

# 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

## Welcome



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

*Welcome to the  
Rotary Club of Downtown Gainesville*

## August theme



**Sherry Houston, Speaker**



Diane Marie Robar  
Club Director



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



Diane Marie Robar  
Assistant Governor



Sherry Nungesser Houston, CEO  
Ronald McDonald House Charities North Central Florida.

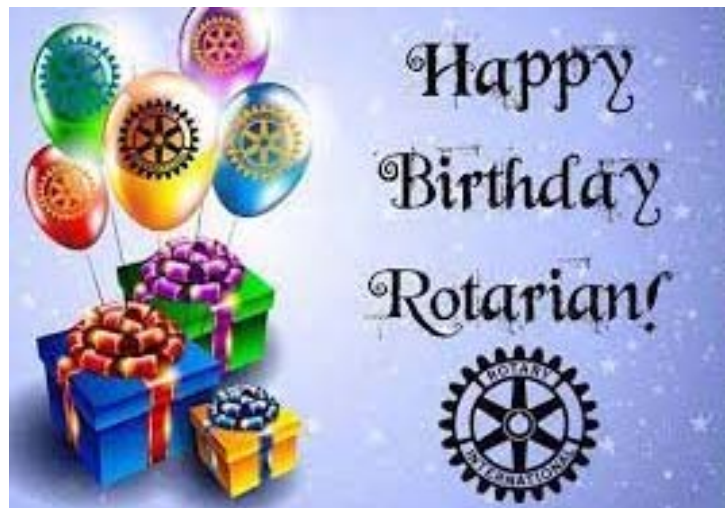
WOW!! Wait until you see the fabulous NEW Ronald McDonald house!! The former Hope Lodge has been completely transformed into a spacious, beautiful home for those parents who have a child in Shands. Come listen to Sherry as she tells (and shows) you all about this amazing renovation!

Sherry is actively involved both in the community and in a variety of charitable organizations, and is an expert nonprofit development professional with extensive fundraising, marketing, public relations, and event planning experience.

Sherry has been with Ronald McDonald House for 8 years and serves as CEO. Her lifelong dedication to supporting charitable organizations is evidenced in her active involvement in the Sunrise Rotary Club (current president), the Junior League of Gainesville, the Association of Fundraising Professionals, and Gainesville Women's Forum.

Sherry has a BA in sociology from Franklin & Marshall College and a Masters of Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Pittsburgh. She was selected by the Florida Commission on the Status of Women to receive the FCSW Florida Achievement Award in October 2016. She also has a mental health first aid certification from the National Council for Behavioral Health and. She and her husband, Joel, have two grown children, Meredith and Christopher, and grandson, Theodore and twin granddaughters Olivia and Bella.

## Happy Birthday, fellow Rotarians



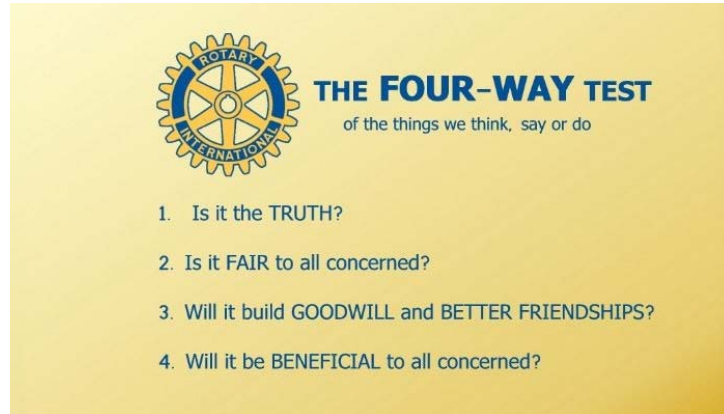
*MARINA JORDAN*  
*August 5*

*JOE LOWRY, JR*  
*August 5*

*MEGAN FORBES*  
*August 13*

*CARL SMART*

## Four Way Test



## Welcome, Michael!



Welcome, MICHAEL EKBLADH!



We are happy to welcome Michael into our Downtown Gainesville club ! Michael is the Director of Music Ministries at the First United Methodist Church. Thank you, Al, for sponsoring him!

