Roswell Rotary Club

Rotascope

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

President's Message



The Courage to Create Something New

Ever wondered how the really great ideas in life start or who decided to come up with that crazy, yet incredible idea? Sometimes the most powerful ideas are born the moment we stop asking, “What is everyone else doing?” and start asking, “What is possible?” Innovation rarely comes from standing in the familiar; it comes from the courage to step beyond it. I am reminded of the words of Past District Governor **Gordon Owens** when he addressed Roswell Rotary Club at the Chattahoochee Nature Center and challenged us to not just do things that we have always done but t*o get out of the box and be bold-to shake things up and try new things*. Whether in business, service, or community leadership, the spark of transformation begins when someone dares to think differently—when someone challenges the status quo, imagines a new path, and takes that first bold step into the unknown." As **Steve Jobs** once said, *“The ones who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do.”* And history has shown us, time and time again, that remarkable things happen when ordinary people and Roswell Rotarians choose to create something new.

Jesse Cole

Years ago, a young man, who loved baseball with all his heart, walked into a failing ballpark in Savannah. The stands were empty. The finances were hopeless. The future was bleak. Most people would have walked away. But he didn’t. He stood there and imagined something wildly different. What if attending a baseball could be different? What if a fans experience felt different? What if we threw out the rulebook and started fresh? He had no real business plan, no financing, no

MEETINGS

November is Rotary Foundation Month

11/20	Lt. Governor Burt Jones
11/27	No Meeting at Roswell Rotary - Thanksgiving
12/4	Farrell Middleton - The Bell Curve of Life
12/11	Chancellor Sonny Perdue
12/18	Tony Barnhart - College Football Update
12/25	No Meeting at Roswell Rotary - Christmas
1/1	No Meeting at Roswell Rotary - NYD
1/8	Secretary of State Brad Raffensberger

EVENTS

11/21	Tapping of the Keg- ChristKindle Market
12/3	Women in Rotary Holiday Social
12/8	RUMC JOB FAIR
12/13	Roswell Rotary Holiday Party
2/11	"Pint for a Pint" blood drive for the American Red Cross
2/19	Leadership 20/20
3/2	Read Across America Day
3/4	Women of Rotary Spring Social

LEADERSHIP

President	Trummie Patrick, III
President-Elect	Leslie Bassett
Immediate PP	Nancy Alterman
Treasurer	Mike Agurkis
Secretary	Katie Anderson
Membership	Courtney Lott

experience running a business.

That dreamer was Jesse Cole, the man who transformed a bankrupt minor-league team into the global sensation known today as the “Savannah Bananas.” What looked like an ending, he turned into a beginning. Today, the Bananas have more than 10.5 million followers on social media, which ironically, is greater than any MLB team. They are valued at $500 million and have continued to sell out stadium after stadium and have changed the way fans think of baseball.

Eunice Shriver

To give you another story – but this one starts far from a stadium—this one started in a backyard. A woman invited children with intellectual disabilities to play, to compete, and most importantly, to belong. She saw what the world refused to see: ability, potential, dignity. What began as a neighborhood summer camp grew into a worldwide movement. That woman was Eunice Kennedy Shriver, founder of the Special Olympics, and her courage reshaped millions of lives. She proved that when one person dares to ask, “What if we create something better?” the world shifts.

These stories share a common spark: the courage to create something new where no path existed.

Chris Cathers

And that brings me to someone whose courage humbles us all. He is fighting a terminal illness—a battle most of us cannot fathom. Yet each day, he rises with one mission: to save the lives of veterans who are struggling in silence. He founded the **Brother’s Keeper Veterans Foundation** because he believes no veteran should ever feel alone, forgotten, or without hope. You heard him briefly speak last week, as our “Roswell Rotary Hero of the Month.” His name is Chris Cathers, and though his body is failing, his spirit is unbreakable. He still calls, still listens, still shows up. Even now—especially now—he serves with a sprit that defines Service Above Self.

And then, something extraordinary happened in our own club……

One Roswell Rotarian, deeply moved by Chris’s mission, stepped forward with an offer few would make in private—let alone publicly: $10,000 of his own money. But there was a challenge attached.

