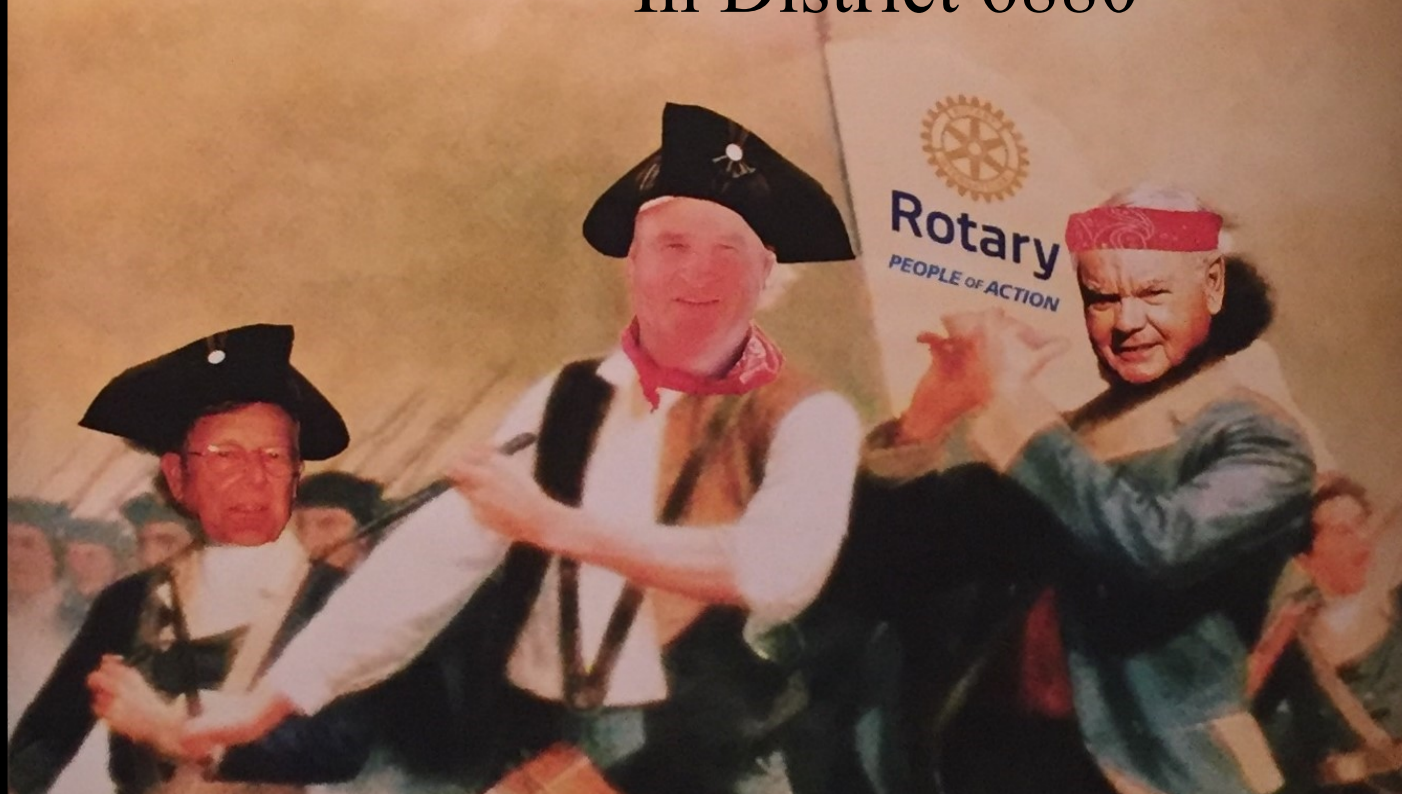


The Rotary Revolution Begins. . . .

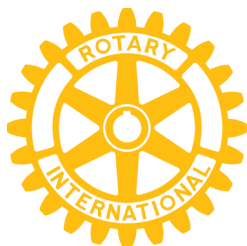
In District 6880



# The Rotary Review

The Newsletter for District 6880





# Let's Talk Diversity

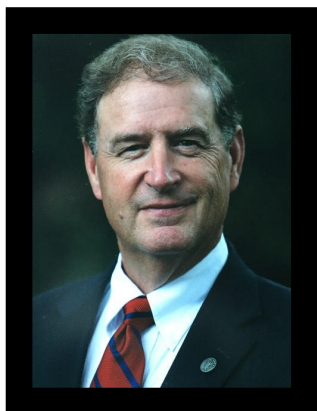
**YEAR END ROTARY ALABAMA  
DIVERSITY SUMMIT JUNE 22-23**

**Register Now!** [events.rotary6880.org](https://events.rotary6880.org)



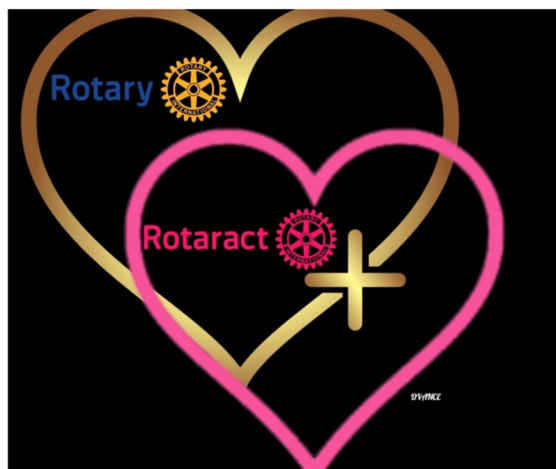
**Let's talk about diversity and inclusion**

The RI Board of Directors recently adopted a new diversity, equity, and inclusion statement:



## A Message from DG Sam

May is Youth Services month for the Rotary World. Our District is in the process of expanding the area by activating our Youth Exchange Program, growing new Interact and Rotaract Clubs and making sure the Rotary Youth Leadership Academy continues to provide high school students with an opportunity to develop leadership skills in a wholesome and friendly environment at Rotary's Camp ASCCA. Our YS Director is Gena Richardson from the Montgomery Rotary Club. Gena hails from Jackson which has one of the best Interact programs in our State.



This year our District has formed at least two new Interact and two new Rotaract programs which reflects our commitment to the youth of this area by providing great experiences underpinned by our 4 Way Test principles.

The RYLA Camp held earlier this year was a resounding success due to Kayleigh Hudson (Prattville-Millbrook) and her devoted staff. This past April, Rotary International's Council of Legislation voted to elevate Rotaract to a Rotary partner, not just a program of Rotary. This paved the way for easier access to Rotary and service for the next generation of leaders.

