



June 10, 2024

NEW MEMBERS

Meeting Minutes

President **Bill Keogh** rang the bell and called the meeting to order.

Anna Reeves gave the pledge and invocation.

Matt Barrett introduced the guests and visiting Rotarians today.

Brenda Durant gave the Sunshine Report.

Announcements

- President **Bill** thanked everyone for coming out to the Greenjackets baseball game last week. It was a great event with over 60 Rotary participants. A special thank you to **Millie Huff** and **Tom Denlinger** for coordinating the event.
- Everyone is encouraged to use the DACdb website and app. It is a great way to stay connected with fellow Rotarians.

CART: Today's Cart Challenger is **Dr. Paul Dainer**. **President Bill** asked everyone to please continue to contribute to the blue buckets on the table or online at mycartfund.org using the same login credentials you use with DACDB. Also, please complete our club's Google form to sign up to be a Cart Challenger.

Upcoming Speakers

- June 17 – No Meeting
- June 24 – Year-End Review and Passing of the Gavel
- July 1 – No meeting
- July 8 – Club Assembly

Guest Speaker/Program

Chris Melcher introduced our guest speaker, **Dr. Brooks Keel**, AU President and member of our club. Dr. Keel has lead Augusta University since 2015 and had previously announced his retirement at the end of this academic school year ending June 30.

During his tenure the university has experienced enormous growth in all areas including eight straight years of increased enrollment and eclipsing the 10,000 students mark this year. Over 30 new degree programs have been added since 2015 with several of them connected to the new School of Public Health and the Cyber School.

He has been instrumental in finalizing the partnership with Wellstar to form Wellstar MCG Health which will move the hospital operations to Wellstar and allow for the financial investment necessary to update the facilities both on campus and the new hospital being built in Columbia County.

Under his leadership, the University has added new student dorms, a parking deck, the College of Math and Sciences Building, and the Paulette Harris Literacy Center. With the continued increase in enrollment, new dorms and new dining facilities will continue to be a priority for the next president. Speaking of the next President, fellow club member, **Dr. Russell Keen**, has been selected as the sole finalist to succeed Dr. Keel. His selection is slated to be formally approved by the Board of Regents on June 14.

Club President Bill Keogh offered Dr. Keel our heartfelt appreciation for his service to Augusta University and to the Augusta community. We all wish him well as he transitions into retirement life down on the coast.

President Bill led us in reciting the four-way test and then adjourned the meeting.

Easy links to pages on our website

[Rotary schedule of meeting dates and speakers](#)

[Member Proposal Form](#)

[Online directory - Find a member or update your information](#)

[Bulletins - Weekly bulletins from 2014-current](#)