

# Rotary

## DOWNTOWN GAINESVILLE



### Club Meeting

Downtown  
Gainesville  
Meets at Paramount  
Grill  
12 SW First Avenue  
Gainesville, FL  
32601  
Time: Wednesday at  
12:00 PM

### Club Leaders



Stephanie  
Esposito  
President



Brett Buell  
President-  
Elect



William S.  
Combs  
Treasurer



Megan  
Olson  
Secretary



Steven  
Jeppson  
Sergeant-  
at-Arms



Carl Smart  
iPast  
President



Shelby  
Bobbett  
Club  
Director



Marta M  
Hartmann  
Club  
Director



Joseph E.  
Lowry Jr.  
Club  
Director



Diane Marie  
Robar  
Club  
Director  
Membership  
Chair

### Welcome



**CREATE HOPE**  
**in the WORLD**

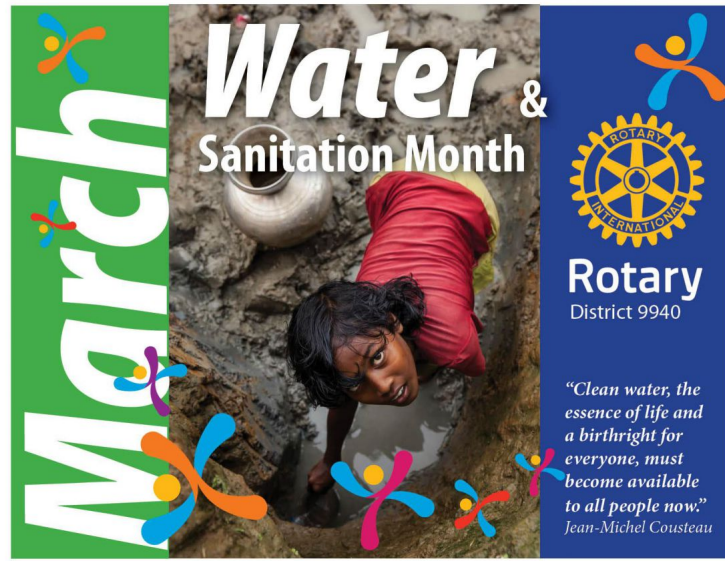
***Welcome to the***  
***Rotary Club of Downtown Gainesville***





Jim  
Skiles III  
Club  
Director  
Speaker  
Chair

## Rotary theme for March



from DG John Tabor:

Clean Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) education are basic necessities for a healthy environment and a productive life.

When people have access to clean water and sanitation, waterborne diseases decrease, children stay healthier and attend school more regularly, and mothers can spend less time carrying water and more time helping their families.

[The Rotary Foundation](#) is changing the world by providing grants for projects and activities around the globe and in your own backyard:

**\$148 million!**

The Rotary Foundation has invested in water, sanitation, hygiene and water resource management interventions globally.

## Four Way Test



## Birthday wishes!



**Haydee Britton**  
March 2nd

**Clay Martin**  
March 3rd

**Neal Cohen**  
March 9th

**Stephanie Esposito**  
March 19th

**Billy Combs**  
March 20th

## March 13 speaker



**Kristen Sealey**

Supervising Engineer, Water/Wastewater Planning, Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU)

Title of her presentation:

*GRU Southwest Nature Park - Constructed Wetlands Replenishing the Aquifer*

**CONGRATS!!**



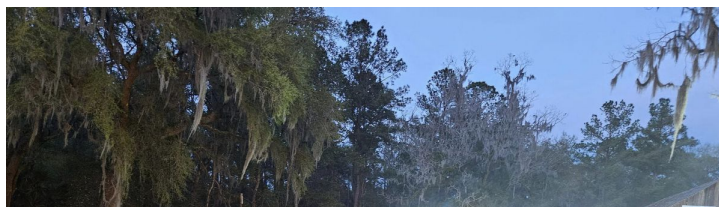
**LESLIE WOOTEN, OUR FELLOW CLUB MEMBER,  
IS THE WINNER OF THE RAFFLE AT THE WILD GAME FEAST.  
HER PRIZE IS A WEEK'S ACCOMMODATIONS AND AIRFARE TO A  
VACATION LOCATION OF HER CHOOSING IN THE US OR EUROPE!  
CONGRATULATIONS, LESLIE!!!**

## **WILD GAME FEAST!**

### **FABULOUS EVENING AT THE 2024 WILD GAME FEAST!**

So much fun to mingle with fellow Rotarians and friends, not to mention the delicious food!  
!

