

Rotary



In This Issue

[About Rotary](#)

[Upcoming Programs](#)

[Recap of last week](#)

[Stay Connected - Follow us on Social Media!](#)

[Rotary District 6910: People of Action – Join the Week of Service, March 10-15](#)

[Fellowship, Friends, and Family in Johns Creek](#)

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[Schelly Tennant Marlatt](#)
Secretary



[Joe Sorenson](#)
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[Mike Fulton](#)
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Membership Chair



[Jeff Alexander](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair



[Laura Nell Ballance](#)
Attendance Secretary
Sergeant-at-Arms

[Jennifer K. Hendrickson](#)
Family of

About Rotary

Rotary International is an international service organization whose stated purpose is to bring together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian service and to advance goodwill and peace around the world. Rotary is a global network of 1.4 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change - across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

RI President Stephanie Urchick's theme for the 2024-2025 Rotary year is "*The Magic of Rotary*". She says members create that magic with every project completed, every dollar donated, and every new member of Rotary.

Upcoming Programs

Upcoming Program: Michael Gossling, Co-Owner and CEO - DoMyOwn.Com



DoMyOwn was started by two brothers, Michael and Phillip Gossling, in 2004, and is now one of the largest and fastest-growing online retailers of professional do-it-yourself pest control products in the United States. The company has won numerous awards, including being honored on the prestigious 2010 Inc. 5000 list of America's Fastest-Growing Private Companies ranking No. 700, as well as being honored on Internet Retailer's Hot 100 List of the Best Retail Websites of the Year for 2014. BizRate.com also awarded the company with the 2016 Circle of Excellence Platinum Award (for the 7th consecutive year) for exceptional customer service and support.

DoMyOwn has a company culture focused on caring for not only their valued customers, but also their employees and their community. We are corporate sponsors of the

local Georgia Swarm lacrosse team, the Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research, the Aflac Children's Cancer Center, Marcus Autism Center, Amanda Riley Foundation, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, the Granting Grace Foundation for Childhood Cancer, and several other charitable organizations and foundations.

Upcoming Programs - Be sure to visit the DACdb calendar to see all upcoming events.

March 11th: SFC Stephan Supersad - Army Recruiter

March 18th: TBD

March 25th: Charlotte Nash, Former Chairman, Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners - Gwinnett's 200 Years of History

Recap of last week

Program Recap

Chef Nick Leahy, owner of VICE Kitchen in Johns Creek, was our featured speaker. He is a prominent advocate of the farm-to-table movement, showcasing Georgia's local producers through his innovative cuisine. VICE Kitchen is the only butcher shop that is "field to case" and they just celebrated their one-year anniversary. He quizzed our members about various culinary topics and rewarded winners with great prizes, including t-shirts, wagyu steaks and VIP tickets to the upcoming Georgia Food + Wine Festival.

Nick spoke to us about the upcoming Georgia Food + Wine Festival, which is scheduled for March 21-23 at Jim



Rotary



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Ongoiba
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Services
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iPast
President

Birthdays

Greg Cantrell

R. Miller Park in Marietta. As chef host, he will be actively involved in several events. On Friday, Nick will be grilling up delectable dishes, contributing to an evening celebrating everything grilled, smoked, barbecued, and more. On Saturday, he will conduct a cooking demonstration on the Georgia Grown Chef Stage from 3:15 pm to 4:00 pm, sharing his culinary expertise with festival attendees. He expects it to be a great turnout and success, encouraging all of us to attend and enjoy not only the food, but the amazing wine too.



New Member Induction

Buck Lindsay conducted the initiation of Bruce Leonard, who is sponsored by Soul Ongoiba. Bruce is a retired public health specialist with experience working for the CDC, and a former professor at GSU. In 2016, he authored "Captain Energy: A True Story". The book chronicles the seismic shift of political and cultural values that erupted in the 60's and 70's. Bruce is passionate about peace, which is one of the pillars of Rotary. Welcome to our Rotary family, Bruce. We look forward to serving alongside you!

March 4th
Schelly Tennant
Marlatt
March 10th
Olga Gorman
March 13th
Brandy Lynn Swanson
March 16th
Melanie Lynne Conner
March 16th
Wallace C. Lail
March 25th
Marlon Allen
March 28th
Barry Mock
March 29th



Sage Award

Brad Beisbier presented Emory Morsberger with a Sage Wisdom Award, celebrating his remarkable contributions to Rotary. Emory joined the club in 2009, sponsored by former member, Bartow Morgan. A passionate history enthusiast and avid traveler, Emory was deeply inspired by the resilience of the Ukrainian people, which led him to establish HelpingUkraine.US, a humanitarian relief organization dedicated to raising funds for essential supplies like blankets, stoves, and generators. Because of his determination, passion and connections, HelpingUkraineUS has been able to advance projects that provide humanitarian aid, psychological and medical care, training resources, and recovery programs for children and communities affected by the war in Ukraine. Congratulations, Emory, on this well-deserved recognition and award!



Blue Badge Alert

Jaryd Green and Mike Sammond recently completed their last steps in the process of turning in their red badges and this week, they received their official Rotary member blue badge. Congratulations!



It's Derby Time!!

It's time to kick it into high gear and get ready, set, go for the DERBY party! We need your help to move the needle and get us to the finish line.

