



South Jacksonville  
Rotary



Putting Service Above Self since 1955



CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD

### Club Meeting

South Jacksonville  
Meets at Doubletree Hotel  
1201 Riverplace Blvd  
Jacksonville, FL 32207  
Time: Tuesday at 12:30 PM

### Events

May 14th  
[David McGowan](#)  
May 21st  
[Isiah Oliver](#)  
May 28th  
[Memorial Day-no lunch meeting](#)  
June 4th  
[Robert Peek](#)

### Birthdays



[PP Harvey E. Schlesinger](#)  
June 4th

### Years of Service



[William H. Harrell](#)  
03-31-1981  
44 Years



[PP Bea Fore](#)  
03-08-2011  
14 Years



[PP Odette Struys](#)  
03-26-2019  
6 Years

### Wedding Anniversaries



[Ron Patrick](#)  
May 9th



[Laure Whitmer](#)

## This Week's Topic: David McGowan, A Fresh Look at WJCT Public Media



David McGowan became President and CEO of WJCT Public Media in 2018 and brings a wide range of experience to the job. He has had senior roles in media and telecom companies in Europe, including London, Zurich, and Cologne, Germany, and most recently served as CEO of Invitel, one of Hungary's largest telecom companies, in Budapest.

Prior to his work in Europe, he served as a news executive with Time Magazine in New York and in public television in Washington, where programs under his leadership won every major award in American broadcasting.

He has served on the boards of several companies and non-profits, and is currently an advisor to The National Digital Infrastructure Fund, a private equity investor in the next generation of digital infrastructure in the UK with the backing of the British government.

He and his wife live on the Southbank in Jacksonville.

### ~From the Board

The following candidate has been approved for your consideration into membership: James Poindexter, classification is Law-Labor & Employment. His sponsor is PP Charlie Cofer.  
Anyone having an objection, please submit it in writing within ten (10) days to the Board.





May 18th

## Volunteers needed for Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) June 21-24



[PP Charles G Cofer](#)  
June 1st



[PP Harvey E. Schlesinger](#)  
June 2nd



[Christy King](#)  
June 6th



Volunteers are needed for 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 covering northeast Florida, 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, accommodation will be provided at Stetson University.

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.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Claudia L. Dencer

[cldencer@leonards.com](mailto:cldencer@leonards.com)

iPast President | Rotary Club of St. Augustine

District 6970 Youth Services Chair

904-669-9612

## Gala Beneficiaries 2024



Congratulations to these local non-profit organizations for receiving a South Jax Derby Grant!

[FreshMinistries](#) â€“ [Aquaponics](#) - \$2000

[Sanctuary on 8<sup>th</sup>](#) - \$1000

[UCOM](#) â€“ United Community Outreach Ministries - \$1000

[Volunteers in Medicine](#) - \$1000

We will be planning check distribution events to these organizations! Stay tuned for more details...

## Megan Madrid Receives Award for her

## Outstanding Work as Sergeant of Arms

Megan Madrid, a graphic designer active in both Rotaract and South Jacksonville Rotary, was recently recognized for her service as the District 6970 Sergeant of Arms. Fellow South Jacksonville Rotarians were present at the District Conference ceremony and very happy to see her receive the award.



## Bea Fore and Dean Scott Receive Avenues of Service Awards at District Conference



Bea Fore and Dean Scott received Avenues of Service Rewards at the 6970 District Conference on May 4, 2024. Fellow South Jacksonville Rotarians were present at the District Conference ceremony and very happy to see them recognized for their contributions.

## Derby Day in South Jacksonville: Mystic Dan Reigns Supreme





**The South Jacksonville Derby Gala was a mane event!** Not only did the crowd cheer on their favorite "horses" (represented by donations), but Mystic Dan, championed by Kelly Bean, crossed the finish line as the Derby Winner! The excitement didn't end there – Kelly not only gets bragging rights but also takes home \$100 and a ticket to next year's festivities. Congratulations to all the participants and a big shoutout to Kelly Bean for bringing home the win!



**2025 South Jax Derby**

**\*\*\* Save The Date \*\*\* Save The Date \*\*\* Save The Date \*\*\***



# Rotary Club Of South Jacksonville

presents



The South Jacksonville Rotary Club **Derby Experience** is an exciting evening of fun, fellowship, food, beer, wine, cocktails and gambling for everyone.

The Saturday night experience on the river at the Bolles School will be a night with friends and family and will feature an evening of heavy hors d'oeuvres, Bourbon mystery pulls, games of chance, and a Derby hat contest!

*Proceeds from ticket sales and generous donations will benefit the Rotary Club of South Jacksonville Charities. This will be a night that you'll never forget!*

\*\*\* **Save The Date** \*\*\* **Save The Date** \*\*\* **Save The Date** \*\*\*

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## Club Leaders



[Leslie Miller Redd](#)  
President



[Lisamarie Winslow](#)  
President-Elect



[John L Cumbow](#)  
Secretary  
Treasurer



[Edward Scott Vaughn](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Charles G Cofer](#)  
iPast President