



## The Big Wheel

Club 2520, District 6150  
May 29, 2023  
Volume 105, Issue 44  
Rotary Club of Jonesboro  
P.O. Box 654  
Jonesboro, AR 72403  
Chartered August 1, 1919

## This Week's Program -- May 30, 2023

### *A Comanche Warrior Visit*

**Rotarian Jay Craig** is very proud of his Native American heritage, and of being an official Warrior of the Comanche Nation. He performs his Native American Programs for clubs all over the district as well as other districts. This week we are honored to have him for our program.

Dr. Jay Craig is a Multiple Paul Harris Fellow, a member of the Paul Harris Society, a Sustaining Member, Past President of the Rotary Club of Bristow, OK, and a graduate of the Rotary District Leadership Academy. He was selected as a Paul Harris Society Coordinator for the State of Oklahoma. Jay was named the 2016 District 6110 Assistant Governor of the Year and was elected as the District Governor from 2020-21.

This should prove to be a very informative and entertaining program. Bring a friend with you to Rotary.



## 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

## In the News

### *Last Day to Sell Tickets*

June 8 is the last day to sell tickets for the Shrimp Boil.

### *Focus on Literacy*

**Rotarians Norman Stafford** and **Dana Kennedy** participated in Focus on Literacy. Here are some pictures from the event.



## Events

May 30th  
**Jonesboro Club Meeting May 30- Jay Craig, Comanche Warrior**

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

June 13th  
Jonesboro Club Meeting June 13-Mike Marlar, Arkansas Artist

June 16th  
2023 Shrimp Boil Volunteer Signup

June 20th  
Jonesboro Club Meeting June 20-Craighead County Sheriff



## Birthdays



Michael R. Weaver  
May 28th



Lori Chandler  
June 2nd



Barbara J. Widner  
June 5th



Tony Thomas  
June 11th



Russ Hannah  
June 21st



Jarrett Free  
June 24th



James V. Hargis  
June 24th



LaBrittany B Bledsoe  
June 26th



Kenneth Ray Keller  
June 27th

## SERVICE ABOVE SELF

### THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

**First** The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

**Second** High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

**Third** The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

**Fourth** The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

*from the May issue of Rotary magazine*

## Good News -- May 23, 2023

**Hatton Weeks** carried the mic for Good News.

**Norman Stafford** enjoyed reading to the kids during Focus on Literacy. **Dana Kennedy** also participated.

**Gregory Hansen** watched the Redbirds play in Memphis and thought it was really cool when they came through and won the game.

**Wes Eddington** got to mark two things off his to-do list.

**Hatton Weeks** applauded his daughter and the Valley View soccer team.

**Norman Stafford's** daughter lives in Denver. He was glad the Denver Nuggets beat the Los Angeles Lakers.

**District Governor Elect Brian Rega** is on his way to Melbourne, Australia, to the Rotary International convention.

**Assistant District Governor Adam Sartin** reminded everyone they were invited to the Rotary social time on the second Tuesday of the month.

**John Deacon** gave a shout out to teachers, parents, and all who make Jonesboro a great place to educate children.

## Last Week's Program -- May 23, 2023

### Reflections on the Arkansas LEARNS ACT

Arkansas Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders signed her Arkansas LEARNS legislation into law on March 8, 2023. She expected it to be put into play the school year 2023-24.

While the act contains many fine points, the act is long. Luke Lovins, Superintendent of Bay Schools, and Kim Wilbanks, Superintendent of Jonesboro Schools, both said the legislation was large with little time to implement it.



Wilbanks brought a printout of the act in a folder; it was 150 pages long. Plus, some of the information was sketchy and a fuller explanation is needed to understand it correctly. They were expected to put the law into place by the next school year. The "rush" of the act and the scope of topics it encompasses have left superintendents and other officials overwhelmed.

Basically the LEARNS act is an acronym for Liberty Enhancement Accountability Readiness Networking School Safety.

### **Key points**

- \$50,000 minimum salaries for starting teachers
- \$2,000 raises for more veteran teachers and educator incentives of up to \$10,000.
- Phased-in universal state-funded private school education account/voucher program. This included home-schooling by parents.
- Encourages traditional school districts to partner with open-enrollment charter schools to operate low-performing traditional schools
- Repeals the decades-old Teacher Fair Dismissal and the School Employees Fair Hearing acts

*Note: Since the meeting, there has been a lawsuit filed putting the LEARNS act on hold.*

## **Report Card -- May 23, 2023**

Total Active Members - 108  
Active members - 57  
Active-Service - 20  
Active-Partner - 5  
Active-Modern - 3  
Active-LOA - 0  
"Active Rule of 85" members - 17  
Honorary members - 6

Total Attendance - 53  
Active Members - 40  
Friends of Rotary - 0  
Honorary members - 0  
Proposed - 2  
Guests-11 [R Read More](#)