



Please enjoy this edition of the Sunrise Rotary Club newsletter. Sunrise Rotary is an active club of about 50 members who take pride in our community. Through our service projects and fellowship, we are changing lives and making a positive difference. If you would like to subscribe a friend to our newsletter, please send their [email to Dorothy Zimmerman](mailto:dorothy.zimmerman@sunrise-rotary.com) and we will add their name.

This Week: Get to Know Our Next Club President, Bobbie Robinson

Speakers

February 20, 2025

[Bobbie Robinson](#),
[President-elect](#)

Sunrise Rotary
Preview: 2025-26

February 27, 2025

[Freddie Wehbe](#)
Domino's Pizza,
Spurrier's Gridiron
Grill and Florida
Victorious

March 06, 2025

[Margot DeConna](#)
Food4Kids Backpack
program

March 13, 2025

[Theresa Beachy](#)
Center for Non-profit
Excellence
(Community
Foundation of NCF)

March 20, 2025

[Harvey Ward](#)
Mayor of Gainesville

March 27, 2025

[Brian Kramer \(8th
Circuit State
Attorney\) and Stacy
Scott \(Public
Defender\)](#)



At this week's meeting, President-Elect Bobbie Robinson will take center stage to share her vision for the upcoming Rotary year. She'll discuss leadership plans, exciting ideas for our next big charitable project, and ways we can all make a greater impact together.

Since joining in 2018, Bobbie has been a driving force in our club—elevating our socials, completing all Rotary Leadership Institute courses, and bringing boundless enthusiasm to everything she does. With our support, she's sure to lead us to a successful year.

Don't miss this chance to hear from Bobbie and be part of the conversation!

Love, Laughter, and a Little Friendly Competition at Our Valentine's Celebration

Last week's Rotary meeting brought out the fun and the friendly competition as we celebrated Valentine's Day with our own version of the Newlywed Game, or as we like to call it—"How Well Do You Know Your Partner?"

As always, Bobbie Robinson set the scene with festive decorations, and Laraine Teiss kept things lively as our emcee. Meanwhile, President Kevin tackled the all-important (and sometimes tricky) task of tallying scores to declare a winner.

We welcomed first-time participants Chuck and Mary Parker, who bravely put their knowledge to the test. But in the end, Frank and Kathy Ricciardi defended their title as reigning champions.

We all shared plenty of laughs, not at, but with our fellow Rotarians, and learned a few fun facts about each other's private lives. A big thanks to everyone who participated and made the meeting so special!

Events

March 6th
[Wild Game Feast](#)

March 19th
[Board Meeting](#)

April 16th
[Board Meeting](#)

