

Rotary



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Rotary Foundation Chair



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Family of Rotary



[John Petrillo](#)
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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: Deputy Chief Chris Long - Gwinnett County Police Department - Crime Fighting System & State of GCPD



Deputy Chief Chris Long began his career with the Gwinnett County Police Department in 1996 after graduating Cum Laude from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He attended the 36th Academy at the Gwinnett County Police Academy.

Deputy Chief Long worked in numerous areas of the department, including Special Investigations, Training, Support Operations and Quality of Life. In 2019, he was promoted to Major, where he commanded the Office of Professional Standards. In 2022, he was promoted to Chief

of Staff and, in 2023, promoted to Assistant Chief of the Support Operations Division. In 2025, he was promoted to Deputy Chief of the Administrative Bureau.

Deputy Chief Long graduated from the 278th Session of the FBI National Academy in 2019 and the University of Georgia Local Government Executive Leadership course in 2022.

Deputy Chief Long has been married to his wife, Catherine, for nearly 25 years. Their two children are in 9th and 11th grade.

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

March 25th: Charlotte Nash, Former Chairman - Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners -

Gwinnett's 200 Years of History

April 1st: The Water Tower Vocational Tour

April 8th: Cherish De la Cruz, Managing Partner, The Manely Firm - Estate Planning

Recap of last week

Program Recap

Major incentives have been introduced for enlistment in the army, highlighting various opportunities for recruits. Our featured speaker, Sergeant First Class Stephen Supersad, shared with our club that the age limit has now been extended to 41, making enlistment more accessible to a wider range of



Lee Jordan
Club Director



DePriest Waddy
CART Chair



Katrina Lucisano
Club Service Chair



Terry Swaim
Club Programs Chair



Winford V. Lindsay Jr.
International Service Chair



David Thomas
Upchurch
Club Polio Plus Chair



Rodney T. Brundidge
Club District Grant Chair



Sherwin M. Levinson
AV & Stage Manager Chair



Adam Frangos
Club Fellowship Chair



Souleymane Ongoiba
Youth Services Chair



Joe Godfrey
iPast President

Birthdays

Wallace C. Lail
March 25th
Marlon Allen
March 28th
Barry Mock
March 29th
William F. McCargo
April 5th
Denise Townsend
April 8th
Mark Willis
April 12th

individuals. Requirements include a GED, U.S. citizenship or legal residency, an aptitude test with a minimum score in the 31st percentile - though scores as low as 21 are accepted with the opportunity to learn and retake the test - and a physical fitness test. The passing score for the aptitude test is equivalent to a 9th-grade proficiency level in math and reading. Over the past three years, 300 individuals from Duluth alone have enlisted in the army. One notable aspect is that enlisting in the Army offers a path to permanent citizenship for immigrants who are in the U.S. legally.



Derby - CALL TO ACTION!!

The Rotary Derby Down South Fundraiser update includes important details and progress. Information and team rosters were made available on each table for reference. So far, 27 club members have contributed in some capacity, which is well below where we were last year at this time. The fundraiser will support this year's derby grant recipients, including Families 4 Families and Corners Outreach. Videos providing insight into these organizations can be accessed through the provided links - [Families 4 Families](#) and [Corners Outreach](#). Additionally, Jennifer and Mark have issued a call to action to encourage further participation and support. The more money we raise, the more money will go to these amazing and well-deserving charities that support our community!



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 action 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

Katie Beth Mock Named Hebron Christian Academy's Valedictorian!

Congratulations to Barry Mock and his wife, Christa! Their daughter, Katie Beth, has been a student at HCA since sixth grade and earned the honor of Valedictorian after being named an AP Scholar with Distinction and a Georgia Certificate of Merit recipient for the Class of 2025. She is a member of the National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta, serves as the Student Council Vice President, and is a Lion Pal teacher aide at Lions Learning Academy. Additionally, she is a member of the Student Life Committee, the varsity sideline and competition cheer teams, and serves as a middle school girls' small group leader at 12Stone Church. Katie Beth plans to attend the University of Georgia.



Cell Phone-Friendly Reminder

As a courtesy to our speaker, members, and guests, please silence your cell phone before the meeting begins. If you must take a call, we kindly ask that you step outside. Thank you for your cooperation. To maintain a respectful and undisturbed environment, any disruptions caused by ringing phones may result in a request from President Brad Beisbier to contribute a generous donation to Sunshine, the Happy Pig.

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](#)

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Gwinnett County
Meets at The 1818 Club

Time: Tuesday at 12:00 PM