

Rotary

District 6780



Club of Cleveland



Rotary Opens Opportunities

Speakers

April 06, 2021

Darde Long
Chattanooga Zoo

April 13, 2021

Joe Bryan
Trail of Tears

Club Leaders



Michael J Griffin
President



Vaughn J Berger
President-Elect



Bethany McCoy
President-Nominee
Vice President



Matt Wiseman
Secretary



Tanya E Mazzolini
Treasurer



Zachary T Brooks
Public Relations Chair

Kim Gunter

Rising Cases of Autism: LUDIC Spectrum Center

By Douglas B Caywood on Friday, April 2, 2021



Father Joel from St. Luke's Episcopal Church made the introduction for the speaker for the March 30, 2021 Rotary Club of Cleveland meeting. Father Joel came to Cleveland in 2003, became involved with the Lee University basketball team as chaplain, and joined the board of LUDIC. His passion grew to raise awareness for this organization and its mission.

He introduced the director of LUDIC Spectrum Center Inc., Dr. Tammy Johnson. Dr. Johnson's goal each day is to 'do something that matters..to make a difference.' In a private school for students with Autism, Johnson summarized the history of the 22 years of the school. The school's location was at Lee for 18 years, at the Family Life Center for 2 years, had a short tenure at the former Westmore Church facility on 25th Street, and is now at its new home - the previous location of the Montessori School. It has been 2 years since the separation from Lee University as LUDIC transitioned into its own 501(c)3 and changed its name to LUDIC Spectrum Center, Inc.

The school serves students with impaired communication, social interaction and sensory issues. Students who are on the spectrum are rising 10-17% per year. Currently, 1 in 48-54 children have Autism.

The center also has a vision to expand its services to adults as well to assist with vocational training and housing. Adults can mask when engaging with other people, but it is hard to do. Johnson summarized a case where a college student would have to leave the dorm in the evenings to go sit alone in a classroom as they couldn't handle the interaction anymore.

LUDIC is family focused. The school and staff have the students 7 hours per day, 170 days during the school year and 15 days during the summer. But a majority of the students' time is at home.

The school currently has 16 students (13 male, 3 female). The entity has worked with Bradley County



Bulletin Editor



Douglas B. Caywood
CCO-Club Comm. Offcr



David Curtis Chaffin
Rotary Foundation
Chair



Kyle Cooper
Membership Chair



James Harper
Service Projects Chair



Donald L. Littrell
Sergeant-at-Arms



Andrea Boddeker
Club Programs Chair



James Bently Thomas
III
Club Programs Chair



Peggy Ann Pesterfield
Club Youth Services
Chair



Dwight W. Richardson
iPast President



David Curtis Chaffin
Assistant District
Governor

Schools and Athens Schools and has had students as far away as Dalton, GA; Dayton, TN; and Hamilton County, TN. Some of the students don't talk and some talk all the time. The 1:2 ratio staff work with the students individually where they are. Unlike traditional schools, the staff also assists with toilet training as needed.

Johnson encouraged volunteering to assist in a growing population of students that are on the spectrum. She reiterated that a leading cause of autism has been focused on the amount of toxins in our environment and there is not a solution as the numbers of cases continue to rise.

Interactive Member Poll: March 31, 2021 - Love is where to start

Friday, April 2, 2021

At the March 31 meeting we heard from LUDIC Spectrum Center about the care and learning the provide for students and adults on the spectrum. The number of students who are on the spectrum are rising 10-17% per year.

Tell us: Do you have any immediate family (children, parents, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews) diagnosed as on the autism spectrum?

Yes

No

Having trouble with the survey link image? Click here:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RCoC0331Program>

April 6 Program: Darde Long - Chattanooga Zoo

Friday, April 2, 2021



In 1985, Dardenelle Long was hired as the head Zookeeper of the Chattanooga Zoo at Warner Park. Dardenelle Long is a native Chattanooga and attended Auburn University and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Birthdays

Ken Melton
April 2nd

Kim Gunter
April 5th

James Harper
April 6th

Bryan C Clary
April 13th

Bradley Benson
April 13th

Kyle Cooper
April 16th

Nicholas Lillios
April 17th

Brian Workman
April 20th

Brent Thomas Baker
April 27th

Under her leadership, the Chattanooga Zoo has undergone major renovations and an improvement, grown from an acre and a half to almost 14 acres, added extensively to its animal collection, developed numerous educational offerings, and has evolved into a strong community resource for all.

As the Zoo has grown, so has the mission and vision, and conservation has become far more important aspect of the mission and vision. The Zoo works with numerous conservation organizations to support field work and exhibits a proportionately large number of endangered species.

Just this past year, the Zoo welcomed over 262,000 visitors. The Chattanooga Zoo is a great place for families, friends and animal lovers of all ages to enjoy.

Dardenelle was one of early women Directors in AZA and has served on numerous committees for that organization. She has also served on the board of Zoo Conservation Outreach Group, and is a champion for small zoos, and enjoys helping those organizations find ways to contribute to conservation.

