

Rotary



Club of Downtown Gainesville



IMAGINE ROTARY

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/>

Club Leaders



Carl Smart
President



Stephanie Esposito
President-Elect



William S. Combs
Treasurer



Megan Olson
Club Director
Secretary



Brett Buell
Sergeant-at-Arms



Brenda Chamberlain
iPast President



Joseph E. Lowry Jr.
Club Director



Marta M. Hartmann
Club Director



Rebecca W. Hunt
Club Director



Diane Marie Robar
Club Director



Jim "Jimbo" E. Skiles III
Club Director
Speaker Chair

Chessie L. Flanders
Assistant Governor

Welcome

Welcome to the
Rotary Club of Downtown Gainesville

Theme of the Month

Here is your Rotary theme for May!



We look forward to welcoming Shari this week to speak about Family Promise!

By Stephanie Esposito on Monday, May 8, 2023

Shari Competiello joined Family Promise in February 2016, drawn to Family Promise's common sense approach to addressing family homelessness. She received her law degree from Rutgers University School of Law-Newark and has an undergraduate degree in Business Administration. After working as a lawyer for several years, Shari was a stay-at-home parent and an active volunteer in her local and Summit Public Schools community.

Shari's current role at Family Promise is Chief Operating Officer, in which she assures effective internal operations, manages human resource functions, financial operations, and internal technology. She is also the liaison between the national staff and Board leadership.

In her spare time, Shari, a mother of three, enjoys cooking, reading and spending time with her family. She lives in Summit, NJ.



Birthdays

Megan Olson
May 9th
Steven Jeppson
May 10th
Ray Snook
May 11th
Rebecca W. Hunt
May 13th
Shelby Bobbett
May 28th



SHARI COMPETIELLO
Chief Operating Officer

LUNCH LINK



If you plan to have lunch at our meeting on Wednesday,
don't forget to send in your order !

ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 9 AM on WEDNESDAYs

<https://forms.gle/rK29PFu6WropgkFe9>

CONNIE ROWE ANNUAL AUCTION - WE NEED ITEMS!

*It's our annual CONNIE ROWE DOWNTOWN ROTARY CLUB auction!!
MAY 19th at 6 pm at the Arbor Green Club House!*

Tickets are \$25 for 1, \$40 for 2

Let us know if you can join by letting us know at the meeting. We will invoice you! We need to know if you are coming by Tuesday, April 16.

Thank you to the Robar's for donating a getaway for the live auction, Jeff and Megan have donated an amazing "Micanopy Getaway", Stephanie and Mike have donated a coffee gift basket for 2. What's next? !?



Not sure how to contribute? Here are some ideas! Vacation packages, massages (Do you get monthly massages? Ask them to donate!), facials, pedicures, wine gift baskets, car services, handmade blankets, restaurant gift certificates (Do you go somewhere weekly? Ask for a gift card!), Rotary merchandise, and more!



It takes more than one person to make this event happen. We will need volunteers to help make our auction a success... and that includes everything from setting up, coordinating food and drinks, helping to gather and store items until the auction and probably a few other things we haven't thought about. More details and volunteer sign up opportunities will be shared soon.

Volunteer Opportunity - Memorial Day

You are invited to join us on Saturday, May 27 at 9:00AM to place American flags on the graves of over 1,000 Veterans at Evergreen Cemetery as part of this year's Memorial Day remembrance. The historic Evergreen Cemetery is located at 401 SE 21st Avenue.

With 56 acres, we encourage volunteers to work in pairs or small teams. Each team will be responsible for a small area of the cemetery. Flags and a list of names will be provided for each team. With enough volunteers, we are usually finished by 11:00AM. This volunteer opportunity is suitable for any age group. Please invite friends and family to participate. Everyone should wear good walking shoes.

On Monday, May 29, at 10:30AM a Memorial Day ceremony will be held at Evergreen Cemetery at the new Veterans Monument. The ceremony is free and open to the public. The event honors and remembers Veterans and military service members who lost their lives in service to our nation. This ceremony features patriotic presentations, musical tributes, as well as inspirational words from area leaders. The Alachua County Veterans Services, in partnership with the City of Gainesville Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department and the historic Evergreen Cemetery are proud to host this event. Milam Funeral Home and Cherished Memories Pet Cremations are generously providing lunch for all attendees and volunteers. Please help us share info about this event with Veterans.