If you missed it this year, you'd better mark your calendars for next year's event (always the 1st Thursday in March). Downtown Gainesville was well represented by several club members including Ed Book, Jimbo Skiles, Stephanie Esposito, Brett Buell, Leslie Wooten, Billy Brame, Diane & Bob Robar, Megan Olson, Haydee Britton, Steve Jeppson, Ray Snook, April Green, Scott Hansis, Chessie Flanders, and Greg Fleming,







## Lunch Link Paramount Grill



**Lets do lunch!!**

As always, please submit your selection before 9 AM on Wednesdays. This is a request from Chef Ty as he needs sufficient time to prepare our 20+ lunches each week by noon.

And just to clarify our club's present policy regarding lunches for visitors: If you are bringing a guest, please be sure to have their lunch orders submitted either with yours or by the 9 AM deadline. *Guests* are expected to pay for their lunch or you may opt to be invoiced for their lunches. *Visiting Rotarians* are expected to pay for their lunch. If you bring a *potential member*, their lunches will be covered for 3 meetings by the club. Speakers and Law Enforcement lunches are covered by the club. Lunch cost is \$20

LINK:

<https://forms.gle/Y5oBC9n6srh6qhDN8>

Event Calendar 2024



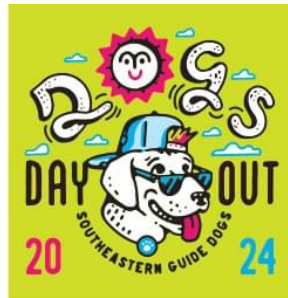
~~ DETAILS FOR ALL EVENTS ARE LOCATED WITHIN  
THE NEWSLETTER ~~

PLEASE ALSO REFER TO ONLINE CLUB CALENDAR AT THE LINK  
FOR  
MOST UPDATED CALENDAR OF EVENTS:  
<https://rb.gy/jh7vx>

April 6	SOUTHEASTERN GUIDE DOG WALKATHON	Jimbo
April 20	RLI (rotary Leadership Institute) Daytona State College/Palm Coast	
May 3 -4	District Conference University Center UNF, Jacksonville	

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

By Jim & Jimbo E. Skiles III



## Gainesville Walkathon

April 06 | Trinity United Methodist Church

Gates Open: 9:00 a.m. • Let's Walk! 10:00 a.m. • Raffle Drawing: 11:30 a.m.

### Join us for fun, FREE, dog-friendly festivities

We're gearing up for Walkathon 2024, and it's paws down, the BEST day ever. Your furry pal has been waiting all year for Dog's Day Out. So grab the leash and say your pup's favorite phrase: "You wanna go?!" and join us for a tail-wagging good time to support our largest fundraiser of the year. All proceeds benefit our amazing dogs and the people who need them.



**Bring your pack** and celebrate while making an impact for people with vision loss, veterans with disabilities, and children who need a best friend.

**A Dog Lover's Dream!** 3K Walk ♦ Paw-ty in the park for all ages! ♦ Doggy friends of all shapes and sizes ♦ Southeastern Guide Dogs puppies in training ♦ Guide dog instructor demos ♦ Exciting raffle drawing ♦ Music, food trucks, and a doggone good time!



**Raise funds and sell raffle tickets to earn exciting incentive items!**

\$5 per raffle ticket or 5 for \$20

**\$1,000 Cash Prize Raffle**

Drawn at the Gainesville Walkathon at 11:30 a.m.



**\$10,000 GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE**

Drawing May 31, 2024. Watch live at 1 p.m. on Southeastern Guide Dogs' Facebook page

Visit [GuideDogsWalkathon.org/raffle](https://GuideDogsWalkathon.org/raffle) for official rules & regulations.



**Southeastern Guide Dogs WALKATHON**

Sign up online at [GuideDogsWalkathon.org](https://GuideDogsWalkathon.org)



**JIMBO WILL BE LOOKING FOR SOME VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THIS EVENT! CAN YOU??**

## PETS 2024

PETS 2024 was held this past weekend in Orlando. Our own President Elect, Brett Buell, attended along with fellow PE's from the Gainesville clubs, as well as the incoming Santa Fe Rotaract club President, Brett Rhoden.





