

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 June



June is designated Rotary Fellowships Month to recognize the importance of international fellowship and goodwill among Rotarians with similar recreational and vocational interests, promote increased participation in fellowships, and increase understanding of this program. THEY ARE A GREAT SOCIAL LINK WITH OTHER ROTARIANS WHO SHARE AN INTEREST OR PASSION !

What are the benefits for Rotarians in joining the Rotary Fellowships? Fellowship provides opportunities for Rotarians to make lasting friendships outside their own Club, District or country. Fellowships contribute to the advancement of world understanding and peace. Also, Fellowships serve as an incentive for attracting new members to Rotary and retaining our existing members. Indeed, Rotary Fellowship, together with the Rotarian Action Groups, serve as an effective tool in promoting membership development and should be actively promoted in our Districts.

There are many Fellowships that would be of interest to our members, and they are detailed on <http://www.rotary.org/fellowships>.

Four Way Test



Lunch Link Paramount Grill

Let's 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>

Birthday greetings!



Michael Ekbladh
June 11th

Brett Buell
June 20th

Scott Hansis
June 23rd

Welcome, Tate

By Megan J. Forbes



Tate Quinones

Cultural Immersion Coordinator
University of Florida

Tate started at the English Language Institute as a Language Assistant in 2013 and continued on as a teacher and administrator in the Cultural Immersion Program. She got a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and a Bachelor of Science in Psychology with a Minor in Arabic Language from the University of Florida. She then continued at UF to get a Master of Education in Bilingual and ESOL Education. She later studied Arabic in Oman and served as a Fulbright English teacher in the country of Jordan, where she lived for two years. Helping students navigate a new culture and making a space for international students to feel at home is her passion and why she loves coordinating the Cultural Immersion Program.

Her presentation is *An Introduction to the Baha'i Faith*

THANKS, volunteers!!

By Ed Book



HUGE thank you to the volunteers who helped clean up "our" road on Saturday, June 8th.

Downtown Gainesville club members Ed Book, Brett Buell and Bob Robar were joined by GOC members Alina, Pat, Susan, Joel and Comisha and fellow Rotarians John, Kelli and Joann from the Greater Gainesville club.





Ed making sure everyone knows about the safety protocols



Hard working crew made up of Rotarians and Gainesville Opportunity club members!!



THANKS, Greater Gainesville Rotarians, Kelli, JoAnn and John for helping us!



**You can always depend on Brett and Ed to show up
when there's a service project to be done.
GREAT Rotarians!!**

Mark calendars now!



**ON THURSDAY, JUNE 27TH, THE ROTARY CLUB OF DOWNTOWN GAINESVILLE
WILL BE HOLDING OUR ANNUAL INSTALLATION BANQUET OF NEW CLUB OFFICERS**

**STEPHANIE WILL BE COMPLETING HER 2023-24 PRESIDENTIAL YEAR AND
BRETT WILL BEGIN HIS TERM FOR THE 2024-25 ROTARY YEAR**

**PLEASE MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THIS SPECIAL EVENING TO EXPRESS
THANKS TO STEPHANIE FOR ALL HER HARD WORK OVER THE PAST YEAR AND
THEN LET'S WELCOME OUR NEW PRESIDENT FOR THE YEAR, BRETT**

More details will be shared. But for now, please mark your calendars for this event!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Santa Fe College - Charles L Blount Center

**530 W University Ave
Gainesville, FL 32601**

This is a GREAT opportunity to attend RLI here in Gainesville! Most often, these classes are held in Jacksonville or Daytona ...so to have a session held right here in Gainesville affords area Rotarians a convenient location to attend.

As your Board considers RLI to be such a unique, valuable experience for ALL Rotarians (not just those intending on becoming an officer in the club), your \$100 registration fee will be reimbursed by the club.

Arrive around **7:00 AM** for registration sign-in, material pick-up, and breakfast gathering./fellowship

Classes begin promptly at **8:00 AM** and will be completed by **3:30 PM**
Parts 1, 2, & 3 will be offered.

