

# Rotary



# Club of Dalton, Georgia

December  
20th, 2022

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## This Week: The Red Cross

This week's meeting will be our final meeting of 2022 as we prepare to celebrate the holidays. We wish all of you a safe and festive holiday season and a Happy New Year!

This week, we'll be hearing about our local Red Cross and how important it is when responding to emergencies both locally and regionally. Our speaker is Carla Maton. She became the Executive Director of the American Red Cross of Northwest Georgia (NWGA) on February 7, 2022. She oversees the Red Cross mission to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors across 15 counties (Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Dawson, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Murray, Pickens, Polk, Walker, Whitfield, and Union). Advancing the mission of the Red Cross is Maton's true passion and she enjoys building a network of community partners to accomplish their mutual goals. Under her leadership, more than 767,000 people benefit from Red Cross programs and services, including lifesaving blood; disaster preparedness, response, and recovery support; training in lifesaving skills; and emergency services for military and international families. Maton joined Georgia's Red Cross in January 2016 as the Disaster Program Manager for NWGA and was promoted to a statewide role as Disaster Recovery Manager in 2019. In these positions, she worked with local and state partners to develop support for disaster clients with recovery needs. She also had the unique privilege to deploy to over 45 large-scale disasters nationwide to help connect communities to Red Cross services. As the External Relations Director on these operations, she worked closely with fundraising, public affairs, government, and community partnership liaisons. A native of Dalton, Georgia, Maton graduated from Dalton State College with a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership. She and her husband, Bobby, are residents of Whitfield County. They share an amazing daughter and three active sons who keep them on their toes!

## Meeting Recap: The JA Discovery Center

Last week, it was a privilege to hear from one of our own, Rotarian Anna Adamson. Anna is the Director of Development for Junior Achievement of Northwest Georgia, along with her was her colleague, Caroline Frost. Caroline is the Director of Volunteer Partnerships. Junior Achievement has a long history of providing young people the tools they need to succeed. A worldwide program, Junior Achievement has served over 10 million students in over 100 countries. Locally, Anna and Caroline have the opportunity to make an impact on middle school students across ten school districts.



The model of a JA Discovery Center is relatively new. After seeing a need in metro Atlanta, the first Discover Center in Georgia was constructed in 2013. Counties across the state began to see a need for a Discovery Center in their region. In fall of 2023 they have the potential to serve over 50% of students across the state and inching closer to their goal of serving 90% of students state-wide. It was in 2017 after touring the Mike and Lynn Cottrell Discovery Center in Forsyth County that leaders from our community began to see this as an opportunity for Dalton. In 2019, fundraising began in the Northwest Georgia area. Companies such as Starr Matthews, Shaw Industries, Chick-Fil-A, Hamilton Health Care System, Dalton State College, and more began to get on board. The JA Discovery Center of Greater Dalton opened in 2021 on the campus of Hammond Creek Middle School, offering 10,000 middle school students in Northwest Georgia the opportunities to experience JA Finance Park and JA BizTown. Caroline explained the experience that comes with Finance Park and BizTown. BizTown allows sixth graders the opportunity to see what running an economy is all about. They are given a "job" when they arrive and see what it takes to run a business for the day. Finance Park is geared towards seventh and eighth grade students and teaches them real world responsibilities. Students are assigned a life situation including a family, a job, debt, etc. and students are able to make decisions about what is best for their "family". Volunteers are very important for these programs to succeed. Volunteers lead the students and guide them as

they learn to navigate real world scenarios. Our club is signed up to volunteer on February 7<sup>th</sup> and we are looking forward to experiencing the Discovery Center firsthand. Junior Achievement also has a 3DE program for high school students, which the Dalton Academy launched this fall. Students have the opportunity to work with real companies like Truist Bank and Arby's and solve case challenges. The JA Discovery Center prepares students in our community the opportunity to experience the real world and prepare them for success.

A community our size is fortunate to have a Discovery Center in our own backyard. Much of this wouldn't be possible without Anna and her teams drive and passion as well as support from our community. We are looking forward to volunteering in February.

Also, it's always a great day when we get to introduce new members to our club! Last week we welcomed Andrew Parker and Don Finkell to membership. We can't wait to see what your growth in our club!

## December 20th Birthdays and Anniversaries

Member Birthdays	Birthday
Payne, Charles F Jr. (CHUCK)	22-Dec
Bailey, Philip Bates (BATES)	26-Dec

Partner Birthdays	Member Name	Birthday
Ownby, Sandi	Ownby, Jeff B	22-Dec
Maton, Bobby	Maton, Carla E	22-Dec

Member Anniversaries	Start Date	Years
No member anniversaries this period.		

Wedding Anniversaries	Partner's Name	Anniversary	Years
McLeod, Robert S. (BOB)	Carolyn (CAROL)	21-Dec	57
Adamson, Anna Y (ANNA)	Zach	22-Dec	15
Cope, Don (DON)	Laurie Lee	24-Dec	9
Kirkman, Lowell D. (LOWELL)	Lou	26-Dec	24

## The Four Way Test