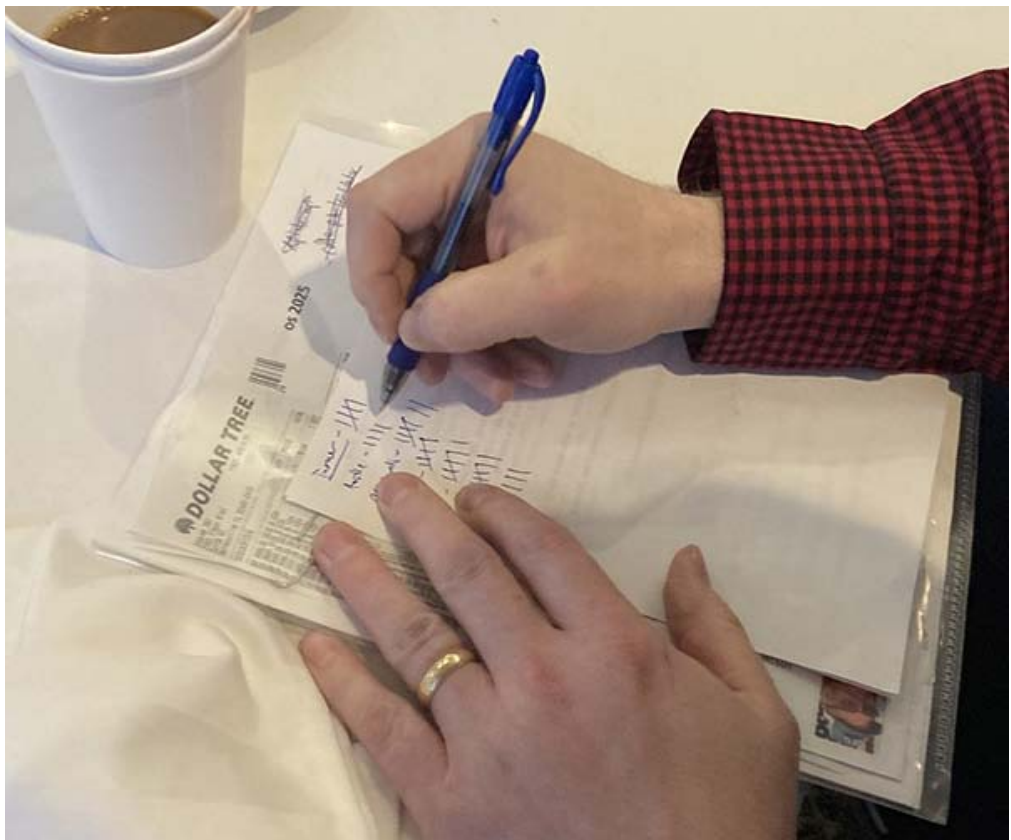
April 26th
[District 6970
Assembly](#)

May 14th
[Board Meeting](#)

June 6th
[District 6970
Conference](#)

June 11th
[Board Meeting](#)







Help Us Spark a Grant-Winning Idea—Time is Ticking

Sunrise Rotarians, we're gearing up to apply for a Rotary District 6970 grant, but we need *your* ideas to make it happen! Whether it's a pressing community need, a potential partner, or a project with impact, we're looking for fresh, meaningful initiatives.

Think big—and think Rotary's areas of focus:

- Promoting Peace
- Providing Clean Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
- Supporting Education
- Saving Mothers and Children
- Fighting Disease

- Growing Local Economies
- Protecting the Environment

Don't delay—grant applications are due well before April 1, and the clock is ticking. Share your ideas at our next meeting or email them to Bobbie Robinson or Rory Causseaux ASAP. Let's turn inspiration into action!

London Adventures: Theater, History, and Hidden Gems with Jim and Becky Cato

By James Cato

This past week in London, we have been on the move, every day, all day. These four photos and brief discussion gives you an idea of some of our escapades. We have done lots more, so if you want more, check out my timeline on Facebook.



We did a tour of St. Paul's Cathedral, the second largest cathedral in the UK. We also toured the crypt and saw the tomb of Sir Christopher Wren, who designed St. Paul's during the last half of the 17th Century. Lord Nelson also continues to hang out here.



On a rainy, cold day, we did a small group tour of the Cotswolds and Oxford. The Cotswolds are known for their sheep enclosed in hedgerows, rolling hills, scenic vistas and yellow limestone buildings with slate and thatched roofs. Oxford is a town filled with students and unique buildings such as this half-timber shop. Unlike U.S. universities, Oxford University comprises 36 colleges, three societies and four private halls, each operating completely independently of the others, and totaling 26,000 students.



We have been to three shows: Les Miserables, Hamilton and Tina-Tina Turner the Musical. The last two were very good, plus performed in much smaller theaters.



We did a walking tour of the Inns of the Court, the very large area that represents the center of the justice system in England and Wales. Within this area is Temple Church which is significant to the whole Common Law World. The Magna Carta was negotiated here. Seven Middle Templars (of the church) signed the American Constitution. Some of the Da Vinci Code movie was filmed in the church.

