

# THE ROTARY CLUB OF MARIETTA *ROTALIGHT*

*Putting "Service Above Self" in Marietta Since 1919*  
*November 14, 2018 • Volume 82, Number 17*

## Rotary Veterans Honored



**Rotary**  
Club of Marietta



*The Rotary Club of Marietta*  
**Welcomes**  
*Today's Speaker:*  
**Milton Overton**  
*Kennesaw State University*



## TODAY'S SPEAKER: Milton Overton



Milton Overton was named Director of Athletics on October 31, 2017, and officially took over the reins at Kennesaw State University on Dec. 13.

A 25-year veteran of college athletics administration, Overton spent the last two years as director of athletics at Florida A&M University. He is the fourth individual to hold the position at Kennesaw State.

Following a six-year stint as senior associate athletics director at the University of Alabama, and six years prior as associate athletics director at Texas A&M University, Overton was hired to lead Florida A&M Athletics in June 2015.

In the midst of his arrival at KSU, the Owls were putting together the most successful season in program history in 2017-18, capturing seven regular season championships and winning two more tournament titles. In all, Kennesaw State sent eight teams to NCAA postseason play, culminating with football advancing to the quarterfinals of the FCS Playoffs in just its third season of competition.

Kennesaw State added one more trophy to its case at the end of the year, winning the 2017-18 ASUN Bill Bibb Trophy as all-sport champions of the league. The Owls overtook three-time defending champion FGCU, registering 240 total points out of a possible 339 for 70.8 percent.

Overton guided a remarkable transformation at FAMU. By instilling a sense of accountability and fiscal responsibility, the Rattlers made monumental strides in the areas of fundraising and fan development. For the first time in more than decade, the athletics department boasted a balanced budget in 2016-17, while achieving three consecutive years of record-breaking fundraising and ticket-sales growth.

Florida A&M's revenue increased by \$2 million under Overton's watch and fan participation has soared with the football team finishing among the top five in FCS attendance in 2015 and top three in 2016. One of his benchmark initiatives was the establishment of FAMU's giving program, "Investing in Champions," that was a key component of the increased revenue.

Thanks in part to Overton's emphasis on academics and NCAA compliance, FAMU boasted higher team grade point averages and increased APR scores across every sport. Under his watch, each Rattler team remained eligible for NCAA postseason competition for the first time in several years.

At Alabama from 2009 to 2015, Overton provided oversight for \$25 million in budgets and equipment, while producing \$6 million in new revenue-generation and cost-saving initiatives. He oversaw seven units, including the No. 1 trademark licensing program for intercollegiate athletics – Crimson Tide Productions – marketing and branding, outbound ticket sales, photography, coaches film video group, athletics information and event technology, track and field, and cross country.

As a member of Texas A&M's senior staff, he raised \$250,000 for men's tennis facility upgrades and led the technology renovations and construction for several other facilities, including Kyle Field. He also provided oversight of seven TAMU sports programs.

Overton is a 2009 graduate of the National Collegiate Athletic Association's (NCAA) Pathway Program – formerly known as the NCAA's Fellows Leadership Development Program. The Pathway Program provides senior-level athletics administrators with a rigorous curriculum and mentorship for preparation on becoming a director of athletics. As a 2007-2008 NCAA Fellow, Overton participated in a yearlong, intensive learning opportunity for 12 selected senior leaders representing NCAA Divisions I, II, and III.

A four-year starter as an offensive lineman at the University of Oklahoma, Overton earned a bachelor's degree in sociology in 1995. He went on to earn two master's degrees from OU in 1998, one in higher education and administration and the other in human relations. Overton worked in academic services and as the CHAMPS/LifeSkills Coordinator for OU before joining the athletics department at Texas Christian University in 1999. Overton was director of academic support at TCU, where he also served as an adjunct professor.

Overton was the founder and CEO of Enki System Inc., from 2000-2011, which provided software solutions for athletic and academic support programs across the country, generating over \$1 million in gross sales.

