

# Greenville Rotarian

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## JOIN US AT THE WESTIN POINSETT HOTEL TUESDAY, JULY 22nd AT NOON

## Public Transportation in Greenville County and the Roads Referendum

A Panel Discussion: Please join us for a robust discussion of one of the most important issues facing Greenville County. Beth Padgett will moderate a discussion between Councilor Fred Payne and Bob Knight about public transportation issues and the Greenville County Roads Referendum.



Bob, Chairman of Citizens for A Better Greenville County, is a native of Greenville and graduate of The Citadel. Formerly he practiced as a Certified Public Accountant, but for many years he has worked in government, campaigns, and public policy. He has worked both professionally, and as a volunteer, to provide funds to improve the road infrastructure of Greenville and South Carolina.

Recently, he was selected to serve as Chairman of Citizens for A Better Greenville County, a coalition of individuals, businesses and associations promoting a solution to fixing our roads. Bob just completed serving as President of the SAIL swimming league and now serves on the Board of the American Red Cross and the SC Free Medical Clinic Association. He is married and father of two girls and lives in Greenville.



Councilor Payne was elected in November 2006 to represent District 28. Beginning his second term in 2011, he is the Chair of the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee. He also serves a voting member of the Greenville Pickens Area Transportation Study (GPATS), and as Chair of the GCEDC (GC Economic Development Corporation), the entity that owns the railroad right of way paralleling Laurens Road from Pleasantburg Drive to Mauldin.

INVITE A FUTURE ROTARIAN AS A GUEST -- \$19 Includes the program, meal, and parking

## Message from the President

The following article is the content from the speech given by President Stall to the Club on July 8.



I am honored and humbled by the privilege to serve you and the Rotary Club of Greenville in the coming year. Being your new president fills me with an incredible sense of pride, and at the same time, a bold determination to continue to make the Rotary Club of Greenville the most successful and premier club in South Carolina and the Southeast. We can change our part of the world from here.

First of all, I would like to once again thank President Judith Prince for her time and dedication as president during the last year. Judy, you have set a standard that is going to be very difficult to reach. You have defined "service above self" and we all thank you deeply for your service to this club. Please join me in thanking Judith one more time.

When Joseph E. Sirrine started this club 99 years ago, I am not sure that he and his fellow charter members knew that one day Rotary would have more than 34,000 clubs, across almost every country in the world, and over 1.2 million members.

This club has a long tradition of service to Greenville. I am the 101<sup>st</sup> president of the club, and follow a long list of distinguished past presidents whose names are etched in the history of Greenville's success, including J.E. Sirrine, L.P. Hollis, Henry Mills, and Frank Halter.

I also have the privilege of continuing a family legacy of leadership started by my Uncle George Mackey Grimball, who served as President in 1981 and as District Governor in 1992. I hope you are proud, George Mackey.... And probably a little surprised I am standing here.

The Rotary Club of Greenville has a lot to be proud of. We are changing the world we live in. We are highly engaged and involved. Besides the 16 people on our board, 52 members are heads of committees, and 162 of you served on a committee last year.

73% of you say you volunteered at Roper Mountain Holiday Lights last year, where we raised over \$65,000 to support Rotary Charities. Yes, we are changing the world we live in.

We support an annual Service Above Self College Scholarship, support Early Act First Night, and many of our members read to children through Read to Me at Greenville Literacy. We are supporting our local heroes and future leaders through the Law Enforcement Awards, mentoring at Career Day, and celebrating the Greenville County Teacher of the Year. We are inspiring the future of Greenville.

And finally, for the second year in a row, we were recognized as the District Chapter of the Year.

We have supported the work of Charles and Gillaine Warne in Haiti for years and continue to build relationships throughout the world. We gave \$52,000 to the Rotary Foundation last year to support the many initiatives of Rotary International. Through the Rotary Foundation, we are working to eradicate polio throughout the world... and are this close. Rotary International has helped immunize more than 2.5 billion children and contributed over \$1 billion in the polio eradication effort.

If there is any question about the impact our giving to Rotary International is having, I would encourage each of you to go back and read your Rotarian Magazines, cover to cover. There is no question that Rotary is radically changing the world we live in.