**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>

## Our New Trivia master



*Who better to be the Trivia Master than our MASTER of Trivia, Al Losch!!*

*THANK YOU, AL, for taking this role for the upcoming year .*

*We look forward to learning all kinds of new, interesting things!* 😊

**ITS A ROTARY THING!**

## Event Calendar



~~~~~ **DETAILS FOR ALL EVENTS ARE LOCATED WITHIN THE BULLETIN** ~~~~~

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

|                                |                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>UNTIL<br/>AUGUST<br/>10</b> | UNDERWEAR<br>DRIVE to<br>Alachua<br>County<br>School<br>children | Bring new undies to club meeting or DONATE online<br><a href="https://www.amazon.com/.../s/AKTARZPR5P5R/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex">Amazon.com</a><br>( <a href="https://www.amazon.com/.../s/AKTARZPR5P5R/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex">https://www.amazon.com/.../s/AKTARZPR5P5R/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex</a> ) |
| <b>AUGUST 12</b>               | RLI (Rotary<br>Leadership<br>Institute)                          | <a href="https://rlitraining.org/course-information/course-schedule/">https://rlitraining.org/course-information/course-schedule/</a>                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>AUGUST<br/>26</b>           | VIBRANT<br>CLUB<br>SEMINAR                                       | Orange Park , Fl.<br><a href="https://dacdb.com/Register4/index.cfm?EventID=77677357">https://dacdb.com/Register4/index.cfm?EventID=77677357</a>                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>SEPT 30</b>                 | Field trip to<br>GOC for<br>lunch and<br>tour of new<br>kitchen  | Details will be announced                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>OCTOBER<br/>21st</b>        | RIDE TO<br>END POLIO                                             | Gainesville Health & Fitness Center<br>Details TBD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

can YOU help??



Our fellow Rotary club, the Gainesville Rotary club, is holding their annual drive for underwear.

Yes, UNDERWEAR:

It's for the kids in school who may have one of those unfortunate 'accidents' during school hours. This drive is coordinated with the nurses in the schools.

Let's help them help our kids !

Here's the information:

Underwear isn't the greatest thing in the world...it's really close to it, though.

Let's help by supplying our local school nurses with underwear to help keep kids in school when accidents happen.

While it seems like a small thing in the midst of all that our schools deal with, one of the ACPS Health Services staff told us "underwear is not a small thing, it is essential to our efforts to keep healthy kids in school."

Donations will be accepted through August 10th (first day of school). It is easy to contribute!

Go to [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/.../ls/AKTARZPR5P5R/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex) ([https://www.amazon.com/.../ls/AKTARZPR5P5R/ref=hz\\_ls\\_biz\\_ex](https://www.amazon.com/.../ls/AKTARZPR5P5R/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex)) and make a purchase from the wish list. Your package will be delivered to Kelley Kostamo at the @AlachuaCountyPublicSchools, and she will know it came from our club. Be sure to choose Alachua Schools for shipping address to deliver your package to the Alachua County schools.

Go shopping! Bring donations to the next couple of meetings and we will make sure they will get delivered.

Keeping kids in school significantly impacts their chance for educational success.

With your donation, we can make a difference and [#CreateHopeInTheWorld](#).

**Mark your calendars!**

ROTARY CLUB OF GREATER GAINESVILLE PRESENTS

# RIDE TO END POLIO



SAVE THE DATE:  
Saturday, October 21



more details to follow!!!

**REGISTER now!**



**Rotary Leadership Institute**  
building a better Rotary through education

# Saturday, August 12th in Orange Park, FL

Breakfast and Sign-In 7:00-7:45am . . . Classes 8:00am to 3:00pm

**St. Johns River State College/Orange Park Campus**  
283 College Dr, Orange Park, FL 32065



**\$100.00 Fee per Rotarian**  
for class registration, course material  
notebook, breakfast and lunch,  
facility fees and course certificate

*Note that some clubs subsidize this expense.  
Ask your club leadership for details.*