Volunteers are also needed to help set up chairs and tents for this event (8:30-10:30AM); assist with directing parking (9:30-11:30AM); and assisting with stacking chairs and breaking down the event (11:00AM-1:00PM). Your help with any or all of these three shifts would be greatly appreciated.

Please feel free to call me on 352-451-3064 if you have any questions.

Karen E. Pruss | Cemetery Coordinator

Restructuring of Dues: Effective April 1, 2023

Please note the following restructuring of dues:

- Does not apply to members who are currently billed for dues without meals included (rule of 85)
- It does not affect the amount that members have pledged for PHF sustaining pledges or trivia contributions. Those charges will still be included on your invoice.
- **CURRENT MEMBERS:** dues reduced from the current \$287 per quarter to \$225
- **NEW MEMBERS:** dues reduced for new members to \$200 per quarter for 1st year and waive the \$50 new member fee
- **NON PROFITS:** Dues reduced to \$200 per quarter and waive the \$50 new member fee for future members employed by non-profits
- The above changes are effective 04/01/2023. If members want to "opt out" of the dues decrease and maintain their current billing amount, they should have that option or apply the difference to Paul Harris.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE AND TRAINING

This Year's District Training Assembly and Conference will be held at [Trinity Parrish](#) with Friday breakout sessions at [Flagler College](#) in Historic St. Augustine, on *Friday May 12* (District Training Assembly) and *Saturday May 13* (District Conference). This year's Conference is being Chaired by Past District Governors John Bruner and Bill Griffin.

District Conference & Training Assembly
May 12 & 13
Trinity Episcopal Parish & Flagler College
St Augustine, Florida

The Training Assembly will begin with lunch on Friday May 12 and the District Conference will end with a celebratory reception and social at 7pm on Saturday May 13.

We promise that this will be an exciting weekend of fun, fellowship, amazing speakers and stories of doing Good in the World. We hope you will join us to IMAGINE Rotary together.

Our opening of the District Conference will be on Friday night May 12 and our featured speaker will be Rethreaded Founder and CEO [Kristin Kean](#). Rethreaded is the intersection of two very important topics to Rotarians, [Human Trafficking](#) and [Empowering Women](#). You won't want to miss this opportunity to hear Kristin.

When registering, you may choose to attend both the Training and the Conference sessions or opt to choose one or the other (the sessions are broken down in the registration form)

Registration: <https://www.dacdb.com/SecLogin3.cfm?EventID=77648574>

District Training Assembly (DTA)	
11:30am	DTA Lunch
12:00pm	DTA Plenary Session
2:15pm	DTA Breakout Sessions Sessions for ALL + Sessions for Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers, Membership Chairs, Foundation Chairs, Public Image Chairs, Youth Services, Grants etc...
District Conference	
5:00pm	Cocktail Reception / Conference Dinner Friday, May 12th
6:00pm	District Conference Opening Session I, Friday, May 12th
8:00am	Conference Breakfast , Saturday May 13th
9:00am	Conference Session II
12:00pm	Conference Lunch
1:00pm	Conference Session III
5:00pm	Conference Cocktail Party

We realize that this is just prior to Mother's Day, so we are planning for lots of flexibility around an ensemble of internationally recognized speakers including the 2022 Time Magazine Kid of the Year and Ambassador of Kindness—12-year old [Orion Jean](#).



Not only will Orion be keynoting our District Conference, but he will be keynoting this year's RYLA Conference, which will conclude while running simultaneously at [Ketterlinus Elementary School](#).

UPCOMING EVENT CALENDAR



	<i>see bulletin for more details on each</i>	
APRIL 22	KEEP ALACHUA COUNTY BEAUTIFUL Roadside CleanUp volunteers needed!	BRETT BUELL 352 872 3232
MAY 12-13th	DISTRICT TRAINING AND CONFERENCE Registration link in article	Flagler College St August
MAY 19	ANNUAL AUCTION	TBA