May has been full of Rotary activity as well. But, before we move too far down that road, let us take a brief look back at a terrific District 6880 Annual Conference held in Birmingham with our sister district in north Alabama, District 6860.

District Governor Carol Argo and DG Sam hosted a fun filled weekend which included great speakers, compelling service projects, laps around the Talladega 500, a spelunking expedition from the owner of DeSoto Caverns, a tour of the Birmingham Museum, a trip to the Birmingham Zoo, some wonderful music from the "Blue Cats" band and even a .05 mile Polio Fun Run which raised quite a bit of money.

The Friday morning session opened with the students at Lyman Ward Military Academy presenting the colors and a moment of reflection given by P Jerria Martin (Selma RC). PDG Michael Angelo Caruso (D 6380) was our morning speaker. He had the crowd in stitches. Michael provided some great advise on communication skills and improving our clubs. RIP Barry Rassin's representative PDG Wade Namura (Carpinteria RC, CA) spoke to our group several times updating us on the most recent activities affecting our clubs and the Rotary world.

Over 200 Rotarians joined the celebration at lunch as local clubs were invited to participate in the festivities. DGN Bruce McNeal (Dothan) provided valuable insight into the coordination and execution that goes into Disaster Relief Planning since our District has had its share of storms and tornados culminating in the tragic events in Lee County resulting in 23 deaths and massive physical destruction. In our District break



out session, the body voted to place a DRAFT plan into the District's permanent record as a memorial to those who perished and as a guide for our clubs and district to develop their own version for future occurrences.

One of the highlights of the conference was the impersonation by Al Mathis of his grandfather, Herbert J. Taylor, the author of Rotary's 4 WAY TEST. Al is past president of the nearby Sylacauga RC and owner of DeSoto Caverns, noted for being one of the largest continuing accumulations of marble stalagmites and stalactites in the world. Al played the role of his grandfather exceedingly well and explained how the 4WT came into being. At the end of his presentation, he surprised the audience with some tickets to the Talladega 500 and a ride around the track in the famed pace car prior to the race.

Polio awareness and eradication was a central theme of this conference. Past Rotary International President John Germ, a crusader for the Polio Plus campaign, has worked tirelessly through these many years to reach the finish line where one day soon we can declare victory over this dread disease.

PRIP John even auctioned off some great art and some fine sippin' stuff for the cause, produced you might say under his personal label. Polio survivors Dr Susan Barfoot and Dr. Isabel Scarinci shared their personal stories of struggle and success. DG Sam's brother, Ralph (Palo Alto RC), also a polio survivor, sent a video not only explaining his experiences as a young child with polio but challenged the audience to match his donation to the Polio Plus campaign. Ralph is a past president of his club, a Major Donor and a USMA graduate. Ralph has reached the summits of Mt Kilimanjaro in Tanzania and Mt Machu Picchu in Peru.

Rotary Foundation Trustee Ken Schuppert (Gadsden RC) updated the Rotarians on the latest news and changes occurring at the Foundation. One significant development hot off the press PDG Ken shared was from the Council of Legislation where there was the move to make Rotary International a 501(c)(3) entity. The motion passed and, subject to regulatory approval, the change will improve RI's bottom line and give added flexibility in the future without impacting the Rotary Foundation's purpose or income.

Rotary Clubs from both districts presented some excellent service projects going on throughout the state. The project and presenter are as follows:

Cervical Cancer Project by Dr. Ed Partridge  
Honor Flight, PDG by Wade Drinkard  
Wheelchair Ramps by Lisa Abbott  
Montgomery Dog Park by PE Neal Hughes  
Demopolis Splashpad by P Hunter Compton  
Miracle League Park by P Andy Gosselin and DGN Bruce McNeal  
Camp ASCCA by John Stephenson

Camp ASCCA is a premier camp for the mentally and physically challenged. As part of the Conference service project program, both Districts donated items for the camp and have contributed significant cash amounts throughout the year.

As part of the overall conference, a Rotary Leadership Institute was held Thursday before the official start of the conference. This program is one of the best opportunities for emerging District leaders to become immersed in the inner workings of how the district conducts activities and aids the clubs throughout the year.

As we approach the end of the year, I ask you all to again contribute to our Rotary Foundation via the Polio Plus Campaign, the Annual Fund or through Endowments. Remind your Presidents that it is not too late to submit forms to receive the coveted Rotary Citation to distinguish your club as one of the best.

**We are on the cusp of one of the most productive years in some time. Finish Strong when You Finish The Race**

DG Sam



# Combined District 2019 Annual Conference

Districts 6880 and 6868, which represents the entire state of Alabama, joined together in Birmingham to celebrate this year's accomplishments and have lots of fun. Our theme this year "RACE TO THE FINISH" has a twofold meaning. First, we can see the finish line to the race against polio.

At the time of this writing there are fewer than 30 cases of the wild polio virus around the world. Rotary's efforts over the past 30 years has successfully reduced the number of polio effected countries from 130 to only two, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Second, this weekend also celebrated the Talladega 500 race car event. Two lucky Rotarians won exclusive access to the race track by riding in the pace car and enjoying one of the most exciting races in years.



A special thanks to all our valued sponsors for making our joint conference possible.

Special Thanks goes to the District 6880 Conference Committee that worked with our northern district, District 6860 counterparts to make it such a wonderful event.

PP Mickey McInnish Overall Conference Chair; DG Sam Adams Program; DGE Skip Dothelrow Asst; DGN Jerry Blacklaw Memorial; DGND Bruse McNeal Registration /Hospitality Asst; PE Graham Champion Hotel Liaison; Brandi Hayes; PP Hank Hector, Asst;

AG Keith Rolling Fun Run for Polio and Hospitality; P Glenn Crumpton Hospitality Asst; Eric Lewis IT/ Registration; AG Hoss Mack Sgt at Arms; PP Alan Wallace RLI ; and many other volunteers who assisted guests and contributed to the overall success of the Conference.