Volunteer Opportunities for the 2025 Wild Game Feast - THE TIME IS NOW

The Wild Game Feast is just around the corner, and we need your help to get the site ready. Join fellow Rotarians and volunteers for these 3 workdays filled with hard work, fellowship, and great food. Tasks range from site cleanup to equipment prep—there's something for everyone. Check out the details below and RSVP if you can to Matthew Braddy, 352.317.2516.

Bradley Davis, a long time friend of Rotary and Hatchet Creek, will be assisting this year as WGF Site Manager. Bradley has been a great resource for many years, and knows as much about the site as most. Please look for him with his notepad to find a task that works best for you.

We typically start 8-9 am; some show up at 8, some at 9. By 9, most of the donuts are gone! We try to serve lunch 12 – 12:30 pm. This Saturday, February 22, Jon Thomas and Jason Shank are bringing us “smash burgers” from the big grill top.

Workdays in general are a great time for fellowship, and picnic-style lunch with fellow Rotarians and other volunteers is an amazing time. Come and try one!

Saturday, February 22, Site Prep Workday Goals:

1. Rooftops and gutters – For our non-acrophobia volunteers, we have several rooftops to blow off; followed by gutter clean outs. All our gutters are full. Those less comfortable on a ladder, there will be plenty of groundwork helping rake up the debris and haul it off.
2. Flower beds – after gutter clean out, some shrub trimming and weed pulling to freshen up our flower beds.
3. Trim/Limb Trimming – around the site, down the road, and some areas around parking. We will have some extension saws and equipment, but feel free to bring more if this is in your wheelhouse.
4. Deep Cleaning – Bathrooms, Coolers, Kitchen, etc. Again, those comfortable on a ladder, we have high reaching cobwebs to eliminate. All buildings need some attention.
5. Fry area – We need to remove and clean everything.
6. Knife Sharpening – under close supervision by Kirk Smith
7. Power washing – there will be a couple on site, but if you have one and this is your jam, bring it on.
8. Again, more to be determined.
9. Parking setup.

Saturday, March 1, Site Prep Workday Goals:

1. Anything carrying over from prior workday.
2. Cleaning touch up, the pollen was heavy this past week, and we will fight this continually until go time.
3. Wash tables, chairs, coolers, etc.
4. Roll out and clean spools.
5. MULCH – We are planning to bring in a load of mulch. We will have at least one tractor on site to help move around to expedite spreading.
6. There will be more on Bradley's final list.

Wednesday, March 5, Day before event – needs TBD.

Sunrise Rotary Club Looking for High School Students to Send to RYLA

By Dan Rodkin

RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) is a Leadership Conference held annually. It is designed for 100-125 high school students who have

completed their sophomore or junior year. Students are selected by Rotary Clubs in District 6970; the Rotary Clubs select the students to send and pay the student registration fee, so the conference is free to the students.

The 2025 District 6970 RYLA will be June 6-8 at Stetson University in Deland. Please share this opportunity with eligible students, and encourage them to contact [Dan Rodkin](#) so we can select the students that will be sponsored this year. [Interested students may sign up directly at this link](#) by March 1, 2025.

Join the Sunrise Rotary Paddling Trip – March 22!

By William Menadier

Ichetucknee Springs State Park



2025 Paddling Social

Rotary Club of Gainesville Sunrise



Join us for fun & fellowship paddling the Ichetucknee River, experiencing one of Florida's iconic spring fed waterways. Then bring your appetite as we gather for lunch and tales from the river at Great Outdoors Restaurant.



GREAT OUTDOORS
RESTAURANT
18587 High Springs Main Street
High Springs, FL 32643

Rentals:

Paddle Board: \$60.00

Single Kayak: \$45.00

Double Kayak: \$65.00

Double Canoe: \$65.00

"Bring Your Own":

\$15.00 per "boat"

\$15.00 for first person +

\$13.00 per extra person

Parking: \$4.00 - \$6.00

Saturday, March 22nd
Paddle @ 9:00am | Lunch @ 12:00pm

12087 Southwest, US-27, Fort White, FL 32038

Sunrise Rotarians, grab your paddles and get ready for a day of adventure on the beautiful Ichetucknee River! Our annual Paddling Social is set for Saturday, March 22, starting at 9:00 AM. After a morning on the water, we'll gather for lunch and camaraderie at the Great Outdoors Restaurant in High Springs.