“Match it,” he said. “Let’s do something worthy of these veterans.” And with that, the “Courage to Create Something New” at Roswell Rotary was potentially born….

If that wasn’t enough, after the meeting, Chris shared with me that, another donor, in his organization has also stepped forward and would match what Roswell Rotary could raise. Anonymous. No fanfare. No spotlight. “I’ll match whatever you raise,” they said. In an instant, one Rotarian’s courage multiplied. $10,000 could potentially become $20,000. Then $20,000 became $40,000. And $40,000 will soon become something far more powerful—a veterans project yet to be named, but certain to change lives. Nothing is certain and these plans are just a dream at this point. But don’t miss the point….there is something happening because a group of people dared to think outside the norm, outside the box and find different ways to help! I couldn’t be more proud of this kind of potential brewing in our club!

And this is where all these stories meet—in a place far deeper than a ballpark, a backyard, or even a Rotary Club meeting. They meet at the intersection of imagination and compassion, where ordinary people refuse to let the world

ROTARY CLUB OF ROSWELL

Thursdays, 12:15 pm
Roswell Area Park
Bill Johnson Community Activity Building
10495 Woodstock Road
Roswell, GA 30075

ROTARY ONLINE

https://roswellrotary.club
https://rotary6900.org/
https://rotary.org/

BIRTHDAYS

11/18	Alvin Nash
11/22	Kevin Jordan
11/24	James Savage
11/24	Neil Anderson
11/29	Jim Coyle
12/1	John Michael Brunetti
12/8	Nathan Porter
12/8	Deborah Perkins
12/10	Raymond Peabody
12/15	Tod Baker

YEARS OF SERVICE

11/30	David White (8)
12/1	Gary Garrett (48)
12/3	James Byrd (6)
12/6	Courtney Lott (4)
12/6	Nathan Porter (4)
12/7	Andrew Dalby (25)
12/7	Craig Simons (25)
12/8	Danny Broadway (14)
12/8	Matthew Thomas (14)
12/11	Michele Johnson (18)
12/12	SaraBeth Huntley (12) 16 years in Rotary
12/12	William Swank (12)
12/13	John Greaves (13)
12/13	Jeff Hamling (40)

remain as it is. The courage of Jesse Cole turned empty seats into a worldwide phenomenon. The courage of Eunice Kennedy Shriver turned exclusion into celebration. The courage of Chris Cathers is turning his remaining days into a legacy of hope for those who once fought for us. And the courage of one Rotarian in our club will hopefully create a wave of generosity that will change lives we have not yet met. (Reach out to me if this personally touches you and lets be a part of something awesome together!)

So as we step into the weeks ahead, I hope we remember this:

Greatness rarely announces itself at the door. It whispers. It nudges. It taps us on the shoulder with an idea, a need, a moment that feels small—but isn't. We are surrounded by opportunities to create something new, to think differently, to stand up in ways that only we can. And when we do, when even one of us takes that brave first step, the ripple is felt far beyond what we can imagine. Let us be the kind of people who chase those whispers.

Let us be the kind of people that build something new. Let us have hearts that bring hope to those in need. Let us be the light someone in the dark. As we do, may we hold close the words of **Eleanor Roosevelt:** *"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."*

And as we move forward, may we remember this: the world doesn't change because we wait, hesitate, or hope someone else will act. It changes when we decide to. When we choose to step into the moment right in front of us—imperfect, uncertain, but full of possibility—and create something that didn't exist before. Not someday. Not when everything is lined up perfectly. But today. Today is our chance to build something beautiful, something meaningful, and something new.

Sic Vos Non Vobis,

Trummie Lee Patrick III
President Roswell Rotary Club 2025-26

Rotary Welcomes Lt. Governor Burt Jones – Thursday, November 20

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT



We are pleased to welcome Georgia's Lieutenant Governor Burt Jones as our featured speaker at the Roswell Rotary Club meeting on Thursday, November 20. A sixth-generation native of Jackson, Georgia, Burt Jones brings a unique blend of entrepreneurial drive, public service experience, and commitment to Georgia. Burt currently serves as Georgia's 13th Lieutenant Governor, where he has prioritized tax reform to support working families, expanded school choice to empower parents, and advanced public safety initiatives to combat the fentanyl crisis across the state.

