

Club Meeting

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

Club Leaders



Brett Buell
President



Diane Marie Robar
President-Elect
Vice President



Haydee Britton
Secretary



William S. Combs
Treasurer



Michael Ekblad
Sergeant-at-Arms



Stephanie Esposito
iPast President



Shelby Bobbett
Club Director



Marta M. Hartmann
Club Director



Megan Olson
Club Director



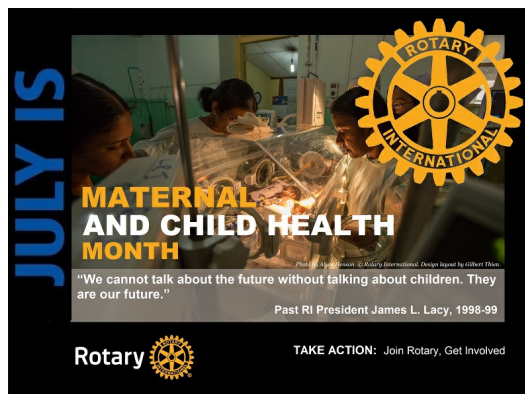
Jim Skiles III
Club Director
Speaker
Chair

Welcome

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



Rotary theme for July



Four Way Test



Birthday greetings!





Jim Islam
July 4th

Walt Barry
July 14th

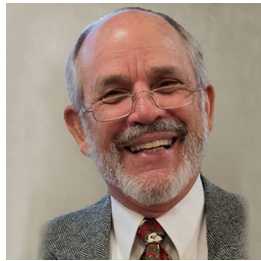
Judy Locasio
July 25th

Club, District and International Rotary leadership 2024-25

Brett Buell, President 2024-25
Rotary Club Downtown Gainesville
Looking forward to a great year!



2024-25 District Governor, Mickey Ulmer



Mickey Ulmer began his career in retail. For 25 years, he developed his skills in advertising, promotions and strategic planning for a variety of consumer-based companies. While helping lead an advertising agency, he expanded his focus to hospitality and customer service which led him to 25 more years with the Sonny's Real Pit Bar-B-Q chain – first as Director of Marketing producing promotions and “from-the-heart” customer service – and then as a franchisee putting all those ideas to work satisfying customers every day.

Mickey excelled at assessing consumer needs and then creating high-impact messages to excite them as customers. His work brought numerous Addy Awards for creativity, then the Silver Medal For Lifetime Achievement from the American Advertising Federation, and later he was twice recognized Business Of The Year by the Amelia Island Chamber of Commerce. Throughout the years, he served on a number of civic boards including the Patient Advisory Council for Baptist/Nassau Medical Center and Advertising Advisory Council for The University of Florida College of Journalism and Communication where he was made Professor Honorarius for his years of service to the college and its students.

As a restaurateur, Mickey fine-tuned his community service skills supporting Toy For Tots, the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, the Navy League and more; he helped organize a Cold Night Shelter and continually donated food to the relief effort; and he opened his restaurant each Thanksgiving Day to provide over 200 people in need of a hearty meal and a bit of encouragement.

As a member and president of the Rotary Club of Amelia Island Sunrise, he found new avenues for his passion for service and became a Paul Society member. Moving on to District responsibilities, Mickey has served as Area 4 Assistant Governor, Fund & Procedures Committee member and is currently the RLI Director for District 6970.

Native Floridians, Mickey and his wife, Gale, moved to Palm Coast at the end of 2020 where he is currently a member of the Rotary Club of Flagler Beach. With his District responsibilities continuing to expand, Mickey is committed to service being his focus for his next 25 years

Stephanie Urchick, RI President 2024-25



Rotary International President-elect Stephanie Urchick announced that the 2024-25 presidential theme is *The Magic of Rotary* and called on members to recognize and amplify the organization's power to save lives.