A native of Fort Worth, Texas, Overton has two sons, Micaiah and Lebbeus.



# WHEN WE LAST MET

## Minutes from the November 7 Meeting

President-Elect **Chris Bethel** opened today's meeting of the RC of Marietta by inviting all to stand with applause for this day's special guest, Court Dowis, Governor of Rotary District 6900. Rev. Dr. **Mark Barbour**, Assistant District Governor, said grace.



**CHRIS BETHEL**

Our Club's Co-Secretary, Dr. **Marla Blackstone**, introduced guests and visitors. Among our guests were Ms. Clarissa Costa, the organizing President of a proposed Rotary club in our area presently awaiting its charter — the Atlanta Brazil Rotary Club. Another member of this new club, Josiane Carolino, came with Clarissa to meet and hear our District Governor. The RC's of Marietta and Marietta-Metro sponsor the Atlanta Brazil RC.

**Mary Ansley Southerland** reminded everyone to attend the "Because of the Brave" celebration on Saturday, November 10th at the Marietta Country Club. This event thanks Cobb veterans for their service in military conflicts from WW II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War and on to the present day. Today's "Sunshine" continued the theme of appreciating veterans in several ways. President-Elect Bethel recounted a brief history of Armistice Day known now as Veterans Day and then asked all veterans in the room to stand. Sixteen stood to rousing applause. Rotary veteran **Jim Peeler**, wearing a red poppy in his coat lapel, came to the podium to recite "In Flanders Fields," a poem from WW I written by Canadian physician Lt. Col. John McCrae after leading the funeral for a fallen comrade near the town of Ypres in Belgium. Past President and Superior Court Judge **Reuben Green**, a former Marine, introduced 20-year veteran Richard Honeycutt. Richard served in the Navy as an electronics technician and meteorologist. Richard's inspiring account of his life in the military, and how important for him was the feeling of military camaraderie, brought everyone to their feet in grateful tribute and appreciation.

Assistant DG Mark introduced today's speaker DG Court Dowis as his friend, a pilot, a race car driver and the president of Pine Mountain Club Chalets near Calloway Gardens. Following even more applause, Court called attention to this year's theme of Rotary International, "Be the Inspiration" espoused by RI President Barry Rassin, a member of the RC of East Nassau in the Bahamas. Court encouraged Rotarians



**DISTRICT GOVERNOR COURT DOWIS**

to grab and wear one of the "Be the Inspiration" pins placed on the dining tables. As he described his visits to every one of the 69 Rotary clubs in District 6900, DG Court stated amazement over one of our District's smallest and most enthusiastic clubs—the RC of Emory-Druid Hills. Although the club only has ten members, it's doing two global projects this year—one valued at \$200,000 and the other at \$290,000. During this declaration, Court wore a red chichia that the RC of Emory-Druid Hills gave him. DG Dowis is inviting every club in District 6900 to grow in membership by holding a social once a month, by inviting potential members to help in a club service project and by asking potential members to come to Rotary meetings. Court then described typical characteristics of people in the 20-35, 45-60 and older age ranges that could make them want to join Rotary. Court next turned his focus on the Rotary Foundation's annual fund, endowment fund and fight to eradicate polio. Last year, there were 57 cases of polio world-wide. This year there are only 22. Fifty percent of gifts to the Rotary Foundation return to a donor club in two years. A major forte of Rotary is its world-wide infrastructure. DG Dowis concluded his remarks by plugging the District 6900 Conference in Sandestin next April 25-28. PE Chris thanked Governor Dowis and promised a donation from the RC of Marietta in his honor.

Today's opportunity drawing conducted by new members **Neera Bahl** and **Jess Loper** brought no success to lucky ticket holders, **Jim Trapnell** and AG Mark. Our meeting closed with everyone reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Rotary's Four Way Test led by **Mark Adams**.

