

THE ROTARY CLUB OF MARIETTA **ROTALIGHT**

Celebrating 100 Years of "Service Above Self"

February 5, 2020 • Volume 83, Number 25

Today's Program:

"Our Greatness from Within"
New Member Presentations



Chris Mitchell



Neera Bahl



Mark Wright

Rotary
Club of Marietta



**ROTARY
CONNECTS
THE WORLD**



What makes Rotary great?

What makes Rotary great? Is it because Rotary is the oldest international service organization in the world founded in Chicago, Illinois, USA, in 1905? Is it because Rotary is non-political, non-religious, and open to all? Is it because Rotary is successful in numbers with 35,000 plus clubs worldwide and more than 1.2 million individual members? Is it because of Rotary international's successful endeavors programs such as literacy programs? Is it The Rotary Peace center located at many Universities worldwide or the Rotary Youth exchange, which more than 38,000 men and women from 100 nations have studied on Rotary scholarships? And finally, is Rotary great because, since 1980, Rotary has donated over \$850 million to the eradication of Polio in the entire world?

All of the above is true, but what makes Rotary great is its members like the three Marietta Rotarians who will be recognized in our meeting today. Neera Bahl, Chris Mitchell, and Mark Wright have agreed to give some of their time and money to be a member of this great organization. All of us have talents, and together through Marietta Rotary we will make our world a better place.

~Abbott Hall



FRED BELOIN BRINGS A SPECIAL GUEST TO ROTARY

LAST CHANCE PICTURES THIS WEEK



At this week's meeting we will have a professional photographer here to take headshots of all members. Please come early. The pictures will be used in the directory, Rotalight, and online.

WHEN WE LAST MET

Minutes from the January 29 Meeting

President **Chris Bethel** opened our fourth lunch meeting of 2020. **Mark Barbour** delivered the invocation. **Marlys Williams** introduced visitors and guests.

There were numerous announcements. While not possible to list them all, what follows are some of the highlights. President Chris reminded us of the joint Kiwanis Valentine party for February 11. We will be joined by members from the Smyrna, North Cobb, and Marietta-Metro clubs. He also announced that District Conference will be April 30 - May 3rd at Jekyll Island. It will be held at the Westin, and he encouraged all to attend. Photographs are being taken for the website and directory. **Richard Cope** announced that Crutches 4 Africa will hold a packing day on February 4, 2020. He invited members to attend. Going forward every other Tuesday, volunteers will assemble at 3:00 p.m. to assemble literacy packets.



RICHARD COPE

Joyette Holmes was named the MDJ and Cobb Chamber Person of the Year! **Dan Kirk** was again published in the MDJ. Annie F. Downs, **Tom Downs'** daughter, is a national best-selling author and was featured on the cover of Atlanta Goodlife.

Abbott Hall handled numerous sunshine announcements, including, but certainly not limited to President Chris's daughter's accomplishments at a robotics competition and Dan Kirk's opportunity to attend a portion of the Senate trial of President Trump.

Jesse Evans introduced our speaker, Ross Cavitt. Ross spent over thirty years in local television news, most of which was with WSB in Atlanta. He previously covered the space program at the Kennedy Space Center when he was in Orlando. Ross has covered many hurricanes and also reported from Operation Desert Storm. The winner of several regional Emmy awards and the regional Edward R. Murrow award, Ross was heavily involved in courts and crime reporting as well. In 2017, he became Cobb County government's communications director.

Ross began his presentation with a fascinating video his crew shot of the actual tornado which touched down in Adairsville a few years ago, causing at least one death, several injuries, and considerable property damage, including damage to a major manufacturing facility employing hundreds of workers. As Ross arrived to cover the forecast storm, a funnel cloud touched down, and he and his crew spent time assisting in the recovery efforts.

As interesting as the tornado footage was, the primary topic of Ross's speech was the changes which have occurred to television news gathering over his career. When



GUEST SPEAKER: ROSS CAVITT

he started in 1985 in Huntsville, Alabama, a handful of reporters and editors would meet for breakfast at a restaurant and decide what stories would be covered that day. They, not the viewers, set the agenda. Then, reporters handled, on average, one story per day. Each story lasted one and one-half to two minutes. When Ross covered hurricanes, the crew consisted of seven individuals who were transported by a large tractor-trailer truck.

