

Rotary



Club of Chattanooga

Events

April 17th
Thom Benson, VP
Communications
TN Aquarium &
New CEO Andy
Wood

April 24th
Bo Drake -
TCAT/Chatt State

May 1st
NO THURSDAY
ROTARY MEETING

May 2nd
Rotary Friday
Multi-District
Conference
**Reservations
required

May 8th
Richard Kennedy -
ED TN Commission
on Children &
Youth

Club Leaders



Douglas S.
Thompson
President



Edna E.
Varner
President -
Elect



Michael J.
Costa
President -
Nominee



Larry S.
Parks
Secretary



Mark A.
Stewart
Treasurer



Jens
Christensen
Club
Director



Robin B.
Derryberry
Public
Image
Chair



Emily C.
Mack
Club
Director



Kurt J.
Faïres
Club
Membership
Chair

Doug Thompson



111th Rotary President

Rotary Meeting
Thursday
April 17, 2025
Chattanooga Convention Center
Ballrooms 4 / 5 / 6

SPEAKERS:

Tennessee Aquarium
Thom Benson & Andy Wood

Thom Benson:
VP and Chief Communications and Marketing Officer



Thom Benson:
Before joining the Aquarium team, he spent more than 20 years in broadcast journalism and meteorology.

Thom began serving the Aquarium as a volunteer SCUBA diver while working for WRCB-TV in Chattanooga.

Since joining the Aquarium staff in 2006, Benson has been involved in successfully marketing new Aquarium exhibits, the IMAX 3D Theater, and communicating the importance of the Aquarium's education initiatives, and freshwater scientific research and conservation efforts.

Andy Wood
President and CEO



Don
McDowell
Club
Service
Chair



Robert D.
Moss
Club Rotary
Foundation
Chair



David
Steele
Sergeant-
at-Arms



J. Tom
Glenn
iPast
President

Club Meeting

Chattanooga
Meets at Chattanooga
Convention and Trade
Center
One Carter Plaza
Chattanooga, TN
37402
Time: Thursday at
12:00 PM



Andy has extensive experience working in public aquaria. For the past seven years, he has served as COO of the Florida Aquarium in Tampa, FL.

He served as Executive VP of Strategic Initiatives/COO, guiding teams in charge of Aquarium Operations, Marine Operations, Design & Engineering, Marketing & Communications, Education, Animal Care and Welfare, and Animal Health Departments, as well as the Florida Aquarium's Center for Conservation.

Andy also served as the project executive on a \$45 million capital expansion at the Florida Aquarium.

Prior to joining the team in Tampa, Wood spent seven years as the Senior VP of External Relations at the Mystic Aquarium in Connecticut.

68th Rotary Tennis Tournament

68th Rotary Tennis Tournament April 4th & 5th



Winners



Winners

Behind the scenes at Baylor



Jack Webb, Hugh Morrow
Martin Summitt



Laura Ketcham



Jack Webb Martin Summitt
Laura Ketcham Erin Kelly



Behind the scenes at McCallie

Scott Mattice



Tom Gifford - Shaw Wilson

Welcome New Members

Tyler Winks
Erlanger Health
975 E. 3rd Street
37403
Phone: (423) 680-8903
email: tyler.winks@erlanger.org
Matthew Phillips
Rise Partners
832 Georgia Ave
Suite 300
37405
Phone: 423-762-1847
email: mphillips@risepartners.net
Garnett Decosimo
Decosimo Corporate Finance
629 Market St
Suite 120
37402
Phone: (423) 266-4000
email: garnett@decosimo.com

Michelle Sermon-Davis
BlueCross BlueShield of TN
1 Cameron Hill
37402
Phone: (423) 535-7873
email: MMSermon@gmail.com

Scott Pierce
BlueCross Blue Shield of TN
1 Cameron Hill Circle
37402
Phone: (423) 305-2323
email: Scott_pierce@bcbst.com

Friday May 2nd 12 Noon

Friday - May 2nd
12 Noon - 2PM
Chattanooga Convention Center
Multi-District Conference

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Speakers:

Former Rotary International Presidents

John Germ – Rotary Club of Chattanooga
and

K. R. Ravindran – Rotary Club of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Please reply to this email if you plan to attend the lunch on Friday, May 2nd.