As a business leader, Burt plays a key role in his family's company, Jones Petroleum, a diverse enterprise employing nearly 2,000 Georgians. He also founded JP Capital & Insurance, a retail insurance brokerage and risk-management firm. His firsthand experience in building businesses from the ground up shapes his approach to economic policy and job creation.

During his decade in the Georgia State Senate representing the 25th District, Burt championed economic development efforts that helped attract new industries to Middle Georgia. He was also a vocal advocate for election reform and supported the passage of Georgia's Election Integrity Act (S.B. 202), earning recognition from national leaders including President Donald J. Trump, who later appointed him to the Foreign and Domestic Trade Council.

Before entering public life, Burt was a student-athlete at the University of Georgia, where he served as permanent team captain of the 2002 SEC Championship football team. He was later honored as a UGA Distinguished Alumnus and named to the university's "40 Under 40" list in 2014.

Burt and his wife, Jan, reside in Butts County with their children, Stella and Banks, and are active members of Rock Springs Church in Milner. Join us for an engaging and informative presentation from one of Georgia's leaders. To learn more, click HERE.

Date: Thursday, November 20
Time: 12:15
Location: Roswell Area Park
Bill Johnson Community Activity Building

10495 Woodstock Road
Roswell, GA 30075

New Member Spotlight

David “Asch” Aschenbach



David “Asch” Aschenbach has joined Roswell Rotary Club as a son and grandson of Ohio Rotarians who left a legacy of service. Earning a degree in Business and Finance from Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio, Asch went on to work for IBM as a Sales Leader. Retiring in May, 2025 after 38 years, Asch stepped into a new role as Advancement Officer for the Kidz2leaders organization where he had previously volunteered for 12 years.

Married for 33 years to Amy, a coach for Starhouse third graders, they moved from Cincinnati to East Cobb in 2006, then to Roswell in 2018. Enduring the loss of their son Ryan in 2012, they have 2 daughters, Summer and April, a son, Zach, and 3 granddaughters, Zoey, Liz and Mya. As an avid tennis player and golfer, Asch should feel right at home assisting in the RRC annual Golf, Tennis and Pickleball Tournament next September!

Fun fact: *As foster parents, Asch and Amy (and their boys) adopted 2 sisters, aged 10 and 11…people thought they were crazy (yes, crazy about these 2 girls!)*

