



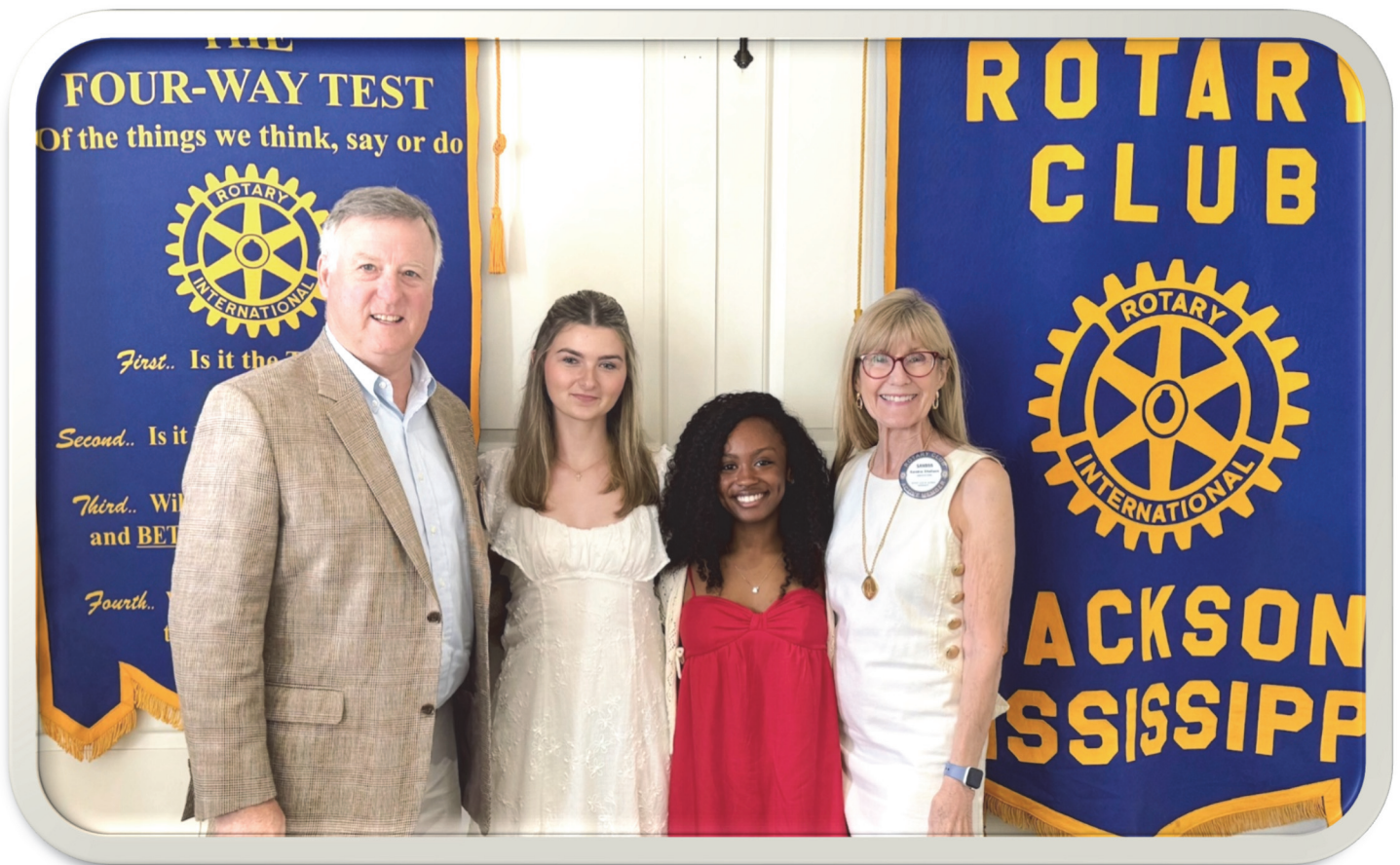
Rotary
Club of Jackson,
Mississippi



Rotagram

May 19, 2025

The Rotary Club of Jackson held its Annual Rotary Scholar Program.



L to R: Rotary President Phillip Carpenter – Rotary President; Owner, Carpenter Properties; Madelyn Haller – Scholarship Recipient; Shanti Guice – Scholarship Recipient; and Scholarship Committee Chair Sandra Shelton – Executive Director, The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi.

VOCATIONAL SPEAKERS:

The meeting began with two of our newest members introducing themselves and sharing their professions with the Club.



Beau Bettiga
Associate Attorney
Wise, Carter, Child, & Caraway, P.A.
Member since September 2023



Wyatt Dunn
Special Assistant Attorney General
Mississippi Attorney General's Office
Member since June 2025

Rotary President Phillip Carpenter welcomed Rotarians and guests.

He also led the Club in the Four Way Test.

Michael Van Velkinburgh delivered the Invocation.