**LINK TO CONFERENCE VIDEO**

<https://vimeo.com/338971152>

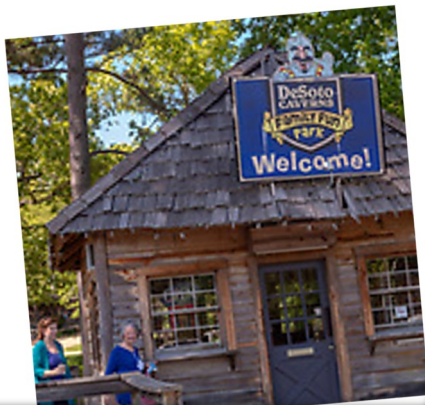
# Field Trips

Birmingham Zoo, Birmingham Museum of Art

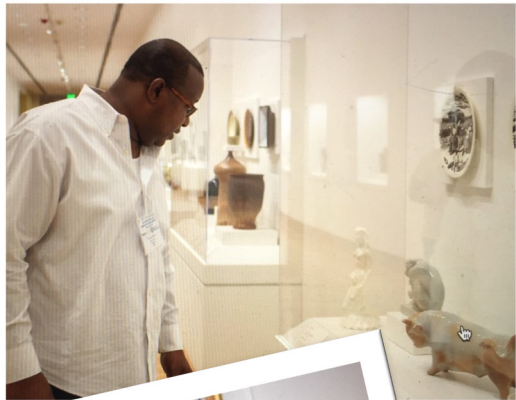
**DESOTO CAVERNS**, Talladega Raceway



PP Al Mathis, Sylagauga RC, and owner of DeSoto Caverns, gives Rotarians a personal tour during our conference (below)





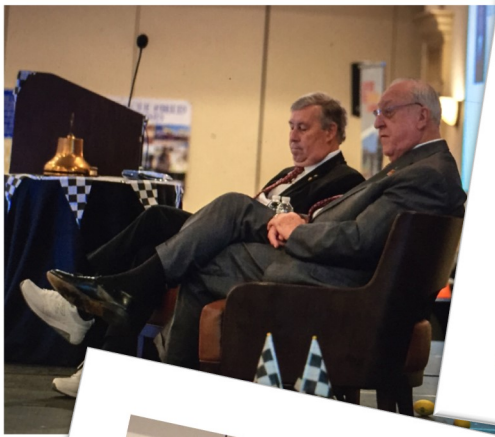




# MEMORIES FROM JOINT DISTRICT CONFERENCE







# District 6880 Awards



The District Governor handed out many District Awards and those designated by the Governor to his District staff. This year's staff was comprised of the largest District Leadership Team in recent memory, forty five in total. The Team came from across the District, from every corner, and then some. In order to have continued involvement at the District level, we have a duty as district officers to make positions available to those interested in serving in areas that interest them and in so doing, open a door of further service in the coming years. If you have a passion, Rotary has a position. Just ask your club president or any District officer for more information.

Along with either mementos or certificates, each member of the team will receive a coveted Paul Harris Fellow for outstanding service to the District and his or her respective club.

Pictured left is The Governor's Award, presented to Kathy Hughes, editor of the District 6880 Rotary Review Newsletter.

James Dotherow DGE  
Jerry Blacklaw DGN  
Bruce McNeal DGND  
Bill Trant IPDG  
Barry Cavan PDG  
Michael Chambers PDG  
Linda Mong, PDG  
Mark Dierlam PDG

Andrea Saucer AG Coordinator  
Michael Smith AG  
Joan Newman AG  
Keith Roling AG  
Toni Kaminski AG  
Dixie Broadwater AG  
Ken Robinson AG  
Clare Weil AG  
Jay Shows AG  
Howard Eddy AG  
Wayne Ketchum AG

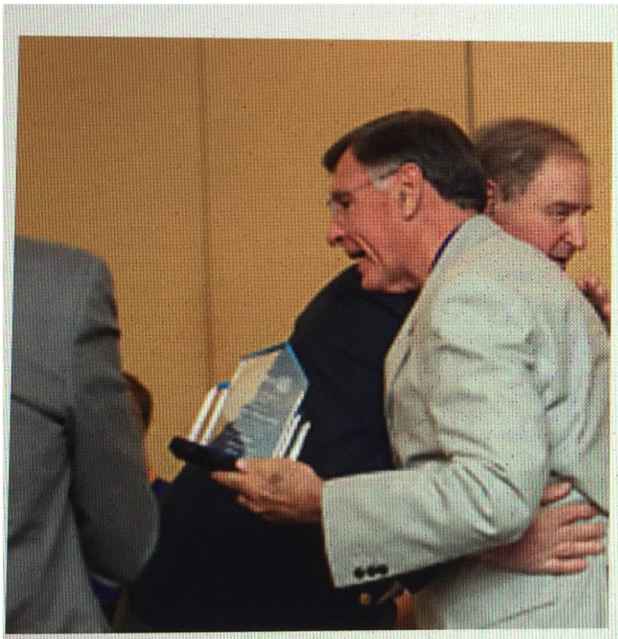
Hank Hector Special Assistant to DG  
Bob Mills Treasurer  
Brandi Wilson, District Secretary  
Huey Hoss Mack Sgt. at Arms

Robert Kelley Rotary Foundation Chair  
Bob Callahan Global Grants  
Jan McDonald District Grants  
Robert Greer Polio Chair

Andy Gosselin Camp ASCCA Liaison  
Mickey McInnish Conference Chair  
Maria Mendez Cuban Relations Chair  
James Dupree Diversity Chair  
Linda Browder Health and Hunger  
Eric Lewis IT/Comm Chair  
John Shields Membership Co-Chair  
Anne Simms Membership Co-Chair  
Tom Mann New Club Development Chair  
Alan Wallace RLI Chair  
Graham Champion Special Events Chair  
Gary Moore Scholarship Chair  
Richard Bollinger Visioning Chair  
Roz Durden Vocational Chair  
Alrick Bloomfield Youth Exchange Chair  
Gena Richardson Youth Services Chair



Social Media	Large Club—Dothan Medium Club—Fairhope Small Club—Phenix City
Bulletin	Large Club—Dothan Medium Club—Troy Small Club—Central Baldwin Sunset
Website	Large Club—Dothan Medium Club—Fairhope
Exemplary Club	Large Club—Dothan Medium Club—Fairhope Small Club—Central Baldwin Sunset
Each Rotarian: Reach One Keep One	Benny Pickard-Troy
Family and Community Service	Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center-Dothan
Henry F. Harrison Longevity	Henry Harrison—Demopolis
Wayne Simms Rotarian of the Year	Josh Chapman—Dothan
Steve James Youth Service Award	Amy Flowers—Troy
J. Barton Greer 4 Way Test	Large Club—Frank D. Harkins-Mobile Medium Club—Ron Hicks-Mont. Cap. Small Club—Johnnie Aycock- York/Livingston
Jerry Brunson Unsung Hero	Jerry Williams—Troy
Douglas O. Barber	Thomas B. Rhodes, III—Foley
Harry P. Hall Meritorious Achievement	James P. Golson—Auburn



Jerry Williams, Troy Club, receiving the Jerry Brunson Unsung Hero Award (left)

President Elect of the Dothan Rotary Club C, Cynthia Green, accepts the District's family and Community Service Award which was given to Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center. Cynthia is the Director of Development at the Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center. (right)



# Harry P. Hall Meritorious Award



Jim Golson was the recipient of the coveted Harry P. Hall Meritorious Award, the highest award given by the District.

