



*“Where **you** can catch
that **Southside Spirit!**”*

Events

May 22nd

Meeting- John & Cathy
Rains - WheelChair Mission
- ROD Mike Buch

May 29th

Southside Rotary Meeting-
Program-Scott Reed - ROD
Naresh Jassal

Club Leaders



Bob Sullivan
President



Tim A. Douglas
President-Elect



Michael W. Skates
President-Nominee
Club Membership
Chair



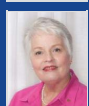
Jeremy J. Nichols
President-Designate



Maria Mercedes
Abalos
Secretary



Parker Ray Smith
iPast President



Kathryn Diane Boyer
Bulletin Editor



Brett J. Brough
Interact Club
Sponsor
Treasurer
Webmaster
Past President
Youth Services Chair



Michael L. Buchert
Sergeant@Arms



Kwashie Klu-Duvor
Sergeant@Arms



Leisa Gebetsberger
TRF Chair

Birthdays

No Birthdays Found

Years of Service

R. Lynn Fesperman
11-01-1992

Our Motto:

Having fun doing good in the community!

Our Mission:

Southside is home to the rowdiest Rotarians in Tulsa. We impact communities locally and around the world, provide leadership within our district, and mentor the next generation of Rotarians.

Rotary International Vision Statement 2020:

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves

This Week's Program - 5.22.25 - Wheelchair Mission John and Kathy Rains



Cathy Rains is a proud graduate of Sapulpa High School and the University of Oklahoma, whose lifelong dedication to education and community service has left a lasting impact on Sapulpa, Oklahoma. She retired in the spring of 2020 from Sapulpa Public Schools, after a distinguished 35-year career in public education. She served as a Special Education and Title I Reading and Math instructor, and in the final five years of her career took on an administrative role as the School Improvement Coach, focusing on support for an at-risk elementary school. For over two decades, Cathy has also worked alongside her mother at **The Kids Closet**, a local clothing bank providing essential items to Sapulpa elementary students in need—a testament to her enduring commitment to helping children succeed. Since joining the **Sapulpa Rotary Club** in the fall of 2021, Cathy has taken an active leadership role by writing district grants, scheduling guest speakers and programs, and producing the club's weekly newsletter. Her work reflects her passion for service and her belief in building stronger communities through collaboration and compassion.

Cathy and her husband John have been married for 26 years and have raised a blended family of five children—plus three exchange students—while staying actively involved in church, school, and civic life. Now enjoying their "empty nester" chapter, they travel and explore together through their RV lifestyle, continuing to prioritize family, friendship, and giving back to the community.

John Rains was born in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, and has lived in the Green Country area his entire life. A graduate of Sapulpa High School, he went on to attend the University of Oklahoma, Tulsa Junior College, and the University of Tulsa, where he earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management Information Systems.

John began his career as a Systems Analyst with ConocoPhillips before partnering with a fellow Rotarian as Vice President of Sales and part-owner of Austral Inc., an IT services company. He later joined IMAX Corporation (not the theater company) as Director of Information Systems, rising through the ranks to become Vice President of Sales and eventually President. He currently works as a licensed Realtor with HomeSmart Stellar Realty and manages rental properties in the Tulsa area.

A dedicated Rotarian for 25 years, John has been an active member of two clubs—first with the Rotary Club of Sapulpa (1999–2001), and since then with the Rotary Club of Tulsa. He was named Rotarian of the Year in 2014, served as Club President in 2016–2017, and was honored with the prestigious James G. Saied Service Above Self Award in 2017.

33 Years
David P. Hughes
11-01-1992
33 Years
Stephen P. Gray
11-05-2008
17 Years
Brian Russell Huddleston
11-05-2008
17 Years
Bob Sullivan
11-04-2010
15 Years
Thomas W. Gray
11-17-2019
6 Years
Collette Jean Adamson
10-27-2022
3 Years
Daniel Horton
10-27-2022
3 Years
Tim A. Douglas
11-02-2022
3 Years

John and his wife, Cathy, have shared 26 years of marriage and the joy of raising a blended family of five children, along with hosting three international exchange students. Together, they have been deeply involved in their church, community, and Rotary. Now enjoying life as empty nesters, they have embraced the RV lifestyle and cherish their time spent with family, friends, and each other.

Rotarian of the Day - Mike Buchert



Born October 6, 1953, in Tullahoma, TN (Home of the largest wind tunnel in the world in the 1950's), Mike was the middle of three boys born to his parents Kenneth and Muriel Buchert. His family moved to Whittier, CA in 1957. In 1963 they moved to Columbia, MO so his Dad could get his PHD in Structural Engineering. Mike graduated from Hickman High School in 1971. He would go on to Oklahoma State University where he would receive his BS degree in 1975 and his MS degree in 1980 in Civil Engineering (Water Resources and Engineering Economics). Mike met his first wife at OSU where they married in 1975 and were married for 47 years until her passing on July 21, 2022. They have two children, Stephanie, born in 1975, passed away in 2007, and Adam, born in 1979, married with six children. The professional career for Mike consisted of working for the Corps of Engineers from 1975 to 1985, City of Tulsa from 1985 to 2006, Oklahoma State University from 2006 to 2021.

Mike was involved in over \$3 billion in public projects (2020 dollars). Some of his projects included multiple street Widing and street maintenance projects, the Mingo Creek Local flood protection project, numerous flood protection project's including Skiatook Dam, the BOK Center, and multiple projects in the OSU and A&M System. Mike was also involved in the City of Tulsa Budget Public Works Budget from 1990 through 2005 including utility rates, bond issues and sales tax. Mike joined Southside Rotary in 1993 and was a member until 2006 when he moved to Stillwater and joined the Stillwater Rotary Club until 2018. Mike rejoined the Southside Rotary Club in September 2022.

Mike married a fellow Rotarian, an arranged marriage by Janice, I married Maria Mercedes Abalos Cordova on February 15, 2025.

Dolly Dixon Memorial Golf Social Fund Raiser Has been Rescheduled for September 2025.



Potential New Member -

Any objection to the proposal stating the reasons must be sent to the President of the Club within seven (7) days following publication.

Please turn in your proposals for membership to Secretary Mercedes Abalos.

Upcoming RODs

New Schedule for the Bulletin: Every effort will be made to see the bulletin being sent out on FRIDAY! If you are the ROD, you need to:

- 1) Send YOUR BIO and SPEAKER'S BIO WITH PHOTOS to Brett and Kathy, THE FRIDAY TWO WEEKS *BEFORE* you are ROD. (A potentially true biography will be generated if the share folder is empty)
- 2) Select someone to do the pledge and the prayer/affirmation. Please let President Bob Sullivan know who you've chosen in advance of the meeting.

Date	ROD	Presenter	Program
5/29/2025	Naresh Jassal	Scott Reed	Off Site - Monterreau
6/5/2025	Daniel Horton	Trae Rahill	Oklahoma Employment Security
6/12/2025	Billy Jackson	Michael Baker	Tulsa Fire Chief
6/19/2025	Don den Daas	Leanne Taylor	Griffin News
6/26/2025	Julia Bishop	David Gonzales	Tulsa Score

Tulsa Southside
This Next week's meeting (May 22, 2025) is at
the Indian Nations Council of Scouting America
Thursday at 11:45 AM

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Club Meeting

Tulsa Southside
This weeks meeting is at the Indian Nations Council of Scouting America
Thursday at 11:45 AM