Continued on next page

I have several goals for our club this year, and to quote The Rotarian,

"Every Rotary club should be made a forum before which vital economic and social problems may be fairly and intelligently discussed. Club programs should stimulate thought, widen the horizon, and deepen conviction."

Note that this quote is still relevant even though it was written 84 years ago.

No other club in South Carolina is able to attract the caliber of speakers that we have secured in the last few years. I would like to continue the work of Judith Prince and Elizabeth Lyons in attracting the most compelling programs possible. Last year, we attracted an incredible line up of speakers including Governor Nikki Haley, Senator Lindsay Graham, and Clemson football star Perry Tuttle. In the coming meetings, we are hosting a panel on transportation, Senator Tim Scott, Secretary Dick Riley, and SC Superintendent of Education Mick Zais. I encourage you all to let us know who else you would like to hear from.

I would like to continue to build club unity and community. We all have different reasons for being members of this club, and all have individual expectations on what you want to get out of being a Rotarian. I hope we can continue to build a strong sense of community and ownership within the club and better connect with each other outside of our standard meetings.

In the last several years, membership in service organizations has dropped dramatically. Membership in Rotary International has dropped by 25% in the last several years, and we have seen the same drop in membership. In 2008, we had 363 members, and we currently have 270, a drop of almost 100 members in seven years.

This is not acceptable.

With the help of Membership Chair Myles Golden, I would like our membership to reach at least 300 by the end of the year. As the 57<sup>th</sup> largest club in the world, we are not hoping to grow membership to win awards or to be the biggest. To be the change in the world, we need mass. Through a large membership base, we can be more effective change agents and have to be at this level to be financially sustainable. People become members and stay members because they feel engaged in and part of the valuable work we are doing. I would encourage each of you to bring potential members to the club meeting and volunteer opportunities so we can share the joy and privilege of membership. It is an honor to be a Rotarian, and we should all want to share this with other people. I encourage all of us to invite others to be part of the change we are making in the world.

We are a service organization with the motto, "service above self." In the membership survey you recently completed, the top two improvements you said you would like to see with the club are to provide more news on the work we are doing in the community and have a greater focus on fellowship. I would like to see even more opportunities for our members to volunteer and become more engaged in Rotary and in the community. I would like to see us have more events and opportunities to engage with each other and build community. Rotary should be a meaningful and rewarding experience for us all, and not just a place to come to lunch twice a month. We are in a very special place within our club, and I look forward to leading the effort to continue to have our impact on the world.

I hope...

I hope you will join me in my enthusiasm for the excitement of the coming year.

I hope you will recruit a new member to join the club this year.

I hope you will invite people regularly to our meetings.

I hope you will mentor a new member to join you in one of our many volunteer opportunities.

I hope you will give generously to the Rotary Foundation.

I hope you will discover your Rotary passion.

I hope, from the bottom of my heart, that you will join me, and our legacies like Joseph Sirrine and George Mackey Grimball, in using Rotary to change the world.

It's possible. It's our time.

In the words from The Rotarian in 1961,

"This is not a time for us to say, 'Somebody ought to do that.' Our words must be, 'We will do it.'" – Joseph Abey, Rotary Club of Reading, Pennsylvania, 1961

#### **Members News**



**Ron Demonet,** has started a scholarship endowment program aimed at helping veterans get needed funds to pursue vocational and skilled trades training that can lead to employment. Demonet, who has created scholarship endowments in the past, said he created Veteran Scholarships Forever because of the high unemployment rates for those leaving military service. Nearly six million Americans have served in the military since the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, and almost 3.2 million of them are now civilians. That group's unemployment rate is 9.9 percent — while the rest of the nation is 7.9 percent.



**Thomas Young,** was one of 22 new Fellows chosen for a Liberty Fellowship. He was selected from over 400 nominations in the state of South Carolina. During the first two years of the program, each Liberty Fellow also is paired with a mentor and commits to a personal leadership project focused on South Carolina.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

**Tuesday, July 22, 2014**Paying for Pavement:
A Panel Discussion on the Proposed County Road Tax Referendum Featuring Bob Knight, Public Strategy and Councilman Fred Payne, Greenville County Council

