

# Rotary Club of Gainesville Newsletter



## Meeting Location:

First Baptist Church Banquet Hall  
751 Green Street  
Monday at 12:30 PM  
Lunch begins serving at Noon  
Founded in 1923

## Links:

[Club Website](#)  
[Facebook](#)  
[Instagram](#)  
[LinkedIn](#)  
[New Member Application](#)



## Club Leaders



[Ron G. Quinn](#)  
President



[Christina D. Jones](#)  
President-Elect



[Joey Tripp](#)  
Secretary



[Zachary T. Propes](#)  
Treasurer



[Julia Gesch Clay](#)  
Membership Director



[William D. Lee](#)  
Membership Vice Director



[Lindsay Allison](#)  
Public Image Vice Director



[Carol M. Colón](#)  
Club Administration Director

## Dr. Michael Shannon - President of the University of North Georgia



Dr. Michael P. Shannon became President of the University of North Georgia on July 1, 2023.

A native of New Jersey, Shannon is a first-generation college graduate and was commissioned through Army ROTC. He holds a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering and a master's in aeronautical science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. He also holds a master's in health physics and a Ph.D. in nuclear and radiological engineering from Georgia Tech.

Shannon served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army for 20 years, retiring in 2015 with rank of lieutenant colonel. After operational Army service as an infantry and Signal Corps officer with assignments in the 82d Airborne Division, the 35th Signal Brigade (18<sup>th</sup> Airborne Corps) and the 2nd Infantry Division, he was selected to serve as a U.S. Army Nuclear and

Counterproliferation officer.

For more than 10 years, he provided leadership and technical and operational expertise to the U.S. Department of Defense as an expert in nuclear technology issues and later held leadership assignments with the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. Shannon also served at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point during two different leadership assignments, as an instructor and later as an assistant professor in the Department of Physics and Nuclear Engineering. At West Point, he was actively engaged in teaching and research along with several activities in support of cadet and Army officer development.

Prior to joining the University of North Georgia, Shannon served as a member of Georgia Tech's executive leadership team and was responsible for strategic leadership and operations of human resources, finance and budget, information technology, facilities and infrastructure, capital planning, campus security, and emergency response. In addition, he served in numerous faculty, leadership and advisory roles, including as a research faculty member and principal investigator in the Advanced Concepts Laboratory at the Georgia Tech Research Institute.

Shannon continues to serve veterans' causes, is an active member of his church and is a coach for multiple local youth sports programs. He and his wife, Jessica, have four children.



Robert E. Cuttino Jr  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Jon Peterson  
Rotary Foundation  
Director