President Doug would love to have at least 50 people attend.

****Make a reservation** and come on down for Lunch on FRIDAY, May 2nd 12 Noon**

Make a reservation

NO ROTARY MEETING ON THURSDAY, MAY 1ST

Chattanooga Rotary Program Calendar 2025

<div> <div>Chattanooga Rotary Program Calendar 2025</div> <div>  </div> </div>		
Date	Speaker	Rotary Program
17-Apr	Thom Benson & CEO Andy Wood	Tennessee Aquarium Update
24-Apr	Bo Drake	TCAT/ChattState
MAY 1ST	THURSDAY, MAY 1ST "NO" ROTARY MEETING	NO THURSDAY MAY 1ST ROTARY MEETING
Friday 2-May	FRIDAY, MAY 2ND Multi-District Conference Lunch 12 Noon - 2PM Chattanooga Convention Center RESERVATIONS REQUIRED	Speakers-May 2nd Multi-District Conference Former Rotary International Presidents John Germ – Rotary Club of Chattanooga and K. R. Ravindran – Rotary Club of Colombo, Sri Lanka
8-May	Richard Kennedy	ED TN Commission on Children & Youth
15-May	Donna McConnico	Signal Centers/Global Access Awareness
22-May	Spring Outing	Rotary Miracle Field Watch a game
29-May	Brian McSween	Chattanooga Ballet
5-Jun	Tim Kelly	Mayor of Chattanooga
12-Jun	Dennis Tumlin	TN Department of Tourism
19-Jun	Doug & Edna	Year in Review & Edna Varner Inauguration
26-Jun	No Meeting	NO ROTARY MEETING

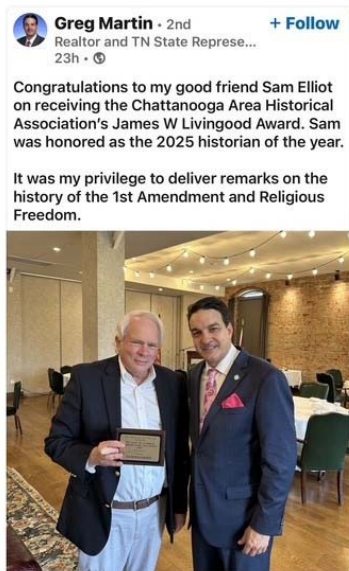
Congratulations.....UTC MOCS!!



YEAH!!!! GO....MOCS....

Rotarian in the News

Sam Elliott,
Chattanooga Area Historical Association's James W. Livingood Award.

