



## The Big Wheel

Club 2520, District 6150  
March 29, 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 30, 2021

### ***Rice Is Important Crop for Farmers in Northeast Arkansas***

The Rice Research and Extension Center's primary mission is helping Arkansas agriculture compete in the global economy. Its broader mission is to serve all stakeholders through discoveries on conserving and sustaining natural resources; ensuring the safety and security of our food and fiber system; improving the health and nutrition of Arkansans; and increasing opportunities for families, youth, and communities. The Rice Research & Extension Center is one of the best regarded and oldest rice research centers in the world. The center is divided into four regions with the Northeast Rice Research and Extension Center located in our area.



Dr. Tim Burcham is the director of the Northeast Rice Research and Extension Center. Today he will give an update on the new Northeast 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.

## Rotary Youth Exchange: Your passport to adventure

**Youth Exchange students often say their experience abroad was the best time of their lives. Being part of the program can be life-changing for Rotary members as well**

by **Vanessa Glavinskaskas**

For more than 40 years, Rotary Youth Exchange has been one of Rotary's best-known programs. As an official program, it dates to 1975 but by that time, Rotary clubs had already been sending students abroad for decades with the aim of promoting international understanding and friendship.

What the program offers to and asks of participants an openness to new ideas and experiences, a willingness to adapt and to gain new perspectives, and an opportunity to make new friends and learn new ways of living are the same values that define Rotary itself.

The major goal of Youth Exchange is to dive into another culture, says Rotary President Holger Knaack, who served as chair of the German Multi-District Youth Exchange; he and his wife, Susanne, have themselves hosted dozens of students. Youth Exchange is an opportunity for the kids to experience something new. And it has enriched our own lives.

### Impact of COVID-19

Although the COVID-19 pandemic postponed some exchanges, the ethos of Rotary Youth Exchange remains strong. While all new long-term exchanges have been suspended until January 2021, some districts have been allowed to continue exchanges with strict [safety guidelines](#) and program modifications during the 2020-21 Rotary year. [Read our interview with RI Director Tony Black](#) about the measures Rotary is taking to keep youth exchange students safe.

from [rotary.org](#)

## Good News, March 23, 2021

**President Gary Higgins** announced that our Rotary club is working on a plan to meet in person. The meeting will be a hybrid one, so that those who are not ready to go out in public will be able to continue to make meetings. St. Bernard's Auditorium will not be available as it is used to administer the Covid vaccines.



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



Ruth A. Hawkins  
March 31st

## March 23, 2021 52nd Online Meeting City of Jonesboro Beautification Commission

Our March 23, 2021 program was presented by Past President, Beverly Parker, Chair of the City of Jonesboro's Beautification Commission. Beverly shared the goals and objectives of the city's efforts to improve our environment, make Jonesboro a better place to live and provided ideas how to implement programs and projects. The vision of the commission is for Jonesboro to be Clean, Green and Beautiful.

Learn more on their new website: [www.KeepJonesboroBeautiful.com](http://www.KeepJonesboroBeautiful.com)

You can view the meeting by clicking below:



### Events

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

Weekly meetings online.

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

### Birthdays

#### 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 - 34  
Active Members - 32  
Honorary members - 0  
Proposed - 1  
Guests - 1  
[Read More](#)

## Report Card - March 23, 2021



Guy Patteson III  
April 2nd



Carrie J Ouraishi  
April 4th



Gregory Hansen  
April 8th



David B. Beasley  
April 11th



Stuart Shaw  
April 12th