

CLUB SERVICE

4-Way Test—*this week* – Ahmed Samaha
4-Way Test—*next meeting* – Mike Willis
Program— Jane Page Thompson
Feb. Invocation— Collette Ball
Feb. Greeters — Carolyn McClain, Sandra Jordan
Feb. Students – Kevin Berning (AHS), Connor Taylor (SAHS)
Feb. Student Hosts – Betty Ryberg (AHS), Joe Shields (SAHS)

GUESTS

| | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Patsy Smith | Speaker |
| Kathy Griffin | Speaker |
| Morgan Jones | Student guest |
| Reid DeMass | Student guest |
| Avery Ofoje | Student guest |
| Gene Hart | guest of Jennifer Hart |
| Laura Par | guest of Betty Ryberg |
| Liz Morris | Speaker guest |
| Tonya Bryant | Guidance counselor |
| Anne Ofoje | Student parent |
| Kim Jones | Student parent |
| Steve Miano | guest of Ahmed Samaha |
| Ben Tankersley | guest of Bill Tucker |
| Pat Moore | visiting |
| Rob Novit | visiting |

MAKE-UPS

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Richard Herring | Club Service 1/25 |
|-----------------|-------------------|

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONT.

The **Aiken Sunrise Rotary Club** is hosting a professionally-managed art show and auction, featuring art in all media and price ranges (major credit cards accepted). There will also be a silent auction. Proceeds from this event will enable the Sunrise Club to provide funding to local nonprofits like Helping Hands, The Aiken Writing Project, Camp Gravatt, Golden Harvest Food Bank and local teachers for specific projects and programs, as well as to national and global Rotary service projects.

Thursday, **February 25**
(Preview at **6pm**, Auction Starts at 7pm)

Woodside Country Club

\$10 in advance or at the door

Call Hank Hatchell **(803) 640-1594**

Complimentary Wine Tasting – Cheese – Beverages
[plus Cash Bar]

Job Shadow opportunity

President Joe Lewis announced we will be signing up Rotarians willing to host a high-school Interact Club member for a few hours during their professional workday. Already retired? You can still offer to speak at a local high school about your career field. Look for sign-up opportunities at upcoming meetings.

Habitat dedicated its 100th Home!

Congratulations to Habitat on completing and dedicating their 100th home. Our club contributed \$25,000 earlier this year to help them achieve this milestone.

Upcoming Rotary Leadership Institute training

RLI training helps you become a better Rotarian and leader. Here are upcoming training sessions:

- Charleston: Saturday, February 20th
- Greenwood: Saturday, March 12th
- Columbia: Saturday, April 23rd



Rotary Club of Aiken
PO Box 685
Aiken, SC 29802
(803) 648-5676
Monday, 12:30 PM
Newberry Hall
117 Newberry Street, SW
www.aikenrotary.org

R.I. President

K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran

District Governor

Terry Weaver

Club President

Joe Lewis

President Elect

Jason Stewart

Vice President

John McMichael

Past President

Barbara Morgan

Secretary/Treasurer

Stanley Smith

Sergeant-at-Arms

Brenda Stein

Assistant Governor

Dan Rickabaugh

Board of Directors

| | |
|----------------|--------|
| Collette Ball | (2016) |
| Liz Neal | (2016) |
| Will Williams | (2016) |
| Paul Dusenbury | (2017) |
| Beth Everitt | (2017) |
| Grant Wiseman | (2017) |
| John Lindsay | (2018) |
| Rick McLeod | (2018) |
| Catie Rabun | (2018) |

Sergeants-at-Arms

Chair: Brenda Stein

Robert Stack

Richard Herring

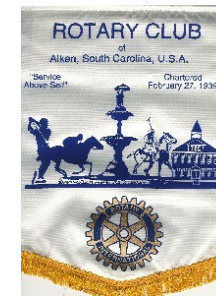
Richard Holley

John McMichael

Diana Riddick

THE GEAR

FEBRUARY 8, 2016



Rotary
Club of Aiken



Chartered February 27, 1939

Club 6187—District 7750

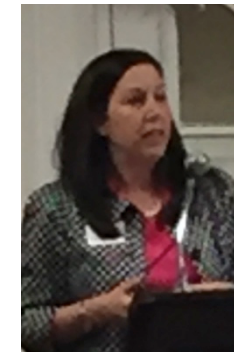
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Editor: Catie Rabun - catie.rabun@gmail.com

Photographer: Catie Rabun

PROGRAM LAST WEEK

By: Karen Guevara



Rotarian Betty Ryberg introduced guest speakers Kathy Griffin and Patsy Smith, to introduce Aiken County's newest tuition-free charter school: Tall Pines STEM Academy (STEM stands for "Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics"). STEM is considered knowledge for life, encouraging critical thinking, creativity, teamwork and

individual leadership skills – all considered some of the most important skills needed in today's workplace. Kathy Griffin is the future principal of Tall Pines, located on 418 acres of Camp Long. Patsy Smith heads up Clemson's Youth Learning Institute in Pickens, SC, a successful middle school and model for Tall Pines. Tall Pines STEM Academy opens on August 16th for 5th and 6th grades (48 slots in each), with plans to add 7th grade in 2017 and 8th grade in 2018. Applications are now being accepted; open enrollment ends March 15, 2016 at 3pm.

