

The Big Wheel

Club 2520, District 6150
January 13, 2025
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Rotary Club of Jonesboro
P.O. Box 654
Jonesboro, AR 72403
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This Week's Program -- January 14, 2025

A.T.L.A.S Transition Program: A Perfect Extension of the H.O.W.L Transition Program

Our program this week is Dr. Kristin Johnson, Executive Director of the RESTORE Hub at A-State. She will explain the new program, A.T.L.A.S. (Autonomy Through Leadership, Advocacy and Service) Transition Program, which will be a continuation of the already in place, H.O.W.L. (Helping Our Wolves Learn) Transition Program.



The H.O.W.L. Transition Program, which began in 2020, provides the A-State experience to students with intellectual/developmental disabilities and/or autism. The H.O.W.L. Transition Program also provides support to students who may need mentoring, social skills, career planning, independent living skills and academic support. Through engagement and inclusive practices, this program is committed to providing positive learning environments for students with intellectual disabilities and autism.

The mentors aid the H.O.W.L. students with the transition from home to A-State by enhancing the tools needed to be independent, such as finances, budgeting and daily living skills. Every student has access to trained professionals for the social, emotional and behavioral goals he or she seeks to achieve.

A-State Career Services Center and the H.O.W.L. Transition Program are partners to achieve each student's career aspirations during his or her internship. The students may have supported internships to assist in achieving employment in their desired field. The students will compile a portfolio of work, videos and resume-building skills. In addition, our mentors and graduate students will help bridge the skills needed for students' success.

Come hear how A-State includes all students of intellectual abilities. Bring a friend or colleague.

Service Project -- Bring Peanut Butter



Our service project for January is to bring peanut butter.

It will be donated on January 28.

Good News -- January 7, 2025

April Leggett carried the mic for Good News.

Gregory Hansen purchased a new car after reasoning that a new car was actually more economical than a used one.

Janice Griffin, Director of DHS, thanked the club for donating \$500 to provide Christmas gifts for children.

Claudia Shannon donated several items to the club's history display. She read the acceptance speech by **Joe Burns**, club president 1948-49, which illustrated how belonging to Rotary was meaningful to members long ago as well as today.

Club Leaders



Jennifer Hannah
Treasurer-Elect
President



Chad Chadwick
President-Elect



Alicia Dyer / Benson
Secretary



Jeremy Todd Watson
Treasurer



Berl A. Smith
President-Nominee
Rotary Foundation
Chair

Events

January 14th
Jonesboro Club Meeting Jan 14 - Dr. Kristin Johnson, A-State

Speaker: Dr. Kristin Johnson, Executive Director, The RESTORE Hub, A-State

Subject: A.T.L.A.S Transition Program: A Perfect Extension of the H.O.W.L Transition Program

January 21st
Jonesboro Club Meeting Jan 21 - Dr. David Rankin

Speaker: Dr. David Rankin, Former SAU President, & Author

Subject: The Economics of Freedom: In Defense of Capitalism

Birthdays



[Will Branch](#)
January 20th



[John T. Sloan](#)
January 22nd



[Amy Hughes](#)
February 3rd



[Joe Turney](#)
February 6th



[Mickey Latour](#)
February 11th

Norman Stafford realized again the importance of Rotary in his life. He has to be gone for five weeks and already misses the club.

Russ Hannah and his wife, Cindy, are celebrating their 41st anniversary.

Wes Eddington appreciates how much his wife, **Debbie**, loves him. She rode with him in freezing weather during the Polar Bear Run over the holidays.

Donald Cooper realized how much he enjoyed being in Rotary.

Jill Clogston had a close call with her father over the holidays but he is now recovering. On January 28, her parents will celebrate their 69th anniversary.

Last Week's Program -- January 7, 2025



DEIB Makes for a Stronger Workforce

Dr. Evette Allen Moore, Inaugural Assistant Dean, DEI, at NYIT presented our program on DEIB as a Tool for Organization Cohesion. DEIB stands for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging. It's a concept that's important for creating a fair and equitable workplace and society.

Dr. Moore began by listing the myths people have about DEIB.

Myth 1 -- DEIB is emphasized when something is wrong.

Myth 2 -- DEIB is handled by a DEI office.

Myth 3 -- DEIB is divisive.

Myth 4 -- DEIB ignores standards.

Myth 5 -- DEIB is only for marginalized populations.

Myth 6 -- DEIB implementation is easy.

After explaining how these myths are incorrectly perceived by employers and employees, she gave a scenario and asked members to tell how DEIB could be used in the workplace. Members were divided into groups by the table where they sat and discussed DEIB. Their findings were presented to the members at today's meeting.

To strengthen workplace cohesion in the midst of disagreement, employers should set expectations and guidelines for dealing with disagreement, ask for employee feedback on solutions, encourage constructive dissent, and have a plan for accountability when expectations are not met.

Employees should feel welcomed and valued by the people and environment around them for who they are.

Report Card - January 7, 2025

Total Members = 114

Active=74

Active-Modern=3

Active-Partner=3

Active-R85=15

Active-Service=17

Staff Position=2

Active-Service: 7

Active-Modern: 1

Active-R85: 5

Active: 29

Active-Partner: 1

Guest: 3

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