Dean Jim Rosenblatt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Robby Toombs introduced our visitors:

Visiting Guests:

- Scholarship Recipient Madelyn Haller's family – Ian Tucker, Kathy Tucker, and Austin Haller
- Scholarship Recipient Shanti Guice's family – Lexi Williams and Keyfer (KJ) Williams
- Selena Swartzfager's guest – Attorney Frank Hadden
- Lee Bush's grandson – Dylan Bush

Visiting Rotarian – Charlie Johnson, North Jackson Rotary Club

BIRTHDAYS:

Steve Davis	June 2
Amanda Fontaine	June 3
David Allen	June 4
Roger Venable	June 4

ROTARY JOIN DATE:

Roy Ward	6/1/1990	35 Years
David McMillin	6/1/1994	31 Years

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

Harvey and Sandy Little	June 1	56 Years
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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Monday, June 9, 2025 – The Rotary Club of Jackson will welcome Bill Cork, Executive Director and Chief Economic Development Officer of the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA).

Annual Rotary Scholar Program with Sandra Shelson

Sandra thanked the scholarship committee members for their dedication to the process of choosing the 2025 scholars. Committee members must commit to attending all interviews to participate in the decision-making process. She also thanked Dr. Heber

Simmons, who not only started the scholarship program but has been an incredible mentor to her.

Since its formation in 1914, the Rotary Club of Jackson has reached out to the community with special projects to fulfill its motto: "Service Above Self; He Profits Most Who Serves Best."

In 1990, the Club's Youth Charities Committee recommended a college scholarship program for deserving youth who had potential as future leaders of Mississippi but lacked sufficient financial means to reach their goals. Instead of providing loans that had to be repaid, the committee wanted the scholarship recipients to give back to the community through service, tutoring younger students, and providing leadership by helping others.

The Club established the Jackson Rotary Club's Mentor Scholarship Program to help fill this need by recognizing young men and women who exhibit potential as productive citizens of Mississippi. The scholarship is designed to help develop the knowledge and skills of future leaders of Mississippi.

The Club's Mentor Scholarship Committee selects scholarship recipients. Their choices are based on each student's potential, financial need, and high school performance. Information on test scores, grades, courses taken, quality of written expression, involvement in extracurricular activities, attendance, outside employment, and other responsibilities are also considered. Substantiated statements regarding potential will be given prime consideration by references.

A member of the Rotary Club is assigned as a mentor to guide and advise each student to assist the scholarship recipients.

Requirements For Maintaining/Renewing College Scholarship

1. Recipients must maintain a minimum overall grade point average of 2.5.
 2. Recipients must provide supervised community service, such as volunteering as an elementary or secondary school tutor for a minimum of four hours weekly, beginning with the second semester of the freshman year.
 3. Recipients must communicate with their assigned Rotary Club Mentor every month regarding their academic progress and participation in mentoring activities.
 4. Recipients are obligated, if requested, to attend at least one meeting of the Rotary Club of Jackson to report on his/her activities for the year.
 5. Recipients must remain full-time students as defined and verified by the college.
 6. Relatives of current Rotary Club members are not eligible to apply.
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2025 CONGRATULATIONS

Madelyn Haller – Scholarship Recipient



Madelyn Haller expressed her heartfelt appreciation to the Rotary Club of Jackson, Mississippi, for choosing her as a scholarship recipient. She conveyed her excitement at receiving this honor and acknowledged the significant impact it will have on her academic and professional journey. As a 2025 graduate of Pearl High School, she is set to attend the University of Southern Mississippi in the fall, where she plans to major in Sports Medicine and work towards her long-term aspiration of becoming an orthopedic surgeon. Her personal experiences of managing injuries without medical insurance fuel her dedication to this field, and she is determined to use her skills to assist individuals facing similar challenges

This scholarship has eased her financial worries, enabling her to pursue higher education without the burden of debt. The financial support has reignited her motivation to chase her dreams, and she is thankful for the chance to concentrate on her studies and extracurricular activities without the added stress of student loans.

Madelyn once again thanked the club for this scholarship, which will empower her to excel in her academic endeavors and positively impact the lives of others. She is proud to be associated with the Rotary Club of Jackson, which champions education and community service.

Congratulations

2025



Shanti Guice – Scholarship Recipient

Shanti graduated with honors from Ridgeland High School (RHS). During her time at RHS, she actively participated in various clubs and organizations. She served as class president for both her junior and senior years, led the Beta Club, and captained the varsity cheer team.



Additionally, Shanti was a member of the National Honor Society, an RHS ambassador, a Titan Renaissance leader, and an editor for the yearbook.

Shanti will pursue her education at Delta State University, majoring in flight operations with the aim of becoming an airline pilot.

While the path to becoming an airline pilot is quite costly, she feels deeply honored and grateful to have received the Rotary Club of Jackson, Mississippi scholarship. This support is a blessing that helps bridge the financial gap for her education, bringing her closer to her dream of working with airlines and assisting others along the way, just as Rotary has supported her. She expressed her gratitude to the Club and promised to make the most of the scholarship funds!



President Phillip Carpenter, Yoland Singleton, Sandra Shelson, Shanti Guice, Madelyn Haller, Judge Crystal Wise Martin, Dr. Heber Simmons



Austin Haller, Madelyn Haller, Ian Tucker, and Kathy Tucker



Keyfer (KJ) Williams, Lexi Williams, and Shanti Williams