PROGRAM TODAY

BETH KLEIN HUMAN TRAFFICKING

FUTURE PROGRAMS

| | |
|--------|--|
| FEB 15 | NO MEETING: PRESIDENT'S DAY |
| FEB 22 | George Thornton; National Wild Turkey Federation |
| FEB | George Thornton; National Wild Turkey Federation |

BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|------|------------------|
| 2/9 | Fred Kelsven |
| 2/15 | Owen Clary |
| 2/18 | Bob Stubbs |
| 2/19 | Douglas Gregorie |
| 2/21 | Fred Andrea |

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|-----|---------------------|
| 2/1 | Ernie Allen (1984) |
| 2/6 | Billy Benton (2006) |



HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

By Owen Clary

At times it becomes a struggle to find some historical notes about our Club which might interest members who perchance may actually read the historical happenings or findings exhibited in this column weekly. So to those who lightly peruse these lines, several little ditties from 30 years ago caught the fancy of this writer from "The Gear" of February 3, 1986: "It was a brumal morning. There had been a light dusting of snow during the night and Rotarians arrived in high spirits, laughing stomping the snow off their boots, slapping their hands and describing the drifts against the back fence. Hyperbole and good cheer were rampant." (Must have been one of those rare one-inch snows in Aiken)! "The sub-zero wind chill last week forced the Anderson-Cofer Debating Society and Discussion group to move its meeting into the lobby." (Any one have a clue as to what the editor was talking about)? "Dr.Holford, M.D. Orthopedic Surgeon, as today's program, will discuss Sports Medicine." (Did we need sports medicine after this Sunday's Super Bowl)? and "Manning Owen says you're over 40 if you remember when a status symbol in many homes was a little white china vessel with a crocheted silencer on top." (\$1 for the CART bucket to the first person who can identify what he was talking about)! (And you have to be over 40)!

JANUARY'S STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

by: Karen Guevara

Rotarian Rakesh Jasani re-introduced South Aiken Baptists' Morgan Jones, with her mother, Kim and her guidance counselor. Morgan plans to pursue a nursing degree at Anderson University. She said she appreciated seeing how businesses come together through Rotary, and was pleased to learn how Aiken is working to preserve its historic buildings.

Rotarian Jeremy O'Donnell re-introduced Avery Ofoje, from South Aiken, as well as her mother, Ann. Avery plans to attend Clemson in pre-med. She noted how she witnessed people from different backgrounds coming together at Rotary; the future looks good, she said. She asked that Rotarians consider engaging youth in round table discussions.

Rotarian Ahmed Samaha re-introduced Reid DeMass from Aiken High, along with his father, Jim. Reid plans to pursue medical studies. He noted that hearing Rotarians recite the 4-Way test each week prompted him to consider keeping these as his own focus as he lives his life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Valentine's Remembrance

Want to treat your sweetheart a special outdoor activity this weekend? Rotarian Rick McLeod will host a romantic highway litter pickup this Saturday, the 13th at 9am, in front of the new County Government Center. (Red Badge Rotarians – this is an excellent opportunity for you to fulfill one of the commitments to get your permanent blue badge while really impressing your loved one!)

Polio Update: No new Polio Cases anywhere since December 22nd!

Several Rotarians attended the District 7750 Mid-Year Assembly and heard an update on efforts to eradicate polio. Since 1985, Rotary has provided \$1.5 billion to vaccinate 2.5 billion children. In 1979, the US eradicated polio. India has just passed its 5-year milestone polio-free. In 2014, there were **359** cases in 9 countries. In 2015, there were **72** cases in only two countries (Pakistan and Afghanistan). Rotarians have made a difference, negotiating ceasefires to enable vaccination in remote, war-torn areas. It now seems realistic to expect that the **world will be Polio Free by 2018!**

Save the Dates

On February 20, the Rotary Club of Aiken will host a club social at the USCA Basketball Game.

A block of tickets have been reserved for the Aiken Rotary Club to attend the Heart Fund Show on February 27. Tickets are \$25.