“Don’t misunderstand me – we are not going to end polio or bring peace to the world by waving a wand and saying some funny words,” Urchick told incoming district governors at the Rotary International Assembly on 8 January. “It’s up to you. You create the magic with every project completed, every dollar donated, and every new member.”

Urchick, a member of the Rotary Club of McMurray, Pennsylvania, USA, said she saw the magic of Rotary on display when she was helping install water filters in the Dominican Republic. Two boys were watching as dirty water entered the filter, then ran out clean at the other end.

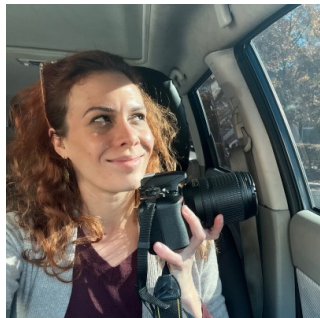
“One of the boys grabbed my sleeve and said, ‘Show me the magic again,’” she said. “Obviously, the water filter wasn’t magic. We worked hard to transport those filters, install them, and work with community leaders in the area to maintain them. But those boys knew that easy access to clean water would change their lives. Knowing that I played a small part in that certainly changed my life.”

Prioritizing peace

Urchick urged members to champion Rotary's Action Plan, find a balance between continuity and change, and work for peace. She plans to host a presidential peace conference in 2025 with the theme “Healing in a Divided World.”



July 17 speakers



Amanda Smith. , Jim Saylor, and MaryBeth Beaver
IQ Fiber Sales & Marketing Community Outreach and Education

"Telecommunications History and the Development of Gainesville's Fiber Optic Internet Infrastructure"

The presentation will include a brief overview of the history of telecommunications infrastructure development, fiber optics as the future of the internet, and the impact of fiber optics infrastructure updates to the greater Gainesville community. Topics also covered will include property value increase for homes equipped with fiber optics, the resilience & future-proof nature of fiber optic telecommunications, the local process for fiber optics infrastructure construction, home network installation, and the transition from cable telecommunications to fiber optic internet in the home.

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>

Les Petits Okapis update!





Les Petits Okapis - Okapis International.
Sending you a Hello from N'sele, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo.
All my kids are in their new house (which Haydee bought for them).
They finally have their own roof.
The house has 5 bedrooms and 5 bathrooms.
I just bought them bunk beds and they are thrilled to sleep on real mattresses with sheets and pillows.

More vacation pics!

Michael with family and friends at Bishops Palace in Galveston, Tx



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

must register by August 2nd!



AUGUST 10, 2024

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!**

WOW!



**TOGETHER, WE
END POLIO**

Jacksonville Jaguars Luxury Suite Raffle for Polio

August 10th Jaguars vs Chiefs

Together, WE CAN END POLIO! Be a part of history, won't you?

This year, as just one of our End Polio events, District 6970 is highlighting our partnership with the Jacksonville Jaguars. Since this partnership began it has resulted in over \$1,305,593 going to PolioPlus through The Rotary Foundation including the Gates Match.

This year the Jaguars are donating one Luxury Suite to the Saturday, August 10th game vs. the Kansas City Chiefs. The net proceeds from this raffle will go to The Rotary Foundation at the end of the season along with all our net ticket sale proceeds, to get us that much closer to eradicating polio! The winner of the raffle will receive 20 Suite Tickets and 3 Parking Passes.

The raffle will end at midnight on Thursday, July 31st

The winner's name will be announced on Friday, August 1st.

Help us End Polio forever! For more information and to get your chance to win the luxury suite to the Jags vs Chiefs game click the link: <https://rotaryshares.org/jagsraffle>.



Help us get the word out by including the link or the QR code on your social media!!

Show this QR Code to your non-Rotary friends so they can buy raffle tickets too!

?

MONTHLY SPEAKERS

By Jim & Jimbo & E. Skiles III

JULY SPEAKERS provided by Shelby Bobbett

July 10 Ellen Siegel presentation: "Is it Hot in Here or Is It Me?"

