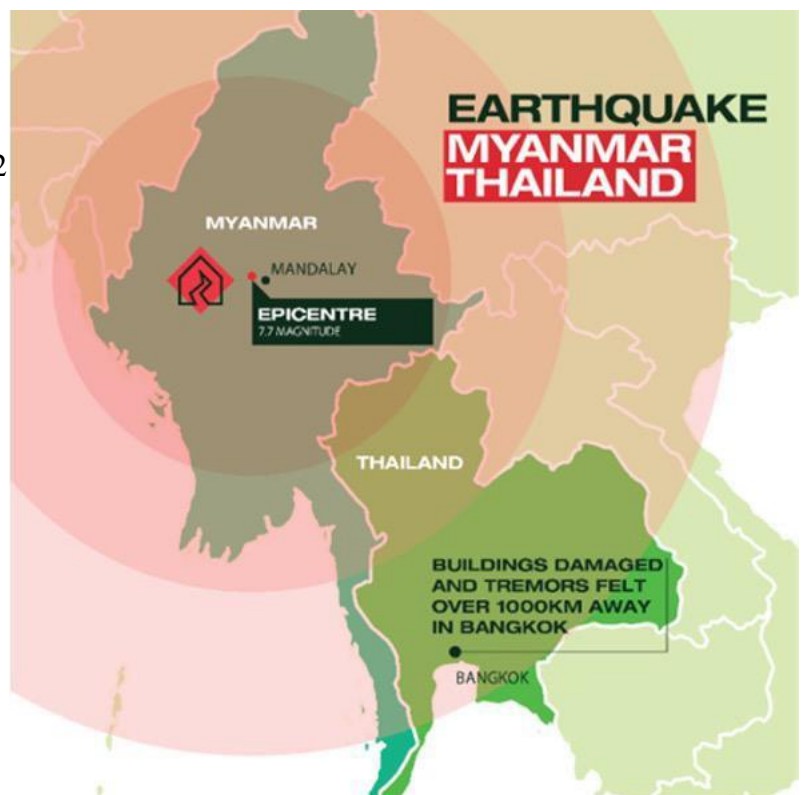
Myanmar and Thailand region’s devastating and massive 7.7 magnitude earthquake

Speaking of Disaster Response, we probably have all heard as you read this that Myanmar and Thailand have been struck by a devastating 7.7 magnitude earthquake causing widespread destruction. This is a huge humanitarian crisis.

The initial earthquake was followed by a significant aftershock of 6.4M approximately 12 minutes later and more in the 5+ range since. Tremors were felt as far as China when the epicenter of the earthquake hit central Myanmar. More than six million people are thought to have been in areas experiencing the intense tremors. Buildings have been reduced to rubble, as of this writing an estimated 2,000 people are missing or feared dead. Homes are destroyed. On top of this, it is likely thousands will remain displaced or living in damaged homes for the foreseeable future and require humanitarian assistance.

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Even the most dedicated Alabama Rotarians can’t probably be of much help on the ground but there is something you can do, and I’ll relate it back to my theme of threes.

Continued on next page

ShelterBox & Rotary District 68880 Partnership in Action

OUR IMMEDIATE RESPONSE

Appeal to your club's members to take a free will donation the next three or more meetings and let people know in advance so they can open their check books. On the 4th week, pool the smaller donations and individual checks exceeding \$100.00 and send those to the District 6880 Foundation marked on the correspondence or check memo line specifically for "Shelter Box" and send to

DISTRICT 6880 FOUNDATION, a 501(c)(3) tax deductible organization
c/o United Community Bank
Attn: PDG Linda Mong
28000 US Highway 98
Daphne, AL 36526

WHY SUPPORT SHELTER BOX?

With over 25 years of experience, ShelterBox is an active recognized partner with Rotary International and together we have an impeccable track record of providing emergency shelter after disasters across the globe. Together with Rotary's help, they have provided shelter to over 3 million people. They are capable of scaling up for this earthquake just as they have in other such crisis.

Your donation to our District will allow us to partner with other Districts to help immediately fund the spin-up and distribution to equip people in the disaster zone with containerized and readily transported essential emergency aid items, enabling them to initially survive and begin to rebuild their lives. Starting with the core needs of shelter and the ability to meet their immediate needs like coverage from the elements of nature, boiling water and cooking.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSE

PDG Earl Ingram will serve as DRFC beginning this next fiscal year. Earl served a number of international campus programs for Troy University in Southeast Asia. I have asked PDG Earl to explore any additional Rotary grants or other opportunities that our District could consider supporting going forward. Like Ukraine, the future mitigation and rebuilding could take years.

PDG Earl has the area knowledge and ~~now~~ contacts both through Troy University in Asia as well as Rotary. He is uniquely placed to identify any programs our District could play a role in. Your generosity will allow all of District 6880 make a world of difference, thank you for caring.

DISTRICT DISASTER RESPONSE TEAMS



Our District teams and Rotarians enjoyed special training at Midyear. We are contemplating ways to introduce additional structure, training and develop an esprit de corps going forward. Look for more information as we head into hurricane season and our next Rotary International Fiscal Year.

Rotary Certificate of Meritorious Service



District Foundation Chair, PDG Bob Callahan and DG Howard Eddy make special presentation of the Rotary Meritorious Service Award to Andrea Saucer as her husband joins in the celebration. Of the +600 Districts worldwide, only 40 such recognitions are approved by RI a year. Andrea is only the 20th in District 6880 and the first female to receive this special recognition from the Foundation.