Jim began his Rotary journey in January of 1999 in the Auburn Rotary Club. He immersed himself at the club level serving as Treasurer, Secretary, Board Member, foundation chair and president. He also developed the Rotary International award-winning program, “Babies Love Books” service project.

Jim’s District 6880 work includes chair for Rota-ract and Interact, Foundation Audit Chair, and Visioning Team Leader. He was District Treasurer in 2005, District Governor Nominee in 2010, District Governor Elect in 2011 and District Governor in 2012. He was a MS-PETS facilitator, RLI facilitator and Strategic Planning facilitator multiple years for District 6880. The district won the Strategic Planning Award under his leadership.

He served the Zone as DG Hospitality Suite Coordinator and Strategic Planning facilitator multiple years.

Jim, an avid traveler, has attended Zone Institutes in Nashville, St. Louis, Huntsville, Baton Rouge, and Lexington as well as Rotary International Conferences in Chicago, Salt Lake City, Birmingham (England), New Orleans, Bangkok (Thailand), Sydney (Australia), and Atlanta. Although he is on the road a lot, he has perfect attendance since 2002, visiting Rotary Clubs in San Francisco, Hawaii, South Carolina, China, and Japan.

With as a deep passion for polio eradication and education, Jim served at the District 6880 Polio Plus Chair and submitted a polio related article to the district newsletter each month. He traveled to Egypt in 2004 and Ghana in 2006 to participate in immunization efforts. Rotary International awarded his work with the Rotary Foundation’s Regional Service Award for a Polio Free World in 2017.

Living the “service above self” motto even outside of his rotary life, he and his wife, Nancy, sponsored an International Scholar student from Japan for 3 years. They also volunteered to purchase over two dozen mattresses and covers for the non-profit HERO (Hale Empowerment & Revitalization Organization) which is working to provide economic development, resources, housing, education and construction for the Greensboro (Hale County, Alabama) area.

Jim is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow, Benefactor, Major Donor and Bequest Society Member of the Rotary Foundation.



# Rotary Memorial Day

DGN Jerry Blacklaw (Fairhope RC) and Jerria Martin (Selma RC) led an inter faith service on Sunday in part to remember those Rotarians who left us during this past year. Both Jerry and Jerria have been ordained in the ministry in their respective denominations.

The Rotary bell was tolled for each individual who passed from July 1 to June 30, from year to year on this memorial day.



*Eilano Anthony*  
Andalusia  
*Buddy Camp*  
Point Clear  
*Richard Deas*  
Monroeville  
*Dunal Dunbar*  
Troy  
*Michael Ford*  
Fairhope  
*Bob Grant*  
Foley  
*Ron Hicks*  
Montgomery Capital  
*Homer Hommau*  
Brundidge  
*William Samford*  
Opelika  
*Jim Shamblin*  
Foley  
*Ellsworth Steele*  
Auburn  
*Hubert Sullivan*  
Opp  
*Allen Wells*  
Dothan  
*Stan Wilson*  
Auburn

# Lee County Disaster Relief Update

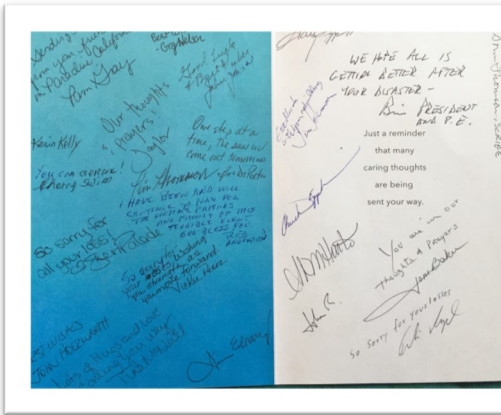
The four Rotary Clubs of Lee County: Opelika, Opelika Happy Hour, Auburn and Lee County Sun Rise are working together to identify the best use of the funds that are being received. A special thanks goes to president Jericho Wilson of the Opelika Happy Hour, a satellite club, for his hands on efforts immediately after the storm and continuing through today.

The recent devastation that has occurred in our District has not been lost on other Rotary Clubs across the country. For example, the Rotary Club of Paradise was in the middle of a wildfire in November of 2018. It consumed



over 240 miles, destroyed over 18,000 structures, caused \$16 billion in damage and almost 100 lives were lost. Yet, in the midst of their suffering, the Paradise Rotary club reached out to us to show their compassion for our situation. Not only did they send a contribution, they also sent a condolence card signed by all members. It is my hope that our district will exhibit the same kind of kindness when given an opportunity to do so.

If you would like to contribute, the site is found at <http://foundation.rotary6880.org/>. Total Contributions for the Lee County Relief effort reached \$50,054. So far, one disbursement has been made to replace mailboxes for families. Rotary teamed up with the Lions and Kiwanis Clubs in this project



Here is a list of those making a contribution to recovery relief. The District wrote each contributor a note of sincere thanks for the monetary gifts and prayers received.

Alabaster RC, AL  
Springfield RC, TN  
Thomas Cornell, FL  
Nashville South RC, TN  
Karen Wentz, TN  
Christine Bradley, TN  
Cardigen RC, TN  
Marry Mollard, TX  
Nancy Lavinski, TX  
Sharon Grizzle, TX  
Sidney Walton, TX  
Sloan Shiffler, TX  
Mike Allenburgh, TX  
Brenda Walker, TX  
Brenda Beazly, TX  
L A Martine, TX  
J Herrington, TX  
Michelle Buria, MN  
Sears Wilmer, AL  
SueAnne Lewis, TN  
Jim Bruce, Troy, AL

M. Hammond, Troy, AL  
M Campbell, Montgomery RC  
Opp RC  
Julia Powell, TN  
Michael Kall, KY  
Greensburg RC, KY  
Marshall RC, TX  
Fairfield Glade RC, TN  
Washington RC, MO  
Washington RC, IL  
Smyrna RC, GA  
Point Clear RC  
Montgomery Capital RC  
John Carrico, KY  
Frank Conwell, Mobile SR  
Barry Cavan, Montgomery SR  
Montgomery SR Foundation  
Amy Flowers, Troy RC  
Douglas Herzford, Mobile RC  
Milton Brown, Mobile RC  
Bill Brunson, Elba RC  
Ed Marblestone, Dothan RC

Francis Hamere, Mt Brook, AL  
Bob Siebels, Montgomery RC  
Robert Roy, TN  
John McMillan, Montgomery RC  
Jan McDonald, Demopolis RC  
James Johnson, CA  
Harry Cullinan, Opelika, RC  
Fayette RC, MO  
Lawrenceburg RC, TN  
Trenton RC, TN  
Lexington RC, TN  
Florence RC, AL  
Geneva RC, AL  
St James Episcopal, Eufaula, AL  
Williamstown RC, NJ  
Gallatin RC, TN  
District 5910 Beaumont, TX  
Luverne RC, AL  
Montevallo RC, AL  
Steve Suddry, TN  
Bradley Jones, TN

# District 6880 Diversity Summit

Join District 6880 Rotarians for an exciting and informative 2 day Summit in Montgomery, Alabama to help strengthen and grow your club in the coming year. You have an opportunity to participate in informative discussions, hear great speakers like 3 Star General Willie Williams, USMC and even have some fun at something called Escapology.