July 17 IQ Fiber presentation: *Telecommunications History and the Development of Gainesville's Fiber Optic Internet Infrastructure*

July 24

July 31

Event Calendar 2024



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

**PLEASE ALSO REFER TO ONLINE CLUB CALENDAR AT THE LINK
FOR**

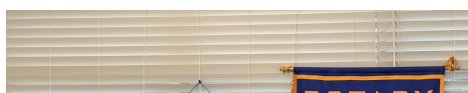
MOST UPDATED CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

<https://rb.gy/jh7vx>

AUGUST 10 AUGUST 2nd last day to register	Rotary Leadership Institute	Santa Fe College - Charles L Blount Center 530 W University Ave Gainesville, FL 32601 (registraton info in article)
OCTOBER 8th	Wes Skiles Wine to Water Waterstewardship Awards	
OCTOBER 25	Car Show	

Leadership Banquet

Such a wonderful evening to spend with fellow Rotarians as we reviewed a most successful Rotary year led by President Stephanie and welcomed the new leadership of Brett Buell





District Governor Nominee Bo Norton administers oath of office to Brett, our new President for the 2024-25 Rotary year



Scott Hansis received his first Paul Harris award. Thank you, Jimbo, for facilitating this



Becky Hunt received her PH 8 ! Congratulations, Becky!!

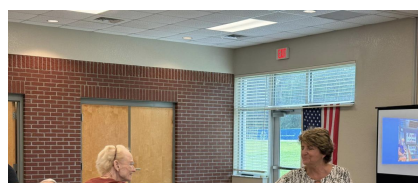


Stephanie presented Diane with the Ben Rowe Rotarian of the Year award.



Brett presented Stephanie with a thank you plaque for her year of extraordinary leadership

As a surprise, *all* club members who were present at the dinner each received their own special individualized "award". here's just a few of them..





Brett's Board of Directors include Shelby, Marta, Jimbo, Michael, Diane, Billy and Stephanie. Not pictured are Megan Olson and Haydee Britton.



As always, all club members enjoyed having time to socialize during the evening with fellow Rotarians.



