



St. Simons

Rotary Spray

Stephen Brooks, Tuesday, April 15

Guest: Executive Director Veterans Village

A man with more than 40 years of law enforcement experience will oversee the Golden Isles Veterans Village as it begins to take in homeless vets over the next few months. **Stephen W. Brooks** was named as the village's executive director after a career of civil service that includes serving in many capacities at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Brunswick.

"Throughout his career, Stephen has exemplified professionalism, integrity, and a deep commitment to the safety and well-being of his community. With a life marked by service, I have full confidence that Stephen will lead the Golden Isles Veterans Village in providing safe and secure housing as a solution for veteran homelessness in Glynn County," Lorene Reid, President of the GIVV Board of Directors, said in a press release announcing the hire.

Brooks will lead the village at 1403 G Street in Brunswick that consists of 29 tiny homes and a community center designed to provide support services for homeless veterans. The program will offer health care, counseling and job training to help vets transition back into the community, the release said.

Brooks is originally from Hot Springs, Arkansas. He earned a bachelor's degree from University of Arkansas at Little Rock, a master's degree from Clayton University and law degree from Florida Coastal School of Law. He is also a graduate of the United States Naval War College Command and Staff School.

Brooks has lived with his wife, Deborah, on St. Simons Island for more than 30 years. They raised two daughters, Madelyne Brooks Risi, of St. Simons Island, and Dr. Molly Brooks McNeill, of Gullane, Scotland. Brooks has three grandchildren.

He has also written seven novels and is an active member of St. Simons Presbyterian Church, where he serves as a deacon.





Potato cheddar soup, chicken wraps with cheddar, rice, corn and black beans. Potato chips. Chef's choice dessert.

April 8, Meeting



Wayne Neal was SSI Rotary speaker on 4/8. He spoke about why he decided to become a commissioner because he was frustrated as a contractor with the rules and regulations in Glynn County to build. He wanted to speed up the process. Then, Wayne spoke about his 2 terms as commissioner.

Virginia Ellis thanked Kern Baker for the lovely party that he hosted for First Tuesday that celebrated SSI rotary's 75th anniversary.

Tate Simpson auctioned off a couple of polo shirts to raise money for rotary.

Douglas Sharp was happy to be back to rotary. He spoke about a special carousel that was installed at a local elementary school that was built to accommodate children with special needs.

Ann Nermoe won the 50/50. But, she did not pull the joker card.



Upcoming Save the Dates:

April 22, Easter Week - NO MEETING

April 29, Brian Weese, GICCA

November 14, RSM Meet the Pros

SHIP HAPPENS

Exclusive Screening of the Golden Ray Cargo Ship Disaster

A Benefit for The Coastal Symphony of Georgia

April 28 2025, 5:30 PM

Island Cinemas, St. Simons Island

Movie: \$25 per person

Movie + Exclusive Dinner at Halyards:

\$125 per person (limited availability)

Make your Reservation now at

www.coastalsymphonyofgeorgia.org



On September 8, 2019, the Golden Ray, an outbound 656 foot cargo ship loaded with 4200 vehicles capsized in the Saint Simons Sound off the coast of Brunswick, Georgia. To protect a fragile ecosystem amidst the backdrop of ongoing global commerce, concerned locals worked to hold authorities accountable when the salvage project to remove the ship suffers every setback imaginable.

An incredible documentary capturing these efforts has been produced, and a special screening is scheduled for April 28, 2025, 5:30 pm at Island Cinemas on St. Simons Island. Thanks to the film's producer, this special event will raise funds to support the Coastal Symphony of Georgia.

Extend the evening with a special post-screening dinner at Halyards, one of St Simons Island's most celebrated restaurants, known for its refined coastal cuisine and warm hospitality. Seating is limited.

April Birthdays

Milton (Milt) Leggett April, 3
Jason Elliott, April 8
Clyde Afton Taylor III, April 17
Cecil R. Coke Jr., April 20
Amy Abbott, April 21
Pamela M. Hamilton, April 26



**Rotary April Membership
Anniversaries**

Lucia Gumaer, 7
Gary L. Schwartz, 20
James (Jim) R. Bruce Jr., 24
Douglas Samuel Sharp, 26

Area Rotary Club Meetings

Brunswick	Embassy Suites	Thurs, 12:00 pm
Golden Isles	Kemble Center, SGHS	Wed., 7:30 am
Jekyll Island	Jekyll Island Golf Club	Wed., 7:30 am
St. Simons	Best Western	Tues., 1:00 pm

ROTARY WEBSITES

www.ssirotary.org - St. Simon Rotary Website
www.rotarydistrict6920.org - District 6920 Website
www.facebook.com/rotaryssi -St. Simons Rotary Facebook
www.facebook.com/Rotary6920 - District Facebook Page

Four Way Test

Is it the TRUTH?
Is it FAIR to all concerned?
Will it build GOODWILL & better FRIENDSHIP?
Is it BENEFICIAL to all concerned?