In her time away from the Zoo, Dardenelle takes care of her 4 legged rescue dogs and her 2 legged husband, Gary.

Service Opportunity: Volunteers needed for Dictionary Project

Wednesday, March 31, 2021



Pictured: Doug Caywood and a third grade class at Valley View Elementary School displaying their new dictionaries in 2019

Volunteers are needed for our Dictionary Project! As part of the dictionary project, you'll hand out dictionaries to each student in a class, and spend a little time showing them some features of the dictionary (Longest word! List of US Presidents! How to find a word!). You get to have some fun, and the kids are opened to world of words and increased literacy!

You can volunteer for a specific local school, or volunteer for the project in general and you'll be assigned to a school. To volunteer, contact Lyle Swartzel at contact Lyle 423-339-1905
lswartzel@shelterinsurance.com

Rotary President Mike Griffin Wins William F. Johnson Award from UW Ocoee Region

Friday, April 2, 2021



Congratulations to our Club President Mike Griffin for this well deserved award! He was this year's recipient of the United Way of the Ocoee Region's William F. Johnson Award. This is the highest accolade for volunteerism, presented to one volunteer each year.

Paul Harris Fellows Awarded to Dr. Bill Seymour and Matt Wiseman

Wednesday, March 31, 2021



Pictured left to right: Bill Seymour, Matt Wiseman, David Chaffin

Rotary Foundation Chair David Chaffin awarded two Paul Harris Fellowships at the March 30, 2021 meeting: Rotarians Bill Seymour and Matt Wiseman each received their first Paul Harris Fellowship.

The Paul Harris Fellow recognition acknowledges individuals who contribute, or who have contributions made in their name, of \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation. Learn more about Paul Harris Fellows at <https://www.rotary.org/en/history-paul-harris-fellow-recognition>.

Matching Grant Funds Presented to Club

Wednesday, March 31, 2021



Pictured: Paul Dellinger presenting check to President Mike Griffin

Paul Dellinger, Grants Committee Chair, presented a check for over \$2,900 to the club at the March 30, 2021 meeting. This check is money coming back to the club as a matching grant for the two reading projects that were implemented by Bradley County Schools and Cleveland City Schools.

Learn more about District Grants here: <http://www.rotarydistrict6780.com/applyfordistrictgrant.php>

Dictionary Labeling Success!