Also, (2) Graduate classes offered : **Foundation** or **Facilitation Techniques**
Breakfast, Lunch and all materials for \$100

To REGISTER:

Here is an easy way for club members to register:

(1) Through the Calendar on **the DACdb website using this link: [Register Now!](#)**

(2) Or; Please note: Members must be logged onto DACdb in order for the link to take them to the registration page!

If not, then after logging in, please do the following:

- Select the **"District"** tab at the top of the page
- Select the **"Calendar"** icon, and after it opens, check the **"RLI Training Events"** box
- Scroll down to the desired date - **"August 10th"**
- Select the **"Register Now"** button

Discussion group size is limited, with **registration closing on Friday, August 2nd!**

MONTHLY SPEAKERS

By Jim & Jimbo E. Skiles III
JUNE SPEAKERS

- June 5 Jodi Jainchill : *Life with my Guide Dog*
- June 12 Tate Quinones : *An Introduction to the Bahi'i Faith*
- June 19 Levi Lowry, The Mercy Project
- June 26 NO MEETING Transition dinner on the 27th

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>

JUNE 27	TRANSITION DINNER	
AUGUST 10	Rotary Leadership Institute	Santa Fe College - Charles L Blount Center 530 W University Ave Gainesville, FL 32601

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS MARTA??

Fellow club member Marta has been attending the 2024 Rotary Convention in Singapore!
We look forward to hearing about this wonderful experience when she returns!





New friends and Fellow Rotarians from around the world.





Stephanie Urchick, RI President for 2024-25



with Mario Cesar, RI President Nominee



Head of the Community Development Action Group and more new friends





Emerson Conlon, Learning and Development Specialist



WASH consultant from Colorado

2025 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



Dear Rotarians!

We're delighted to announce that the 2025 Rotary International Convention will take place in Calgary, Canada, 21-25 June 2025.

Calgary, along with breathtaking beauty, is a big city with a small-town feel that warmly welcomes visitors. More than 165 languages are spoken in Calgary, making it a perfect destination to bring together Rotary members from around the world.

The 2025 convention theme is "Magic All Around," and from the moment you arrive, you'll feel it. The one-of-a-kind connections and friendships. The people with different backgrounds, experiences, and points of view. The energy of thousands of members with their spirits, hearts, and passions together in one place, creating lasting impact and changing the world. That's magic!

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

Having an International Meeting so close to us (relatively speaking) presents a unique opportunity for club members to be able to attend this amazing event!

Here's how to register:

Go to **MyRotary.org** ((if you don't have an account, it's easy to establish one)

Choose *Events & Conventions*

Choose *International Conventions*

It should take you to the registration page for Calgary.

AUCTION FINI

RECEPTION

Sorry if you couldn't join us at this year's Connie Rowe Auction!

We had such a great evening... fellowship, fun and some really good Piesanos food!

Club members certainly enjoyed having Cracker back with us to host the Live Auction.

There were lots of interesting auction items...besides a grand array of silent auction items, Cracker live auctioned off a gourmet dinner for 6, wine tasting for 8, a week's vacation, St. Augustine beach condo, water fun on Lake Swan, one of Billy Brame's beautiful handcrafted cutting boards and of course, Al's fabulous limencello!

The proceeds from the evening totaled \$5120, which is one of the most profitable auctions we've had in a while.

THANKS to all who donated items and to all who bought them!

Stephanie and Diane extend a very special thanks to volunteers Leslie, Michael, Ray, Jimbo, Haydee, Bob, Joe Jr and Al (program) . (And a HUGE thanks to all the folks who stayed to help clean up afterwards!!)

THANKS also to Jimbo for coming up with a new game to play..."Let's WIN a Deal". We will definitely be including it in future auctions!

We were so busy having fun that we didn't take as many pics as we usually do. Here are just a few..

