



## The Big Wheel

Club 2520, District 6150  
March 15, 2021  
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Rotary Club of Jonesboro  
P.O. Box 654  
Jonesboro, AR 72403  
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## Club Leaders



Gary Higgins  
President



Gary Clark  
President-Elect



Jennifer Hannah  
Secretary



Nancy Elphingstone  
Treasurer



Will Branch  
Club Director  
Vocational Service Chair



Erika Krennerich Chudy  
President-Nominee



Marie-Jose Patton  
Bulletin Editor



Hatton Weeks  
Public Image Chair



Carl M. Cates  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair

Audrey Guinn  
Membership Chair

## This Week's Program - March 16, 2021



### Domestic Terrorism -- A Real Threat

According to the FBI, domestic terrorism is the unlawful use, or threatened use, of violence by a group or individual based and operating entirely within the United States (or its territories) without foreign direction committed against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives.

Protecting the United States from terrorist attacks is the FBI's number one priority.

We are honored to have Vincent Picard, Senior Public Affairs Officer, Bureau of Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of State. He will speak on domestic terrorism and how we can protect ourselves against this growing activity.

## Rotary ramps up COVID-19 vaccination efforts

by **Ryan Hyland**

Rotary clubs around the world are mobilizing in their communities to support the introduction and delivery of COVID-19 vaccinations. Rotary leaders are urging members to connect with their local health agencies to determine how Rotary can support COVID-19 vaccine efforts.

Rotary has decades of experience in supporting the distribution of polio vaccines as well as highlighting their power and efficacy, which is a critical reason why polio is on the brink of eradication. It's this expertise, along with strategic partnerships and innovation, that Rotary members can tap into to protect communities from COVID-19.



### Back-up for health officials

Rotary International President Holger Knaack and Foundation Trustee Chair K.R. Ravi Ravindran have called on Rotary members to take action on a number of levels. Rotary members in North Carolina, USA, quickly organized to offer assistance to health officials. District leaders contacted the state's secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to strategize support efforts.

The six district governors in North Carolina joined the state's health department in conducting a [webinar](#), open to the more than 12,200 Rotary members in North Carolina, to provide information about the available COVID-19 vaccines, how they will be distributed, and answer their questions so they can serve as role models and instill confidence in the vaccines in their community.

Rotarians are leaders who are looked upon for guidance, and the more information and opportunity to share ideas with health officials, the better, said Dawn Rochelle, governor of Rotary district 7730 (North Carolina).

Members volunteered at local vaccination sites across the state to help health officials with logistics including data entry, crowd control, and check-ins. Members also provide health workers and volunteers with food and beverages. In addition, the districts provided the state health department with a spreadsheet that included a Rotary member contact for each of the 100 counties in North Carolina.

Nancy Barbee and Rochelle, past governors of the same district, volunteered together during National Immunization Days in India. It's those experiences with mass immunization for polio that helped them identify specific needs for how members can help support COVID-19 vaccinations.

The polio eradication initiative gives a blueprint that provides strategy that is effective in any



[Barbara J. Widner](#)  
Club Executive  
Secretary  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Eugene J. Wing](#)  
CCO-Club Comm. Offcr



[Lori Chandler](#)  
Youth Services Chair



[Brian Rega](#)  
iPast President



[Adam Robert Sartin](#)  
Assistant Governor

## Events

All face-to-face events have been postponed due to the coronavirus.

Weekly meetings online.

**March 16** -- Weekly meeting. Vincent Picard, U.S. State Department. Domestic terrorism.

**March 23** -- Weekly meeting. Beverly Parker. Protecting the Environment with The Rotary Foundation and Through Local Projects.

**March 30** -- Weekly meeting. Dr. Tim Burcham. Update on the new NE Rice Research and Extension Center and what they are doing to enhance rice production and increase its profitability through the use of the latest technologies.

**April 6** -- Weekly meeting. Allyson Lewis. With the 7 Minute Life you will learn how

community, says Rochelle, who took part in two polio immunization drives in India. Governments take the lead on immunizations there and here in the U.S., but what's critical to the success is the additional layer of support Rotarians bring. We are here to back-up the frontline workers with anything they need. It's amazing to see the response of North Carolina Rotarians.

## New joint COVID-19 taskforce gives direction to clubs

At a meeting in December, the Rotary International Board of Directors and Rotary Foundation Trustees created a joint taskforce that will help guide upcoming efforts to distribute the COVID-19 vaccines and advocate for people to get vaccinated. The newly formed group will also share information promoting vaccine acceptance, and encourage service projects to stop the spread of the disease, such as social distancing, wearing masks, and washing hands frequently.

In a joint letter to district leaders, Knaack and Ravindran said members have a successful history of getting things done when help is needed. Through the hundreds of global grants and projects, Rotary members have demonstrated what we can accomplish to raise awareness, deliver critical personal protection equipment, and provide support to frontline health workers, they said in the letter.

The two Rotary leaders called particular attention to the importance of one specific call to action: combatting vaccine hesitancy. Help us combat the powerful, growing force of vaccine resistance and misinformation. Our advocacy in our communities will be critical we need to spread the message about the power of vaccines to save lives, they urged.

Other ways clubs can mobilize around COVID-19 vaccine introduction and delivery at the local level include community education, ensuring equitable distribution of the vaccine, helping stop the continued spread of the disease, and aiding local health authorities to get prepared for mass vaccinations.

The infrastructure created by Rotary and its Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) partners is already supporting efforts to combat COVID-19. The GPEI recently announced that it is ready to support the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines.

*from rotary.org*

## Good News, March 9, 2021

President **Gary Higgins** announced that his eldest daughter was selected to a central Arkansas publication's list of Academic All-Stars. In a separate, but related item, same daughter was injured in the first-round basketball tournament game last week. No surgery necessary, but will require 3-4 weeks of rehab prior to soccer season.

**Rachel Rhodes Jones** announced that her nephew would be signing a letter of intent to continue his basketball career at Lyon College.

**Gene Wing** shared that his daughter-in-law is officially released after beating colon cancer.

## March 9 2021 50th Online Meeting Mayor Harold Copenhaver shares his vision for our community.

Our March 9, 2021 program was presented by newly elected Mayor Harold Copenhaver. Now that it's three months into the term, find out how the mayor feels about his job and how his vision for Jonesboro is going.

Harold is a former member of the Rotary Club of Jonesboro as was his late father. We were happy to have him speak to our club about his first few months in office and his vision for our community's future.

You can view the meeting by clicking below:

to leverage 1% of your day to think, clarify, plan, prioritize and choose how you will spend the remaining 99% of your time.

## Birthdays



Daniel Lee Cole  
March 20th



Kelly R Damphousse  
March 24th



Brock Wooldridge  
March 27th



Ruth A. Hawkins  
March 31st



Guy Patteson III  
April 2nd



Carrie J Ouraishi  
April 4th



Gregory Hansen  
April 8th



David B. Beasley  
April 11th



Stuart Shaw  
April 12th



## Report Card - March 9, 2021

### Membership

Total Active Members - 128

Active members - 49

Active-Service - 42

Active-Partner - 4

Active-Modern - 9

Active-LOA - 0

◆Active Rule of 85◆ members - 24

Honorary members - 6

Total Attendance - 51

Active Members - 48

Honorary members - 0

Proposed - 1

Guests - 2

[Read More](#)