

**Rotary**  
Little Rock



**Illuminate  
the Rock**

**ROTARY CLUB  
OF LITTLE ROCK**

2022-2023

**Tuesday, July 19, 2022**

**11:30 a.m. Networking and Buffet Open | Noon  
Program**

**Great Hall, Clinton Center**

**Virtual Option: Zoom**

*From the Clinton Center: Based upon guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, anyone entering the Clinton Center must wear a mask while indoors, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status except when seated at their table or when actively eating or drinking.*

### **Valerie Biden Owens, Author, Growing Up Biden**



Valerie Biden Owens sits on the Advisory Board of the Beau Biden Foundation for the Protection of Children. As the first woman in U.S. history to run a presidential campaign, she led seven consecutive winning campaigns for the U.S. Senate, and twice ran presidential campaigns for her brother, President Joseph R. Biden. President Barack Obama nominated her as advisor to the United Nations 71st General Assembly. She is a graduate of the University of Delaware. She is married to Jack Owens, an attorney and businessman. They have three children.

Books available, Ms. Biden Owens will be signing before and after the meeting

Copies of "Growing Up Biden" can be pre-ordered through the Clinton Museum Store <https://www.clintonmuseumstore.org/>

[cproduct/13753/pre-order:-growing-up-biden](#). Please use the "pick up" option to avoid a delivery charge. Owens will be available after the meeting to sign copies at the Clinton Center.

### **RCLR 2022-23 Presidential Year Kickoff Meeting**

**Illuminate  
the Rock**

It's my honor to serve as the 111<sup>th</sup> president of the Rotary Club of Little Rock - especially during our region's tricentennial. I appreciate those of you who joined us Tuesday for our 2022-23 kick-off meeting.

As I stated in my State of the Club, our theme for this year is 'Illuminate the Rock.' And to shine a light on the rich history of our club and community, each week we'll share stories about unique facts and interesting characters and visitors. More broadly, I hope you'll join us in shining the light on all those in our community that benefit from so many of our terrific service projects.

During my remarks, I announced several of our amazing programs, noteworthy service projects and fun socials we have planned. A few of them are highlighted below, but you can watch the kickoff program video here: [RCLR 2022-23 Presidential Year Kickoff Meeting.mp4](#)



## Top-Notch Programs

Our weekly meetings will provide breaking news moments, interesting insights and entertaining programming. So far, our confirmed speaker highlights include author **Valerie Biden Owens**, "Growing Up Biden"; Southeastern Conference Commissioner **Greg Sankey**; Showtime's 'The Circus' contributors **Mark McKinnon** and **Jennifer Palmieri**; author **Sam Quinones**; Emmy Award-nominated actor **Judge Reinhold**; Texas country singer-songwriter **Gary P. Nunn**; Feeding America CEO **Claire Babineaux-Fontenot**; and Arkansas **Governor Asa Hutchinson**.

Other planned programs include the announcement of the Envisioning 30 Crossing Design and Ideas Competition winners; our new LRSD Superintendent Dr. Jermall Wright; a panel on Little Rock's Growing Homeless Crisis; an always popular Election Day Panel moderated by Roby Brock with Charles Blake, Robert Coon and Rex Nelson; the Little Rock Fire Awards; a panel highlighting some of our state's leading Hispanic-run businesses; and a super fun holiday program And that's just through 2022!

We will be offering our members a half-price cost option to attend the annual Broyles Award luncheon again. For any members unable to attend, we will offer a "fireside chat" option.

In addition to bringing back our Club 99 Dinner Parties, where we will dine in members' homes (save the date for Sept. 27), we will have many amazing opportunities to stay engaged through our service projects, fun socials and networking opportunities.

## Service Above Self

As the state's premiere service organization, I reiterated our service opportunities where members give back and help out throughout Central Arkansas, including our longstanding support of Camp Aldersgate's Annual Fish Fry, Dunbar Magnet Middle School Partnership, Miracle League, Little Rock Police & Fire Awards, College Scholarships, Ottenheimer International Youth Program, and much more. We'll also be launching a new school-year focused pilot project for Literacy Lab, our innovative literacy partnership with LRSD, AR Kids Read, Excel by 8 and others.

## Membership Belongs to All of Us

I am challenging the club to get 50 new members this year. Membership is something that belongs to all of us. So please help us invite the business and professional leaders that need to be at Club 99. Together, I know we can do it.

## Broadway Bridge

Finally, I cast a vision for how I am hopeful our club can take on the challenge over the next few years to bring our community together – both sides of the river – through the process of lighting the Veterans Memorial Bridge, or what many of us know as the Broadway Bridge. Lit at night, this beautiful bridge will serve as a symbolic gift to the community for our region's tricentennial.

Like with Milwaukee's [Light the Hoan](#) project, we plan to launch a coding competition with area school districts so students can design interactive LED light and sound shows. Imagine watching these kids as they see their shows come to life, the shows they learned how to code in our public schools! We'll be inspiring our next generation of tech talent, right here in Little Rock! As Rotarians, we can – and must – lead the charge to spur on others who share our vision to finally make this project a reality!

I look forward to seeing the ways we will bring our community together and make a positive impact in the lives of our young people! Together, we will illuminate the Rock.

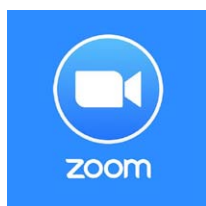
## NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

President Joe Biden's younger sister, Valerie Biden Owens, is promoting her New York Times bestselling memoir, "Growing Up Biden." As part of her book tour, she will join us for a meeting hosted in conjunction with the Political Animals Club. Her new memoir brings readers into the Biden home, sharing stories from growing up in Delaware and her decades-long professional career in politics and the role she's played in her brother's life.

Owens will be available after the meeting to sign copies, which will be available for purchase. You may also pre-order a copy by visiting the Clinton Museum Store's [website](#).

Please note, due to the rising number of COVID cases, the Clinton Presidential Center will require masks for all attendees.

## Zoom login for July 19, 2022



RCLR Weekly Meeting 7.19.22

Time: Jul 19, 2022 11:30 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86815519280?pwd=emFHRINHSTBPUIhRKzAzMmZSOXhtdz09>

Meeting ID: 868 1551 9280

Passcode: 996148

One tap mobile

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+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 868 1551 9280

Passcode: 996148

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86815519280>

## Upcoming Programs

### July 2022

19 Valerie Biden Owens, Author, Growing Up Biden

Books available

26 Governor Asa Hutchinson