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## Rotary Club of Dalton Newsletter

<http://www.daltonrotaryclub.org>



### This Week:

Zach Taylor GRSP  
Student Introduction

### Upcoming Meetings:

September 5th  
**NO MEETING**  
**(Club Closed)**

September 12th  
District Governor David  
Cooper

September 19th  
Amanda Burt  
United Way

September 26th  
Amy Messick  
Autism

## Early Cognitive Development and the Readers to Leaders Program

*by Zach Taylor and John Hutcheson*

Rotarian Zach Taylor began by speaking about early childhood development and the importance of language acquisition by 24 months of age. Children growing up in households with college educated parents with higher incomes hear 30 million more words on average than children growing up in households where the parents are on welfare. This word gap translates into less vocabulary development by age 3. There is a predictable cascade that follows. Vocabulary determines ability to read at level in the 3rd grade, which predicts academic achievement, which predicts economic level in adulthood. This is also a health issue, as better educated people tend to be healthier than less educated people. The importance of the human interaction with infants and toddlers was emphasized, including talking with babies and reading to children at an early age. Television, iPads, and other electronic media are not a substitute for the human-to-baby interaction that occurs with parents, family members and other care givers.



Zach Taylor

[Insert President-elect Greg Dent spoke briefly about the North Georgia Healthcare Partnership and then introduced Stephanie Hogshead, who described their initiative in the community, Readers to Leaders. Readers to Leaders is a long term workforce development strategy to create a pipeline of well-prepared, educated talent. The effort was created after area employers voiced difficulties in finding qualified employees despite the area's aggressive unemployment rate. Through the support of the University of Georgia's Archway Partnership and the AmeriCorps VISTA program, Readers to Leaders has grown from a simple declaration to a maturing literacy effort.

- Examples of their work include:
- Power Lunches, a free book distribution and reading program at summer USDA feeding sites to mitigate loss of learning from "summer slide".
- Book Nooks, 21 fully stocked free-standing bookcases placed in public gathering places throughout Dalton and Whitfield County.
- A book distribution program implemented through area pediatrician offices where parents receive free books and instruction on developmental milestones to look for during well-child visits.
- Saturday Academy, a school readiness program that simulates a pre-school classroom for families on Saturday mornings.
- Ms. Frizzle School Visits, a volunteer-staffed effort in which Ms. Frizzle from the Magic School Bus book series visits local schools to share science education literacy programming.

- Pre-K Registration, at which Readers to Leaders provides every child with a book and a fun literacy-themed reading area.

**Club Officers:**

**Kevin Brunson**  
President  
**Greg Dent**  
President-Elect  
**Frank M. Hogshead**  
Secretary, Treasurer  
**Bruce Satterfield**  
Immediate Past President  
**Vallarie Pratt**  
Club Administration Chair  
**John Hutcheson**  
Public Relations Chair  
**Cherri Robertson**  
Membership Chair  
**Amy Messick**  
Community Service Chair  
**Ricky Robertson**  
Youth Service Chair  
**Chris Cooke**  
Vocational Service Chair  
**Archana Srivastava**  
International Service Chair  
**George "Smitty" Barnett**  
Foundation Chair



Greg Dent and Stephanie Hogshead

**August 28th 2017 Birthdays and Anniversaries**

<u>Member Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Cope, Don (DON)	1-Sep

<u>Partner Birthdays</u>	<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Hutcheson, Marilyn	Hutcheson, John A. Jr.	2-Sep

<u>Member Anniversaries</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Years</u>
Goodroe, Robert S. (ROBERT)	9/1/1964	53
Sanders, Drayton M II(DRAYTON)	9/1/1979	38

<u>Wedding Anniversaries</u>	<u>Partner's Name</u>	<u>Anniversary</u>	<u>Years</u>
No anniversaries this period.			

**Four Way Test**

