



Rotary Club of Dalton Newsletter

<http://www.daltonrotaryclub.org>

This Week:

June 21
Rob Bradham
*John Trent - Georgia
Ports Authority*

Upcoming Meetings:

June 28
Jason Parker
Passing Gavel

July 5
**No Meeting / DGCC
Closed**

July 12
Bruce Satterfield
Rotary Year 2016-2017

July 19
Linda Blackman

July 26
Patty Mooney

August 2
Seth Cole

August 9
**No Meeting / Joint
Meeting with Kiwanis
on August 8th**
*Ronnie McClurg / High
School Football Preview*

August 16
Bruce Satterfield
District Governor Visit

Dalton State College: A Presidential Update

By: John Hutcheson



Rotarian Margaret Venable, President of Dalton State College, related how DSC has transitioned from an institution which primarily granted associate degrees and technical certifications to one in which 22 bachelor degree programs now outnumber the 16 remaining associate-level curricula, while nearly all technical programs have been transferred to Georgia Northwestern Technical College. As in the past, all DSC courses of study will include a core curriculum grounded in the liberal arts, with the goal of producing well-rounded graduates regardless of their majors or occupational intentions. In the words of one observer, DSC has "gone from plain vanilla to rocky road."

Along with new directions in the College's academic offerings have come some equally fundamental changes in its non-academic services for students and in the character of student life. The revived intercollegiate athletic program's success has exceeded all anticipations, and the arrival of a new Interim Athletic Director who brings decades of experience promises continued advancement. This fall the new John Willis Mashburn Hall will provide on-campus housing for 350 students in a building which will replace the remaining structures of the former Wood Valley Apartments and reflect the latest concepts in collegiate residential construction. The Pope Student Center is undergoing a major renovation—its first since the early 1970's—and will accommodate an expanded food service to meet the needs of the increased number of residential students. In addition, the Board of Regents has approved establishment of an on-campus health clinic, to be housed in the newly renovated Health Professions Building, formerly the home of Technical Education. The health education facilities themselves, featuring state-of-the-art simulation labs that enable students to develop their skills in less risky environments than hospital placements, have attracted widespread attention and will soon be showcased in a national publication. Finally, an appropriation of five million dollars from the state will supplement an equal amount derived from other sources to underwrite remodeling the School of Business's quarters in Gignilliat Memorial Hall.

For much of the past year a committee of faculty, students, and administrators has worked to update the College's mission, vision, and values statements and to embody these in a Strategic Plan for 2016-2019. Drawing on input from the wider community as well as from across the campus, and closely linked to the University System of Georgia's Strategic Plan, the DSC Plan is structured around the four themes of Student Success, Academic Excellence, Community Engagement, and Operational Excellence, each of which generates a range of specific goals and action steps.

Other points Margaret mentioned include a DSC Foundation endowment now

Club Officers:

Jason Parker

President

Bruce Satterfield

President-Elect

Frank M. Hogshead

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Teresa Carter

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Youth Service Chair

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Foundation Chair

approaching two million dollars, the College's progress toward Federal designation as a Hispanic-Serving Institution which would make DSC eligible for new funding sources, and the growing cultural diversity of the College community. Study-abroad opportunities are increasing, and there is a firm realization that students must be prepared for participation in an evolving global culture.

Community engagement is deepening on many fronts, and the College's ostensible isolation, supposedly symbolized by its location across the Interstate from the main body of Dalton, is now unquestionably diminished as increasingly numerous "bridges" are built. In 2015-2016 DSC awarded more than 730 degrees, and most of these graduates will stay in Northwest Georgia. According to data compiled by the University of Georgia, the College contributed \$120 million to local economies during the last fiscal year. Most significantly, Dalton State is coming to be seen not as a "school of last resort," but rather as a first-choice destination college, offering a superior education and a rich "college experience" at an affordable price.

Responding to questions, Margaret noted that the College aspires to grow a physical presence in downtown Dalton. The Bandy Heritage Center already uses the former Freight Depot as exhibition space, and there is a possibility of creating business incubators in a downtown location. Presently the only off-campus facility is the Gilmer County center in Ellijay which enrolls about 250 students, but there are distance-learning partnerships with several other University System schools, and several of these programs are completely online. Such arrangements can make graduate degrees more easily available—the MBA taught by Kennesaw State on the DSC campus is an example—and suggest that pushing for university status for DSC through establishment of fully local graduate programs may not be the best way to serve the region. On the matter of future enrollment, the College's administration is "cautiously optimistic;" it may grow as Northwest Georgia develops, although demographic studies show the traditional college-age population to be decreasing. At DSC having residence halls may help, there is a good deal of dual enrollment in local high schools, and the College is always looking for ways to attract and serve more adult learners.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Member Birthdays

Maret, Michael S. (MIKE)
Weaver, William B (BILL)

Birthday

21-Jun
21-Jun

Partner Birthdays

Combs, Donna
Neal, Terri

Member Name

Combs, William Dan
Neal, John P. III

Birthday

24-Jun
24-Jun

Member Anniversaries

No member anniversaries this period.

Start Date

Years

Wedding Anniversaries

Bradham, Robert L. (ROB)
Poehlman, John H. (JOHN)
Bledsoe, Jonathan L. (JONATHAN)
Miller, Charles Dalton (CHARLES)

Partner's Name

Melissa
Sally
Ginny
Sara

Anniversary

21-Jun
23-Jun
25-Jun
26-Jun

Years

13
40
11
20

ROTARY



THE FOUR-WAY TEST
of the things we think, say or do

first
Is it the TRUTH?

second
Is it FAIR to all concerned?

third
**Will it build GOOD WILL
and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**

fourth
**Will it be BENEFICIAL to
all concerned?**

INTERNATIONAL

Rotary.org/4waytest

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL (vertical text on left and right sides)