

# Rotary

## Club of Green Cove Springs



### Club Meeting

Green Cove Springs  
Meets at Penney  
Retirement Community  
Rigel Center Golf  
Clubhouse  
Wilbanks Ave  
Penney Farms, FL 32079  
Time: Monday at 12:15  
PM

### Club Leaders



Elizabeth Shale  
Dusinberre  
President



John W Bowles  
President-Elect



Joseph V Smith  
Vice President



Nancy C.  
Keating  
Treasurer



Lynn Powers  
Recording  
Secretary



Richard L. Knoff  
iPast President



David Fieber  
Club Director  
Rotary  
Foundation  
Chair

## Long Live the Rotary Traditions!

Sunday, December 1, 2024



One of the things that makes Rotary a unique organization is our many meeting traditions. Whether that be singing or reciting the famous "Four Way Test." Our Rotary Club is happy to be one of the few that still engages in singing... Yes we said singing!

Our long-time member, Jimmy Weeks, usually leads us in song at the beginning of every meeting. A couple of our club favorites are, "America the Beautiful" and the "Star Spangled Banner." Members of all ages enjoy this time every week and consider it a moment of fun and fellowship.

The tradition of singing at Rotary club meetings began in 1905 with Rotarian Harry L. Ruggles, of the Rotary Club of Chicago. New Rotary clubs formed, and the practice of singing at club meetings caught on. Ruggles's company published an unofficial Book of Songs -- a collection of patriotic tunes, familiar standards, and Rotary songs (many penned by Rotarians) -- to help clubs make singing a regular part of their meetings. Read more here: <https://www.rghf.org/rotary-songs/>

We hope you join us at a future meeting! While we don't require that you be a professional vocalist-- we do ask that you bring a fun spirit!

#Rotary #RotaryHistory #Patriotism #singing #songoftheday

# Thank You to Our November Guest Speakers!

Saturday, November 30, 2024



Rotary would not be the outstanding organization it is today without the remarkable contributions of our guest speakers. They enhance the flow of our weekly club meetings, with business professionals of all ages traveling from near and far to educate and entertain our Rotary members and guests.

Thank you to our November Guest Speakers:  
Anna Barbary - Morocco Service Project  
Steve Nix - What about Climate Change?  
Richard Knoff - J.P. Hall Children's Charities

For Guest Speaker inquiries, please email our Club Director Harry Parrot:  
[parrottsmail1@gmail.com](mailto:parrottsmail1@gmail.com)

## Finding Love, Adventure, and Service: The Story of Judge and Elaine

Sunday, November 24, 2024



Rebecca Padgett  
Club Director



Harry B. Parrott Jr.  
Club Director



Cheryl Rumble Starnes  
Club Director



Anna Barbary  
Public Image Chair  
Communications Officer  
Secretary



Russel Stewart Miller  
Rotary Foundation Chair



**Love knows no boundaries—not age, geography, or timing.** This truth is beautifully embodied by Judge McWhorter and Elaine Stewart, a senior couple whose story is an inspiring testament to embracing life and love at every stage.

Judge McWhorter, a retired engineer and devoted member of The Rotary Club of Green Cove Springs for 14 years, and Elaine Stewart, a retired entrepreneur, found each other later in life. After years of hard work and dedication to their respective professions, they've embraced this new chapter with gratitude and purpose. **Married in a beautiful summer wedding this year, their union marked the start of a life filled with love, adventure, and shared values.**

Together, the couple have embarked on global journeys, from the vibrant landscapes of South Africa to the historical charm of Italy. Closer to home, they take cross-country trips, exploring the beauty of the United States. **As parents and grandparents, they also prioritize creating lasting memories with their family, weaving a tapestry of love and connection across generations.**

In addition to their travels, Judge and Elaine are active members of the Penney Retirement Community, where they continue to enrich the lives of those around them. Shortly after their wedding, Judge sponsored Elaine as a new member of The Rotary Club of Green Cove Springs, welcoming her into an organization that has long been a cornerstone of his life. **Together, they now embody Rotary's motto, *Service Above Self*, channeling their shared passion for service into meaningful contributions at both local and global levels.**

Their story is a testament to the rewards of hard work, the joy of finding love later in life, and the power of service to create a lasting impact. **We are proud to count Judge McWhorter and Elaine Stewart as part of The Rotary Club of Green Cove Springs** and grateful for the inspiration they bring to all who know them.

May their journey continue to be filled with **love, laughter, and purpose.**

## Dinklebells Pickleball Tournament 2024!

Friday, November 22, 2024

It is almost that time of year again for our **Dinklebells Pickleball Tournament!**

Organized by: The Rotary Club of Green Cove Springs  
**All sales will benefit our Clay High School scholarship fund.**

**Dates: December 6th - December 8th**

Venue: Thomas Hogans Memorial Gym  
415 Lemon St Green Cove Springs, 32043 United States



**Players MUST register by November 24, 2024: [Pickleball Players Register Here](#)**

Doors open on Friday, December 6th, at 8 AM for spectators!

