



Please enjoy this edition of the Sunrise Rotary Club newsletter. Sunrise Rotary is an active club of about 70 members who take pride in our community. Through our service projects and fellowship, we are changing lives and making a positive difference. If you would like to subscribe a friend to our newsletter, please send their [email to Dorothy Zimmerman](#) and we will add their name.



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

Speakers

May 09, 2024

[Julia Tapia-Ruano](#)

Who is Today's
DAR?

May 16, 2024

[Mitch Glaeser](#)

All Things City of
Alachua

Events

May 18th

[Firefighter
Appreciation
Picnic](#)

June 12th

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Transition
Meeting](#)

June 20th

[Transition Dinner](#)



This week, we are honored to host Julia Tapia-Ruano as our guest speaker. Julia will be presenting a talk titled "Who is Today's DAR?" The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is a prestigious organization promoting education and patriotism among women descended from American Revolution supporters. With over 190,000 members globally, DAR's inclusive mission resonates, recognizing diverse patriot contributions beyond soldiers. Join us to learn more about this esteemed organization and its significance in today's world.

Super Moms: Celebrating Mother's Day with Humor and Heart!



Here's your sign, fellow Rotarians. This Sunday is Mother's Day -- time to celebrate the real MVPs! Remember, behind every Rotarian is often a super mom juggling life's chaos. Let's honor them with love, laughter, and maybe a dash of extra appreciation. After all, they embody "Service Above Self" every day -- whether it's managing a household or helping our communities thrive. So, here's to the real superheroes in our lives!

Seeking Donations for Mirror Image Gala Silent Auction

By Rick E. Medina

WHO WE ARE

Mirror Image Leadership Academy (MILA) is a 3-year leadership program for 7th graders, primarily targeting African American students. Our program includes a School Year Academy, Extended Day After-school Program, and a Summer Academy with local and international travel. Each year, we focus on expanding young minds through exposure to diverse people, places, and ideas.

Our approach is mindset over behavior. Real change doesn't happen without a shift in mindset. Throughout their journey with MILA, scholars follow our True Leader Model curriculum, emphasizing how exposure can positively change their self-image, purpose, faith, character, and work ethic.

MIRROR IMAGE *True* LEADER MODEL™

EXPOSURE

SELF-IMAGE + PURPOSE + FAITH + CHARACTER + WORK ETHIC

With your support, we aim to address the root causes of distorted self-image in young men, influenced by society, economy, and family. Sponsoring our gala will help finance our Academies, guiding young men in self-discovery and unlocking their potential. We are grateful for your generosity, partnership, and commitment to future generations.

"Being a part of Mirror Image Leadership Academy has been a great opportunity. Over the years, I have become a better version of myself. I am more confident, and I understand that I must set goals and keep God first in all I do to achieve those goals. I have also been exposed to things that I would have never thought I'd ever experience. I better understand what it takes to be a real leader and respectful man. Thank you, MILA, for everything."
TRAVIS CARTER
Graduating Scholar

"Mirror Image Leadership Academy means the whole world to me. I have come a long way in this program. Before this program, I was getting into trouble not just in school but at home as well. I come from a background of men who didn't make the best choices. MILA has shown me I can be better than that."
ALMARIE KITCHEN
Graduating Scholar

LOCAL (DALEVILLE)
NATIONAL (DALLAS)
INTERNATIONAL (GHANA)
INTERNATIONAL (JANUARY)

Dear Fellow Sunrise Rotarians:

Thanks to everyone who has shared a table sponsorship or gift card for the silent auction portion of the inaugural Mirror Image Leadership Academy Gala fundraiser. It takes place on Thursday, May 16, 2024 from 6-9 pm at Valley View in Alachua.

I am still looking for the following:

- 3 table sponsors at \$250
- gift certificates for dining at local restaurants.
- small art, pottery, or glass pieces.
- services gift certificates such as at hair/barber/nail salons and spas.

I am grouping the donations with the goal to have 20 themed auction items.

To learn more about Mirror Image, click the image above to see a larger version, or visit the organization's website at <https://www.mirrorimageleadership.org/2024-gala>.

Rick

Get Updates on This Year's Firefighter Picnic

By David Ferro



Just a reminder that we are hosting the Firefighter Appreciation Picnic on Saturday, May 18 beginning at 11 am at Santa Fe College Northwest campus.

Once again this week we will be "passing the hat" to take collections to help with the cost. We are also looking for volunteers for set up, serving, and clean up. I'll pass the clipboard around again this Thursday.

Lastly, we are looking for the following items to help make the event special:

- Big cooler x 4
- Cornhole x2
- Frisbee
- Football
- Soccer ball.
- Lawn Darts (just kidding)

You are cordially invited to volunteer at this year's Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), which will be held on June 21, 22, and 23 at Stetson University.

As you may know, RYLA is a premier leadership conference designed to foster youth development and is a key initiative under the Rotary International banner. This year, we anticipate welcoming 100-125 high school students who have completed their freshman or sophomore years.