Tuesday, August 12, 2014 Senator Tim Scott United States Senator

Tuesday, August 26, 2014 Mick Zais SC State Education Superintendent

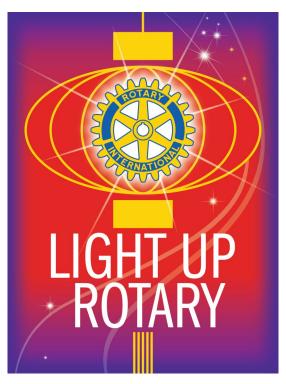
**Tuesday, September 9, 2014**Secretary Richard Riley
Former U.S. Secretary of Education
Former Governor of South Carolina

Tuesday, September 23, 2014 Teacher of the Year

**Tuesday, October 14, 2014**Dave Edwards, President
GSP International Airport

**Tuesday, October 28, 2014** Annual Fall Outing

## PRESIDENTIAL THEME ROTARY INTERNATIONAL 2014-2015



## The Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- FIRST. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- SECOND. High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- THIRD. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- FOURTH. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

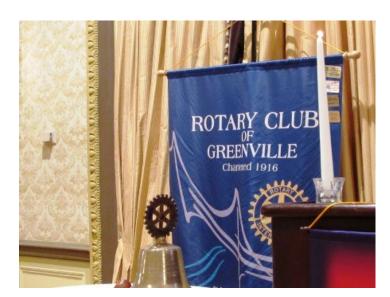


The Passing of the Gavel from President Judith Prince to New President Russell Stall



The Installation of Officers for the 2014-2015 year





In Memory of Mac Walters



Thanks to President Judith Prince for a Fantastic Year!

## **RI New Member Sponsor Recognition**

Rotary International created a recognition program for those within the clubs who recommended new members in the last year. The program gives everyone who sponsored a new member a shield to put behind their Rotary pins in different colors based on the number of new members with

Blue – One member Bronze – Two members Silver – Four members Gold – Six or more members

We are pleased to announce that 30 members of Rotary of Greenville have received this special recognition. Twenty three members sponsored one new member in the last year including:

- Maria Ahn
- Sarah Beattie
- Joan Burket
- Stinson Ferguson
- Donna Gottschall
- John Hardaway
- Stanton Horne
- Surendra Jain
- Bradford Johnson
- William Johnson
- Matteel Jones
- John Kent

- Connie Lanzl
- Gregory Leiby
- Stephanie Lewis
- Bruce Meyer
- Mary Padgett
- Philip Patrick
- Scott Powell
- David Ramseur
- Fred Suggs
- Terry Weaver
- Charles Welch



Recognition of 2013-2014 Member Sponsors

Four members sponsors two or three members in the last year including:

- Myles Golden
- Phillip Kilgore
- Viviane Till
- Philip Watson

Of the over 33,000 Rotary clubs worldwide, only 129 individuals sponsored six or more new members to achieve gold status. Only five of these are in the United States, and two of these are Rotarians with Rotary of Greenville. They are Judith Prince and Elizabeth Lyons. Prince sponsored or co-sponsored 17 new members this year. Incredible, and thank you for your service.



New Member Sponsor Pin

## **Stay Connected**

Did you know you can access our Rotary Club
Directory from your smart phone?! Click on the
"Create DACdb Mobile ICON" for instructions on how
to load to your smart phone. The online directory and
DACdb Mobile will give you the most up to date
information on our members (including new
members!).



Have you tried DACdb Mobile yet?

http://m.DACdb.com

## The Greenville Rotarian

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Greenville

Organized January 7, 1916 Volume 60, No. 02 July 17, 2014

RI President Gary Huang

District Governor Thomas Faulkner III

President Russell Stall
President-Elect Don Koonce
Secretary Mark Taylor
Treasurer David Karr
Bulletin Editor Tim Nanney

## **Rotary Club of Greenville**

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## **Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday - 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Friday - 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

## Member Calendar

Tuesday, July 22nd, Rotary Club of Greenville meeting, 12:00 Noon; Westin Poinsett, Transportation Panel -Bob

Knight and Fred Payne (Beth Padgett-Moderator)

Tuesday, August 5th, New Member Orientation, 5:00pm, Atrium of DataWorks Building (location of Rotary Office)

Wednesday, August 6th, Discover Rotary 7:30am to 8:30am, Greenville Chamber of Commerce

Monday, August 18th, Health and Happiness Hour, 5:30pm to 7:30pm, location to be determined



The Board Members and Committee Chairs met at President Stall's house on June 24 for some social time and planning.