Please read the information below and see if you can start a revolution of positive change in your club during your year in Rotary! The link to register is: [events.rotary6880.org](https://events.rotary6880.org)

This will be the first time our District has held a summit on such an important topic that affects Rotary and your community.

## **YEAR END ROTARY ALABAMA DIVERSITY SUMMIT JUNE 22-23**

Below is a schedule of our 2 day event in Montgomery that will help you strengthen your club, have fun and give you tangible information on how to attract great people to Rotary. If you cannot attend please encourage someone in your club to participate in this Revolutionary effort to make your Rotary Club better and stronger.

### **SATURDAY JUNE 22**

1:00-1:30 Registration

1:30 Welcome

DG Sam Adams

James Dupree, Montgomery Rotary Club, Event Chair

2:00 District Governor Laquita Stribling, District 6760

Rotary Club of Nashville, TN

Senior VP, Randstad USA

3:00-3:15 Break

3:15-4:15 Past President Al Mathis, Sylacauga RC The 4 Way Test and Diversity

4:15 - 5:00 Rotary International ( pre conference exercise)

[rotary.org/learn](https://rotary.org/learn)

Complete Course Catalogue: Building a Diverse Club.

(you must be logged into [rotary.org](https://rotary.org) to do this exercise)

DG Carol Argo, D 6860 and PE Johnnie Aycok, York - Livingston

5:30-6:30 Attitude Adjustment

6:30 -8:00 Dinner

Key Note Speaker: Lt. Gen. Willie Williams, US Marines, Huntsville RC

8:00-10:00 Downtown Activity : Escapology: Fun Team Building



## **Sunday June 23**

8:15 - 8:30 DG 2019-20 or DGN Jerry Blacklaw : Reflective Moment and Looking Forward to Connect with Rotary

8:30- 9:30 DG Carol Argo D 6860 Shades Valley RC  
Between the Ferns with Stacia Robinson Montgomery RC

9:30-10:30 Representative Anthony Daniels, Alabama House of Representatives  
Minority Leader, Huntsville, AL

10:30-11:30 Panel Discussion - Panel Discussion on Real World Situations

Jerria Martin President Selma RC

Tyrone Moye President Jackson RC

Andy Tubertini President Fairhope RC

Donna Marietta Montgomery RC

11:30-11:45 Review of Practical Exercise and 3 Take-a-Ways

11:45-12:00 Concluding Remarks: James Dupree

Adjourn

### **OUR SPEAKERS**

**Lieutenant General Willie J. Williams, USMC , Huntsville, AL**

**Photo By: DMCS**

Lt Gen Williams spent nearly 40 years in uniform. As director of the Marine Corps Staff since 2009, Lt. Gen. Willie J. Williams has served as the top adviser to two commandants and worked alongside some of the military's most senior leaders. To date, he's one of only four African-American Marines to wear three stars, according to the Montford Point Marine Association, which promotes the legacy of black Marines.



**Representative Anthony Daniels, Huntsville, AL**

**Photo from IG @anthonyldaniels**

In February, Alabama House Minority Leader Anthony Daniels made history twice when he became the first black person and the youngest official to hold the state legislative position. Out of 105 representatives in the state legislature, the 34-year-old Democrat is one of 27 black representatives — and his election to the post reflects the state's changing political landscape



**District Governor Laquita Stribling, District 6760 Nashville, TN**

As the Rotary International continues to recognize its 30th year of Women in The Rotary, Laquita R. Stribling, became the first African American installed as 6760 District Governor for Rotary International 2018-2019. Laquita is a past president of the Rotary Club of Nashville (2014-2015), the 3rd largest Rotary Club in the world with nearly 600 members. In 1996, she joined Randstad USA in an entry level position and is now Senior Area Vice President responsible for 4 districts, 9 offices across 3 states, over 1,300 employees and over \$40,000,000 in revenue.



## **District Governor Carol Argo, District 6860, Shades Valley, Alabama**

Carol was born in Montgomery, Alabama and graduated from Autauga County High School. She received a B.A. in history from Auburn University at Montgomery, M.A. in anthropology from The University of Alabama and a Masters of Science in Public Health from UAB. Carol worked for the University of Alabama at Birmingham in student affairs and served as Director of International Scholar and Student Services until her retirement in June 2011. After leaving UAB, Carol served as Executive Director of the Alabama Wildlife Center, a nonprofit organization focused on returning orphaned and injured native birds to the wild. Carol is currently retired.



A block of rooms have been reserved at the [Hilton Garden Inn Eastchase](#)  
7665 EastChase Parkway, Montgomery, Alabama, 36117

For those who wish to call in to make reservations, the phone number is (334) 244-0101 and the group code is ROT.

Deadline for room reservations is 06/15/2019 at 11:00PM. After that date, rooms will be released for resell to the public and guaranteed rate of \$149.00 for Rotarians will revert back to normal and rooms availability will not be guaranteed.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOU MUST REGISTER ONLINE WITH ROTARY DISTRICT 6880 TO ATTEND THE SUMMIT**

**AND YOU MUST REGISTER SEPARATELY WITH THE HOTEL AS LISTED ABOVE TO GUARANTEE A ROOM FOR THE WEEKEND.**

In order to get the best use of our time together please go to [rotary.org](http://rotary.org) for a practice exercise.

Follow these steps:

click on myrotary at top of page  
hover over Member Center to the right of page  
click on Learning Center  
you should be at [learn.rotary.org](http://learn.rotary.org)  
scroll down to the category : Building A Diverse Club  
click on the English Version: Building a Diverse Club  
Enroll in this Program and complete the tutorial.  
Be prepared to discuss what you learned during the conference.

Below are a few sample pages from the exercise.  
Thank you for your participation in this important part of Rotary's future. If you have any doubts, read the excerpt on the next page where Rotary stakes a claim on raising diversity awareness in our organization at the recent Council on Legislation, April 18.

# BE READY TO CHANGE



I had a serious talk with the members of my club, and they agreed that we could benefit from making some changes so that more people would want to join. We used the [Membership Assessment Tools](#) below.

Click or tap the ovals to see how each tool helped.

Then click or tap **LESSONS LEARNED**.

