

# Rotary



## Forsyth County (Cumming)

### May 13, 2021 CLUB BULLETIN

#### Speakers

#### May 13: Challenge Scholarship

May 20: Jocelyn Baker, CEO, Habitat for Humanity - North Central Georgia

May 27: ROTARY RAFFLE, c/o Jeremy Skinner

June 3: OPEN

June 10: Paula Gault, Judge Richard S. ♦Stan♦ Gault Education Scholarship

June 17: Tim McDonald, Lanier Tech President, c/o Jim Otwell

June 24: Michelle Prater, North Georgia Community Foundation, c/o Ken Terry

July 1: OPEN

July 8: Board Transition

July 15: District Governor Mike Berg

#### Birthdays

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

\* **Board Meeting: 5:30 p.m.  
May 19 at NOFO Brewery**

\* **Club Social: 6:30 p.m. May  
19 at NOFO Brewery**

If you have any upcoming events that you would like to see in the bulletin, please reach out to Stephanie Woody at [swoody@forsythnews.com](mailto:swoody@forsythnews.com).

#### Club Leaders



Claire H. McDonald  
President



J.B. Bader  
President-Elect  
Rotary Foundation Chair  
On-To Conference Chair



Denise Leeson  
Secretary  
Public Relations Chair



Donna S. Wade  
Treasurer

#### THIS WEEK:

#### May 13: Challenge Scholarships

\* **Now meeting in the Academies of Creative Education building, 1160 Dahlonega Hwy. (use entrance off Pilgrim Road, third left from Hwy. 9, then take first right, 1160 is the second building, which has two sets of double doors on the front. Use the doors to the right.)**

Please email Mike Smith at [mfs125@bellsouth.net](mailto:mfs125@bellsouth.net) if you are willing and able to help with our set up and serving at our in-person meeting.

## This week in history: 1869

### Transcontinental railroad completed, unifying United States

On May 10, 1869, the presidents of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads meet in Promontory, Utah, and drive a ceremonial last spike into a rail line that connects their railroads. This made transcontinental railroad travel possible for the first time in U.S. history. No longer would western-bound travelers need to take the long and dangerous journey by wagon train, and the West would surely lose some of its wild charm with the new connection to the civilized East.

Since at least 1832, both Eastern and frontier statesmen realized a need to connect the two coasts. It was not until 1853, though, that Congress appropriated funds to survey several routes for the transcontinental railroad. The actual building of the railroad would have to wait even longer, as North-South tensions prevented Congress from reaching an agreement on where the line would begin.

One year into the Civil War, a Republican-controlled Congress passed the Pacific Railroad Act (1862), guaranteeing public land grants and loans to the two railroads it chose to build the transcontinental line, the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific. With these in hand, the railroads began work in 1866 from Omaha and Sacramento, forging a northern route across the country. In their eagerness for land, the



Zack A. Rice Jr.  
Family of Rotary  
Membership Chair



Stephanie Woody  
Bulletin Editor  
Club Programs Chair



Denton B. Ashway  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Terri L. Willett  
Club Socials Chair



Jeremy P. Skinner  
Club Service Chair



Burton Blackmar  
Youth Services Chair



George Galphin  
iPast President

### The Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do...  
Is it the **TRUTH**?

Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?

Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



Rotary Opens Opportunities



two lines built right past each other, and the final meeting place had to be renegotiated.

Harsh winters, staggering summer heat, Indian raids and the lawless, rough-and-tumble conditions of newly settled western towns made conditions for the Union Pacific laborers—mainly Civil War veterans of Irish descent—miserable. The overwhelmingly immigrant Chinese work force of the Central Pacific also had its fair share of problems, including brutal 12-hour work days laying tracks over the Sierra Nevada Mountains. On more than one occasion, whole crews would be lost to avalanches, or mishaps with explosives would leave several dead.

For all the adversity they suffered, the Union Pacific and Central Pacific workers were able to finish the railroad—laying nearly 2,000 miles of track—by 1869, ahead of schedule and under budget. Journeys that had taken months by wagon train or weeks by boat now took only days. Their work had an immediate impact: The years following the construction of the railway were years of rapid growth and expansion for the United States, due in large part to the speed and ease of travel that the railroad provided.

