



45th
*Anniversary
Celebration*



Program

5:30 pm Cash Bar/Mingle

6:30 pm Dinner Served

7:15 pm Program

- **Welcome – Buck Buchanan**
- **Invocation/Pledge – Joe Evans**
- **History of the Club – Bob Thomas**
- **Year in Review – Buck Buchanan**
- **Champagne Toast – Will MacArthur**
- **Closing/4 Way Test – Mitch Simmons**

Cash Bar until 8:30 p.m.

History

Rotary Club of Marietta

Metro

1978 - 2023

The Rotary Club of Marietta Metro was chartered on May 18, 1978. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Marietta, under the guidance of Sidney Clotfelter and Henry Hill, the club consisted of 39 members, several of whom remain active. Fred Aiken was chosen as the club's first president. Our membership has expanded over the years to a current total of 60 members.

The Rotary world in the years since 1978 has witnessed significant changes, including the PolioPlus program; the admission of women into Rotary; the advent of the Internet and widespread use of electronic communication; the expansion of Rotary into the countries of the former Soviet Union, the Middle East, and the Asia/Pacific region; HIV/AIDS education and prevention programs; human trafficking awareness and prevention; an emphasis on literacy; projects and programs to improve the environment; and the Rotary Peace Programs.

Since its inception, the Rotary Club of Marietta Metro has been a microcosm of both our community and the Rotary world. Locally, the intervening years have brought about rapid growth of both Marietta and Cobb County, the addition of five new Rotary clubs in the county, the formation of the Cobb Rotary Council to facilitate communication among the seven Cobb County clubs, and new emphases to address the needs of our changing community.

Meeting Places

Over the years, our club has met in several different locations, including four restaurants, the Dobbins Air Force Base Officers' Club and the Naval Air Station. The club now meets on Mondays at noon in the Atlanta/Marietta Hilton Hotel & Conference Center.

Publications

Our weekly publication, the *Metroliner*, has been with us since the club's founding. Charter member and former Delta pilot Bill Callaway "borrowed" the name from United Airlines Metroliner flights. The publication has earned several "Best Bulletin" awards at District 6900 Conferences. The bulletin keeps us up to date on activities of the club, District 6900, and Rotary International. In recent years we have added the *E-Metroliner*, an expanded electronic edition of the *Metroliner*, distributed to all members and "Friends of Rotary" with e-mail addresses.

Our club website, <http://www.mariettametrorotary.org>, with links to District 6900 and Rotary International websites, keeps members up to date on current and future Rotary events, membership rosters, committee assignments, weekly meeting duties, and club historical information.

Awards

District awards have been plentiful through the years to our active and dynamic club (see attachment). In addition to the "Best Club", Best Website, Governor's Citation and "Best Bulletin" awards, we have earned recognition in nearly every avenue of service. We also have consistently earned the coveted Presidential Citation from Rotary International.

Club Presidents

Leadership of the club has been outstanding. Our presidents (see attached list) have served with capable and dynamic presence at the podium, guiding us with the help of competent directors and committee chairs in exciting and successful club, community, vocational, international and youth service projects. They have been instrumental in our prominence as a leading D6900 club.

Fundraising

Fundraising projects through the years have included softball tournaments, barbecues, bed races, used book sales, wine tastings, golf/tennis tournaments, and, more recently, a sporting clays tournament. Through these efforts, the club has been able to contribute more than \$250,000 to Tranquility, the

WellStar hospice center. As well, we have contributed to numerous local, national and international charitable causes.

Social Media

In recent years the club has established a presence on Facebook and can be found at <http://www.facebook.com/mariettametrorotary>. In 2017 a Twitter account was added (@mariettametro), as well as an Instagram account (@mariettametrorotary) and more recently, an account on LinkedIn has been added.



Community Service

The club continues to participate in many worthwhile community projects. Through the years, we've held blood drives for the American Red Cross; collected sports and duffel bags for the Department of Family and Child Services; supported Cobb Christmas with donations for needy families; judged Boy Scout Jamborees; assisted at the Georgia Special Olympics; played in the Tommy Nobis Golf Tournament (to benefit the vocational rehabilitation center for disabled adults); collected goods and funds to assist with hurricane and flood relief; helped build Habitat homes; raised awareness of women's heart health through "Go Red for Women"; and contributed our pocket change once a month to the Coins for Alzheimers Research Trust. In addition, we donated toys to the annual Toys for Tots program and/or Cobb Christmas; supported MUST Ministries, Calvary Children's Home, The Center for Children and Young Adults, and Good Samaritan Center; and participated in various other endeavors within the community.