LESSONS LEARNED

PROFESSIONAL  
ASSESSMENT

DIVERSITY  
ASSESSMENT

MEMBER  
SATISFACTION  
SURVEY

PROSPECTIVE  
MEMBER  
EXERCISE

## WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY “DIVERSIFY”?

Diversifying means embracing differences in thought, culture, and perspective within your club. A diverse club can address community needs more effectively.

Depending on your club and community, diversity can mean different things.



CONTINUE



# WHY IS DIVERSITY IMPORTANT?

Because Rotary is an international organization and holds diversity as one of its core values, it's important that we reflect this value by committing to inclusion and diversity in our membership.

Click or tap on the benefits below to learn more.

POSITIVE  
REPUTATION

IMPROVE  
MEMBER  
EXPERIENCE

AVOID HIGH  
TURNOVER

ATTRACT MORE  
MEMBERS

INCREASE  
IMPACT

GO BACK

CONTINUE

## Practice conscious inclusion

Conscious inclusion enables people to become aware of perspectives and biases they may have.

It gives them practical tools for creating an environment where people feel they belong and their voices are heard, and where diversity is valued and respected.

Kaleidoscope Group, a consulting firm in Chicago, says that an environment of conscious inclusion can lead to innovation, superior work, stronger team performance, talent retention, new opportunities, and a positive reputation.

You can lead by example. Create an environment that's inclusive by modeling these practices in your training:

- Empathy
- Openness
- Trust
- Honest dialogue
- Valuing differences

If you're having trouble starting the conversation, invite someone who's an expert on diversity and inclusion to speak at one of your meetings.

## Resources

Prepare for your district membership seminar

Visit the [Learning Center](#) and take the course on [Building a Diverse Club](#). It includes an interactive module with scenarios and assessment tools you can share with your club leaders to measure their goals of becoming a more diverse and inclusive club.

You can also promote these resources to help clubs improve their recruitment strategies:

- [Understanding Why Members Leave](#)
- [Diversifying Your Club](#)

International President Barry Rassin made a commitment to helping Rotary be a thriving diverse community of individuals who place Service above Self. The following comment made April 18, 2019 at the Council on Legislation reflects a focus our district should take to become stronger and more vibrant.

In so doing, your clubs will grow, your influence will grow, and your willingness to make a difference in the people around you will transform your community into a better place. **BE THE INSPIRATION!**

“As a global network that strives to build a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change, Rotary values diversity and celebrates the contributions of people of all backgrounds, regardless of their age, ethnicity, race, color, abilities, religion, socioeconomic status, culture, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity. Rotary will cultivate a diverse, equitable, and inclusive culture in which people from underrepresented groups have greater opportunities to participate as members and leaders.”

Does your club reflect this statement? Assessing the culture of your club requires a willingness to talk openly about diversity and inclusion. Here are some ideas to help you get started:

- Discuss your club’s culture and whether it’s welcoming to all
- Look for biases in your club’s membership criteria

Evaluate your community’s perception of Rotary as well. Members who see their club as a safe space for jokes or comments that target a specific gender, race, or religion contradict Rotary’s values and create a public image liability.

# A Piece of Rotary History

During the course of this Rotary year, District 6880 has had many dignitaries visit. The October 2018 Zone Conference in Montgomery brought leaders from around the country. Each left with a memento that will be cherished for years to come.

Our April Annual Conference also showcased what has become one of the most endearing gifts any Rotary speaker or visitor could wish for, an engraved gavel hewn from a Friendship Tree planted by our founder, Paul Harris himself during one of his many visits to Tuskegee, Alabama during the 1940s. Current, past and future Rotary International Presidents have all received a branded and numbered piece of history with their name, title and event engraved at the center of the head of the gavel.

Past President Tom Wadsworth of the Tuskegee Rotary Club hand crafts each gavel and certifies its authenticity.



Paul Harris and the  
“Friendship Trees”

All speakers at this year's Annual Conference received a personalized gavel to take home with him or her. RIP Representative Wade Nomura from California is just the latest of hundreds of Rotarians and Rotary friends that will treasure this beautiful and unique piece of Rotary history. For more information, you can contact Tom at (334) 703-0498.





The Rotary Revolution continues as we reach our neighbors to the south in the beautiful island of Cuba with a humanitarian outreach in the form of America's pastime, BASEBALL!

Our point person in this effort is Maria Mendez of the Fairhope Sunset RC. Maria is Cuban born and came to the United States as a small child. Maria currently works for and is Director of Latin American trade for the Alabama State Port Authority, a key economic driver for Alabama. She has taken scores of Rotarians with her to Cuba over the years and will do so again this year in September, 2019. District 6880 has entered into a partnership with the Sunset Club to supply Little League baseball uniforms and equipment to four teams across the country. All uniforms will carry the Rotary logo and the District 6880 designation.

Voluntary donations have funded this effort to build a common bridge between the two cultures. This action has been blessed by Rotary International with the hope that further efforts will lead to improved relations.

One might ask why our District would pursue this approach? It traces its roots back to the mid 1800's when students, brothers Nemesio and Ernesto Guillot attended Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama. They loved this new sport and picked up the game. The two returned to Cuba, and in 1868 they founded the first baseball team in Cuba, the Habana Base Ball Club. And as they say the rest is history. Now baseball, not bullfighting, has become the national pastime for this island country to the south of us a brief 90 miles away.

District 6880 has many other connections with Cuba but one of the most important is its Rotary connection. Rotary District 5, the pre cursor to our current District 6880, included all of Alabama, Georgia and Florida. Ralph D. Quisenberry of Montgomery, Alabama, served as District Governor for District 5 and oversaw the new club expansion of the Rotary Club of Havana in 1916 during the National Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio. At one time Rotary enjoyed over 80 Rotary Clubs located throughout the Cuban island!

Please watch this video that helps explain our close and important relationship with Cuba and its people.

<https://www.facebook.com/100000139712188/posts/2651467224867909?sfns=mo>

Hopefully, some day, when we can visit Cuba we all will go to a baseball game and yell “jugar a la pelot!”

# Rotary Foundation

As we enter the final turn for this Rotary year it is important to remind all that now is the time to make your donations to The Rotary Foundation. I am pleased to report that our Polio Plus contributions have set a record for this year. Total giving for Polio Plus has topped \$100,000 for the first time in our district's history! Combined with the Bill Gates Foundation match, it makes the giving over \$300,000. As a District per capita, we are one of the highest giving districts out of 28 districts to date!

Help ensure that Rotary will continue to do good in the world for the next 100 years by encouraging club members to make a contribution prior to 29 June 2019. Donations made this Rotary year will be applied to your club fundraising goal, will help your club qualify for a Foundation banner, and will be applied to a donor's individual giving record. As a reminder, the fastest and most secure way to make a gift is online at [www.rotary.org/donate](http://www.rotary.org/donate).