~ Scribe: Dale Covington



DANIEL HYDRICK, RICHARD HONEYCUTT AND REUBEN GREEN



AG MARK BARBOUR, DG COURT DOWIS, CLARRISA COSTA, PRESIDENT OF THE ATLANTA BRAZIL RC, AND MEMBER JOSIANE CAROLINA



AG MARK BARBOUR, PP JOE DESANTIS, DG COURT DOWIS, PRESIDENT ELECT CHRIS BETHEL AND GUY GEBHARDT DISTRICT GRSP TRUSTEE



## In Flanders Fields

By John McCrae

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,  
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.*

## We Shall Keep the Faith

By Monia Michael

*And now the torch and poppy red we  
wear in honor of our dead. Fear not that  
you have died for naught we'll teach the  
lesson that you wrought in Flanders Fields*

## Annual Salvation Army Red Kettle Kick-Off



*The 4th Annual Salvation Army Cobb/Douglas Counties Red Kettle Kick-Off will be held this*

***Saturday, November 17, 2018***

*on the main stage in the Marietta Square. The event commences at 11:00 AM and is free. This year's Emcee is Shiba Russell, 11Alive Morning Rush Anchor. Come join us "Kick-Off" the official start to the Christmas season!*

*Enjoy appearances by The Strand Carolers of The Strand Theatre, The Big Chicken Chorus, the Lithia Springs High School Marine Corps ROTC and more. The Salvation Army's Captain Kettle will be there to pose for pictures with the young and the young-at-heart.*

***We hope you see you there!***





**NEWEST MEMBERS AT THE BADGE BOX**  
**(L-R) KIT CUMMINGS, JESS LOPER, NEERA BAHL, AND CHUCK CORE**

Christmas Songs & Stories with

# John Berry

Friday Nov 16th  
 Marietta Performing Arts Center

22nd Annual Christmas Tour

7:30 Show Time  
 Benefitting

**Career Pathways**  
 Marietta City Schools

Purchase Tickets at  
[mpac.marietta-city.org](http://mpac.marietta-city.org)

Thank You To Our Sponsors

Hoboken Cafe Tusculum Rd 404 Whitlock Ave 478-999-1371	NEW SALEM	Italy
MAIETTA	Pat's Pizzeria	Moby
MARIETTA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION Lynn Johnson, President	DAVE DOE'S FRESH	MDJ

## ROTARY SOCIAL BEFORE THE SHOW

Rotary social at 3 Amigos  
 (1000 Whitlock Avenue  
 – west end of the Kroger  
 shopping center) on **Friday,**  
**November 16** before the  
 John Berry show.

5:30 – 7:00

Even if you aren't attending  
 the show, come spend some  
 time in fellowship with  
 fellow Rotarians.  
 Families welcome.



# Rotary Lunch at MUST Ministries

by Dale W. Covington



A new casserole brimming with nutrition and sensational taste was judged an instant main entrée success by the eight Rotary cooks and 85 diners for lunch at MUST Ministries just two weeks before Thanksgiving.

Rotary's Master Chef **Harold Hobbs** and his right hand Assistant Chef Adam Hobbs created a fabulous Chicken Spaghetti Alfredo Casserole by judiciously combining two traditional chicken casserole hits. Cooks **Jim Trapnell**, **Marlys Williams**, **Dr. Lewis Lipsius** and **Dale Covington** made the assembly and cooking of six large trays of casserole go smoothly. The first order of business was boiling the spaghetti that would be added to the cooking trays already filled with chunks of chicken breast, cream of mushroom soup, cayenne pepper, black pepper, sea salt and rich Alfredo sauce. The casseroles baked at 350-degrees for approximately 35-minutes. Five-minutes before the casseroles were timed to come out of MUST's

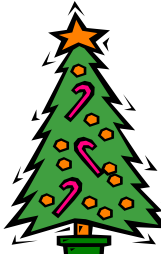
with slices of assorted cakes and pies for dessert completed this delicious meal.