As a reminder, the event will take place on Saturday, May 3, 2025 from 4:00-8:00pm at Formetco, 2963 Pleasant Hill Rd., Duluth, GA. There will be great food, fellowship and, of course, the Kentucky Derby main event will be shown on the largest screen found in Gwinnett County! You can belly up to the "Pour Pony" horse trailer bar, try your luck at the casino tables, or snag a few of the horsey bids. The silent auction will return along with the promotion of our charities: Corners Outreach, Families 4 Families and the End Polio Now campaign.

President Brad and the derby committee need you to take action! Please consider providing a sponsorship, buying tickets or making a donation to the event and/or silent auction. Thank you to our sponsors who have already made the commitment and to those who have bought tickets.

Rotary Derby Down South website:

[7th Annual Derby Down South Event | ClickBid Mobile Bidding](#)

For Sponsorships:

[DDS Sponsor Booklet.pdf - Google Drive](#)

For Tickets:

[7th Annual Derby Down South Event | Secure Ticket Page | Provided by ClickBid Mobile Bidding Mobile Bidding](#)

If you or your family would like to volunteer for the party, please let us know. There is plenty to do the day of the event, as well as the day prior.

Thank you again for your commitment to make our annual signature event a huge success!

Jennifer Hendrickson, Co-Chair

678-592-2599

rotaryhendrickson@gmail.com

Mark Willis, Co-Chair

404-518-1894

mwillis@gsba.com

Presenting Sponsor - \$10,000

Formetco

Derby Down South Dinner Sponsor - \$5,000

Smith+Howard

Mint Julep Sponsor - \$2,500

Capital City Bank

First Citizens Bank

Global Partnership for Telehealth

Oconee StateBank

Rotary Member - Ambassador Sponsor - \$1,500

Terry and Heather Swaim

Scott and Marian Zanardo

Derby Hat Sponsors - \$500

Alexander's of Atlanta

Jennifer and Curtis Hendrickson

Mark and Wendy Willis

Trophy Sponsor

Holtkamp Heating & Air

Photography & Videography Sponsor

Joe Sorenson

Cell Phone Friendly Reminder

Out of the courtesy and respect of our speaker, members and guests, please silence your cell phone before the meeting begins. If you need to take a call, please step outside. Thank you!

Rotary IGNITE Mobile App

During our meeting, members were introduced to an innovative tool that our club will use: the IGNITE Mobile App. The IGNITE Mobile App connects to DACdb and serves as a powerful platform designed to facilitate interaction, collaboration, and impact within our club. Developed with the principles of Rotary's service at its core, IGNITE empowers us to connect with community members, organize events, and mobilize resources more efficiently than ever before. In addition, we are working on setting up the ability to pay club invoices through the app!

As members of the Rotary Club of Gwinnett, you now have access to this app. You are encouraged to download

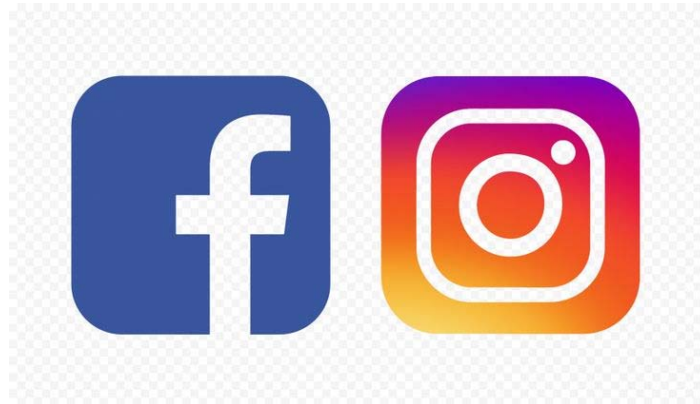
the IGNITE Mobile App and explore its features firsthand. Log-in with your DACdb username and password. Keep in mind, if you have not logged into DACdb within the last 12 months, you will not be able to access IGNITE and will need to get a new password.

If you have any questions, reach out to Jennifer Hibbard - jennifer.hibbard@vphealth.org.



[Read More](#)

Stay Connected - Follow us on Social Media!



Rotary District 6910: People of Action – Join the Week of Service, March 10-15



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!** 

Rotary  |  Family of
District 6910 **Rotary**
NEW WEEK OF SERVICE
MARCH 10-15, 2025

Join us for our week of service from March 10-15th in Augusta, GA or Black Mountain, NC

SIGN UP NOW TO SERVE >

for more info: [LEARN MORE](#)

Rotary District 6910 is calling on **People of Action** to make a lasting impact during our **Week of Service, March 10-15**. Volunteers are needed in **Western North Carolina and Augusta, GA** to help rebuild communities affected by storms and natural disasters. Whether you're clearing trails, repairing structures, or assisting with home repairs, your time and skills will make a difference.

Join fellow Rotarians as we demonstrate the power of service and community. [Sign up today](#) and be part of the action!

[Read More](#)

Fellowship, Friends, and Family in Johns Creek

By Arthur E Holst



Discover how the Rotary Club of Johns Creek is revolutionizing membership by breaking down barriers and creating flexible engagement options. Through innovative programs like the Fellowship Fund and Friends & Family Membership, this dynamic club ensures passionate individuals can contribute to community service, embodying their core principle of "service above self." Their strategic approach to growth shows how Rotary can adapt and make a meaningful impact. [Read More](#)

Meets at The 1818 Club

Time: Tuesday at 12:00 PM