## Have An Extra Bike Laying Around?

Thursday, November 21, 2024



A nonprofit we support annually: [J.P. Hall Children's Charities](#), has just released information about this year's Christmas Party! It will be held on Saturday, December 21st, from 9:00am until 12 noon. It will be held at the Clay County Fairgrounds and will be a drive-thru event. They have plenty of toys, so they arrive on Saturday morning. Anyone in line by 12 noon will be served.

**Please note: <https://jphallcharities.com/> website has not updated their Christmas Party dates for this year, please disregard it.**

If you have any bicycles for donation, you can directly donate a bicycle regardless of condition. Please drop them off at old Fire Station 1 in Green Cove Springs located at 25 Roderico Avenue on Tuesday or Thursday 8-12:00 pm.

## RYLA 2025 Applications Are Now Open!

Sunday, November 17, 2024



The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is a dynamic leadership conference for high school sophomores and juniors, designed to inspire and empower the next generation of leaders. Hosted annually by Rotary District 6970, which covers Northeast Florida, RYLA provides an unforgettable experience filled with leadership training, team-building activities, and service opportunities. Rotary Clubs select students to attend and cover their registration fees, ensuring this life-changing event is free for participants. Applications for the 2025 RYLA program are now open, and we encourage students to apply for this exciting opportunity.

This past year, Clay High Interact Student Maya Clark proudly represented the Rotary Club of Green Cove Springs at RYLA 2024, accompanied by our Public Image Chair, Anna Barbary. During the conference, participants packed 10,000 meals in partnership with the nonprofit Meals of Hope, contributing to the fight against food insecurity. Maya's experience was so impactful that she was invited as a guest speaker at our July meeting to share what she learned. Her presentation, attended by her father, highlighted the personal growth, leadership skills, and unforgettable memories she gained from RYLA.

Rotary International is dedicated to creating opportunities like RYLA to foster goodwill, peace, and high ethical standards worldwide. With 46,000 member clubs and 1.4 million Rotarians across the globe, Rotary continues to make a positive impact in countless communities. Don't miss this chance to be part of an inspiring leadership journey! Apply here: [RYLA - Rotary International District 6970](#)

**Happy Veteran's Day Weekend!**

Sunday, November 10, 2024



On a beautiful November day, members of the Rotary Club of Green Cove Springs were honored to attend the Rotary Club of Fleming Island's annual Chili Cook-Off. This family-friendly event brought together Rotarians and the community for a wonderful cause: supporting [K9s for Warriors](#), a nonprofit dedicated to providing service dogs to veterans in need. The day was packed with activities for all ages, including a chili contest where the best recipes went head-to-head, lively music from a fun DJ, and a variety of games. Adding to the excitement, the host, whose husband is a retired pilot, even had a flyover, making the day truly special for all.

We join our sister club in honoring the courageous men and women who have served our country. The Rotary Club of Green Cove Springs recognizes the sacrifices of our veterans and is proud to support efforts like this one that give back to those who have given so much. Thanks to [the Rotary Club of Fleming Island](#) for hosting such a memorable event and for their commitment to making a difference in the lives of veterans and their families.

Photo taken by Don Coble, Rotarian and editor of [Clay Today](#)

## **Rotary GCS Fall Social Success!**

Friday, November 8, 2024



As we head into the holiday season—a busy and exciting time for Rotarians—what a fantastic kickoff to the festivities! Thank you to our incredible members and their spouses for joining us at our Fall Social!

Special thanks to our amazing member and Club Director, Rebecca Padgett, for hosting with such style, and a big shoutout to our dedicated Social Committee for making this gathering happen! Everyone had a wonderful time enjoying Rotarian camaraderie, fun games, and delicious food!

## Events

December 2nd, 12:15-1:30 PM

[Green Cove Springs Weekly Club Meeting](#)

**Speaker:** Joe Pickens

**Subject:** St John River State College

December 16th, 12:15-1:30 PM

[Green Cove Springs Weekly Club Meeting](#)

**Speaker:** Annual Holiday Luncheon

**Subject:** Members and their significant others will gather for our annual Holiday Luncheon at McCormick Hall in Penney Retirement Community.

December 30th, 12:15-1:30 PM

[Green Cove Springs Weekly Club Meeting](#)

**Speaker:** No Meeting

**Subject:** Winter break - January 2025 dates TBA

December 9th, 12:15-1:30 PM

[Green Cove Springs Weekly Club Meeting](#)

**Speaker:** Yul McNair

**Subject:** Palatka Airport

December 23rd, 12:15-1:30 PM

[Green Cove Springs Weekly Club Meeting](#)

**Speaker:** No Meeting

**Subject:** Winter break - January 2025 dates TBA

## Birthdays



[Joseph V. Smith](#)  
December 9th



[Gayward F. Hendry](#)  
December 17th

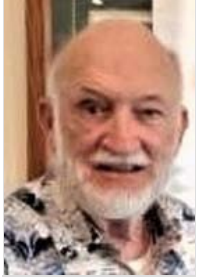


[John W. Bowles](#)  
December 25th



[Thomas L. Ritter](#)  
December 27th

## Years of Service



[John W. Bowles](#)  
50 Years



[Richard L. Knoff](#)  
32 Years



[Deborah Goyette](#)  
10 Years