

Rotary



Club of Mattoon

Congratulations, Ally Walsh and Logan Samuelson, Rotary Students of the Month, February 2025!



Each month throughout the school year, Rotary recognizes two outstanding Mattoon High School seniors who are nominated by their teachers and selected as Students of the Month based on their academic achievements and citizenship. The students, and their special guests, visit a Rotary Club meeting and Rotarians have the opportunity to meet them and learn about their high school activities, achievements and future plans following graduation. What an inspiring group of current and future leaders!

In photo: Ally Walsh and Logan Samuelson with their parents; Vinnie Walk, Mattoon High School Teacher and Nominator; and Rick Hall, Mattoon Rotarian and Mayor.

02.19.25 and 02.26.25 Meeting Notes and More!



Call to Order

The February 19 and February 26 meetings were called to order by President Noah Olson and all in attendance recited the **Pledge of Allegiance**. President Noah provided the **Inspiration**.

Club Meeting

Mattoon
Meets at Mattoon Golf & Country Club
6700 N Country Club Rd
Mattoon, IL 61938-8427
Time: Wednesday at 12:00 PM

Speakers

March 05, 2025
Tim Paap - Paap Auto Body
March 12, 2025
Installation of New Club Members: Recognize MHS Students of the Month
March 19, 2025
Rural Urban Day - Lake Land College
March 22, 2025
Chicago Comedy All-Stars
March 26, 2025
Marsha Griffin, Office of the Attorney General: Consumer Fraud Awareness

Birthdays

Lindsey Butler
March 4th
Mike Martin
March 4th
John M Covington
March 15th
Heidi Larson
March 15th
Janet Grove
March 20th

Club Leaders



Guests

Guests on February 19 included the Students of the Month, Cari Shepard, guest of Luci Englum and potential new member, and Kayla Kerner who submitted her application for membership. There were no guests on February 26.

Sergeant at Arms

February 19 Happy \$\$ included John Covington (recognizing the date of what would have been his father's 102nd birthday); Laura Reichart (birthday); Steve Kite (55th wedding anniversary/one week after his 55th anniversary of return from Vietnam). On February 26, Rick Hall assessed fines to Rick Hall and Malcolm O'Neill for photos in the newspaper and Gary Swearingen for his SC3F logo shirt.

Business & Announcements

Reminder: Weekly meetings return to the Mattoon Golf & Country Club beginning March 5

Comedy Night: Purchase tickets now from John Covington, Malcolm O'Neill or Gary Swearingen. Gary shared that, with the endowment now fully funded, event proceeds will continue to support annual expenses for heart screening and will also be used to help pay costs for athletic physicals and personal sports equipment for youth with financial need. There will be additional club-directed funds available.

RYLA Youth Camp: April 4-6: Seeking applications from high school sophomores and juniors; Also seeking volunteers to help with the weekend activities. Contact Kim Denton or Noah Olson for additional information.

Rural Urban Day: March 19. Speaker will be Jeff Nalley, Broadcaster/Journalist at Cromwell AG Radio Network. Last day to register is March 12. Sign up at the Club meeting March 5 or 12.

Rotary Foundation Matching: Anyone interested in the Club \$100 donation matching announced in previous weeks should contact Mike Martin. Beginning March 1, D6490 will match with 200 Paul Harris points.

Insert Sponsorship Sales: Again this year, all members are asked to sell at least two sponsorships for this major annual club fundraiser. These funds make our club and community service projects possible. Terry Baker distributed sales packets to all members in attendance.

March Board Meeting: The Board is holding a planning meeting on Saturday, March 8 from 1-4 p.m. There will be no additional Board Meeting in March.

Rotary District 6490 Legacy Dinner: Gary Swearingen shared that he is assisting with the Legacy Dinner to be held in Bloomington-Normal on March 29. Those interested in committing to a lifetime donation of \$10,000 or more should contact Gary or Mike Martin.

Students of the Month

On February 19, Rick Hall recognized the Mattoon High School Rotary Students of the Month. Both students were nominated by Vinnie Walk who also attended the meeting. (See separate article.)