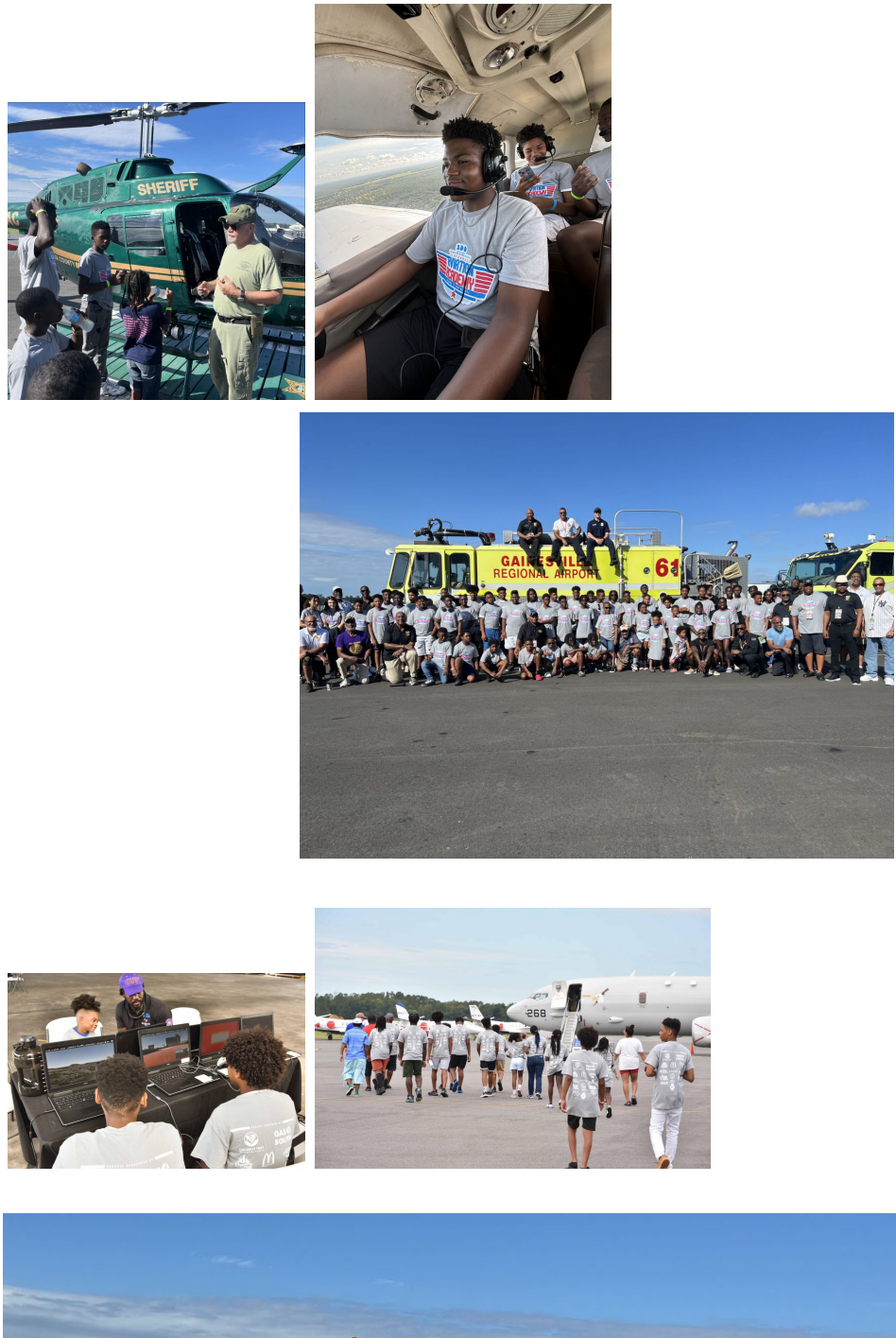
Jimbo spoke to club about our participation and leadership for the South Sudan International grant. Here is the donation chart to keep track of how close we are coming to the goal of \$100,000.



AVIATION DAY

CONGRATS to David Bridges and Matt Bowman for another successful and AWESOME Aviation Academy!

We're excited to share that the 100 Black Men of Greater Florida, GNV, Inc. hosted our 6th Annual Aviation Academy! With over 100 youth participants, the event began at the Kika Silva Pla Planetarium at Santa Fe College on Friday, June 21, 2024. On Saturday, June 22, 2024, the youth enjoyed flights at the University Air Center in Gainesville, Florida. This year's program featured experts in commercial, private, military, and drone piloting. We also had representatives from the University of Florida Air Force ROTC, United States Navy, Alachua County Sheriff's Office, Gainesville Fire Rescue, and Infinity Aero Club of Tampa Bay. A huge thank you to our participants, parents, exhibit representatives, and sponsors for their incredible support. Special appreciation goes to the Brothers of the 100 Black Men of Greater Florida, GNV, Inc. for their unwavering dedication to this event and our community's youth. Our motto, "What They See Is What They'll Be," truly came to life this weekend.





Operation Catnip

This project is being shared with us by the Greater Gainesville Rotary club.

OPERATION CATNIP



Operation Catnip

95% rating Charity Navigator

<https://ocgainesville.org/> (352) 380-0940 info@ocgainesville.org

Rotary Avenue(s) of Service: Disease Prevention & Treatment/Environment /Economic & Community Development

To sponsor vaccinations, vet care, and supply donations that stop the cycle of stray cat populations in Gainesville. This program, over 5 years, reduced cat admissions to County Animal Control by an average of 43.8%



Executive Director Audrey Garrison audrey.garrison@ocgainesville.org prepared a donation list.