Rentals are available, or bring your own kayak, canoe, or paddleboard. Spaces are limited, so sign up soon and don't miss this chance to experience one of Florida's iconic spring-fed rivers with fellow Rotarians!

For pricing and details, [download and print out the event flyer](#) or reach out to the trip organizers, Bill Menadier or Dan Rodkin. See you on the water!

Get Your Wild Game Feast Tickets Now!

Now is the time to buy individual tickets and to buy some tickets to bring your friends. Contact Darleen Morgan or see her at weekly club meetings. Act quickly; tickets are going fast!



2025 ROTARY WILD GAME FEAST

5:00 PM | THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2025



LEVELS OF SPONSORSHIP	GATOR \$10,000	BISON \$7,500	WILD BOAR \$5,000	DEER \$3,000	TURKEY \$2,000	QUAIL \$1,250
Recognition at Event	PROMINENT	PROMINENT	PROMINENT	YES	YES	YES
Recognition at Rotary Clubs	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
WGF Tickets	14	12	10	8	6	4
Fellowship Pavilion Passes	14	12	10	8	6	4
Special Parking	5	4	4	3	2	1
Feast Sponsor Appreciation Dinner	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
T-Shirts	PROMINENT LOGO	PROMINENT LOGO	PROMINENT LOGO	LOGO	LOGO	LOGO
Social Media Recognition Facebook / Instagram Handles	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
TV Recognition	YES					
Option to Sponsor Swag	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	

- **FELLOWSHIP PAVILION PASSES** | Fellowship Pavilion Passes allow entry into the sponsorship area beginning at 4 p.m.
- **BAR SOLD SPONSOR** | Please contact Sponsors@RotaryGainesville.org for availability and pricing.
- **KOCC SOLD SPONSOR** | Please contact Sponsors@RotaryGainesville.org for availability and pricing.
- **WINE CUP SPONSOR** | Please contact Sponsors@RotaryGainesville.org for availability and pricing.
- **PAVILION CUP SPONSOR** | Please contact Sponsors@RotaryGainesville.org for availability and pricing.



SAVE THE DATE | **FEAST SPONSOR APPRECIATION DINNER**
APRIL 3, 2025



2025 ROTARY WILD GAME FEAST

5:00 PM | THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2025



To help attain maximum exposure for your organization, please complete and return Sponsorship Form to Sponsors@RotaryGainesville.org.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please email your completed form to Sponsors@RotaryGainesville.org.

Date: _____ Company / Organization: _____

Primary Contact: _____ Title: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Secondary Contact: _____ Title: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Facebook Handle: _____ Instagram Handle: _____

SPONSORSHIP FORM, PAYMENT AND LOGO*

Return no later than Friday, January 31, 2025

*high resolution

SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION

Sponsorship Amount: \$ _____

Level Name: _____

Other Sponsorship: _____

Enclosed is my check. Invoice me: 2024 2025

Sponsor Gift Contact: _____

Do not wish to receive recognition gift.

Two ways to remit payment:

ONLINE

Coming Soon!

BY MAIL

Rotary Clubs of Gainesville Foundation, Inc.
9330 NW 13th Place
Gainesville, FL 32606-5592

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

WILD GAME FEAST VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- February 22nd - Workday
- March 1st - Workday
- March 6th - WGF Event

If your Organization would like to Volunteer for a WGF Workday or the WGF Event, simply register below. Your Rotary Representative will send additional information.

Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone/Email: _____

WORKDAYS EVENT BOTH

Join Us

Gainesville Sunrise
Meets at Hilton University of Florida Conference Center Gainesville
1714 SW 34th Street
Gainesville, FL 32607
Time: Thursday at 07:00 AM



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