<https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/transcontinental-railroad-completed>

## Rotary Club of Forsyth County

<http://www.rotarydistrict6910.org>

PO BOX 57  
Cumming, GA 30028  
rotaryofforsyth@yahoo.com

### Social Media Links

For more information about our club click on one of the links below:

- [Website](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [Facebook](#)

### Past Presidents

1975 Tommy Bagwell	1986 Steve Jackson	1997 Bill Kehres	2008 Mike Palmer
1976 Terry Smith	1987 Tim LeBlanc	1998 Jeff Stephens	2009 Burton Blackmar
1977 Jackie Welch	1988 Denton Ashway	1999 John Weaver	2010 Shan Mize
1978 Larry Boling	1989 Bobby Thomas	2000 Jim Whitney	2011 Taylor Rice
1979 Zack Rice	1990 Jim Wheeler	2001 Jon McDaniel	2012 George Pirkle
1980 Roger Williams	1991 Rich Brown	2002 Keith Argo	2013 George Pirkle
1981 Tom Miller	1992 Tim Perry	2003 Rich Neville	2014 Mike Smith
1982 Gabe Dukas	1993 Bob McGuinn	2004 Melissa Durand	2015 Rusty Smith
1983 Eddie Stowe	1994 Robert Thuss	2005 Brandon Barron	2016 Donna Wade
1984 Dana Miles	1995 Brian Carpenter	2006 Chuck Welch	2017 Eric Duncan
1985 Mike Gravitt	1996 Charles Ammons	2007 Gabe Arango	2018 Ken Terry

### Paul Harris Fellows

In 2016 our club became 100% Paul Harris Fellows!

1977 Tommy Bagwell	Penny McGuinn	Jim Whitney	Seth Thomas
1978 Jim French	Rafe Banks	Rex Abbott	Donna Wade
1986 Bob McGuinn	Rich Brown	2000 Nancy Abbott	Lucy Thuss
Larry Boling	Malvelene Vaughan	Melissa Durand	Matt Richmond
Bobby Thomas	1993 Stan Gault	Tim Perry	2006 Chuck Welch
1987 Gary Allen	1994 Mike Gravitt	2001 Mike Smith	2008 Dana Miles

	Bill Carter		Shannon Mize		Bill Levensalor		Eric Duncan
1988	Jack Manton		Charles Welch		George Pirkle		Mike Palmer
	Zack Rice		Brenda Thomas	2002	Burton Blackmar		John Heath
1991	Robert Thuss		Chantal Bagwell	2003	Lorne Twiner	2010	John Martin
	Vic Shirley		Shaun McGuinn	2004	Bruce Hearn	2014	Linda Duncan
	Lou Douglas		Brian Carpenter		Jack Godwin		D'Arcy Duncan Andrews
1992	Rafe Banks		Michael O'Bryan	2005	Jon McDaniel		Erin Duncan Topel
	Jack Heard	1996	Leslie McGuinn		Mike Montgomery	2015	Sam Siemon
	Jim Wheeler	1997	Denton Ashway		Joni Owens		Gabe Arango Murray Rice

## Will Watt Fellows

1986	Tommy Bagwell	1999	Rex Abbott	2007	Donna Wade		Lorne Twiner
1990	Dick Neville	2001	Jon McDaniel	2008	Eric Duncan		Bill Guilfoil
	Bobby Thomas		Rich Brown	2009	Dana Miles		
	Lou Douglas		Bill Kehres	2010	John Hall		
1995	Brian Carpenter		Mike Gravitt	2012	George Pirkle		
	Bob McGuinn	2002	Malvelene Vaughan		Dennis Gravitt		
1998	Jim Whitney	2003	Mike Montgomery	2013	Jim Wheeler		

*If you have a question about the bulletin/programs, or have a program of interest to the club, please contact Stephanie Woody at [swoody@forsythnews.com](mailto:swoody@forsythnews.com) or mobile 678-878-0516.*