These students, selected by Rotary Clubs within District 6970, will participate in a series of leadership workshops, activities, and lectures at no cost, thanks to the support of our clubs. As Rotarians, we have the privilege of shaping these young leaders by sharing our experiences and skills.

We are seeking volunteers for various roles throughout the weekend, from overseeing activities to facilitating sessions. Whether you can spare a few hours or can commit to the entire weekend, your involvement would be invaluable. For those able to stay for the full event, accommodations will be provided at Stetson University. We would welcome any and all involvement.

Volunteering at RYLA not only supports our youth but also strengthens our Rotary community. It's an excellent opportunity to engage with fellow Rotarians and make a positive impact on the lives of young people. Please consider donating your time to this worthy cause.

If you are interested in volunteering, please visit this link : <https://www.rotarydistrict6970.org/ryla/volunteers/> or reply to this email with any questions. We are grateful for any time you can offer.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to help nurture the next generation of leaders. Together, we can make a significant impact.

Here's BarBee Geiger's Address if You'd Like to Reach Out

Many Sunrise Rotarians attended the memorial service for our recently deceased member Chuck Geiger last week. Some of you have written to ask where they can send a card of condolence to BarBee. Here is the address:

BarBee Geiger
772 SW 136th Street
Tioga, FL 32669

From Presentations to Palaces: A Memorable 3-Week Journey Through Taiwan and South Korea

By Mike Spranger

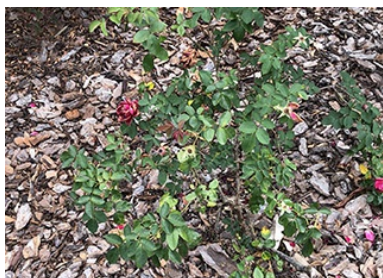
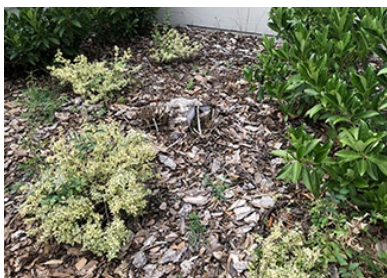




We spent the last 3 weeks in Taiwan and South Korea. We both had major presentations, teacher workshops and community forums in Taiwan. In South Korea we enjoyed the sights, sound and food. We particularly enjoyed the K-Pop scene as well as the many temples. We met many new friends as well as renewed the old friendships we had. A very memorable trip!

May Update on the Rotary Butterfly Garden

By Jean-François Roulet



The Butterfly Garden at the Ronald McDonald House looks almost as great as it did last fall. The good news: the mulch has worked very well – almost no weeds so far. However, there are a few changes: the roses have faded and need some clipping/pruning and there are a few dead plants that should be removed.

I plan a short tuning up session this Saturday, May 11, at 9 am. Please bring clippers and a small bucket so we do not need to collect what you have removed. A blower might be useful, and if someone has a lawn mower for artificial lawns, please bring it along! I will pass around a sign-up sheet on Thursday.

Groovy Times at James Moore: 60th Anniversary Bash Brings Back the Swinging Sixties!

By Kevin L. Golden



On Wednesday May 1st James Moore celebrated its 60th anniversary with a 60s™s themed party! Here are images of the cake and a group of us dressed for the evening! If you can't tell, I'm the one in the middle dressed as Austin Powers!!

The celebration was held all day at the Hilton. During the day our firm held a business meeting/history, the afternoon was a keynote speaker, and the evening was the party!

-- Kevin

Quote of the Week: May 9, 2024

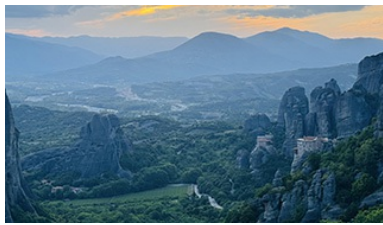
It is much better to walk downhill, than it is to walk uphill.

-- Jim Cato

Greek Odyssey: Jim and Becky Cato's Adventures from Athens to Meteora

By James Cato





Seasoned travelers and avid adventurers Jim and Becky Cato recently embarked on a captivating journey to Greece. If you follow Jim on Facebook, you're getting an extra special treat in your timeline these days. Here's a small update from Jim, a Rotary newsletter exclusive!

"We spent a week in Athens, seeing all the sights and eating some really great meals. We took a two-day trip to Meteora, in northwestern Greece, to see monasteries built on the top of immense natural stone pillars. At one time there were 24, now there are six, plus some convents. Some date back centuries BC. One photo shows the natural beauty of the place, with two monasteries seen just before sunset. On Good Friday, before the Greek Easter, at 9 pm at a church near our hotel, we watched a somber parade re-enacting the burial of Jesus. The flower arrangements created for the ceremonies that we saw at several churches were magnificent. Now we are on a Windstar cruise/sail ship, to visit some of the islands around Greece."

Join Us

Gainesville Sunrise
Meets at Hilton University of Florida Conference Center Gainesville
1714 SW 34th Street
Gainesville, FL 32607
Time: Thursday at 07:00 AM



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