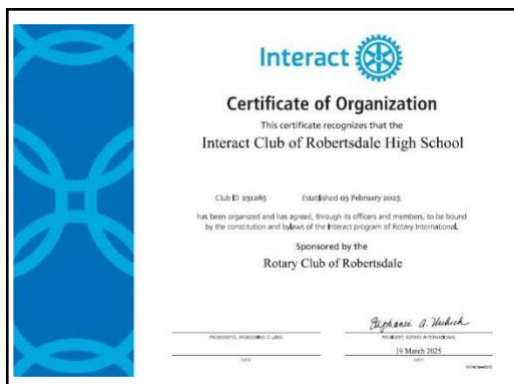
Andrea is a past president of the Monroeville Club, she served alongside DG Howard for multiple years as Assistant Governors, including helping him co-chair the Biloxi multi-district conference.

She served with several DGs as our District Grants Chair including through the Covid period where she initiated the first ever Zoom based training to meet the RI requirement for clubs to apply for District Grants. Rotary could almost fill her days some weeks but she is also the mom of student athletes heavily involved in travel ball teams, she hunts with her husband David and her kids and manages the household when David is called out to emergencies as a commercial high voltage lineman, often traveling for days away from home to assist with storm repairs to get power back to storm victims.



Robertsdale High School, Interact Club - Chartering

We are proud to announce the hard work of the Rotary Club of Robertsdale has resulted in the chartering of the "Interact Club of Robertsdale High School" effective April 2025. The club's leaders and members worked with the school, to make this possible. They are looking forward to again sponsoring a RYLA group this next year as well.



ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS - IYFR Mobile Bay Compass Rose Fleet.

Are you interest in joining Yachting Fellowship - or you have been a member in the past - or you are a current member? You don't need to have a boat even and you can come down for any social when you are in town! You may recall AG Mike Sledge rode through India for Polio with the Motorcycle Fellowship.

Penny Hughey, PP of the Orange Beach / Gulf Shores Rotary club was recently voted in to serve out the remaining term of Commodore Ed who had to step down due to added work responsibilities.

The Fellowship met at a scheduled a meeting at the Fairhope Yacht Club for the sole purpose of filling the vacancy and further the work of reactivating the fellowship to see us through the end of the current Rotary year and into the next. The Rotary Club of Fairhope Sunset Club hosted the IYFR following their normal weekly meeting.

For more information, contact:

Penny Hughey, Member, IYFR Mobile Compass Rose Fleet and now the new Fleet Commodore

Past President - Gulf Shores Orange Beach Rotary Club

Incoming Assistant Governor - District 6880 Area 11



District Conference Orange Beach, AL 19-22 June 2025

You are cordially invited to one of the most anticipated and rewarding events in our District this year...

Registration is now open for our District Conference but based on the success of Midyear, **SPACE IS LIMITED and more critical. ROOMS ARE ALREADY GOING VERY FAST!**]

IMPORTANT DISTRICT CONFERENCE UPDATE

NEW REVISED CONFERENCE DATE June 19th - 22nd, 2025

Hampton Inn & Suites, "ON THE BEACH" Orange Beach, AL

Early bird conference registration ended March 24th but you can still get in.

EVENT REGISTRATION at <https://www.eventbrite.com/> & search Orange Beach OR

Register via "Eventbrite" hot link: <https://bit.ly/D6880ConfReg>

(Registration is not on DaCdb - Use link or go direct to www.Eventbrite.com)

Full Registration option still only \$200.00. which covers almost everything (Daily rate not currently available, consideration may be given to daily rate of \$100.00/Day to help offset meals and beverage costs).

Registration includes: Lunch & Dinner Friday and Saturday, all snacks and hospitality Suite. Hotel bar will be open for both dinners, free hot breakfast at Hotel for registered hotel guests.

HOTEL RESERVATION at Hampton.com & call hotel direct

Reserve your room on our block rate at Hampton Inn & Suites Orange Beach while supply lasts. Room Block & Rate available only till May 19th or while supply lasts.

OUR BLOCK IS FILLING QUICKLY DON'T WAIT!!

Hotel hot link: <https://bit.ly/HamptonInnOrangeBeach> - or call hotel directly

**THERE IS NO SPECAIL REGISTRATION CODE NEEDED FOR EITHER EVENT OR HOTEL BUT
NOTE ALL "bit.ly" LINKS ARE CASE SENSITIVE**

Continued on next page

This event is set to be one of the most exciting and impactful gatherings of the year, bringing together Rotarians from across the District for a weekend of learning, fellowship, and inspiration. We're proud to announce some very special guest speakers joining us. This is your chance to enjoy the beach (THE HOTEL IS RIGHT ON THE BEACH!) hear from incredible speakers, share in the Rotary spirit, and leave inspired to take action in your clubs and communities. You will have the chance to share great insights into how to succeed in various projects and disciplines in Rotary, so be prepared to gain knowledge while sharing our best practices - helping make all of us better together! Also, we will have the opportunity to celebrate Rotary with live entertainment, REALLY GREAT food and awesome speakers. There will also be time built into the end of the agenda for you to take in the local highlights and sights around the area and you can arrange to come early or stay late for a mini vacation.

Here is a quick look agenda for your reference. We have designed the program where you will have the options of a Friday / Saturday night stay on Friday to enjoy most of the program or come in Thursday for a special reception and leave Sunday for the entire program:

Proposed DRAFT agenda for Orange Beach:

AGENDA DETAILS AND NOTES TO ATTENDEES WILL BE CONTINUALLY UPDATED ON EVENTBRITE ALL THE WAY THROUGH THE WEEKEND OF CONFERENCE!