Michele L. Rasmussen  
Public Image Director



Kathleen Owen  
Club Administration  
Vice Director



Chris Davis  
Service Projects  
Director



Liz Coates  
Youth Services Vice  
Director



Jennifer Tarnowski  
Youth Services  
Director

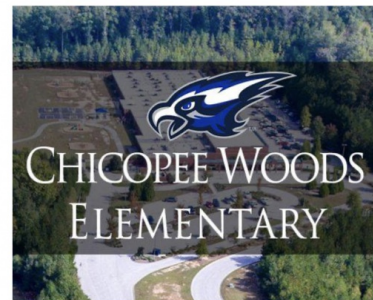


Mike McGraw  
iPast President

## Student of the Month



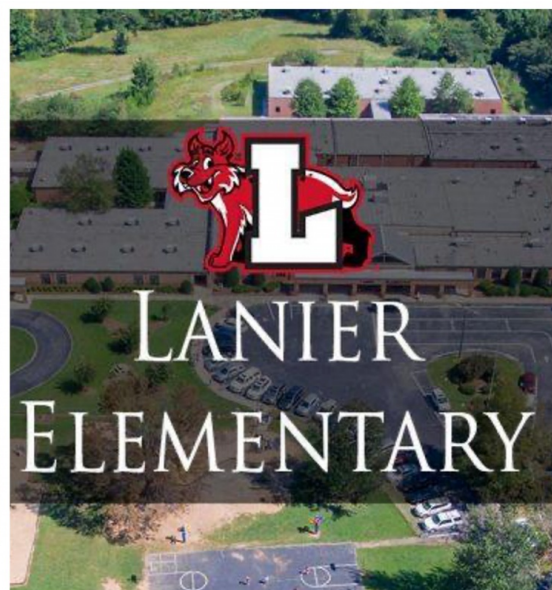
Aliann Ortega Valencia



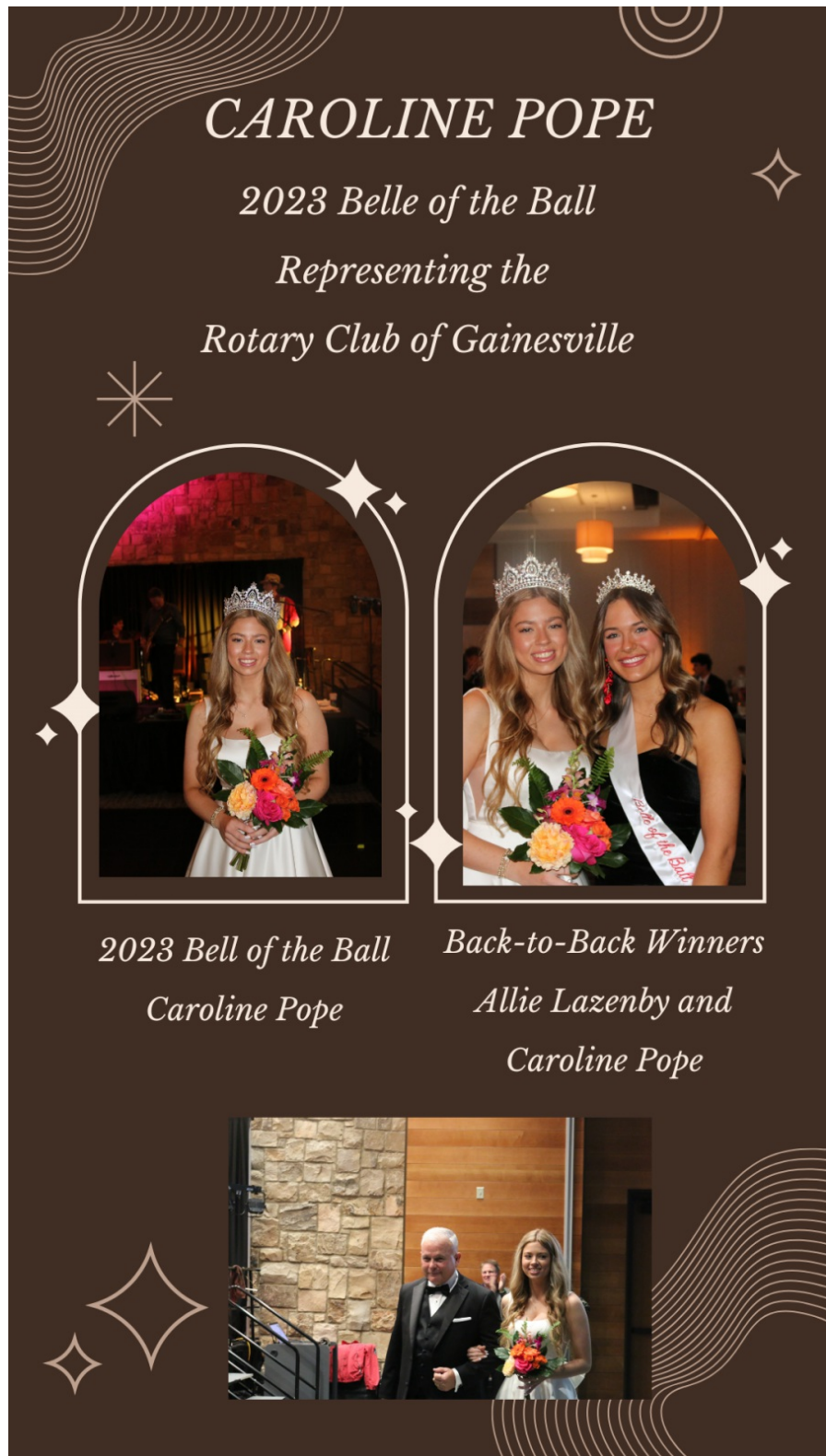
Audrey Gravitt



Eli Stewart



## Caroline Pope wins Belle of the Ball



Congratulations to Caroline Pope, the 2023 Belle of the Ball! Thank you to our club members for supporting Caroline and her efforts.

Pictured above are The Rotary Club of Gainesville's back-to-back Belles of the Ball!



## Ramp Build #145



# RAMP BUILD #145

In Partnership with  
Habitat of Hall County



## **REMINDER**

Don't forget to submit  
your Guardian of Ethics  
Award and W. Lee  
Arrendale Vocational  
Excellence Award  
Nominations!



**CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD**

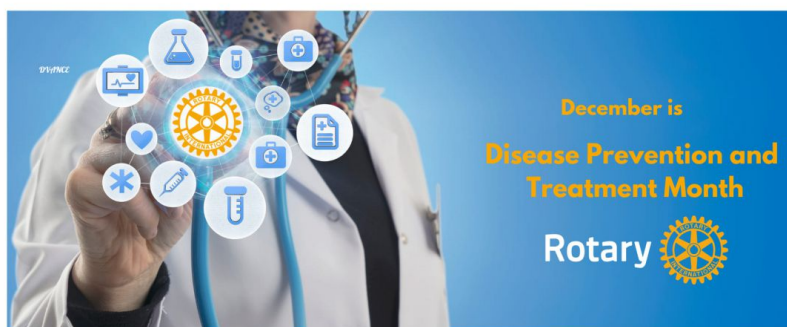
The nomination period for the **Guardian of Ethics Award** opened on October 2, 2023 and will close on December 25, 2023. Please click the link below to complete the nomination process. If you have any questions, please contact Club Secretary Joey Tripp.

[Click here for Guardian of Ethics Award application form](#)

The nomination period for the **W. Lee Arrendale Vocational Excellence Award** opened on October 2, 2023 and will close on December 25, 2023. Please click the link below to complete the nomination process. If you have any questions, please contact Club Secretary Joey Tripp.