Friday, April 2, 2021

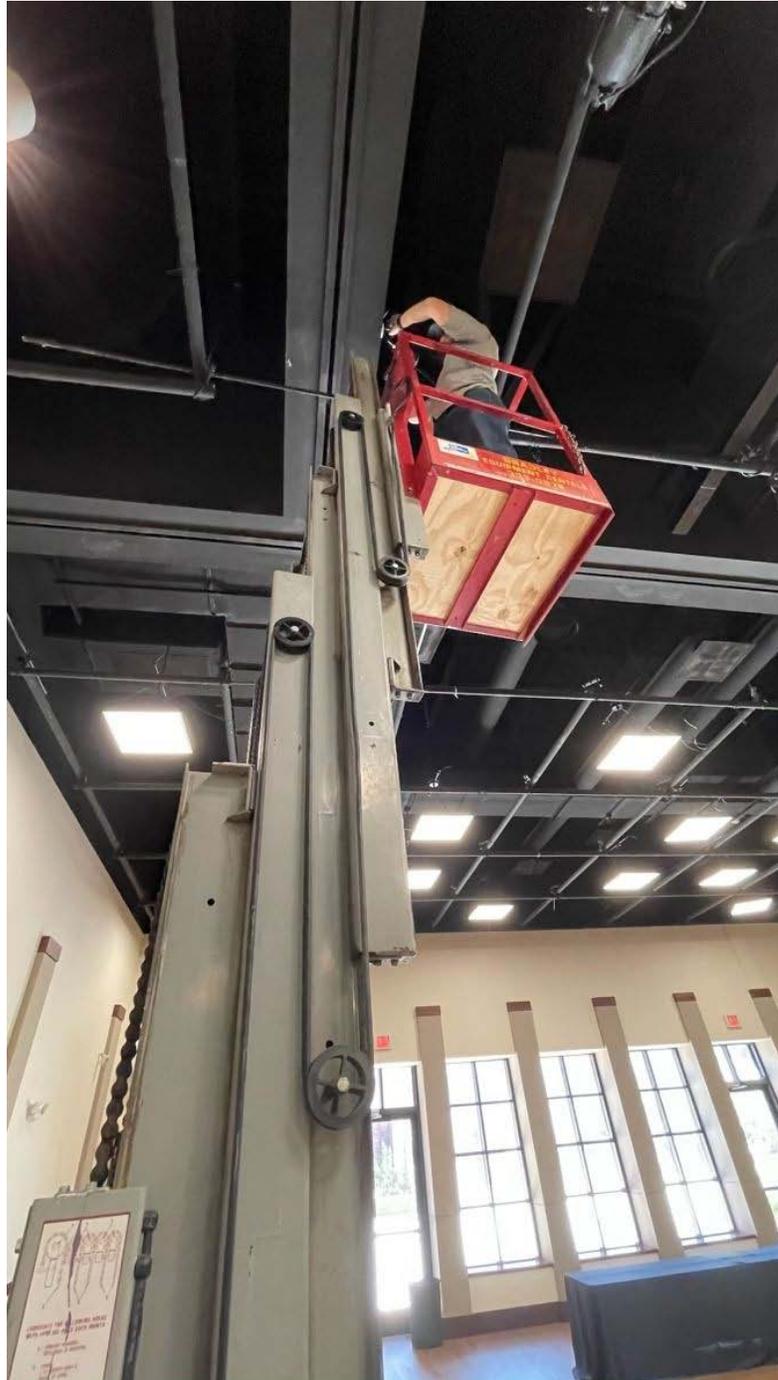


Labeling and sorting dictionaries on April 1 at the Chamber went quickly and smoothly thanks to help from City and County students, and these Rotarians: Lyle Swartzel, Brad Benson, Aaron Watherford, and Matt Wiseman.

Ready to volunteer to hand out dictionaries to a local third grade class? Contact Lyle: LSwartzel@ShelterInsurance.com

Zach Brooks Risking it All for Better Meetings

Friday, April 2, 2021



Rotarian Zach Brooks is risking it all to help make the sound and technology better for the Rotary Club and the Museum Center. Better sound quality for Zoomers and Roomers!

IN PERSON (or Zoom) beginning March 9th

Friday, March 5, 2021

A message from Rotary President Mike Griffin:

We will begin meeting hybrid (In person and via Zoom) beginning at our next meeting on March 9th. In case you missed it, I have attached a link to a survey regarding in person attendance and meals. Things to remember:

1. If you opted in for meals before, you will be opted back in for meals
2. If you want to change your preference let me or Tanya Mazzolini know
3. The charge for the four meals in March will be added to your next Rotary invoice

I look forward to seeing everyone either on Zoom or in person next week. Any questions, please feel free to give me a call. 423-802-2202 Remember the survey below. Thanks MG

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/rotaryattendance>

Here are the Zoom Instructions for March & April:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83762494154?pwd=REtldVExdzVRZ1hQOXlVZk9zWm9qUT09>

Meeting ID: 837 6249 4154

Passcode: 708044

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,83762494154#,,,,*708044# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,83762494154#,,,,*708044# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 837 6249 4154

Passcode: 708044

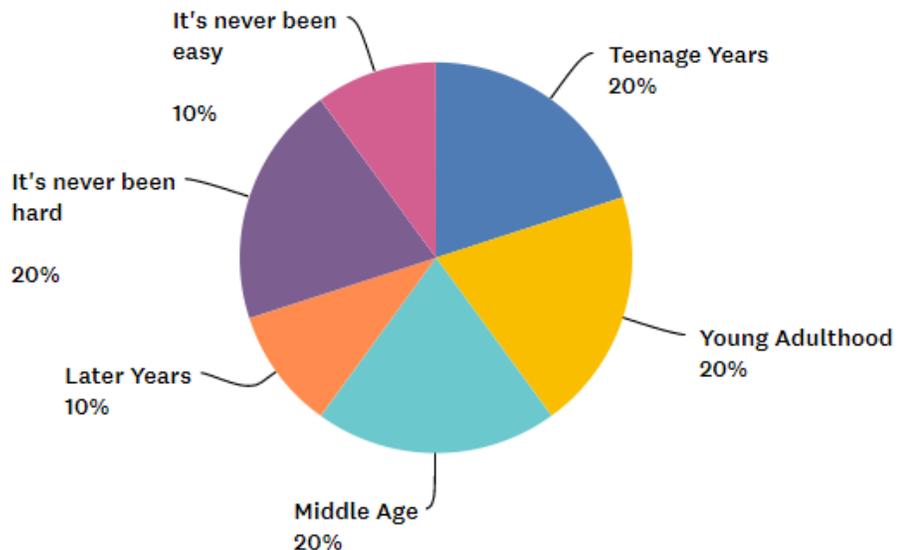
Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbaE65WBI5>

Results from last week's poll: What part of your life has been hardest?

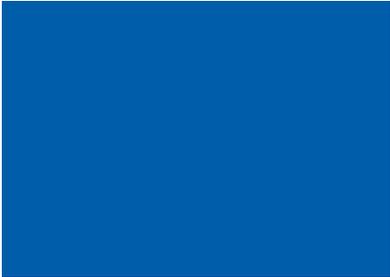
Friday, April 2, 2021

At the March 23, 2021 meeting Command Sargent Major Gary Littrell described how he had a hard start in life, but it didn't matter where you start, it's where you end.

Which stage of your life would you say was hardest?



There was a fairly even spread amongst answers, but it's interesting to note no one chose "childhood."



Don't forget to answer this week's poll: [Do you have immediate family diagnosed on the autism spectrum?](#)

Rotary Club of Cleveland
Meets at Museum Center at Five Points
200 Inman St E
Cleveland, TN 37311
Time: Tuesday at 12:00 PM