Thursday: Afternoon boat trip or other special event if weather permits and followed by committee meetings and evening VIP reception (separate registration pending for headcount and possibly added fee - we are trying to negotiate a price to make this part of the all-inclusive package)

Friday: Breakfast @ Hotel or OYO
Lunch Session
Dinner Session
Hospitality

Saturday: Breakfast @ Hotel or OYO
District Business Meetings
Lunch Session
Dinner Session
Hospitality

Sunday: Breakfast @ Hotel or OYO
Final Business & Memorial Sessions & Dismissal. Lunch and Free Time at the beach!

We have an outstanding event planned - the only thing that could make it better for all of us is if YOU were there! Just be forewarned - it will be an awesome time!

So don't miss out! Let's make this conference unforgettable and celebrate the Magic of Rotary together! We can't wait to see you in Orange Beach!

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District Conference Planning Team

Chair Memorie Martinez and the great team who brought you Midyear in Fairhope are working hard to make this conference one to remember. Thanks to Jack Powell, F&B Captain; Brian Pierce and Steve Weaver, Social Captains; Michelle Thomason, Registration Captain; Mike Sledge & Penny Hugey, Program Captains and a host of crew members and other conference leaders [including some great cooks.]



Shown: Hotel's Asst. G.M. and Chair Memorie Martinez

Midyear in Fairhope Conference Recap

Thank you to all who made our **Midyear Conference** possible, either through your planning or awesome presentations. Most of all, thank you for taking time to share your Rotary experiences and fellowship with us – it was a truly rewarding event. We were able to explore creative ways to grow your Club's membership through our participants exploring and creating new club types. We had fun learning correct (and discovering incorrect) branding so we could enhance your Public Image. We were inspired by Clubs in our District and their creative ways to employ service in their communities through District Grant programs as we learned more about the Rotary Foundation. It was also very exciting to hear about the new developments in store from our Multi-Year Planning Team as they continue to push us forward utilizing Rotary's Action Plan.

MS-PETS



The Ballroom

RI Zone Director Brian Hall (who attended and spoke at our District Midyear) opening session keynote speaker to PETS.



DGE Bob Cochran presenting the RI Flag at opening event.



PDG Dell with incoming Rotary International President-elect Mário César Martins de

Camargo, a member of the Rotary Club of Santo André, São Paulo, Brazil.



iPDG Earl, Incoming AG Penny & PDG Dell among the line of those recognized as facilitators at the 2025 MS-PETS



DG Howard with PDG Dell



District Breakout Room



DGN Steve Weaver taking e-notes
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Watching Presidents Elect, Assistant Governors and now, Presidents-Nominee who have never attended a Rotary event outside of their club is truly amazing. The Mid-South PETS committee works to provide an incredible experience – like what a Rotarian feels when they attend their first International Convention. Of course, MSPETS is on a MUCH smaller scale.



At the beginning of MSPETS, PDG Linda Mong says she always watches attendees as they walk through the convention center. “Faces show excitement and apprehension. As the conference progresses, it is fun to watch groups form and friendships being made.”

This year, PRIP John Germ was sitting in the Hospitality Suite (aka Tennessee River Room) with only Linda and another EXCOM member talking with him. Realizing that AGs, PEs and PNs did not know him, she set about introducing them to this great Rotarian! Later, when RIPE Brian Hall arrived, she

did the same. Several people joked that Linda was the “handler” of these two Rotary leaders.

What most Rotarians do not know is that there are 22 multi-district PETS organizations that hold events during the month of March. For MSPETS to attract a PRIP, the RIPE, the sitting RID from our area and the RIDE is an incredible feat! Unfortunately, this also means that the Senior Leaders are not able to stay in Chattanooga very long.

Our district moved to MSPETS under the direction of PDG Richard Bollinger in 2007. To encourage attendance, Richard provided a bus to take our district leaders to Nashville. In 2017, MSPETS relocated to Chattanooga. Linda is honored to have served as Program Chair for five years and as General Chair for three years. In addition to Linda and Richard Bollinger, others from our district that have served are Barry Cavan, Tom Mann and Bruce McNeal. Bill Trant joins the EXCOM for the 2026 PETS event.

SPECIAL JOINT N/AL & S/AL PRESENTATION AT MS-PETS



Adaina Biggs, (L)PE of the Rotary Club of Fairhope (Prez 2025-2026)
(R) Jeff Stone, PE of the Rotary Club of Birmingham Alabama (Prez 2025-2026)

This engraved Chafing Dish reads:

*Presented To Dorothy and Roy Hickman
Rotary District Conference
Winter Haven
October 1956*

To honor a husband and wife at a District Conference with a gift that was engraved had to be a huge honor not only for the club/District giving it but also for Dorothy and Roy Hickman. This gesture embodies the kindness that as Rotarians we share.

This Chafing dish meant something to me on a personal note because it was presented to him from Winter Haven which is where I was born. This made me curious in finding out more about this fellow Rotarian and his life. After reading about Roy Hickman's dedication to Rotary on such a large scale I felt compelled to return this Chafing dish to his club family. He honored not only Rotary but your Club by serving as the International President in 1972 and starting your club Rotary Museum. I hope this will remind you of his dedication in building and shaping your club's future and the lives of so many in his life's journey.

This little Chafing dish made its way to Southern Antiques and Accents in Fairhope Alabama and was brought to my attention by a staff member. Sometimes things come into your life and we are not sure what the reasoning behind it is. I am not sure why a Silver engraved Chafing dish came into mine. Maybe it is a reminder to me of how important what we do and give changes lives. It is a part of our heart and soul. It lives on way after we do. It is not only our legacy but our family's legacy. One that I build every day when I call myself a Rotarian.