[Click here for W. Lee Arrendale Vocational Excellence Award application form](#)

## December is Disease Prevention and Treatment Month



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## Enjoy the Holiday Season with friends and family!



Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday Season to the Rotary Club of Gainesville from your Bulletin Committee. Our next bulletin will be published on January 5, 2024.

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## Upcoming Schedule

Rotary

Club of Gainesville



UPCOMING EVENTS

SCHEDULE

DEC

18

No Meeting

DEC

25

No Meeting - Merry Christmas

JAN

1

No Meeting - Happy New Year

JAN

8

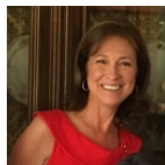
Joy Green, Development Specialist,  
Hall-Dawson CASA Program, Inc.



CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD

[www.rotaryclubofgainesville.com](http://www.rotaryclubofgainesville.com)

## Birthdays



[Lee D. Highsmith](#)  
December 16th



[Jennifer Tarnowski](#)  
December 18th



[Dale McElveen Jaeger](#)  
December 19th



[Ronnie Waller](#)  
December 24th



[Jerry Ward](#)  
December 25th



[Christina D Jones](#)  
December 28th



[Terrell Cleveland](#)  
January 5th



[Julia Gesch Clay](#)  
January 6th



[Jessica V. Dudley](#)  
January 7th

## Wedding Anniversaries



[Brian Heck](#)  
December 14th



[Julia Gesch Clay](#)  
December 15th



[James Oscar Grier](#)  
December 16th



[Stanley C Preczewski](#)  
December 20th

Mailing Address:  
PO Box 382  
Gainesville, GA 30503