More recently, the women of the club have provided dinner on a quarterly basis to the Women's Extension and the men of the club has provided dinner

to the Men's Extension. As well, we have provided Welcome Baskets to the women of "Out of Darkness," Christmas stockings to foster children, Thank-You Goody Bags to the Marietta police and fire fighters, a book every month to each child at the Lembeck Early Learning Center, socks, t-shirts, and underwear to homeless veterans, Valentine roses to senior citizens, collected used adaptive equipment for FODAC, and met other community needs as they became known to us.

In 2001-2002 we received a Community Assistance Program (CAP) grant from The Rotary Foundation to provide carpeting to a first grade class at Park Street Elementary School. In 2002- 2003 we received a second CAP grant to provide recreational equipment to the George Hartman Center for at-risk youth.

As part of our Preserve Planet Earth effort, the club has participated in a clean-up of Lake Allatoona; cleared litter from a designated section of Roswell Street on a quarterly basis as part of Marietta's "Love the Loop" program; undertaken stream clean-up projects; and assisted every year in the "Bring One for the Chipper" Christmas tree recycling program. In past years, we also have taken part in the city's spring and fall recycling collection.

Awareness/education programs have become an important part of both our community service and youth service efforts. In conjunction with AIDS Atlanta, our club has sponsored programs in several Cobb County high schools. The club also has helped to raise both club and community awareness to combat the perils of both distracted driving and human trafficking.



Club Service

Club Service directors and chairs have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to provide the kinds of solid internal support functions that are crucial to an active and growing club.

Our Sergeant-at-Arms committee members arrive early every week to prepare the meeting room and take down our meeting supplies afterwards. The Program Chair, assisted by other club members, seeks a variety of interesting speakers each week, our Executive Secretary manages the audiovisual portion of the meetings and produces the weekly E-Metroliner with the assistance of the Club Photographer. Each of these behind-the-scenes members contributes immensely to the success of our weekly meetings.



Vocational Service

By way of Vocational Service, we recognize outstanding Marietta police officers and firefighters every year. We also provide gift cards to graduates of the Drug Court and Veterans Court.

Our literacy endeavors have centered around providing dictionaries to all third grade students in the Marietta City Schools. In addition, we also have sent shipments of books to schools in Africa through the Books for the World project of a Texas Rotary district. Our Centennial Community project in Rotary year 2004-2005 involved creating and donating more than 600 audio books to Park Street Elementary School. Members of our club, along with our Interactors and other community groups, read books from the school's library onto audio tapes, which then were presented to the school. As well, members of our club participated in an after-school tutoring program at A.L.

Burruss Elementary School.

In Rotary year 2017-18, a project was added in which club members and others on behalf of the club volunteer with Scholastic Book Fairs twice a year. In return we receive book credits that can be donated to a recipient of our choosing and used to purchase books at a future sale. The first presentation of credits took place in the spring of 2019.



International Service

The club's participation in International Service projects has markedly increased through the years. Since the year 2000, our club in partnership with various other Rotary clubs around the world, as well as financial assistance from The Rotary Foundation, has completed service projects with a monetary value more than \$660,000. Our projects have taken place in Guatemala (2), South Africa (2), Ecuador, Turkey (3), Zambia (2), Thailand, Tonga, Malaysia, Nigeria (2), Kenya, and Mexico.

Working with the Rotary Club of Coban, Guatemala and several other partner clubs, we were able provide a handicap-accessible van to EDECRI, a school for disabled children in Cohan. We also undertook a cooperative effort, along with partner clubs in the U.K. and South Africa, to build and furnish Makaphutu Village, a home for AIDS orphans in Bothas Hill, South Africa. We then worked with our Makaphutu partner clubs to establish smaller care centers for AIDS orphans in tribal villages surrounding Bothas Hill.

Together with the Rotary Club of Quito Occidente, we completed a project in Quito, Ecuador to assist indigent residents of that city to grow fruits and vegetables for their own sustenance, utilizing vacant city lots. We also have

formed a "Sister Club" relationship with the Quito Occidente club, not only for the purpose of joint cooperation on service projects, but also to enhance our communication, exchange Rotary-related information, and strengthen the bonds of friendship between the two clubs.

In partnership with another Sister Club, the Rotary Club of Izmir Dokuz Eylul in Turkey, we have helped to establish a music education program for low income students to help productively occupy their time after school, on weekends, and in the summer. We have helped to fund a water well drilled in Luanshya, Zambia so the residents of that community can have access to clean, fresh water. Other projects have included a large water harvesting effort in 47 villages in northern Thailand; providing medical/dental equipment and supplies to a rural hospital in Tonga; establishing "Kidz Clubs", an after-school mentoring-tutoring program for at-risk children in Nigeria; providing an ambulance and mobile surgical unit to a mission hospital in Zambia; and sponsoring a large medical mission to Kenya, through which 10,000 children in the slums of Mathare and Mukuru received medical, dental and/or optical care. In 2015 we partnered on a Global Grant with the Rotary Club of Mersin, Turkey, to provide sewing machines, training and jobs to displaced Syrian women. In 2016, our club partnered with a club in Mexico to furnish and equip a medical clinic in an area where no such services had been available.