*Memorie Martinez
Treasurer, Fairhope Rotary
District 6880*



PDG Linda Mong and DG Howard Eddy making the Presentation to Biggs and Stone



DISTRICT GRANTS

Now is the time to begin thinking about your 2025-26 Rotary club district grants! Please share with the people who will be involved in your club's district grant application for 2025-26. As you may know, your club must be qualified by District 6860 to apply for a global or district grant. This is a requirement from The Rotary Foundation to receive grant funds. We set up training at Midyear and if there is sufficient interest, Grants Chair Michelle Thomason will work to provide help or 1:1 Q&A in Orange Beach. Contact Michelle and make arrangements. This training is for District Grant qualification only. Someone from your club must attend for your club to apply for a 2025-26 district grant. If you meet with her, please bring a computer or tablet to begin setting up your grant as we walk through the process. Clubs interested in applying for a global grant in the 2025-26 Rotary year. Reminder: Your 2024-25 district grant final report is due by May 31st and must be completed to apply for a 2025-26 district grant.

IN PERSON HOA ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE OPTION TO BE HELD IN N/AL

We continue to offer RLI via Zoom Sessions hosted by Sunshine RLI. Info is on DaCdb calendar pages. Interested in learning more about Rotary? Want to increase your impact in your Club? Look no further than RLI!

For questions, on HOA In-Person RLI hosted in N/AL, please contact either:

Elizabeth Garcia, District 6860 RLI Chair

Robert Barnes, District 6860 RLI Coordinator

Rotary's Polio Plus Legacy

MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE - CHALLENGE ACCEPTED!

FORMING NEW CLUBS. Contact our Directors of FUN North or South for information. Congratulations to former members of the Rotary Club of Luverne who are considering options for a new group. For information or to help encourage them, contact the Luverne Club Exploratory Committee.

POC Ashley Catrett <ashleyocatrett@gmail.com>; OR Josh Chapman <jschapman21@gmail.com>;

District Sponsoring and Resource Liaison Brenda Kay Campbell <bcamp@troy.edu>

| Zone | District | # Clubs Last 1 July | # Clubs Current | # Clubs with membership goal * | % Clubs with membership goal | District Membership Goal ** | Current Membership | Retention LFY |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 30 | 6860 | 52 | 50 | 26 | 52.00% | 1706 | 2881 | 91.65% |
| 30 | 6880 | 46 | 46 | 15 | 32.61% | 1918 | 1856 | 90.69% |
| Total | | 98 | 96 | 41 | | | | |

Satellite/Companion Club Resources

Satellite (also known as companion) clubs are a great way for a small group of people to form their ideal Rotary experience. In addition, its members are counted in the numbers of the sponsor Rotary club. It's a win-win situation! To help explain satellite clubs, RI has created a [brief, dynamic video](#) you can show your district's club presidents and membership chairs. The video can be shared along with the [Guide to Satellite Clubs](#). And some great examples of existing satellite clubs in North America can be found in these past [Rotary Magazine](#) and [Rotary 360 Blog](#) stories. Pro tip: don't be confused by the terminology. Satellite and companion clubs are the same thing! Use whichever term puts your Rotary clubs at ease.

Continued on next page

2023-24 DMC Reimbursements Still Available

So far this Rotary year, only two districts in Zones 30/31 have taken advantage of up to \$500 reimbursement to DMCs for eligible membership expenses. DMCs, don't miss the opportunity to support membership attraction and engagement efforts in your districts! How to qualify for the reimbursement, examples of eligible activities, and an FAQ section can be found in the attached Expense Guidelines for District Membership Chairs (2024-25). Have an incredible idea for an activity that's more than \$500? Send the proposal to membershipdevelopment@rotary.org and we'll consider it! Remember, reimbursement requests must be submitted to RI by 13 June 2025, so don't wait and start planning your activities today!

List of new clubs chartered in Zones 30/31

How are your districts doing in meeting RI President Stephanie Urchick's informal challenge of four new clubs (Rotary, satellite, and/or Rotaract) in each district in 2024-25?

Answer, we have two new Rotaract Clubs and are on track to reactivate or grow at least one maybe 2 Rotary clubs! Way to go to the "ALL IN" Magicians behind those!

FUTURE DATES

30 Apr 25: RI Convention - Last Day to Register or Cancel

19-22 June District Conference - Orange Beach, AL

21-25 Jun 25: Rotary International Convention - Calgary, Alberta

1 July First ½ FY 25-26 Dues & PETS Fees Due!! Get ready!!

IMPORTANT DATES

● **APRIL** DEADLINE CLUBS TO FINALIZE GOALS.
DG MUST SUBMIT REPORT by MAY 1, CLUBS MUST
SUBMIT ANY FINAL CHANGES TO GOALS TO BE
ELIGIBLE FOR CITATION

DEADLINE FOR AGs TO MAKE 4th QTR/ANNUAL
VISITS AND FILE REPORT WITH DG

CLUB SECRETARIES ARE ASKED TO email names of
deceased to be included in Memorial

● **APRIL 3rd** HOTEL DISCOUNT RATE CUT OFF
DATE FOR DISTRICT CONFERENCE IN OBA

REGISTRATION **HAS OPENED**, WATCH
FOR NOTICES, Midyear was a sell-out

● **MAY 9th** International Steak Cook-off for Charity, IN
FAIRHOPE www.fairhopesteak.org

● **MAY 11th** MOTHER'S DAY (Don't forget Mom!)