Your club has several opportunities to receive banners which recognize your club's level of support.

- **100% Foundation Giving Club:** For clubs that achieve an average of \$100 in per capita giving and 100 percent participation, with every dues-paying member contributing at least \$25 to any or all of the following during the Rotary year: Annual Fund, PolioPlus Fund, approved global grants, or Endowment Fund.
- **100% Every Rotarian, Every Year Club:** For clubs that achieve a minimum Annual Fund contribution of \$100 per capita during the Rotary year, and every dues-paying member must personally contribute at least \$25 to the Annual Fund during the year.

**100% Paul Harris Society Club:** For clubs in which every dues-paying member contributes a minimum of \$1,000 to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or global grants within a Rotary year.



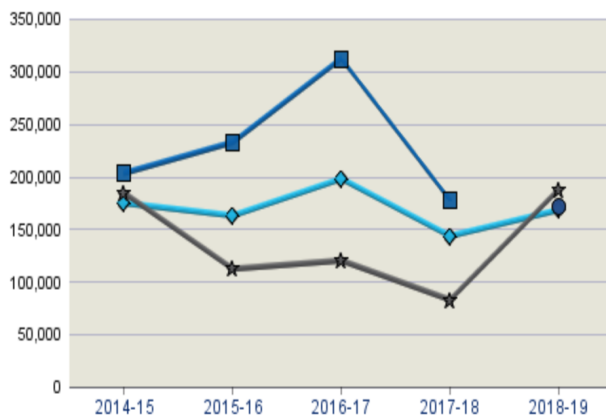
## DISTRICT 6880 FUNDRAISING ANALYSIS

### INTERIM RESULTS FOR JULY THROUGH MAY 2018-19

		Annual Fund						PolioPlus Fund					Other Funds**	Endowment Fund	
	Number of Members	Goal	% Goals Received	Total	Per Capita	Goal Achieved	Non-Giving Clubs	Goal	% Goals Received	Total	Goal Achieved	Non-Giving Clubs	Total	Total	Total Giving
2018-19	2,354	\$187,853	100.0%	\$168,152	\$71.43	89.5%	6	\$39,212	95.9%	\$122,270	311.8%	0	\$0	\$1,000	\$291,422
2017-18	2,506	\$82,810	30.6%	\$177,890	\$70.99	214.8%	14	\$15,043	22.4%	\$92,252	613.3%	21	\$22,750	\$1,100	\$293,992
2016-17	2,428	\$120,136	38.8%	\$312,368	\$128.65	260.0%	0	\$24,267	38.8%	\$46,146	190.2%	22	\$17,850	\$0	\$376,364
2015-16	2,427	\$112,258	40.0%	\$232,558	\$95.82	207.2%	7	\$15,442	32.0%	\$36,055	233.5%	21	\$23,270	\$100	\$291,983
2014-15	2,392	\$184,305	60.8%	\$203,255	\$84.97	110.3%	9	\$21,935	39.2%	\$37,032	168.8%	22	\$0	\$1,000	\$241,288

\*\*Other Funds include term/directed gifts and funds for approved grants.

Annual Fund Measures



Year to Date (YTD) covers the period from July through May.

Recognition and Endowment Measures

	PHF	Bene-factor	Bequest Society*	Major Donor*	Major Gifts	EREY Eligible	Sustaining Member	PHS Eligible
All-time	3,676	82	28	28	--	--	--	--
2018-19	193	3	2	2	1	1,260	874	25
2017-18	203	0	1	4	2	1,402	999	26
2016-17	225	0	1	5	3	1,574	1,247	36
2015-16	165	2	1	4	4	1,638	1,172	22
2014-15	160	2	1	1	0	1,792	1,156	16

Yearly breakdowns include both new qualifiers and recognition level changes

Paul Harris Society Members: 39 Rotary Direct Participants: 21

Total Endowed Funds:

Market Value:

Market Value Date:

Foundation Recognition Points: 15,780.07

\* Joint Major Donor/Bequest Society counts as one.

EREY (USD 25 starting in 2016-17), Sustaining Member, and PHS Eligible includes all individuals, not just active club members.





## Robertsdale

Doug Byrd, Robertsdale Rotary Foundation Chairperson, gave us an update of all Foundation happenings: how money was made, how money was spent. Doug does a great job of staying on top of things and keeping everything transparent. (right)



Terri Burkle with the Baldwin County Education Coalition is pictured above. Terri informed us how the coalition works for systematic improvements and mobilizes resources to support Baldwin County public schools (below)



Pictured is Jackson Bentley of Youth Reach Gulf Coast which is located in Summerdale, AL. We thank this group of men who help guide young men to a better way of life.



With great smiles and pictured L to R, are Lena Salter, John William Kelley and Melody Weaver, three (3) of Robertsdale Rotary Club's seven (7) scholarship recipients. (left)



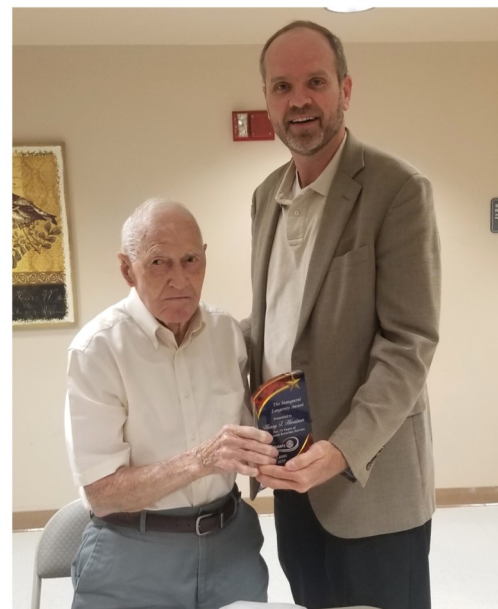
# Demopolis

There was a lot of activity at the Rotary meeting on May 1. We presented Mr. Henry Harrison an award from the District recognizing his length of service in Rotary. A new award has been added to the District in honor of Mr. Harrison. The new award recognizes contributions of senior members of Rotary clubs. 2/3 of Mr. Henry's life has been in Rotary.

We also presented Mr. Jay Shows his award from the District recognizing his efforts as the Assistant District Governor this past year.

Additionally, our Club was recognized recently from the Demopolis City School Foundation for our support and contribution to the Foundation.