Currently our club is working with the Rotary Club of Mbuluzi Mbabane in Eswatini to provide a hydraulic planter to Heart for Africa's Project Canaan.

On behalf of our International Service efforts, we have received Carl P. Miller Discovery Grants to send small teams of our members to Cohan, Guatemala, and Quito, Ecuador. As well, we have received several Matching Grants and Global Grants from The Rotary Foundation.

Our International Service endeavors also have included hosting several Group Study Exchange teams and sponsoring an outbound GSE team member. In addition, we have sponsored one inbound and three outbound

Ambassadorial Scholars.

Club members are generous donors to The Rotary Foundation. Most are Paul Harris Fellows, several are multiple Paul Harris Fellows, others are Paul Harris Society Members, Foundation Benefactors and Bequest Society members, and several are Foundation Major Donors. The majority of our members are Paul Harris sustaining members. In 2004-2005 the club completed our pledge of more than \$18,000 to the Polio Eradication Fundraising Campaign.



Youth Service

In Rotary year 2006-2007, the Fifth Avenue of Service officially became New Generations, and was later renamed Youth Service. This avenue of service recognizes the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities, involvement in community and international service projects, and exchange programs that enrich and foster world peace and cultural understanding.

Long before that, however, our club was heavily involved in service to the youth, as evidenced by both our community service and international service projects.

In addition, our club has sponsored three very active Interact clubs: one each at Pope, Lassiter, and Marietta High Schools. We also provide RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) scholarships to selected high school students to enable them to participate in leadership training, recognize a Student of the Month from each school, and award a college scholarship to a student from each school.

Our participation in the Georgia Rotary Student Program (GRSP) began in the club's second year by sharing sponsorship of a student with another club. A few years later, we were able to fund a scholarship for one student without the assistance of another club. We have hosted a student nearly every year since then. Rising college tuition costs have more recently required the sharing of the student & tuition with one or two other Cobb County Rotary Clubs.

The club also has supported the GRSP Endowment with proceeds from our wine tastings, weekly raffles and personal contributions, along with meeting a five-year \$16,500 pledge. In 2002-2003 we completed an additional three-year pledge to the Endowment of more than \$26,000. Several of our members have become Will Watt and Hue Thomas Fellows.

In Rotary year 2017-18, rather than participating in GRSP, we provided a scholarship to a student at Chattahoochee Technical College. Utilizing funds contributed to our club by the family of our late members Jane and Larry Carithers, we established the Rotary Club of Marietta Metro-Carithers Scholarship at Chatt. Tech. In addition, we now offer a scholarship to a student at Georgia Highlands College.

Charter Members

V. Fred Aileen	Franklin D. Leiter *
Julian F. Andia	William F. Mann
A.L. Adkins	Thomas A. Manner
Chester A. Austin	Jimmy May
Richard B. Best	Dennis P. Merton
William E. Callaway, Jr*	George T. Mims
Larry Carithers	Wallace M. Montgomery, Jr.
William E. Dykes, Jr.	J. Ed Mulkey
John J. Elliott, Jr. *	Jack D. Parker
Cecil W. Fike	John Potter
Ronald D. Galloway	Edgar T. Rambo
Ross H. Howard, Jr.	W. Gayward Rogers
Ronald Hugh Howren	A. McKoy Rose, Jr.
William L. Huggins	Earl Smith
David F. Hunter	Hansell L. Smith
John H.P.G. Jones	William P. Thompson
Robert W. Kelly	R. Hiram Webb
Donald B. King	Don White
Harold L. Lea	James K. White
James T. Willoughby	

**Denotes current members of the club*

Rotary Club of Marietta Metro Presidents

1978-79	+ Fred Aiken
1979-80	+ Ron Howren
1980-81	+ Wallace Montgomery
1981-82	+Jim White
1982-83	+ Hap Smith
1983-84	+ Bill Dykes Jr.
1984-85	+ Ron Galloway
1985-86	Paul Payne
1986-87	+Tommy Manner
1987-88	Ben Northcutt
1988-89	+ Cecil Fike
1989-90	* Bob Harper
1990-91	Ed Bonn
1991-92	Harrison Williams (d)
1992-93	Ted Hayes (d)
1993-94	* Roger Rozen
1994-95	* Bill Kelly
1995-96	* Stewart Carlin
1996-97	Bill Hilley
1997-98	* Michael Crace
1998-99	* Bob Thomas
1999-00	* John Elliott
2000-01	* Rosemary Martin
2001-02	* Phil Medlin
2002-03	* Robert Donovan
2003-04	Jim Kirby
2004-05	* Sally Platt
2005-06	Mike White (d)
2006-07	David Beam
2007-08	* Pat McBride

2008-09	* Sam Ainsworth
2009-10	* Rene Lanier
2010-11	* Kay Anderson
2011-12	Earl Stine (d)
2012-13	+* Bill Callaway
2013-14	* Jim Boone
2014-15	* Bill White
2015-16	*Charles Lassiter
2016-17	*Tim Bailey
2017-18	*K.C. Kadow
2018-19	*Jim Bunda
2019-20	Keith Funderburk
2020-21	*Mitch Simmons
2021-22	*Amy Erskine
2022-23	*Buck Buchanan

The President Elect to serve as 2023-24 President is Chris Stokes.