If you missed Midyear, you will really want to make the
effort to attend District Conference!!!

REGISTRATION **HAS OPENED** ~~WILL OPEN SOON~~,
WATCH FOR
NOTICES, Midyear was a sell-out !

WE ARE EXPLORING HOW TO MAKE
REGISTRATION EASIER with
“Eventbright.com”

HOTEL CUT OFF **WAS APRIL 3rd**, WATCH FOR
MORE INFO ON HOTEL!!! Pre-Conference events start
THURSDAY AFTERNOON! PLAN FOR FUN AT THE
BEACH. DON'T GET LEFT OUT!!

● **MAY 25th** NATIONAL WINE DAY & (long weekend)

● **MAY 26th** MEMORIAL DAY FEDERAL HOLIDAY (Don't
forget those who served!)

● **MAY 30th** LAST DAY TO UPDATE MEMBERSHIP & SAR
REPORT

● **JUNE** CLUBS MUST SUBMIT FINALIZED GRANT
APPLICATIONS

CLUBS MUST SUBMIT ANY YEAR-END TRF GIVING FOR
CREDIT IN THIS FY

● **JUNE 6th** Incoming DG Cochran Installation in AUBURN
more info to follow

● **JUNE 15th** FATHER'S DAY (Don't forget Dad!)

**Thank you to the class of 2024-25 and Best Wishes to the Class
of 2025-26!!**

First half FY Dues & PETS FEES DUE AND PAYABLE

● **JUNE 19th** FEDERAL HOLIDAY

● **JUNE 21-25** Rotary International Convention in CALGARY,
CAN

● **JULY 1, 2025** New Rotary International Fiscal year BEGINS!

Thank you to the class of 2024-25 and Best Wishes to the Class of
2025-26!

First half FY Dues & PETS FEES DUE AND PAYABLE

● **JULY 4th** INDEPENDENCE DAY FEDERAL HOLIDAY

District Assembly Review by DGE Robert Cochran



My wife, Karen, and I attended the International Assembly (IA) in Orlando, FL for all 535 incoming DGEs from around the world. At last count only 4 DGEs were not able to attend, all due to illness. IA is an extremely busy week of training and networking in preparation for our upcoming year as District Governor. In addition to the DGE training there was just as much training for the DGE partners which Karen really enjoyed, and thought was very useful.

This year each DGE was assigned to a small “cohort” with other DGEs and their partners. Our cohort had two DGEs from South Korea, one from India, one from Nigeria and me. The South Korean DGEs were not fluent in English, but one of them was able to bring their daughter along who was very fluent in English. We had one evening together and several other shorter sessions where we all learned from each other about Rotary in different cultures. I built a special connection with DGE Henry Akinyele from Nigeria since our District has partnered with a Nigerian District in a Global Grant in the past. We hope to be able to find another Global Grant opportunity with them soon.



There was also a Brazilian Night gala in honor of our incoming Rotary International President, Mario de Carmargo and his wife Denise. During the program at the gala President Mario revealed his theme for the upcoming Rotary Year as “Unite For Good” (possibly our last Rotary theme). President Mario spent a year in Minnesota as a Youth Exchange student and has been a Rotarian ever since.



We also had a “Cultural Night” where each Rotary Zone (our Zone is known as the Heart of America Zone) had an exhibit and demonstrated something unique to their Zone. Our Zone’s cultural theme was American Football where we all dressed in our favorite team jerseys and had a tailgate party for all. It was a huge hit, with folks from around the world lined up to play cornhole. When someone from India, Japan, Mozambique, Brazil or any other country scored you would have thought they just won the Super Bowl! Visiting other Zone exhibits was fun and exciting.

Lastly, Karen and I discovered that the World has an (unofficial) Anthem, a song which almost all nationalities know, can sing, and perform, even those who didn’t even speak English could sing and perform this song. Only a very few, and I mean few, didn’t know this song. So, what was this international song known by virtually all? YMCA by the Village People! Who would have thought? When this song was played the whole assembly went wild.

The International Assembly was a great experience and was a wonderful learning opportunity.

Karen and I were seated with our Rotary International Director Elect Brian Hall and his wife along with other DGEs and partners at President Elect’s Mario’s luncheon. He and his wife Denise dropped by our table and we took this picture.





Presented by:
Daphne / Spanish Fort Rotary Club

WHEN: Saturday, April 26, 2025 beginning at 8:30 a.m.
WHERE: W.O. Lott Park, Daphne, Alabama
WHAT: Mixed Doubles, Round Robin, Gold/Silver/Bronze
COST: \$40.00 per player (\$80.00 per team)
BENEFITING: Baldwin Co. Sheriff Ranch & Ruff Wilson Youth Organization

- Meal, beverages, swag, and awards provided
- Sponsorships: \$100.00 for a sign at the tournament
\$250.00 for a Court Sponsor with banner
\$1000 title sponsor
- Register and Pay at QR Code above
- Final Registration Deadline is: April 24, 2025.

Tournament Director: Scott Koser valuelurker@gmail.com

** Rain Day Scheduled for Sunday, April 27, 2025*

** Cancellation deadline is: April 15, 2025*



JOIN IN THE FUN!



REGISTER A TEAM TODAY!



Event Location

440 Fairhope Avenue
Fairhope, AL 36532



Website

www.fairhopesteak.org



Mail

Fairhope Rotary Steak
P O Box 741
Fairhope, AL 36533



FAIRHOPE ROTARY



STEAK COOK-OFF

Fairhope Rotary

2025 STEAK COOK-OFF



LEE COUNTY SUNRISE ROTARY



"Pass the gavel" spring happy hour gathering to celebrate Jim Floyd's and Randy Tucker's service and dedication to Rotary and to Sunrise Rotary.

