

The Big Wheel

Club 2520, District 6150
August 05, 2024
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Rotary Club of Jonesboro
P.O. Box 654
Jonesboro, AR 72403
Chartered August 1, 1919

Club Leaders



Jennifer Hannah
President



Chad Chadwick
President-Elect



Alicia Dyer / Benson
Secretary



Jeremy Todd Watson
Treasurer



Yaoska (Angy) Abaunza
Club Director



Jill Clogston
Club Director
Club Programs Chair
Membership Chair



Donald Cooper
Club Director



Shailla C Creekmore
Club Director
Community Service Chair
Club Service Chair



Chad Harbison
Club Director



Dana L. Kennedy
Attendance Secretary



David L. Leonard
Club Director



Melissa Martin
Public Image Chair



Marie-Jose Patton
Bulletin Editor

This Week's Program -- August 6, 2024

Update on Jonesboro Economical Transportation

Lee Wells was recently selected as the new Jonesboro Economical Transportation (JET) director for the city of Jonesboro. He has served as the interim director of JET since October 2023, supervising daily operations and ensuring adherence to federal, state and local laws while building a work environment for its more than two dozen employees in the department.



Jonesboro received a grant of \$878,000 for five low-or-no emission trolley-style buses in August 2022 from the U.S. Department of Transportation, along with another \$1.88 million granted in June 2023 as a part of the federal Infrastructure Law passed in 2021. The trolley hybrids can carry up to 30 passengers at a time and cost between \$188,000 and \$233,000 based on options. The city and JET have recently developed a 10-year Transit Development Plan that will serve as the guiding document to help JET improve and expand service for the community.

Come hear how Jonesboro's economical transportation plans to expand its service. Bring a friend or colleague.

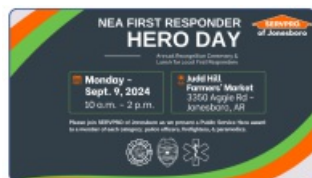
Save the Dates

August -- High School Backpacks

We will collect backpacks for Nettleton High School the entire month of August. These will need to be large capacity backpacks for 9-12 grade students. Counselor Amanda Waln said the school office runs out of backpacks for students after the first week of school, and they need them throughout the school year. Last day to donate is August 27.



September -- First Responder's Hero Day and ALS Walk



On **September 9**, we will be helping with ServPro's NEA First Responder's Hero Day. Sign up's will be held in August.

We will also participate in the ALS walk once again this year. It will be

held Saturday, **September 14**, beginning on the Arkansas State University Student Union Lawn. Please sign up through our team page on the ALS site:

<http://web.alsa.org/goto/RotaryClubofJonesboro>



Alan W. Pillow
Club Director



Berl A. Smith
President-Nominee
Rotary Foundation
Chair



Jim Washam
Club Director



Brock Woodridge
Club Director



Eugene J. Wing
CCO-Club Comm. Officer



Jon David Carmack
Webmaster



Hatton Weeks
Webmaster



Bonnie Watkins May
Vocational Service Chair



Mark Alan Morrow
Youth Services Chair



Erika Krennerich Chudy
Past President

Events

August 6th

Jonesboro Club Meeting August 6, 2024- Lee Wells, Director, JET

Speaker: Lee Wells, Director,
Jonesboro Economical
Transportation (JET)

Subject: Update on Jonesboro
Economical Transportation

August 13th

Jonesboro Club Meeting August 13, 2024- Lauren Willette

Speaker: Lauren Adams Willette,
Fieldwork Coordinator, Arkansas
Folk & Traditional Arts

Subject: Building Cross-Cultural
Understanding

Birthdays



Bonnie Watkins May
August 5th



Michael Payson
August 9th



Beverly Bartels
August 18th

Jennifer P Goad
August 21st

Good News -- July 30, 2024

Mark Morrow carried the mic for Good News and started things off by giving \$5.

Norman Stafford challenged members by saying if at least one person at a table put in a dollar for Good News, he would donate a dollar for that table. (*Every table responded.*)

Skip Smith, chair of the Foundation Committee, reminded people of the \$10 a month club. He said 39 members participated in the club and invited others to join.

Mike Payson will not be at Rotary for the next two weeks. He is visiting kids and grandkids in Seattle and Spokane.

Stuart Shaw asked how many people were associated with A-State and how many people were A-State graduates. Lots of members raised their hands.

Ruth Hawkins gave money in memory of a friend, Ron Looney.

Mickey Latour brought seven A-State students with him to Rotary. They were part of a leadership club.

Ray Keller said that his great-grandfather organized a family reunion every year which was later passed on to his grandfather and then to his father. Now the family will have its 100th reunion at Valley View High School Cafeteria.

Dana Kennedy will visit her daughter, Candice, and grandson, William, in Seattle next week. Dr. Candice Hoke-Kennedy is a clinical psychologist who is presenting at the American Psychology Association.

Emelda Williams gave money in appreciation of former student and today's speaker, Jim Bryant. Jim also works and goes to church with Emelda.

DG Brian Rega said he enjoyed visiting the clubs as District Governor. He also pointed out that the entry table should not be forgotten in Norman's counting of tables.

Former competition swimmer **John Deacon** gave money in honor of all athletes representing the USA in the Olympics.

Jeff Purinton reminded members to get season tickets for A-State football.

Jon David Carmack answered Norman's challenge to give money to eradicate polio.

Last Week's Program -- July 30, 2024

Good Tidings Christmas Event

Jim Bryant works with Nettleton Baptist Church's Good Tidings Christmas Event and shared with our club how we can be a part of helping 350-400 families in NE Arkansas have a wonderful Christmas.

When the Jonesboro Jaycees disbanded, it had some projects that members thought were too necessary to give up. One was Goodfellows, the buying of food and toys for those in need at Christmas. Nettleton Baptist Church decided to take on the project and Good Tidings was born. Good Tidings mission is to share Christ-like compassion with our community by providing food, toys, prayer support, and local church connections to bring hope and joy to those in need before Christmas.

In 2022, Good Tidings served 400 families; in 2023, it served 300 families; in 2024, it plans to serve 350 families. This December, it will work with the Food Bank of NEA to gather food and toys for the needy. On Friday, December 6, it will distribute food to qualifying families without children, and on Saturday, December 7, it will distribute food and toys to qualifying families with children. It also will share the Christmas Story – the story of Jesus Christ to not only meet the physical needs of those in need but to encourage them spiritually as well.

Nestle, Bills, Riceland, Butterball, Frito Lay, Nice Pak, and Post have made generous donations. If you know of companies that want to become a donor, Good Tidings will add them to the list. It is asking civic organizations and individuals to become sponsors. There are several tiers of sponsors and no donation is too large or small.

Jim Bryant told the club he was asking for donations for Good Tidings. If anyone wants to donate money, send a check to Good Tidings, c/o Nettleton Baptist Church, PO Box 2415, Jonesboro, AR 72402. Volunteers are also needed. If one wants to volunteer, contact Jim at Nettleton Baptist Church.



[Jeffrey T. Griffin](#)
August 24th



[James F. Gramling Jr.](#)
August 30th

Report Card -- July 30, 2024

By Alicia Dyer / Benson

Total Members = 107

Active=67

Active-Modern=3

Active-Partner=3

Active-R85=15

Active-Service=17

Staff Position=2â€™™

Active-Service: 6

Active-Modern: 2

Active-R85: 5

Active: 38

Guest: 11

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