

Rotary



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Club Leaders



[Brad Beisbier](#)
President



[Schelly Tennant](#)
[Marlatt](#)
Secretary



[Joe Sorenson](#)
President-Elect



[Mike Fulton](#)
Treasurer



[Dave Collier](#)
Membership Chair



[Jeff Alexander](#)
Rotary Foundation
Chair



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



[Jennifer K.
Hendrickson](#)
Family of Rotary



[John Petrillo](#)
GRSP Chair

[Bruce E. Carter](#)
On-To Conference
Chair

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: Charlotte J. Nash, Former Chairman of Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners - Gwinnett's 200 Years of History



Charlotte J. Nash's career with Gwinnett County spanned almost four decades, first as a staff member and then as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners.

She has been active in multiple civic and governmental organizations at the local, regional and state level. Her roles have included board member for the Atlanta Regional Commission, board chair for the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District, and President of the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG). She was recognized by Georgia Trend magazine in 2020 as an inaugural Georgia Legacy Leader based on lifetime contributions to the State of Georgia.

In retirement, Charlotte has continued to serve in a number of community roles, including as Board Member and Treasurer of the Leadership Gwinnett Foundation. Leadership Gwinnett is especially important to her since she was a member of its initial class way back in 1985-86. Charlotte also is an active member of the Gwinnett Historical Society, currently serving as Chair of its Board of Trustees and Immediate Past President.

Charlotte, a graduate of Dacula High School and the University of Georgia, is a lifelong resident of the Dacula/Harbins area of Gwinnett. She and her husband Michael, also a Dacula native, live not far from where her paternal ancestors settled on the banks of the Apalachee River almost 200 years



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
Brian D. Blough

ago. One poodle and a small herd of cows round out the Nash household. Charlotte and Michael celebrated 52 years of marriage last August. They have two children, two granddaughters, one great-granddaughter and three great-grandsons.

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

April 1st: The Water Tower Vocational Tour
April 8th: Cherish De la Cruz, Managing Partner, The Manely Firm - Estate Planning
April 15th: Ashley Hamilton, Sr. Tournament Director, Mitsubishi Electric Classic

Recap of last week

Program Recap

Many people often ask how they can support our local police officers. Deputy Chief Chris Long of Gwinnett County's Police Department spoke to our club about Gwinnett Safe Communities - a new public safety program and partnership between the Gwinnett County Police Department, businesses, and residents that enhances public safety through real-time technology and data sharing. Powered by FUSUS, the program integrates cameras, license plate readers, and other tools to provide first responders with critical, real-time information during emergencies. Deputy Long shared that 279 cameras are registered with a total of 12,392 integrated cameras. Joining is free and by participating, individuals and companies choose to leverage cutting-edge technology to make Gwinnett's businesses, communities, and homes safer.

He stated that once an incident is reported, Gwinnett Police uses real-time data from nearby integrated and registered cameras to inform first responders. This initiative improves response efficiency and safety by giving first responders a clearer picture of incidents before arriving on the scene, which is extremely helpful to catching perpetrators. As one of Georgia's largest counties, community participation plays a key role in maintaining Gwinnett County as a safe and thriving place to live, work and play. To learn more, visit [Gwinnett Safe Communities](#).



Annual Oyster Roast At Wally's Party Shack

We hope you will join us on April 10th for a Rotary Means Business event at Wally's Party Shack. Hosted by the Rotary Club of Gwinnett County, we will once again gather from 5pm-7pm and celebrate Spring with our annual Oyster Roast. This year, the menu includes roasted oysters and fried catfish, sides, dessert, beer and wine and other non-alcoholic beverages. The cost is \$45 per person. Visit [Annual Oyster Roast](#) for additional menu details and to RSVP.



Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce Valor Awards

View Point Health, a beneficiary of last year's Derby Down South, used their proceeds to support the Behavioral Health Unit who responds as a co-responder team that provides on-scene support, resources, screening, and assessments. Last week, the BHU was honored with the 2025 Valor Award for Public Safety Unit of the Year. Congratulations to these true heroes for their dedication to helping Gwinnett's most vulnerable individuals thrive in their community. It's inspiring to see our fundraising efforts make a real impact and receive well-deserved recognition!



Derby - Kicking It Into High Gear With A Call To Action!

Jennifer Hendrickson shared that we successfully obtained two \$5K sponsors during our club meeting last week, bringing the weekly total to \$57K. This is great progress, but we are still short of where we were this time last year. So far, a little more than 30 club members have contributed

in some capacity and your help is crucial to the success of our event.

How you can help - make and/or secure a sponsorship or donation, purchase tickets, secure silent auction items either through your personal donation or securing them, etc. Spread the word about the Derby Down South with your friends, family, networks, etc.

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!

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.



Individual Links:

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. Sharon Catter will be creating a Signup Genius to volunteer. That link is coming soon!

Thank you again for your commitment to making 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

District Assembly

Join us at the Rotary District 6910 District Assembly on Saturday, May 17th! This year's assembly will be held at Georgia Highlands College (GHC) in Cartersville. This is a great learning and fellowship event for your board members and club members who want to learn more about what they can do to support their club and district.

Sessions will include Membership, The Rotary Foundation, Youth Services and Serving Beyond Your Club. We are also excited to have featured speaker Dr. DeReeta Rhodes, Chief Culture Officer, Atlanta Braves join us for the morning session. The first 100 Rotarians who sign up will be given an autographed copy of her book "Courage of Voice."

We are partnering with the GHC Rotaractor Club, as they will be providing our Sgt. at Arms and additional support for the event. We are also asking for donations to the GHC food pantry.

Registration is open! Visit [District Assembly Flyer and Registration Link](#) for details.

For questions, feel free to reach out to your District Learning Co-Facilitators:

Jennifer Hendrickson
rotaryhendrickson@gmail.com
678-592-2599

Jennifer Hibbard
Jennifer.Hibbard@vphealth.org
678-360-5200

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!

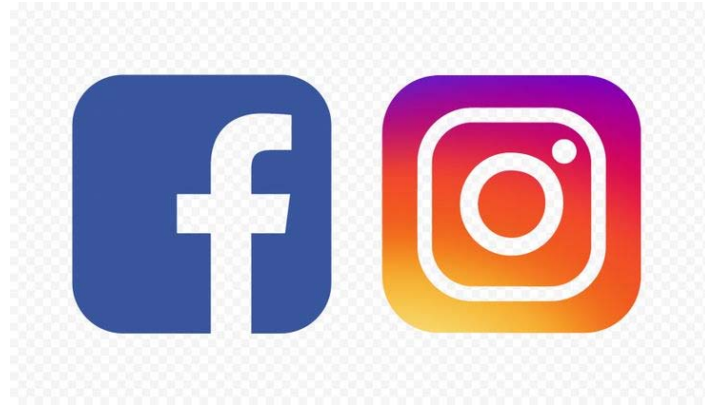
As members of the Rotary Club of Gwinnett, you now have access to this app. You are encouraged to download the IGNITE Mobile App and explore its features firsthand. Log-in with your DACdb username and password. Keep in mind, if you have not logged into DACdb within the last 12 months, you will not be 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