From Brett: *We had a productive time at Rotary PETS. There were 600 Rotary President Elects from Florida and the Bahamas. Our group of Gainesville PE's sat together as much as possible. We discussed ways that our Clubs could support each other better. The Presidents decided we will meet regularly to keep each other informed on club projects. We talked about having quarterly socials for fun and networking opportunities. Our incoming District Governor, Mickie Ulmer, and the next DG Bo Norton say they intend to be involved with some of our big events. If you are in Rotary to serve, network, and have fun, your Presidents hope to support you with an outstanding year.*



Representing Area 1 Rotary clubs were Brett Buell/Downtown Gainesville, Jody Read/Lake Butler, Ryan Thompson/Gainesville Rotary, Kevin Golden/Sunrise, Brett Rhoden/SF Rotaract, Incoming AG Dorothy Zimmerman/Sunrise and Kimberly Clawson from Greater Gainesville.



## Rotary get together

**To celebrate Rotary's 119th birthday, all local clubs were invited to a get together at First Magnitude.**

**ALWAYS great to meet and mingle with fellow Rotarians from your own and other clubs!**







## THANK YOU

It was our honor to award GPD Officer Demetri Weekes with our Officer of the Month award.

Thank you for all you do to keep our community safe!



Supervisor Sgt. Houston and GPD officer Demetri Weekes

## help needed

By Jim "Jimbo" E. Skiles III



**Thanks to all members who have signed up to help provide speakers. We have almost all months covered... just need May and the latter half of June (22nd and 29th).**

**Please select one (or more!! ) of the available dates listed below and either text 352 538 0293 or email Jimbo [jimskiles3@gmail.com](mailto:jimskiles3@gmail.com) or talk with him at club meeting.**

**Here are the open dates:**

**May 1  
May 8  
May 15  
May 22  
May 29**

**June 19  
June 26**

## speaker sign up

By Jim & Jimbo & E. Skiles III

		<b>ROTARY MONTHLY THEMES</b>
JANUARY	Jimbo	Vocational Services
FEBRUARY	Haydee	Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution
MARCH	Brett Marta	Water, Sanitation, Hygiene
APRIL	Clay	Maternal and Child Health
<b>MAY</b>		<b>Youth Services</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	Megan (5 <sup>th</sup> &12 <sup>th</sup> ) <b>need 19<sup>th</sup>&amp;26<sup>th</sup></b>	Rotary Fellowships
JULY	Shelby	New Leadership
AUGUST	Michael	Membership and New Club Development
SEPTEMBER	Cheryl	Basic Education and Literacy
OCTOBER	Stephanie	Community Economic Development
NOVEMBER	Joe Jr	Rotary Foundation
DECEMBER	AI	Disease Prevention And Treatment

## MONTHLY SPEAKERS

By Jim & Jimbo & E. Skiles III

**MARCH SPEAKERS provided by MARTA HARTMANN and BRETT BUELL**

MARCH 6 Dr. Benjamin Anderson UF College of Public Health and Health Professions.

**MARCH 13** Kristen Sealey Supervising Engineer, Water/Wastewater Planning, GRU

Title of her presentation: *GRU Southwest Nature Park - Constructed Wetlands Replenishing the Aquifer*

## Downtown Gainesville Rotarians

MEMBER	JOINED	CLUB SERVICE	TRF	POI
John Anderson	4/1/2017		* PHF	Brett Buell
Walt Barry	1/1/2003	PP 09-10	* PHF4	Pradeep Kumar
Shelby Bobbitt	9/21/2022	Sgt At Arms		Diane Robar
Ed Book	2/1/2009	PP 13-14 AG 1,2,AG	* BR PHF2	Ed Oehmig
Matt Bowman	12/1/2016		* PHF	Walt Barry
Billy Brame	7/1/1976	PP (RCGG)	* PHF+6	Neal Cohen
David Bridges	2/1/2019		*PHF	Matt Bowman
Haydee Britton	03/8/2023			Marta Hartman
Brett Buell	9/1/2015	President Elect	* PHF+1	John Anderson
<i>Brenda Chamberlain</i>	1/1/2019	PP 2021-22	*PHF	Megan Olson
Neal Cohen	7/1/1989		* PHF3	Billy Brame
<i>Billy Combs</i>	4/1/1992	PP 97-98, Treasurer	* MD / BR PHF8	Greg Fleming
Pat Craddock	9/1/2006	PP 10-11	* MD @ PHF8	AI Losch
Michael Ekbladh	7 26 2023			AI Losch