Our very own Bill Sauser being recognized as District Rotarian of the year!



Past District Governor Earl Ingram acknowledges District Governor Elect (and Lee County Sunrise member) Bob Cochrane as a Rotary Foundation Benefactor.

What a great honor for the Lee County Sunrise Rotary Club to welcome our newest new members Seiyefa Vincent and Azeez Adebayo. These are the first Nigerian members of our club. They spoke about Nigeria and the influence Rotary there has had on their lives. And they are resolved to represent Rotary on campus. Both are graduate PhD studies students in Mechanical Engineering (that means they are really smart). Seiyefa is developing new, environmentally sensitive materials for soldering, which is used in every electronic device, and Azeez is working with nano cellulose fibers that can mimic plastics. WELCOME Azeez and Seiyefa, we are glad you are part of our club and you make AU and Auburn a better place.



Sunrise Rotary continues the tradition of supporting the AU summer camp, World Affairs Seminar. This

tradition began in the late 1980s and has continued uninterrupted as WAS has now become the longest-lived summer camp at Auburn University. Each year campers choose to come because they are looking for the challenge of seriously thinking about the geopolitical environment of the world in which we live. We salute these fine campers and Josè Tirado & co who really roll up their sleeves and make it happen every summer without fail.

As you can see this year we had a full house for breakfast on campus. And, again this year Dr. Bill Sauser of Industrial Psychology renown Presented an impossibly short but incredibly thorough and eloquent introduction of the big picture of Rotary International to the 20+ campers.



One of our great privileges during each year is to present a local person, business, non-profit or club with the Family and Community Service Award. This year, we are more than excited to announce that Lisa Pierce accepted the 2024 award on behalf of Alabama Rural Ministries.

Rarely has one home-grown, grass roots organization given so much so consistently to so many in and around east central Alabama. Lisa, a big hug of gratitude and thanks to you and ARM!



Our club had the pleasure of presenting Martha Henk and the Food Bank of East Alabama a check for \$2000!

The Food Bank has been a regular beneficiary Sunrise Rotary's philanthropy for almost as long as our club has existed. Under Martha's leadership the Food Bank has prospered and the huge 5-county area it serves has benefitted and become lovelier and better.

Lee County Sunrise Rotary Club had to move their meeting place from Tenda Chick, which sadly permanently closed, to Chappy's Deli in the GlennDean Shopping Center. They meet at 7am on Monday mornings and everyone is welcome.

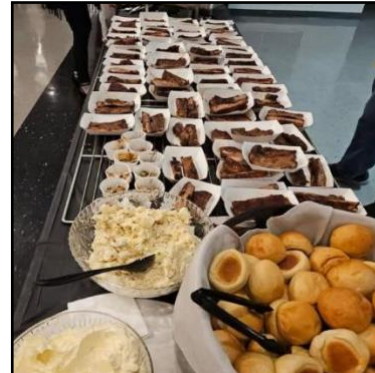


Below are photos showing the different activities Lee County has been involved in,



CENTRAL BALDWIN SUNSET ROTARY

CBSR had a great time grilling oysters at the District Meeting in Fairhope last month! We love serving the community and YOU! **BY SPECIAL REQUESTS, WATCH THEIR ENCORE PERFORMANCE AT DISTRICT CONFERENCE IN ORANGE BEACH!**



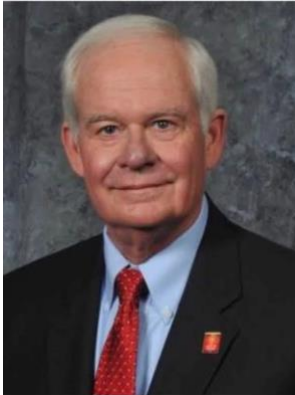
MONTGOMERY SUNSET ROTARY

Montgomery Sunrise Rotary has completed most of the work on the club's district grant project: improvements to the public hiking and biking trail system at Auburn University Montgomery. Club members have installed new benches on the trail system and placed an information kiosk at the trailhead (with cork board and plexiglass doors for the posting of announcements). These improvements are made in memory of our late club member Jimmy Hill, and a plaque on the information kiosk commemorates Jimmy's life of service.



Charles Michael McInnish

October 6, 1947 ~ April 7, 2025 (age 77)



I am personally saddened as his District Governor I to share the passing of Mickey McInnish, Mickey was known in Rotary Circles as a mutual friend and prominent Montgomery Rotarian, he served many times as District Midyear or Conference Chair- emeritus, as a Past Club President of the Montgomery Sunrise Rotary Club and a former AG. Mickey passed peacefully on Monday, April 7th. Mickey is survived by his family including his wife Sue, his three children and a host of grandchildren who filled him with joy and who knew him as “Big Mac” in recognition of his fondness for taking them for a burger. Mickey also leaves a huge extended Rotary family as well as his professional friends and family from his long government service tenure with the City of

Montgomery. Mickey was a longtime member of Montgomery Sunrise and even after retiring, he was made an honorary member just recently so that he could come out of retirement to help chair the 2025 Midyear and District Conferences. He was born in Birmingham, Alabama but still loved to celebrate the end of any successful conference with a glass of Scotch. If you look [underlined added] closely at the photo of Mickey you will see his lapel pin is from the 2014-2015 Rotary Year. That year, the Rotary International President chose “Light up Rotary” as his theme. He urged Rotarians, “You know where you are strong, you know what your community needs, and you know how you can help.” Referring to the Confucius’ pronouncement, “It is better to light a single candle, than to sit and curse the darkness.” He added, “The Rotary way is the Confucius way. The Rotary way is to light a candle. I light one, you light one, 1.2 million Rotarians light one. Together, we light up the world.”

