



The Big Wheel

Club 2520, District 6150
May 15, 2023
Volume 105, Issue 42
Rotary Club of Jonesboro
P.O. Box 654
Jonesboro, AR 72403
Chartered August 1, 1919

This Week's Program -- May 16, 2023



The David and Barbara Pryor Center for Arkansas Oral and Visual History

Our speaker today is John Davis, Executive Director of the Pryor Center. Davis is a teaching associate professor at the University of Arkansas Department of Political Science. He is an eighth generation Arkansan.

The David and Barbara Pryor Center for Arkansas Oral and Visual History in the Fulbright College at the University of Arkansas is an oral history program with the mission of

documenting the history of Arkansas through the collection of spoken memories and visual records. It is the state's only oral and visual history program with a statewide, seventy-five county mission to collect, preserve, and share audio and moving image recordings of Arkansas history.

Join us at the meeting and bring a friend.

In the News

New Member

Our club has a new member. Last week, **Jill Clogston** introduced **Alan Pillow** to the club.

Welcome, Alan!



St. Bernards Receives Donation

In our efforts to Focus on Community, we donated \$5,000 to St. Bernards for allowing us to hold our weekly meetings in their auditorium.

Pictured are Kevin Hodges, St. Bernards Healthcare; Kila Owen, St. Bernards Foundation; and **President Will Branch**.



Good News -- May 9, 2023

Chad Chadwick carried the mic for Good News.

Joy Vaupel announced that her granddaughter was graduating.

Shaila Creekmore is bringing her freshman son home from college for the summer.

Carl Cates' daughter successfully defended her dissertation. She is headed to Stanford to do post-doctoral work.

Wes Eddington went to Blytheville last weekend and spent the day enjoying the beautiful weather.

Brian Rega reminded everyone of the May meeting of Rotarians in Huntington Square.

Club Leaders



Will Branch
President



Erika Krennerich Chudy
President - Elect



Dana L. Kennedy
Secretary



Nancy Elphingstone
Treasurer
Club Service Chair



Jennifer Hannah
President - Nominee
Vocational Service Chair



Ruth A. Hawkins
Rotary Foundation
Chair



Adam Robert Sartin
Assistant Governor

Events

May 16th
Jonesboro Club Meeting May 16- John Davis, Director, Pryor Center

May 23rd
Jonesboro Club Meeting May 23- Arkansas LEARNS ACT

May 30th

Jonesboro Club Meeting May 30-Jay Craig, Comanche Warrior

June 6th

Jonesboro Club Meeting June 6 -Henry Burrell, Founder, JBA

Birthdays



Emelda LaVonne Williams
May 18th



James R. Peachey
May 19th



Michael R. Weaver
May 28th



Lori Chandler
June 2nd



Barbara J. Widner
June 5th



Tony Thomas
June 11th

Emelda Williams, the oldest Rotarian (according to her), welcomed our speaker, Mayor Copenhaver, and said he was her former student and traveler.

Norman Stafford said it was good to see everyone at Rotary.

John Deacon announced that his son had a stroke but got to UAMS in time. The stroke was due to a hole in his heart.

Last Week's Program -- May 9, 2023

Passionate About Jonesboro

Mayor Harold Copenhaver gave an update on the state of the city last week. Although there is work to do, the mayor gave a positive view of Jonesboro.

He focused on the following:

- Safety -- All of us need to feel safe in our community. Although he added many cameras last year, he plans to add more. Cameras help to solve crimes, but they can be used for many situations. The mayor showed clips to illustrate how cameras were used. Also, smaller communities cannot afford monitoring and Jonesboro can monitor the cameras for them.
- Internet -- The city struck a partnership with Right Fiber to provide Internet services to people who cannot afford them. This way, students are able to keep up with assignments.
- Parks -- The mayor talked about re-opening the YMCA and a city swimming pool. He recently approved future plans to include more parks, including the new Sports Facility. The city is partnering with A-State to connect vital areas that would be difficult for some citizens.
- RAISE grants -- The mayor's caucus partnered with the city of Paragould to acquire grants which would benefit both Jonesboro and Paragould. The mayor feels that in order for Jonesboro to do well, all of NE Arkansas should do well.
- Citizen Involvement -- Mayor Copenhaver applauded citizens such as **Rotarian Beverly Parker** for her work with the city's beautification program. All citizens can help with projects.



All of his plans for Jonesboro couldn't be done without partnerships. He ended the program by saying, "We're not finished, we are just getting started."

Program -- May 2, 2023

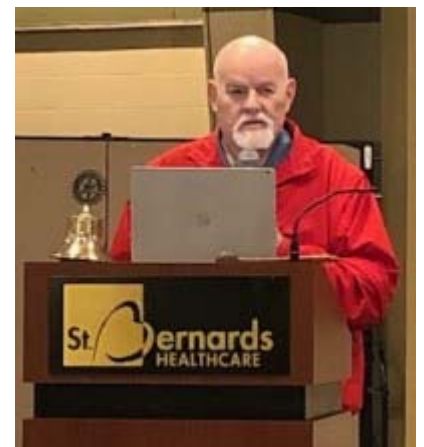
By LaBrittany B Bledsoe

Geospatial Intelligence in Support of National Security

On April 27, Jerry Elphingstone spoke about the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. Jerry is from Marianna, Arkansas. He graduated from Arkansas State University in 1965 and is featured in the Geospatial Hall of Fame where he worked for 31 years. The National Geospatial Intelligence Agency is a combat support agency within the United States Department of Defense. Their primary mission is to collect, analyze, and distribute geospatial intelligence in support of national security.

After college, Elphingstone was accepted into St. Louis and attended a 6-month training program. From there, he was accepted to the Top-Secret Compartment, which very few people have access to due to classifications and working with controlled documentation.

Elphingstone worked on the CORONA, which started under the name "Discover," the first mapping system used to have a camera map horizon to horizon image of the world. The CORONA program was a series of American strategic reconnaissance satellites produced and operated by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Directorate of Science & Technology with substantial assistance from the U.S. Air Force. The CORONA satellites were used for photographic surveillance of the Soviet Union (USSR), China, and other areas in June 1959. This continued for 13 years. He stated that the CORONA was only able to map in certain weather conditions, meaning there had to be no clouds.



[Read More](#)

Report Card -- May 9, 2023

Total Active Members - 105
Active members - 56
Active-Service - 23
Active-Partner - 5
Active-Modern - 3
Active-LOA - 1
"Active Rule of 85" members - 17
Honorary members - 6

Total Attendance - 58
Active Members - 51
Friends of Rotary - 0
Honorary members - 0
Proposed -0
Guests-7 [Read More](#)