



SERVICE ABOVE SELF

March 06, 2025

The Rotary Club of Fort Smith meets weekly on Wednesday at noon at [Rolando's Restaurante](#) at [917 North A Street](#) in downtown Fort Smith.



**Rotary**

**THE FOUR-WAY TEST**  
of the things we think, say or do

- 1 Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2 Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3 Will it build **GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- 4 Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



## Chaffee Museums Return!

Sara Deuster, Director of Fort Smith's Parks and Recreation Department, spoke with club members about the city's extensive recreational amenities. Fort Smith maintains 29 parks, including 3 fully inclusive parks, approximately 686 acres, and complemented by 20 miles of paved, multi-use trails.

Under Sara's leadership, several key projects are underway to ensure Fort Smith parks remain a destination point for residents and visitors. Creekmore Park now boasts a new picnic and patio area, a custom train-themed toddler playground, a tunnel for the miniature train, a new basketball court, and sidewalk improvements.

Visit the [Fort Smith Parks and Recreation website](#) for updates on future projects.

## FIRST THINGS FIRST

A reminder that Past District Governor Pam Crawford will visit on March 19 to present our club with a Rotary Foundation award.

Our city will soon welcome hundreds of Rotarians from throughout the district March 20-22 for Mid-America President-Elect Training (PET) at the Convention Center. A shoe drive is being held as part of the event. [Visit the PETs website to learn more.](#)

Yours in Service to Rotary,

Cindy Gilmer - President  
Rotary Club of Fort Smith

# Future Programs & Events

- March 12: [Tim Hearn](#) - Fort Smith EMS
- March 19: Dr. Alex Zacharella - History of Irish Music
- March 26: Dr. Jon Hendrickson - Rotary SMART Program
- April 2: Elizabeth Johnson - Farmers Insurance
- April 9: Shea Foldvery - Fort Smith United Way
- April 16: Claire McClure - Fort Smith Public Schools, Northside Rising Freshmen Night
- April 23: Beth Presley - Fort Smith Boys and Girls Club
- April 30: Gary "Ax" Axley - International Military Student Officer, FMS
- May 7: TBD
- May 14: TBD
- May 21: TBD
- May 28: TBD
- June 4: TBD
- June 11: U of A Chancellor Charles Robinson
- June 18: TBD
- June 25: TBD

If you have suggestions for program speakers, please contact [Cindy Gilmer \(gilmercindy@att.net\)](mailto:gilmercindy@att.net) or [Chris Kelly \(cjkelly1012@gmail.com\)](mailto:cjkelly1012@gmail.com)

## Next Week's Speaker



**Tim Hearn,**  
**Executive**  
**Director, Fort**  
**Smith EMS**

A graduate of UAFS and Carl Albert, Tim began his career in EMS in 1981. Tim worked for twenty-four years at Mercy Hospital as an ER paramedic and a Critical Care Educator. He assumed the role of Executive Director of Fort Smith EMS in late 2008.

Under his leadership Fort Smith EMS completed a total system wide upgrade of equipment and technology to include the most up-to-date medical equipment and treatments, a state-of-the-art 911 center, and a new 18,000 square-foot facility covering two acres on Duke Avenue.

Tim is also a graduate of Leadership Fort Smith 2011 and was named the 2012 EMS Executive of the Year by the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians.



## Rotary's Action Plan

**People of Action** know that turning a vision into reality—big or small—starts with a plan. For over a century, Rotary has led with a service-driven model built on personal connections. That approach remains just as powerful today. Explore the **Rotary Action Plan Toolkit** for insights, skill-building tips, and ways to take action. Don't forget to share your input through the survey. Visit the [Action Plan website](#) to get started.

## 2024-25 Rotary Club of Fort Smith Officers



**Cindy Gilmer**  
President



**Chris Kelly**  
President-Elect



**Jon Hendrickson**  
Past-President



**Andrew Hudgens**  
Past-President &  
Foundation Chair



**Drew Linder**  
Treasurer



**Mary Lee Frase**  
Secretary



**Phil Whiteaker**  
Sergeant-at-Arms



**Charlie Platt**  
Assistant Governor

### Important Dates for District 6110

- **2025/2026**
- March 20: Assistant Governor (AG) Training - Fort Smith, AR
- March 20-22, 2025: MAPETS - Fort Smith, AR
- May 2, 2025: Legacy (Foundation) Dinner - Rogers, AR
- May 3, 2025: District Conference - Rogers, AR
- June 21-25: Rotary International Convention - Calgary, Canada
- March 19-21, 2026: MAPETS - Fort Smith, AR