Mickey had many friends not the least of which were almost all of the District 6880 College of Governors (whom Mickey served time and time again as their conference chair) and his fellow club members. Attendees at the service included uniformed command staff from several agencies including the Montgomery Police and Fire Departments as well as colleagues he had worked with on any number of community projects in his tenure with the Montgomery City Attorney’s Office. A number of Rotarians, including several in the current or past line of District Governors, ~~who~~ came to support Sue and his family at a Celebration of Life held recently at First United Methodist Church, in Montgomery, where Mickey was a prominent member of the church’s music ministry. **He indeed leaves a legacy of service to his community and was the kind of “bright light” in District 6880 that was embodied that year’s “Light up Rotary” theme!**

Mickey lived an amazing and full life and was involved in so many things you probably never even knew about. It is worth pulling up his full obituary at

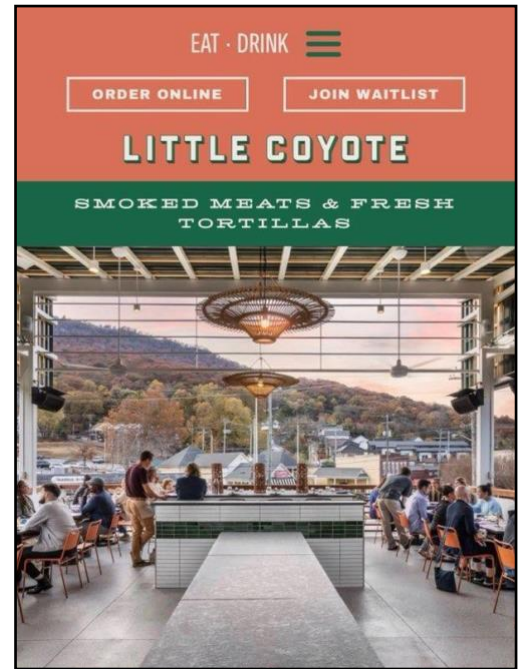
<https://www.magnoliacremation.com/printnotice/Charles-McInnish/1o/1c/0q/0d/0b>

District Rotarians are invited to support his family and his home club personally and/or by way of donations which the family has requested be made in Mickey’s honor to “Montgomery First United Methodist Church” designated for the “Music Ministry” or “a charitable organization of your choice,” including the District 6880 Foundation in Mickey’s name.

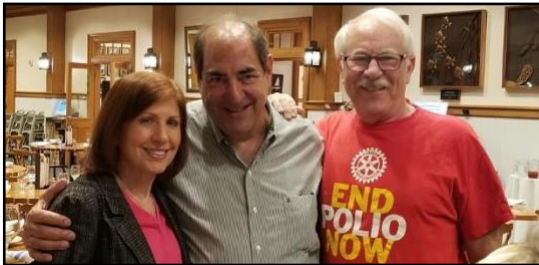
FAIRHOPE SUNSET ROTARY



Team from Fairhope Sunset led by Grants Chair & Prez. Michelle Thomason and PEN Steve Weaver enjoy staying an extra day after PETS in Chattanooga to hit some of the local Chattanooga watering holes before getting on the road the next morning.



YACHTING FELLOWSHIP



Fairhope Yacht Club members Lisa and Mike Zoghby and IYFR Rear

Commodore Gill Wright join in congratulating Penny Hughey as she joins the Bridge to assume the role of Fleet Commodore for the remainder of the Rotary Fiscal Year after former Commodore Ed Wade resigned to temporarily dedicate more time to his business. Commodore Penny is a Past President of the Orange Beach / Gulf Shores Club, a PETS Facilitator and will serve in 2025-26 as an Assistant Governor. Not new to the Yachting Fellowship but, the Bridge welcomes her as she assumes Fleet Commodore for the remainder of the year. She was encouraged to serve by Past Commodore Gary More at a bridge meeting for elections that had to be postponed back in February due to over a foot of snow that visited even the beaches of the Gulf!

Special Requiem for Mickey McInnish

DG Howard at Fairhope Yacht Club joining several Eastern Shore area PDG aka “6880 Deep, Deep South PDGs” for an impromptu wake of sorts in Mickey’s memory, hosted by PDG Henry Crawford.

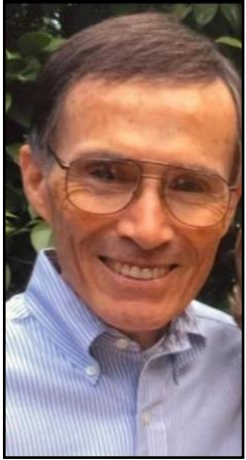


Photo L to R
Henry & Joan Crawford, Kathy and Howard Eddy, Cynthia and Jerry Blacklaw, Mickey and Sheila Parish. Not pictured were Linda and Dave Mong and Bob and Maria Callahan

MOBILE SUNRISE ROTARY

Sometimes joy and sorrow happen closely together in personal life as well as in club life:

There is always joy when a new member is inducted. A warm welcome to **Ken Odom** (middle). Also shown is **Tony Wallace** (right), who introduced Ken to the Club, and President **John Davidson** (left).



IN MEMORIAL The members of ROTARY SUNRISE mourn for their dear friend **Dr. Doug Hungerford**, who joined the Club in 2009. He passed away in early March after a long and fulfilling life.