Jim, **Dr. John Knox** and **Doug Haynie** manned the serving line with hearty smiles and zestful words of welcome, thanks to the ready assistance of cooks shuttling-in more food. In less than 40-minutes, every morsel of Rotary's lunch was devoured except for a few slices of bread. Three last-minute MUST diners were handed sack lunches kindly prepared ahead of time by members of local churches.



Baker's Pride oven, they were retrieved for thoroughly mixing the contents, adding a thick topping of crumbles of mozzarella cheese and returning to the oven. Mandarin oranges, two trays of tasty garden salad and slices of assorted gourmet breads along





# Rotary Club of Marietta 12<sup>th</sup> Annual 'Holidays Around the World' Children's Party

Franklin Rd. Marietta Police Athletic League: 200-250 Kids

**DATE: Friday, December 14, 2018 from 6-8pm**

**TENTATIVE LOCATION:**

Located in the YELLS Community Action Café, 779 Franklin Rd.(Gateway), Marietta, GA.

## *Dear Fellow Rotarians:*

Every year we ask each member of our club to participate in some way for our annual Children's Christmas Party. This year, similar to last year, we will be working with the Franklin Road Community Association, the Marietta City Police Department Police Athletic League (PAL) & a variety of other local organizations & businesses. We will be purchasing at least 2-3 \$10 children's gifts for over 200 underprivileged children of all ages. We are providing toys/gifts, pizza & drinks, toiletry bags, a craft table. *Below are all the many ways you and your family can help, as many hearts & hands are needed to accomplish this community event.*

*1. The easiest thing for you to do and most needed is to please consider donating a check for up to \$75.* Your check must be collected on or before the December 5<sup>th</sup> Rotary Meeting. We will collect these at meetings each week starting at the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- Please make your check out to: **MRFF** or bring cash, we CAN NOT add it to your quarterly bill. - Please indicate in the memo: **Christmas Party**

*2. Attend the Rotary Family Shopping Day & consider being an elf - help with the shopping event on* Sunday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm at Walmart on Cobb Parkway. Bring kids and grandkids to help us shop as they love to do this with you.

*3. Help assemble Toiletry Gift Bags.* Meet at the above party location on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 from 5:30pm-7:30pm to help assemble the toiletry gift bags.

*4. Or help December 10, 11, or 12 from 10am-12noon* sorting toys & setting up for the event at the above location on Franklin Rd. (see Holly for more details)

*5. Most IMPORTANTLY.....Please attend the event on December 14* & help with the Rotary craft or refreshment tables, handing out gifts/toiletry bags/pizza or be a Santa's helper. *We'll find the perfect thing for you to do.*

Questions contact: Holly Walquist 770-424-4664 ([holly@hollyenterprises.com](mailto:holly@hollyenterprises.com)) or via cell 404-518-4664.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, November 16, 2018	12 – 3 PM	Crutches 4 Africa Workday
Saturday, November 17, 2018	11:00 AM	Salvation Army Red Kettle Kickoff
Wednesday, November 21, 2018		No Meeting - Happy Thanksgiving
Wednesday, November 28, 2018	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – TBA
Wednesday, December 5, 2018	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – J. K. Murphy Vice President of the MDJ
Wednesday, December 12, 2018	12:15 PM	Chief Justice Harold Melton, Supreme Court GA
Thursday, December 13, 2018	10:30 AM	MUST Ministries Cook and Serve
Friday, December 14, 2018	6:00 PM	Annual Holidays Around The World Project
Wednesday, December 19, 2018	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – TBA
Wednesday, December 26, 2018		No Meeting - Happy Holidays
Wednesday, January 2, 2019		No Meeting - Happy New Year!

## MARIETTA ROTARY CLUB

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Marla Blackstone, *Co-Secretary*  
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Jeff Cooper, *Co-Secretary*  
Brad Leskoven, *Treasurer*  
Fred Beloin, *Presidential Advisor*

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Kelly Maxwell, *Membership*  
Thomas Sherrer, *Public Relations*  
Chuck Boring, *Foundation*

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