- Nitrile Exam Gloves (must be Nitrile) We need small, medium and large - we use more small than any other size.
- Distilled White vinegar in gallon containers.
- Liquid laundry detergent (any brand)
- Liquid fabric softner (any brand)
- Oxi-clean powder
- Pate' style canned cat food - any brand, but it needs to be Pate'
- Dry cat food - any brand
- Surgical Gloves - sizes 6, 6 1/2, and 7
- Suture PGCL reverse cutting 3-0.
- 1 mL Leur Lock syringes (not Leur tip) with 25 gauge needles
- 70% or 71% alcohol

Sponsor a Community Cat Package: Suggested donation \$60

Spay-Neuter Surgery, Vaccinations (FVRCP & Rabies), Flea Treatment, Eartip, and Pain Medication

Downtown Gainesville Rotarians

MEMBER	JOINED	CLUB SERVICE	TRF
Walt Barry	1/1/2003	PP 09-10	* PHF4
Shelby Bobbitt	9/21/2022		
Ed Book	2/1/2009	PP 13-14 AG 1,2,AG	* BR PHF2
Billy Brame	7/1/1976	PP (RCGG)	* PHF+6
David Bridges	2/1/2019		*PHF
Haydee Britton	03/8/2023	Secretary	
Brett Buell	9/1/2015	President 2024-25	* PHF+1
Brenda Chamberlain	1/1/2019	PP 2021-22	*PHF

Neal Cohen	7/1/1989		* PHF3
<i>Billy Combs</i>	4/1/1992	PP 97-98, Treasurer	* MD / BR PHF8
Pat Craddock	9/1/2006	PP 10-11	* MD @ PHF8
<i>Michael Ekblad</i>	7 26 2023	Sgt At Arms	
Ed Emery	9/1/2015		* PHF
<i>Stephanie Esposito</i>	6/12/2020	PP 2023-24	*PHF
Chessie Flanders	4/1/2017	PP 19-20, AG 1, AG2, AG	* PHF
Greg Fleming	3/1/1994	PP 05-06	* PHF3
Megan Forbes	1/1/2001	PP 04-05	* BR @ PHF6
Dan Frowick		PP 94-95	MD/HM
Scott Hansis	2/22//2023		PHF 1
<i>Marta Hartmann</i>	05/2021	Director	
Becky Hunt	1/1/1996		* PHF 8
Jim Islam	9/1/1990	PP 95-96	* MD PHF8
Steve Jeppson	5/11/2022		
Marina Jordan	2/1/2019		*PHF
Pradeep Kumar	5/1/2018		*PHF+1
Judy Locascio	3/1/2002		* PHF+6
Al Losch Jr.	4/1/1992	PP 00-01	* MD @ BR PHF8
Joe Lowry Jr.	12/1/2004	PP (08-09) (17-18)	* BR @ PHF6
Joe Lowry Sr.	7/1/2013		* MD PHF8
Clay Martin	11/1/2016		* PHF
Rob Oglesby	5/1/2010	PP 14-15	* MD / BR PHF8
<i>Megan Olson</i>	2/1/2019	Director	*PHF+1
Cheryl T. Poe	1/1/2007	PP 15-16	* BR PHF6
Perry Pursell	6/1/2008	PP 12-13,	* PHF3
Bob Robar	11/1/1991	PP 01-02	* MD @ PHF8
<i>Diane Robar</i>	10/1/2014	PP 2020-21; AG 1, 2, ,AG, PE	* PHF+1
Ben Rowe (d.)	n/a	Charter President	* MD
Lauri Schiffbauer	8 11 2021		
<i>Jim Skiles</i>	12/1/1998	PP 03-04; Speakers,director	* MD @ BR PHF8
Carl Smart	3/1/2019	PP 2022-23	*PHF
Ray Snook	4/1/2012	PP16-17 AAG	* PHF3
Zachary West	11/1/2013		* PHF
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/>