Nov. 21 5:30pm

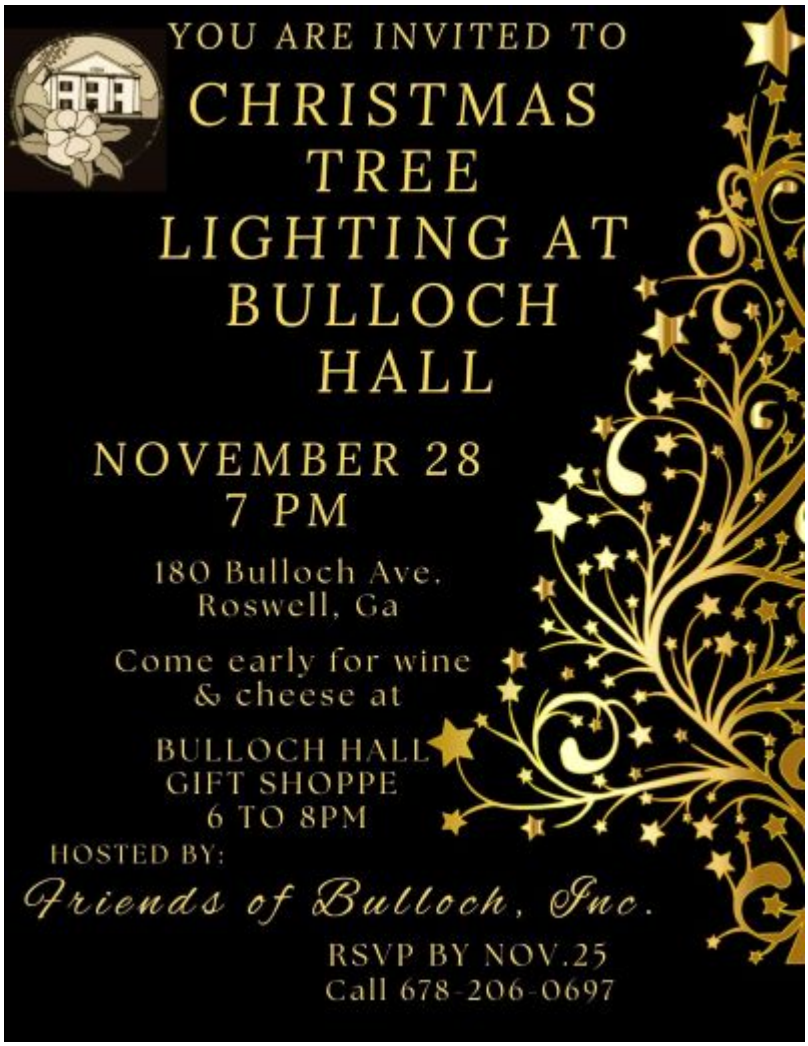
Ribbon Cutting-Christkindle Market



Come support President Trummie Lee as he taps the keg and cuts the ribbon!

Nov. 28 7pm

Christmas Tree Lighting



Coats and Trees for Roswell Police Dept Fundraiser



Bid on trees in person through Nov. 26 or **online**

Food Assistance

Partnering with School Social Workers Roswell Public Schools



Jim Coyle with Trummie Lee Patrick, Becky Nelson, Dave Schmit & Michael Curling are working to help families in need through the social workers at the Roswell public schools. Family incomes are being interrupted for several reasons, and the social workers are seeing record number of students coming to school to eat breakfast and lunch plus asking for any help for food at home.

If you are led to help with this initiative, please reach out to one of the committee members as soon as possible.

Becky Nelson **bnelson@cchl.com**

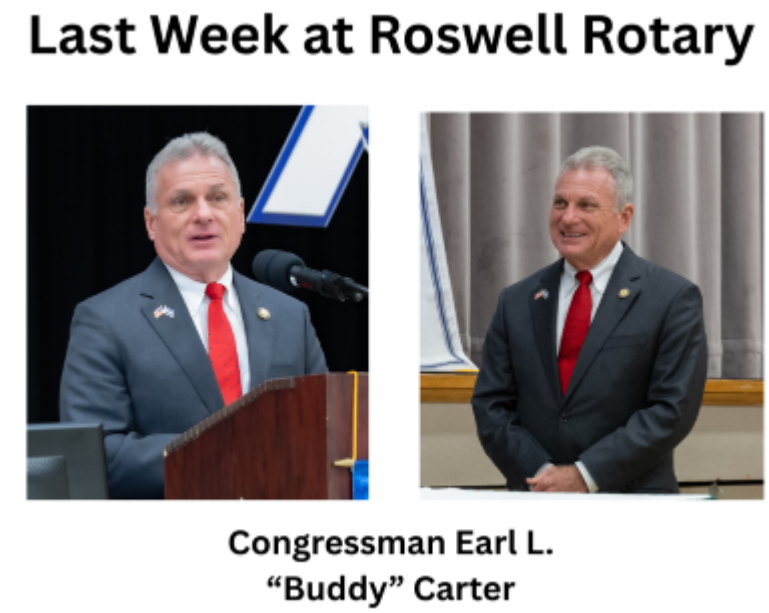
Dave Schmit **daveschmit1@gmail.com**

Michael Curling **michael.curling@gmail.com**

Jim Coyle **jim@coylega.com**

Trummie Lee Patrick **trumie@trumie.com**

Last Week at Roswell Rotary







Rotary Spotlight

Karen Schwank

Ordering New Rotary Shirts





Foundation Moment

Water in Panama

Lee Hollingsworth



Roswell Rotary on Tap-Happy Hour HUGE Success






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