The opportunity drawing was administered by Abbott Hall and **Teresa Jones**, but there was no winner this time. Chief **Dan Flynn** led the pledge and the four-way test, and then the meeting was adjourned.

*~ Joe Atkins, Scribe
~ Dale Covington, Photos*



ABBOTT HALL & MARLYS WILLIAMS PRESENTED ROM FOR JANUARY



Legacy of Love and Learning

A Community Literacy Initiative

LITERACY BAG PACKING EVENT



L-R: Marlys Williams, Mary Wood, Mary Ansley Southerland, Julie O'Meara and Dale Covington

RC of Marietta President-Elect **Mary Ansley Southerland** organized a literacy bag packing event in her office on Whitlock Avenue at 3:00 p.m. today for the huge, infant literacy project this year embraced by WellStar Cobb Hospital and the RCs of Marietta, Smyrna and Atlanta-Brazil for every family with a newborn baby in Cobb County this year. Mary Wood, who works with Mary Ansley, joined Rotarians Mary Ansley, **Marlys Williams**, **Julie O'Meara** and **Dale Covington** to pack nearly 100 emblazoned literacy bags with the board book first 100 words, information sheets about WellStar, Rotary, parenting, good health advice, a library card and lists of recommended readings for young children. **Teresa Jones** has also been helping pack literacy bags.

~By Dale Covington

The Kiwanis Club of Marietta & The Rotary Club of Marietta

Cordially Invite You to a Special

Spreading More LOVE

Valentine Dinner

SUPPORTING THE CFR
PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 11TH
@ 7 PM

Join your Kiwanis + Rotary Friends
Tuesday, February 11th @ 7 pm

@ The Marietta Educational Garden Center
505 Kennesaw Avenue Marietta, Georgia 30060

- ♥ Lovely Dinner Buffet, Perfectly Paired Wines, + Exquisite Desserts from Kiwanis' Own Adriane's Delectables
- ♥ Love Will Be in the Air and You Can Dance the Night Away with LIVE MUSIC performed by Melanie Dobbins and The Jazz Jones Legacy
- ♥ Bring Your Valentine and/or Your Friends or Just Meet Us There
\$50 per person

RSVP by February 7th to mariettarotaryrsvp@gmail.com
OR online @ mariettarotary.org



Donations Will be Accepted for CFR's Peanut Butter Drive to Help our Local Families During the Upcoming School Break



UPCOMING EVENTS

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday, February 11, 2020 | 7:00 PM | Valentine Party with Marietta Kiwanis |
| Wednesday, February 12, 2020 | | NO MEETING (due to Valentine Party) |
| Thursday, February 13, 2020 | 10:30 AM | MUST Cook and Serve |
| Wednesday, February 19, 2020 | 12:15 PM | Luncheon Meeting - Mary Waters, Deputy Commissioner, International Trade State of Georgia |
| Wednesday, February 26, 2020 | 12:15 PM | Luncheon Meeting - Dr. Pamela Whitten, President of Kennesaw State University |
| Wednesday, March 4, 2020 | 12:15 PM | Luncheon Meeting - Major General Thomas Carden, Jr. |
| Wednesday, March 11, 2020 | 12:15 PM | Luncheon Meeting - Oversight Meeting TBA |
| Thursday, March 12, 2020 | 10:30 AM | MUST Cook and Serve |

MARIETTA ROTARY CLUB

CLUB OFFICERS 2019-20 Christopher Bethel, *President*

Mary Ansley Southerland, *President Elect*
Marla Blackstone, *Co-Secretary*
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Jeff Cooper, *Co-Secretary*
Terry DeWitt, *Interim Treasurer*
Reuben Green, *Presidential Advisor*

DIRECTORS

Joseph Atkins, *Administration*
Tyler Stephens, *Service*
Kelly Maxwell, *Membership*
Thomas Sherrer, *Public Relations*
Daniel White, *Foundation*

Meeting makeups may be emailed to:

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www.mariettarotary.org



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We welcome and encourage all contributions.

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