Coach Seymore, the Demopolis High School football Coach, spoke at today's meeting. He discussed the importance of having student leadership on the football team. The team has been working out in the weight room and has started spring training. They have also been working the team's punting and kicking game. This fall season the team will face two 6A teams and one 1 7A team. The team will be at all Parr's Chevron locations this Saturday to pump gas and clean windshields. Tips and donations this Saturday will go to support the team. Other opportunities to show support for the Tigers include May 13 for Wing Night at Batter Up and the Draw Down on June 13. Draw Down tickets are \$100 each and can be purchased by any football player.



Today, we heard from DeAndre Pickett, a sophomore at Marengo High School. DeAndre attended RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards), an intensive leadership training and conference, held at Camp ASSCA. DeAndre is an honor roll student that is involved in football, track, and FFA. De'Andre thanked the Demopolis Rotary Club for sponsoring his trip to RYLA and spoke of the team building and leadership skills he learned while attending. He also mentioned using the 4-Way Test as a guide to help him succeed in life. We are proud of DeAndre and glad he was able to attend RYLA this year.





## Demopolis

ROTARY CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY!! The Demopolis Rotary Club Splash Pad overlooking the Tombigbee River is now under construction. After the concrete cures for 21 days, the Rotary International logo will be painted on the surface. Weather permitting, we hope to have the Splash Pad open to the public before June 30. This project has been over three years in the making and involves partnerships with Marengo County Park & Rec Board, Demopolis Water & Sewer Board, City of Demopolis, corporate and individual sponsors, and District 6880. Of course, every Rotarian in Demopolis has been involved but none more so than our leadership team in charge of this wonderful community project.



## Fairhope

### 2019 Fairhope Rotary Steak Cook Off







# Fairhope







# Troy



We recognized recipients of District awards during our last meeting. Benny Pinckard won the Reach One Keep One Award for his commitment to sponsoring new members, and was presented with his plaque at the meeting. Amy Flowers won the Steve James Award for Distinguished Youth Service for her contributions to Interact, RYLA, and the Dictionary Project. Jerry Williams won the Jerry Brunson Unsung Hero Award for his service to our club and our community. Amy and Jerry received their awards at the district conference in Birmingham.

Last week, the Rotary Club of Troy celebrated its 99th anniversary with special music, guests and awards.

Prior to the meeting, the group enjoyed music from a quartet comprised of Rotarians Ray Smith and James Smith, recent Troy University graduate Carrius Moore (M.S.) and Troy University student Micah Marshall. The ensemble played several pieces and concluded their set with a medley of "R.O.T.A.R.Y." and "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

President Maggie Hammond and Treasurer Bob Mills kicked off the special meeting by recognizing several members as Paul Harris Fellows (PHF).

Karen Herring and Doug McLendon were honored as Paul Harris Fellows, and received a certificate and pin. Amy Flowers, John Dew, Kenny Cox, Ronnie Dean and Jerry Williams were honored as multiple Paul Harris Fellows. Each received a special pin indicating his or her PHF level.

The presentation of Paul Harris Fellow recognition is The Rotary Foundation's way of expressing its appreciation for a substantial contribution to its humanitarian and educational programs. The mission of The Rotary Foundation is to support the efforts of Rotary International in the fulfillment of the Object of Rotary, Rotary International's mission, and the achievement of world understanding and peace through local, national, and international humanitarian, educational and cultural programs. The programs of The Rotary Foundation include an array of projects that save and invigorate the lives of people around the world and enhance international friendship and understanding. Foundation programs provide food, potable water, health care, immunizations, shelter, and educational opportunities for millions of persons. Differentiating Rotary from many other organizations, these activities are funded, implemented and managed by Rotarians and Rotary clubs around the globe.



District Governor Sam Adams attended the meeting to help celebrate the special day. He congratulated the Club on its recent honors at District Conference, and said that one of the special awards he has implemented in the District is the Longevity Award. DG Adams said that it's unusual



Troy

these days to see someone stay at the same company for 10, 20 or 30 years. It is very special when someone makes that commitment to an organization. He presented Dr. John M. Long with the Longevity Award for being a Rotarian for 60 years. Dr. Long joined the Montgomery Rotary Club in 1959, and transferred to the Troy Rotary Club in 1965. DG Adams stated that Dr. Long worked closely with his father, TSU Chancellor Ralph Adams, and Dr. Long was like a father to him.



District Governor Sam Adams poses with Peggy Cox and Ken Cox, Sr.



Maggie Hammond then recognized Ken Cox, Sr. and John Long for their years of service to the Troy Rotary Club and to the community. Ken Cox joined the club in 1966. Both men are former club presidents and



D.G. Adams with Paul Harris Fellows Doug McLendon, Ronnie Dean, Karen Herring, and Jerry Williams





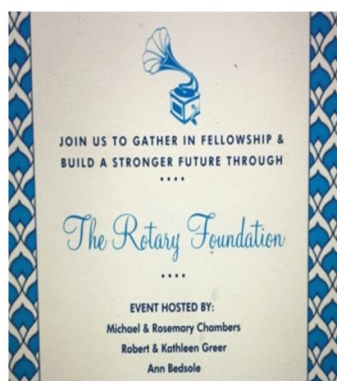


Troy

Pictured are Rotary Co-President Lydia Beumer, Joe Romo, Nicholas Wills, Patrick Ferguson, Hayley Groff, and Rjay Parker, and Dr. Jason Sulliman.



## Mobile







## Troy

## Troy Musicians



The Long Award



## Central Baldwin Sunset

We celebrated at our new home with a performance by Wylie Pete on April 25. This duo is comprised of Pete Traina and David Wiley. Also pictured is Peggy Nelson and Kelly Childress.



Allan Walls of Allan Walls Photography was Kathy Schrieber's guest speaker on May 2. Allan is a former surgeon who now specializes in commercial photography.





## Central Baldwin Sunset



We supported Fairhope Rotary by entering a team in their Steak cook-off on May 10 in downtown Fairhope. Lots of fun and work! We came in second for the best side item and tenth place for our steak!





Pictured (from left), are Brandon Hughes, club member; and White.



## Opelika

Elizabeth White, a journalist associated with WRBL TV3, shared with Opelika Rotary some of her adventures covering breaking news and events in the East Alabama – West Georgia region over the past 19 years. While she has covered many stories, she says the recent tornado which devastated Beauregard stands out in her memory. Elizabeth has over 70,000 Facebook followers and tries to always be there for them. She loves her job and values this community.



Jim Collins was our presenter at a recent meeting. He spoke about the beef industry and its role in our community. May is national beef month!

The Collins farm was established in 1944. Currently, Collins Farms are in the commercial Angus cattle business. Calves raised on Collins Farm have been shipped to buyers in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Illinois, Iowa, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Alabama is 15th in cattle production, with about 1.2 million cattle and calves produced annually.

Pictured (from left) are Jimmy Collins, club member; and Jim Collins