Doug was born in Sydney, Australia, and studied medicine at Sydney University. After graduation he completed studies in Diagnostic Radiology. He then went to London, UK, where he had further training in radiology of the brain and spinal cord at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery. This was a unique opportunity because the hospital had recently acquired the world's first CT scanner.

In 1975 he became an Associate Professor of Radiology in Charleston, SC, where he also met his wife, Sissy. In 1984 he joined a group of radiologists at the Mobile Infirmity and became president of the medical staff in 2001.

Doug was highly respected for his art of diplomacy, gentle nature, and his extraordinary capability of solving difficult issues. He practiced in Mobile for 25 years, retiring in 2016.

In his retirement, Doug was an avid tennis player, voracious reader and exercise enthusiast. He was a member of St. Paul's choir, numerous clubs, organizations and friend groups. Sissy and he frequently returned to Australia to visit family and they enjoyed traveling abroad over many years. Doug always lived up to the motto of ROTARY INTERNATIONAL: **'Service Above Self'**! Doug will be truly missed but forever remembered by SUNRISE's members.



"Lafayette, We Are Here, Y'All Come!" American Revolutionary War hero, Marquis de Lafayette was as beloved by Mobilians upon his visit to the area as he was one- hundred years later. 2025?

David Bagwell, a retired lawyer and former president of the Rotary Club of Mobile, portrayed this smart young Frenchmen Lafayette (who believed in the idea of the American Revolution and decided to come to Alabama), in an outstanding presentation and in his own special way!



Order a book online, buy a new car at a dealership or purchase machine parts for your shop — the chances are pretty high that those items passed through a logistics park.



Simply put, logistics parks consist of clusters of industrial warehouses strategically positioned close to ports, rail lines, roads, waterways or airports. The network of logistics parks around Alabama is continuously expanding with new ones being built across the state, and Mobile is one location, where logistic parks have already been built or are planned, explained Philip Burton of Burton Property Group. And therefore, logistics parks bring economic boost also to Mobile.

Burton is also convinced that a bright future lies ahead of Mobile when he presented projects that are underway in Mobile: Mobile River Bridge & Bayway, Austal, Airbus, Mobile Civic Center, Port of Mobile, Mobile International Airport, River Walk Plaza, etc.

Continued on next page

Last year, Matt Ransom presented RANSOM MINISTRIES to ROTARY SUNRISE. This non-profit organization's mission is to empower individuals who have experienced homelessness, addiction, and/or incarceration by providing them job readiness and life skills.

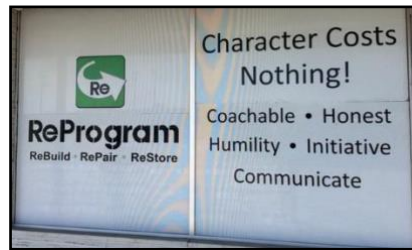
One year on-the-job training is provided through RANSOM RECYCLING, an electronics recycling business.



Sunrise's member **Joerg Kemnade** (right) was impressed by Ransom's work and decided to financially support them and to visit with them in Chickasaw, also to get rid of some electronic equipment...

Ralph Littlejohn (left) worked his way up and became a supervisor. He provided a tour through the facilities.

Ralph invited all Rotarians and others to visit the operation, to bring outdated material or to support RANSOM MINISTRIES financially!!! Fellow Rotarians, please support them! It is for an excellent cause!!!



On a recent South America trip, Joerg Kemnade visited also the island of Rapa Nui or better known as Easter Island. It is located almost 5 flight hours from Santiago de Chile. Since Rapa Nui also has a Rotary Club, he decided to take a ROTARY SUNRISE Banner to this lonely east Pacific Island.



MONTGOMERY ROTARY



We honored several Rotarians for their perfect attendance on Monday, February 24. Even if these Rotarians were not able to attend a regular Monday meeting, they would **make-up a missed meeting by attending another Rotary club, rotary event, online make-up or any other Rotary function or meeting.**

President Wes Littlefield – 1 year
 Marcus Morgan – 1 year
 Scott Rizer – 1 year
 John Kline – 1 year
 Jonathan Shoffner – 1 year
 Past President Taylor Williams – 1 year
 Jackie Pittman – 2 years
 Lee Willcoxon- 2 years
 Karlyn Edmonds – 2 years
 Andrea McCain – 2 years
 Henry Davis – 3 years
 Rodney Cousin – 4 years
 Past President Larry Carter – 7 years
 Past President Stacia Robinson – 7 years
 Past President Eric Mackey – 10 years
 Past President Hank Hector – 13 years
 Past President Chris Dunn – 20 years
 Danny Fordham – 37 years



On Monday, March 10th, we welcomed new rotary member, Josh Hughes. Josh is the Lead

Pastor at Hope Hull Community Church. President Wes Littlefield is his sponsor.



On Monday March 17, our club celebrated St. Patrick's Day with some fun & fellowship!



Rotarians packed 300 Chemo Comfort Care bags for the Cancer Wellness Foundation of Central Alabama, who is one of the three Charity Recipients for the 2025 Year.



LAST
CHANCE FOR
FREE AD!

WANT TO SEE YOUR AD HERE????

Send your business card size ad to Kathy Hughes at khugs67@gmail.com. Ads were FREE until January 2025. 2025 rates will carry through the Rotary calendar year and includes new ad copy options. Send your check to Kathy at 1216 Ferndale Drive, Auburn, AL 36832. Mark District Foundation on the memo line and it's a donation. **All new ads beginning March 2025. \$25 for 6 months.**

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