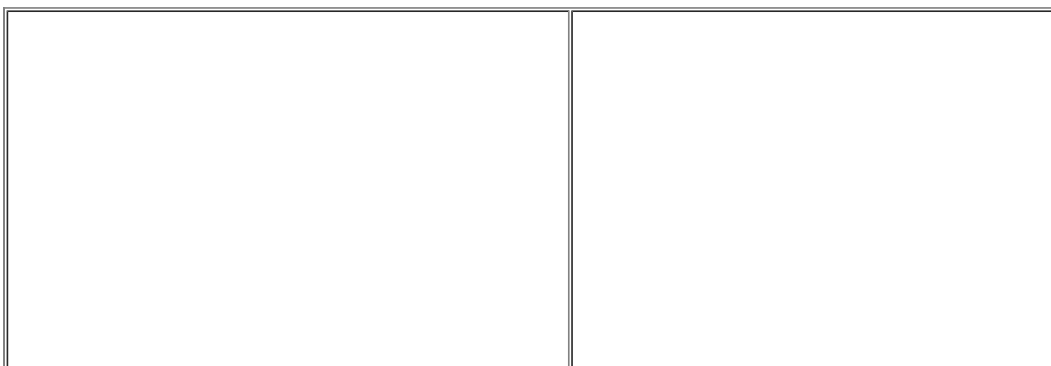


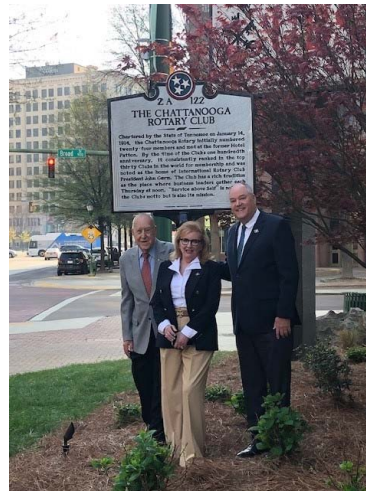
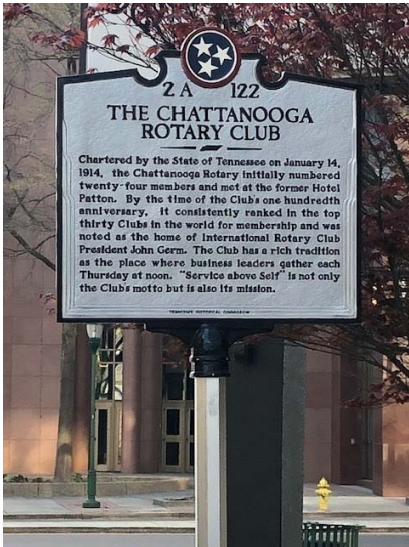
Sam was honored as the 2025 Historian of the year.
Presentation by Greg Martin, 2nd Realtor and TN State Representative

Chattanooga Rotary Historical Marker

The Chattanooga Rotary Club completed an 18-month approval process by the Tennessee Historical Commission to have a historical marker dedicated to the City's oldest civic club.

The marker notes the founding of the Club in 1914 and pays respect to one of Rotary International's former Presidents, Chattanooga Rotarian John Germ.





Thank you to Robin Derryberry and her PR Committee for a job well done!

The Rotary Historical Marker is located in front of the UBS Building at 100 W. M L King Blvd. Go by take a selfie, send it to Wanda at the Rotary office and get a make-up credit.

Four Way Test

Is it the Truth?	Is it Fair?
Will it build Goodwill and better friendship?	Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

THE 4-WAY TEST

One of the most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics in the world is the Rotary "4-Way Test." It was created by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor in 1932 when he was asked to take charge of the Chicago based Club Aluminum Company, which was facing bankruptcy. Taylor looked for a way to save the struggling company mired in depression-caused financial difficulties. He drew up a 24-word code of ethics for all employees to follow in their business and professional lives. The 4-Way Test became the guide for sales, production, advertising and all relations with dealers and customers, and the survival of the company was credited to this simple philosophy. Herb Taylor became president of Rotary International during 1954-55. The 4-Way Test was adopted by Rotary in 1943 and has been translated into more than 100 languages and published in thousands of ways. The message should be known and followed by all Rotarians.

"Of the things we think, say or do:

1.

Is it the TRUTH?

2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?

3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?"

Largest Rotary Clubs in the United States

Rotary - United States			
	Club	City Pop.	Members
1	Birmingham, AL	1,144,919	581
2	Oklahoma, OK	681,054	570
3	Atlanta, GA	6,193,000	492
4	Baton Rouge, LA	227,470	474
5	Nashville, TN	715,884	453
6	Madison, WI	272,903	421
7	Louisville, KY	624,444	360
8	Milwaukee, WI	577,222	343
9	Wichita, KS	396,192	338
10	Toledo, OH	266,301	332
11	Downtown Sioux Falls, ID	202,078	330
12	Rotary Club of Chattanooga	181,099	322
13	Little Rock, AK	202,591	315
14	Rochester, NY	209,352	313
15	York, PA	456,438	298
16	Cincinnati, OH	309,317	258
17	Mobile, AL	187,041	245
18	Columbus, OH	913,175	244
19	Lincoln, NE	292,627	243
20	Charlotte, NC	879,709	237