Programs

On February 19, Rick Hall introduced Dave Clark, Public Works Director, City of Mattoon, as the program speaker, noting that Dave was employed with IDOT for 28 years, then self-employed, and has now been with the City for 13 months. Public Works includes streets, boulevards and sidewalks, water, sewer, building maintenance (including the train depot) and Lake Mattoon and Lake Paradise dam maintenance. Dave shared information about annual planning and projects and the cost-sharing program that is allowing the city to more quickly improve sidewalks. Dave shared information regarding grant opportunities that have helped support city projects and the new IWORKS online system that will soon be launched to enable community members to report problems and enter information. This will allow a more streamlined response by the appropriate city departments.

On February 26, Steve Kite introduced Jeff Hilligoss, Fire Chief, Mattoon Fire Department, as the program speaker. Jeff is a lifelong resident of Mattoon who has been part of the Fire Department since 1995. Jeff began by encouraging community involvement to help ensure a safe community, including the importance of having functioning smoke detectors. He also shared how the Fire Department can help with disposal of old home fire extinguishers. The Fire Department employs approximately 30 firefighters with 17 of the 30 being new. All new recruits attend a 12-week fire academy and must also be paramedic certified. The daily minimum number of firefighters on duty is 8. The minimum number needed to send to a fire is 15; therefore, partnerships with local volunteer departments and neighboring departments are important. The department responded to approximately 3,600 calls last year, generally categorized into one of the following four categories: structure fires, traffic accidents, medical emergencies, and water incidents.

Weekly Raffle Drawing Winner

February 19: Derik Doughty

February 26: Deanne Silence

Triple Treat

The February 19 winner of \$11 was Heidi Larson. *Heidi drew the Ace of Spades and won the pot!* The total of her winnings will be announced soon!

February 26 began a new deck of cards. The drawing winner of \$15 was Terry Baker.

The meetings closed with members reciting **The Four-Way Test of the things we think, say or do.**

Upcoming Club Meetings

March 5: Program: Tim Paap - Paap Auto Body

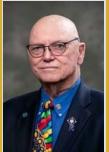
March 12: Installation of New Members; Recognize March Students of the Month

March 19: *Rural Urban Day - Lake Land College, 12:00, West Building - REGISTER BY MARCH 12*

March 26: Marsha Griffin, Office of Illinois Attorney General, Fraud Awareness

Upcoming Special Dates/Events

March 22: *Rotary Comedy Night!* Hilton Garden Inn with Chicago Comedy All-Stars - **BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!**

	Office Noah Olson President
	Terry Baker President- Elect
	Laura Reichart Club Executive Secretary Secretary
	Alyssa Nichols Treasurer
	Rick Hall Club Director
	Mike Martin Club Director
	Tina Stovall Club Admin Chair Club Service Chair Past President Public Relations Chair
	Gary L. Swearingen Club Director
	Judy Baker Membership Chair
	Kim Edwards Sergeant- at-Arms
	Scott L. Eggleston Community Service Chair Service Projects Chair
	Janet Grove Rotary Foundation Chair iPas President
	Mark A. McDaniel Youth

April 1: Rotary Club of Mattoon 104th Anniversary
April 4-6: RYLA Youth Camp, Allerton 4-H Camp, Monticello, IL



Services
Chair

Check the Club website at mattoonrotary.org or DACdb for more programs and events!

Program Committees:

March: Chair: Kim Denton. Members: Melissa McDaniel, Alyssa Nichols, Kim Uphoff
April: Chair: Samantha Barr. Members: Lindsey Butler, Ryan Haifley, Shauna Fanello
May: Chair: Chris Strohl, Larry Larvick, Laura Reichtart, Susan Riggert
June: Chair: Jason Heuerman, Rick Hall, Matthew Froeschle, Gary Swearingen

Reminder: Community Events (Represent Rotary; send us a selfie in your Rotary t-shirt; earn a make-up!)