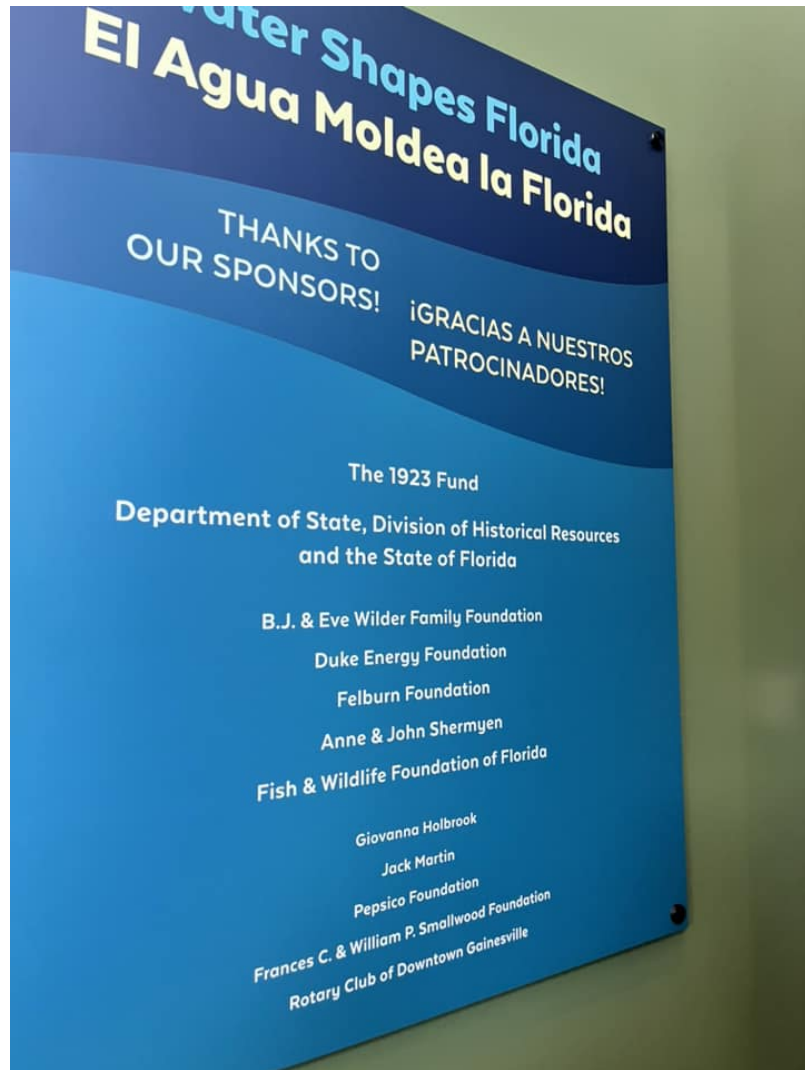




Museum Field Trip

As we didn't have a regular club meeting on the 22nd, Jimbo organized a field trip to the Florida Museum to check out the new WATER SCAPES exhibit . Darcie MacMahon had spoken to our club earlier about the plans for this extraordinary exhibit and it was quite amazing to see it completed (THANKS Jimbo for arranging this!)

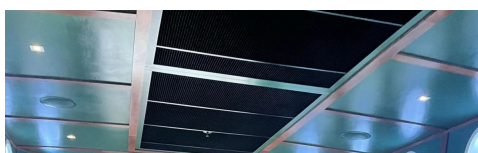
completed. (Thanks, Simbo, for arranging this.)



Check out the contributor on the last line!!



The iconic CAVE has been included into the exhibit. It has been upgraded and is even more interesting to stroll through. Here Darcie is explaining some of the additions to this area of the exhibit.





Speaking of ICONIC! How about one of those glass bottomed boats from Silver Springs! You can take a "ride" right there in the museum.



Interesting addition to the lobby (and we are not referring to Joe)

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	Al Losch
Michael Ekbladh	7 26 2023			Al 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	2/22//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/>