The President-Nominee to serve as 2024-25 President is Ron Lunk.

* Denotes current members of the club

+ Denotes Charter Members

**Partial List of First
Place
District 6900 Honors
and Awards**

1986-1987	Best Bulletin
1989-1990	Best Bulletin
1989-1990	Presidential Citation
1991-1992	Community Service
1992-1992	Best Bulletin
1992-1993	Best Scrapbook
1992-1994	Best All Around Club
1993-1994	Governor's Award for Bulletin
1993-1994	Governor's Award for Scrapbook
1993-1994	Presidential Citation
1994-1995	Community Service
1995-1996	Best Bulletin
1995-1996	Vocational Service
1995-1996	Best Preserve Planet Earth Project
1995-1995	Presidential Citation
1997-1998	Presidential Citation
1997-1998	Highest Percentage of Club Growth
2000-2001	Vocational Service
2000-2001	Club Service
2000-2001	Literacy/Numeracy
2000-2001	Dick Mitchell Attendance Award
2000-2001	Best Scrapbook
2000-2001	Presidential Citation
2001-2002	Presidential Citation (Distinguished Club)
2001-2002	Presidential Citation (Distinguished President)
2001-2002	Jake Cheatham Award for GRSP Giving

2001-2002	Best Financial Support for Rotary Foundation
2001-2002	AIDS Education/Awareness
2001-2002	Literacy/Numeracy Program
2001-2002	Dick Mitchell Attendance Award
2002-2003	Best Club (Category III)
2002-2003	Presidential Citation
2002-2003	Dick Mitchell Attendance Award
2003-2004	Best Website
2003-2004	Presidential Citation (Distinguished Club)
2003-2004	Governor's Citation
2004-2005	Presidential Citation
2004-2005	Governor's Citation
2004-2005	Sheffield Leadership Award (Sally Platt)
2004-2005	Best International Service
2004-2005	Best Support of the Rotary Foundation
2004-2005	Dick Mitchell Attendance Award
2005-2006	Best Participation in Rotary Foundation Humanitarian and Education Programs
2005-2006	Dick Mitchell Attendance Award
2005-2006	Best Club
2005-2006	Best Yearbook
2006-2007	Dick Mitchell Attendance Award
2006-2007	Best Literacy & Education Project
2006-2007	Presidential Citation
2006-2007	Governor's Citation
2007-2008	Best District Simplified Grant Project
2007-2008	Best Rotary Foundation Award
2007-2008	Best Service Projects
2007-2008	Best Vocational Service
2007-2008	Presidential Citation
2007-2008	Governor's Citation
2008-2009	Best Project to Alleviate Poverty
2008-2009	Best Educational Service Project
2008-2009	Best Bulletin

**Partial List of First Place
District 6900 Honors and
Awards (continued)**

2009-2010	Best International Service		
2009-2010	Best New Generations		
2009-2010	Best House of Friendship Display		
2009-2010	Presidential Citation		
2009-2010	Governor's Citation		
2009-2010	Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service (Sally Platt)		
2010-2011	Best Club (Category III)		
2011-2012	Governor' s Citation		
2012-2013	Best Bulletin		
2012-2013	Best Website		
2014-2015	Governor' s Citation		
2015-2016	Sheffield Leadership Award (Club President, Charles Lassiter)		
2015-2016	Governor's Citation		
2015-2016	Presidential Citation		
2015-2016	Best Bulletin		
2015-2016	Best Service Project		
2015-2016	Best House of Friendship Display		
2015-2016	Rotary Foundation Distinguished Service Award (Sally Platt)		
		2016-2017	Best District Conference Attendance
		2016-2017	Public Image Citation
		2017-2018	Rotary Citation
		2017-2018	District & Zone Public Image Citation
		2020-2021	Rotary Citation
		2020-2021	District Governor's Citation
		2020-2021	Vocational Service Project Award
		2021-2022	District Governor's Citation
		2022-2023	District Governor's Citation
		2022-2023	Public Image Award
		2022-2023	Best Family of Rotary
		2022-2023	Best Vocational Service Project
		2022-2023	Club of the Year (Category II)