

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

May 20, 2025



Wednesday, May 21

## Coffee Chat

Join us Wednesday, May 21 at Grassroots anytime between 7:30 a.m. and 8:15 a.m. for a cup of coffee and a casual conversation with fellow Rotarians! Stay long enough to eat breakfast or grab your coffee to-go. No agenda, no requirements.



May is Youth Service Month

Thursday, May 22

## Marrias' Trip to India

This week at our regular meeting, André and Walter Marria will share details of their trip to India earlier this year to administer polio vaccines. The trip to India fulfilled a life-long dream for the couple and gave them an opportunity to support Rotary's mission to eradicate polio.



Thursday, May 22

## Celebration for Vashti Graduates

Six of Vashti's residential students are graduating from high school this week. According to Rotarian David Sofferin, executive director of Vashti, having six graduates from a program for 20 students is outstanding and comparable to larger residential homes in the state. Vashti will host a graduation celebration for these students on Thursday, May 22 at 4 p.m. in the dining hall. Rotary will present each student with a gift and a card. The cards will be available for you to sign at Thursday's meeting. Please attend if you can. We may be the only "family" some of the students have at the event.



LAST CHANCE

## Peanut Butter & Jelly Donation Drive

**Thomas County Cares** - a local organization that supports the homeless community and those in food-insecure households - is hosting a peanut butter and jelly drive. **Thursday is your last chance to bring plastic jars of PB&J to Rotary.**

Peanut butter and jelly have long been a staple for food pantries as PB&J ... [\[more\]](#)  
Rotary Youth Exchange

## Support Ivan's Study Abroad Year

**Ivan Santoyo** is still fundraising for his upcoming study abroad program through Rotary Youth Exchange. We are very excited for Ivan, our first-ever Rotary Youth Exchange participant, and our club has committed to help Ivan pay his out-of-pocket expenses ... [\[more\]](#)

Upcoming Events

## Mark Your Calendar

Here is a look at the calendar for the remainder of this month.

- **TOMORROW - Wednesday, May 21:** Coffee Chat at Grassroots Coffee. No agenda, just drop in to get to know your fellow Rotarians a little better. Anytime between 7:30 a.m. and 8:15 a.m.
- **Thursday, May 22:** André and Walter Marria will share details of their trip to India earlier this year to administer polio vaccines.
- **Thursday, May 29:** Several new members will give their introductory talks; we'll have a foundation update, and a fifth Thursday tradition and history brief update.  
The calendar is subject to changes. Find the most updated Rotary calendar anytime:
  - [Add any individual calendar item from the Rotary calendar to your personal calendar.](#)
  - [Subscribe to the Rotary calendar for automatic updates.](#)

Thursdays, 12:15 pm  
Vashti Center  
1815 East Clay Street  
Thomasville, GA 31792

May 20, 2025

## Meetings

May is Youth Service Month

- 5/22 Marrias in India—Administered Polio Vaccine
- 5/29 Members' Talk / Foundation Update
- 6/5 Rotary Cub of Thomasville Annual Award Honorees
- 6/12 Avoiding Heatstroke by Copper Comita & GRSP Awards by Debbie Goodman

## Events

- 5/21 Coffee Chat
- 6/5 Wine or Whine
- 6/9 Board Meeting @ Gentian Creek—the House
- 6/12 Blood Drive

### ROTARY CLUB OF THOMASVILLE

Thursdays, 12:15 pm  
Vashti Center  
1815 East Clay Street  
Thomasville, GA 31792

#### LEADERSHIP

President	Marta Jones-Turner
President-Elect	Nathaniel Tyler
Immediate PP	Mary Beth Donalson
Vice President	Nathaniel Tyler
Treasurer	Warren Ballard
Secretary	Anna Lee
Public Image	David Sofferin

#### Directors

Membership	Angela Williamson
Service Projects	Barbara Williams-Anderson
Foundation	Carol Jones

### Wednesday, May 21 Coffee Chat

Join us Wednesday, May 21 at Grassroots anytime between 7:30 a.m. and 8:15 a.m. for a cup of coffee and a casual conversation with fellow Rotarians! Stay long enough to eat breakfast or grab your coffee to-go. No agenda, no requirements.



### Thursday, May 22 Marrias' Trip to India

This week at our regular meeting, **André and Walter Marria** will share details of their trip to India earlier this year to administer polio vaccines. The trip to India fulfilled a life-long dream for the couple and gave them an opportunity to support Rotary's mission to eradicate polio.

Club Director Scott Rich  
Youth Service Chandler Giddes  
Admin Devona Thompson

## Rotary Online

<https://thomasvillerotary.org>  
<https://rotary6900.org/>  
<https://rotary.org/>

## YEARS OF SERVICE

5/1 Eugene McNease (47)  
5/1 Laura Pike (0)  
5/4 Bob Drummond (8)  
5/9 Rich Massa, Jr. (1)  
6 years in Rotary  
5/16 Lauren Radford (6)  
10 years in Rotary  
5/23 Melanie Cromartie (1)



Thursday, May 22

## Celebration for Vashti Graduates

Six of Vashti's residential students are graduating from high school this week. According to Rotarian David Sofferin, executive director of Vashti, having six graduates from a program for 20 students is outstanding and comparable to larger residential homes in the state.

Vashti will host a graduation celebration for these students on Thursday, May 22 at 4 p.m. in the dining hall. Rotary will present each student with a gift and a card. The cards will be available for you to sign at Thursday's meeting. Please attend if you can. We may be the only "family" some of the students have at the event.



LAST CHANCE

## Peanut Butter & Jelly Donation Drive

**Thomas County Cares** - a local organization that supports the homeless community and those in food-insecure households - is hosting a peanut butter and jelly drive. **Thursday is your last chance to bring *plastic jars of PB&J* to Rotary.**

Peanut butter and jelly have long been a staple for food pantries as PB& ... [\[more\]](#)

---

### Rotary Youth Exchange

## Support Ivan's Study Abroad Year

**Ivan Santoyo** is still fundraising for his upcoming study abroad program through Rotary Youth Exchange. We are very excited for Ivan, our first-ever Rotary Youth Exchange participant, and our club has committed to help Ivan pay his out-of-pocket expenses ... [\[more\]](#)

---

### Upcoming Events

## Mark Your Calendar

Here is a look at the calendar for the remainder of this month.

- **TOMORROW - Wednesday, May 21:** Coffee Chat at Grassroots Coffee. No agenda, just drop in to get to know your fellow Rotarians a little better. Anytime between 7:30 a.m. and 8:15 a.m.
- **Thursday, May 22:** André and Walter Marria will share details of their trip to India earlier this year to administer polio vaccines.
- **Thursday, May 29:** Several new members will give their introductory talks; we'll have a foundation update, and a fifth Thursday tradition and history brief update.

The calendar is subject to changes. Find the most updated Rotary calendar anytime:

- [Add any individual calendar item from the Rotary calendar to your personal calendar.](#)
- [Subscribe to the Rotary calendar for automatic updates.](#)