## Two Easy Ways To Register

**1** Log in to your Rotary account on DACdb, and open the Calendar (make sure RIJ Events are included). Scroll to August 12th, click "Register NOW" and follow the prompts to get registered.

**2** Go online to [www.rltraining.org](http://www.rltraining.org) and then tap on "Course Information" and then click the "Course Schedule" dropdown tab. Scroll to August 12th, click on "More Info" and follow the prompts to get registered.



At RLI, you will share discussions with newer members starting their Rotary journey as well as members of many years looking to expand their Rotary knowledge. You will learn different perspectives of Rotarians from many clubs. And you will have time for networking with those same Rotarians. Remember, discussion group size is limited and registration closes on **Tuesday, August 1st.** So sign up today!

**Planning For Success, Rotary Opportunities, Leading Volunteers, Foundation Basics, Public Image, Effective Leadership Strategies, Service Projects, Grants, and the History of Rotary** are just some of the interesting topics explored. Plus a lively and timely Graduate Class focused on **The Rotary Foundation** will be available to all RLI Part 3 Graduates.



Join Rotarians from around Northeast Florida for **Rotary Leadership Institute . . . Saturday, August 12th** at St. Johns River State College Orange Park Campus!  
For more information contact District 6970 RLI Director Bo Norton at [bnrotary.6970@gmail.com](mailto:bnrotary.6970@gmail.com) 1.703.868.8946

register at <https://rlitraining.org/course-information/course-schedule/>

scroll down to August 12th date

**REGISTRATION CLOSSES AUGUST 1ST**

## VIBRANT CLUB SEMINAR





AUGUST 26th

The Vibrant Club Seminar is our late summer/fall District training. This training is intended for all Rotary members. The training focuses on Membership, The Rotary Foundation and on Rotary's Public Image. Sometimes we refer to these relationships as Rotary's three-legged stool. If one leg is not operational the stool gets unstable; therefore, we will spend this seminar focusing on these three critical areas of your Rotary club. We will also be adding a track on leadership this year.

During this seminar we will have a chance to acknowledge the achievements of the past Rotary year in these same three categories.

So come learn how to grow your membership! Grow your knowledge and outreach to The Rotary Foundation, learn how to communicate these achievements to the public in a significant and meaningful way and celebrate the accomplishments your club made in the previous year with respect to membership, The Rotary Foundation and your club's public image.

Join us in Orange Park for our annual Vibrant Club Seminar at the Thrasher Horne Center, St. Johns River State College 283 College Drive, Orange Park, FL 32065

register:

<https://dacdb.com/Register4/index.cfm?EventID=77677357>

## MONTHLY SPEAKERS

By Jim "Jimbo " E. Skiles III

*AUGUST Speakers provided by the Lowry's*

### Aug 2 Sherry Houston, Ronald McDonald

**Jim Skiles is the Chief Speaker Coordinator- please have all speaker submissions in to Jim and social media chair Stephanie Esposito as soon as you have confirmation .**

*Jim's email: - jimskiles3@gmail.com*

*Stephanie's email: Stephanie.esposito319@yahoo com*

|                  |               |  |                                            |
|------------------|---------------|--|--------------------------------------------|
| Coordinator      | Jim Skiles    |  | 352-538-0293                               |
|                  |               |  | <b>ROTARY THEME FOR MONTH</b>              |
| <b>August</b>    | <b>Lowrys</b> |  | <b>Membership and New Club Development</b> |
| <b>September</b> | <b>Jimbo</b>  |  | <b>Basic Education and Literacy</b>        |
| <b>October</b>   | <b>Carl</b>   |  | <b>Economic and Community Development</b>  |
| <b>November</b>  | <b>Marta</b>  |  | <b>Rotary Foundation</b>                   |
| <b>December</b>  | <b>AI</b>     |  | <b>Disease Prevention and Treatment</b>    |

## Downtown Gainesville Rotarians

MEMBER

John Anderson

JOINED

4/1/2017

CLUB SERVICE

TRF

\* PHF

POI

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<br>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,<br>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-<br>24          | *PHF              | Brenda Chamberlain |
| Chessie Flanders          | 4/1/2017  | PP 19-20, AG 1,<br>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              | David Bridges      |
| Judy Locascio             | 3/1/2002  |                                | * PHF+6           | Robert Taylor      |
| Al Losch Jr.              | 4/1/1992  | PP 00-01 LEOM                  | * MD @ BR<br>PHF8 | Pat Craddock       |
| <i>Joe Lowry Jr.</i>      | 12/1/2004 | PP (08-09) (17-<br>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              | 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<br>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;<br>Speakers,director | * MD @ BR<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         |

\* 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/>**