

The Big Wheel

Club 2520, District 6150
 September 16, 2024
 Volume 107, Issue 12
 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

Events

September 17th
Jonesboro Club Meeting
September 17, 2024-Lauren Hopkins

Speaker: Lauren Hopkins, Red Wolf Renaissance Fair

Subject: Red Wolf Renaissance Fair: Raising Awareness of the Critically Endangered Red Wolf

September 24th
Jonesboro Club Meeting
September 24, 2024 - Dr. Emma Jacobs

Speaker: Dr. Emma Jacobs, St. Bernards Urology Clinic

Subject: September: Prostate Cancer Awareness Month

Birthdays



[John C. Deacon](#)
September 15th



[Susan K Beasley](#)
September 16th



[William D. Burnett](#)
September 17th



[Shaila C. Creekmore](#)
October 1st

This Week's Program -- September 17, 2024

Renaissance Fair: Raising Awareness of the Critically Endangered Red Wolf

The first ever Red Wolf Renaissance Fair will be held in Jonesboro on October 12-13, 2024, at Craighead Forest Park. The event is being held to raise awareness about Red Wolf conservation.

Lauren Hopkins, Coordinator of the Renaissance Fair, is a former Rotary Club Student of the Month for the Rotary Club of Independence, Missouri. Members of the fair board, along with Lauren, are working to create a memorable, family-friendly event that raises awareness of the critically endangered Red Wolf. Their main priority is to support the American Red Wolf Conservation and Research Center initiative at Craighead Forest Park. They hope to make this an annual event in Jonesboro and are coordinating their efforts with the Arkansas Renaissance Festival and the Hot Springs Renaissance Festival.



Come hear what you can do to save the Red Wolf.

Service Projects

Hero's First Responder's Hero Day

Monday, September 9, we helped with ServPro's NEA First Responder's Hero Day. The lunch was held from 10 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Judd Hill Farmers' Market.



ALS Walk

Saturday, September 14, we participated in the ALS Walk in honor of **Past President Philip Jackson**. The walk began at 10 a.m. on the Student Union Lawn of A-State.





[Berl A. Smith](#)
October 5th



[John P. Miles II](#)
October 10th

New Member



Brett Kohl was introduced to our club as a new member.

Welcome, Brett!

Vocational Corner



About Melissa Martin

My name is Melissa Martin and now, hopefully, I've gotten a chance to meet with most of you! I joined the Rotary Club last November and was quickly accepted into the fold. Since then, I've had the opportunity to serve our community through various projects like our Eclipse trash pickup, Shrimp Boil fundraiser, and being selected as this year's public image chair! So, I must be doing a good job. ??

Although I grew up and live in Trumann, Jonesboro has always felt more like home. I just needed a longer drive to college and now work, so I have time to listen to music, haha! I graduated

from A-State in 2016 with a bachelor's degree in Multimedia Journalism with an emphasis in Photojournalism. Since then, I have tried my best to establish myself in the community of Jonesboro.

My first job out of college was working at the non-profit, El Centro Hispano, as an AmeriCorps VISTA, but I unfortunately do not speak Spanish. So once my two years of service were over, I accepted a position at a local fire and water restoration company in the sales and marketing department and loved it!

After a few years, I wanted to explore other options and accepted a position at *Occasions Magazine*. But I missed being in marketing, so I was very excited when SERVPRO of Jonesboro offered me a position at their company. I'm very thankful for our franchise owner, Cary Park, and my manager, Mickey Felts, for the team they have created and lead every day to help Northeast Arkansas residents recover from disasters they are facing in their homes and businesses.

I'm proud to be a member of the Rotary Club of Jonesboro and look forward to being a Rotarian for years to come!

Good News â€ September 10, 2024

Angy Abanza carried the mic for Good News. Notes taken by **Shaila Creekmore**.

Will Branch congratulated the A-State football team for their win over Tulsa and their 2-0 start.

Gregory Hansen attended a readers' retreat and spoke about Mark Twain.

Norman Stafford was enjoying the beautiful weather.

John Deacon gave \$5 for the 5 birthdays his family would be celebrating this weekend, including himself, children and grandchildren.

Last Week's Program - September 10, 2024

By Shaila C Creekmore

Arisa Health Provides Mental Healthcare Across North Arkansas

Arisa Health, a nonprofit mental health provider, serves 41 counties across Northern Arkansas stretching into parts of Central Arkansas. The organization was formed in 2020 when four healthcare providers, including Mid-South Health Systems in Jonesboro, combined to form Arisa Health according to Tuesday's speaker, Brad Hyde, Community Liaison Director. The organization now employs more than 1,200 associates.

Arisa has more than 80 locations that include inpatient and outpatient clinics as well as telehealth options. These locations serve both adolescents and adults with 122 different programs including substance abuse, veterans services, early childhood intervention, school-based counseling, and therapeutic foster care. In the therapeutic foster care program, foster parents are specially trained to care for the child in their care and can provide mental health support alongside Arisa. Brad said the program is in need of more foster parents, especially in Clay, Randolph, and Lawrence counties.



In Craighead County, Arisa Health has Behavioral Health Assistance Teams (BHAT) that work with the Sheriff's department and Jonesboro Police Department to respond to situations that need someone to respond, but do not necessarily require an armed police officer. The BHAT team includes a licensed clinical technician that responds to access the situation and provide adequate care. If the situation involves a more dangerous situation, the Crisis Intervention Team can respond along with armed police officers to try to deescalate the situation. This program is also available in Conway. Brad said these programs have resulted in reducing wait times in emergency rooms by six hours because they are reducing the numbers of people needing emergency department care.

As a nonprofit, Arisa Health provides care regardless of the individual's ability to pay. While they receive some reimbursements from insurance and the government, they are in need of donations from local businesses, organizations and individuals. The group also routinely holds fundraisers and will be holding a trap shoot on Oct. 12, Aiming for Arisa at the Jonesboro Shooting Sports Complex. They are still looking for corporate sponsored teams and sponsors for school trap teams to participate. You can learn more [HERE](#).

Report Card -- September 10, 2024

Total Members - 107

Active=67
Active-Modern=3
Active-Partner=3
Active-R85=15
Active-Service=17
Staff Position=2

Total Attendance - 40

Active-Service: 7
Active-Modern: 2
Active-R85: 5
Active: 20
Guest: 6

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