Ed Emery	9/1/2015		* PHF	Ray Snook
<i>Stephanie Esposito</i>	6/12/2020	President 2023-24	*PHF	Brenda Chamberlain
Chessie Flanders	4/1/2017	PP 19-20, AG 1, AG2, AG	* PHF	Jennifer Reddish
Greg Fleming	3/1/1994	PP 05-06	* PHF3	Billy Combs
Megan Forbes	1/1/2001	PP 04-05	* BR @ PHF6	Joe Lowry Jr.
Dan Frowick		PP 94-95	MD/HM	n/a
April Green	6/21/2023			Jim Skiles
Scott Hansis	2//2023			John Sanchez
<i>Marta Hartmann</i>	05/2021	Director		Marina Jordan
<i>Becky Hunt</i>	1/1/1996		* PHF7	Diane Robar
Jim Islam	9/1/1990	PP 95-96	* MD PHF8	Joe Lowry Sr.
Steve Jeppson	5/11/2022	Sgt at Arms		Jim Skiles
Marina Jordan	2/1/2019		*PHF	Diane Robar
Pradeep Kumar	5/1/2018		*PHF+1	David Bridges
Judy Locascio	3/1/2002		* PHF+6	Robert Taylor
Al Losch Jr.	4/1/1992	PP 00-01 LEOM	* MD @ BR PHF8	Pat Craddock
<i>Joe Lowry Jr.</i>	12/1/2004	PP (08-09) (17-18)Director	* BR @ PHF6	Megan Forbes
Joe Lowry Sr.	7/1/2013		* MD PHF8	Jim Islam
<i>Clay Martin</i>	11/1/2016		* PHF	John Sanchez
Rob Oglesby	5/1/2010	PP 14-15	* MD / BR PHF8	Bob Robar
<i>Megan Olson</i>	2/1/2019	Secretary	*PHF+1	Brenda Chamberlain
Cheryl T. Poe	1/1/2007	PP 15-16	* BR PHF6	Becky Hunt
Perry Pursell	6/1/2008	PP 12-13,	* PHF3	
Bob Robar	11/1/1991	PP 01-02	* MD @ PHF8	Perry Pursell
<i>Diane Robar</i>	10/1/2014	PP 2020-21; AG 1, 2, ,AG	* PHF+1	Marina Jordan
Ben Rowe (d.)	n/a	Charter President	* MD	n/a
Lauri Schiffbauer	8 11 2021			Brenda Chamberlain
Jim Skiles	12/1/1998	PP 03-04; Speakers,director	* MD @ BR PHF8	Tom Sumrall
<i>Carl Smart</i>	3/1/2019	IPP, 2022-23,	*PHF	Zachary West
Ray Snook	4/1/2012	PP16-17 AAG	* PHF3	Cheryl Poe
Zachary West	11/1/2013		* PHF	Carl Smart
Leslie Wooten	10/1/2023	PHF3		

\* Paul Harris Sustaining Member (\$25 per quarter)

**PHF** Paul Harris Fellow

(for every \$1,000 gift to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund, PolioPlus or an approved Foundation grant)

@ **Foundation Benefactor** (provides for TRF at least \$1,000 in estate plan)

! Paul Harris Society (Members who agree to contribute \$1,000 or more annually to TRF)

**MD** Major Donor to The Rotary Foundation (combined giving reaching \$10,000)

**Italic Name** Board of Directors

**BR** Ben Rowe Rotarian of the Year

**POI** The person of interest is the Rotarian each member is charged to keep track of, representing the club to that person.

**Bold Name** Charter Member 9/18/1990



## **Club Information**

**Rotary Club of Downtown Gainesville, Florida #27544**  
**Chartered September 18, 1990**  
**Charter President J. Ben Rowe**

**We meet on Wednesdays at Noon at the**  
**Paramount Grill,**  
**12 SW First Avenue**  
**Gainesville, Florida**

**Club Website: <https://downtowngainesvillerotary.org/>**