



September 03, 2015

Greenville Rotarian

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Service Above Self



Rotary Club of Greenville OUR NEXT MEETING



**JOIN US AT THE WESTIN POINSETT HOTEL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 AT NOON**

**FEATURING
HUGH E. WEATHERS
Commissioner,
South Carolina Department of Agriculture**

Hugh E. Weathers has been serving as South Carolina's Commissioner of Agriculture since September 2004. Under Commissioner Weathers' tenure, the Department has created several new branding programs under the Certified SC Grown umbrella to assist consumers in easily identifying and purchasing local South Carolina products. The State Farmers Market has been relocated to a new state of the art facility in West Columbia in Lexington County. The campus includes a new multi-purpose auditorium, the T. Ashton Phillips Conference Center.

Commissioner Weathers was born in Bowman, South Carolina and is a fourth generation dairy farmer. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of South Carolina in 1978, earning BS Degrees in Accounting and Finance. He is a partner in the family's 80-year old dairy business and row crop farm. He and his brother, Landy, also operate a bulk milk delivery business for thirty other South Carolina farmers.

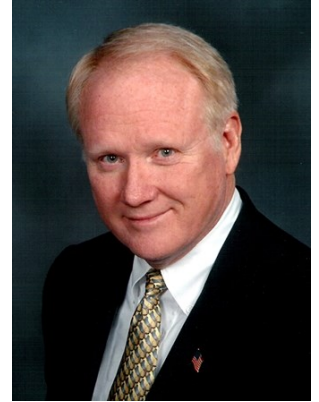
The Commissioner serves on numerous local, state, and national agricultural, business, economic development, and banking committees and boards. In 2011, he was inducted into the South Carolina Dairy Hall of Fame and has received numerous other awards and recognitions both prior to taking office and as a public servant for the citizens of South Carolina.

INVITE A FUTURE ROTARIAN AS A GUEST -- \$20
Includes the program, meal, and parking
Preregister your guest to save time at check-in

A Message from the President

Lighting the Mountain

During Christmas in 1991, Rotarian Bob Olson and his wife Amy visited Charleston and while there they decided to go out and see the James Island County Park Christmas Lights. After the visit, Amy mentioned that it would be nice if Greenville had a light display for the Christmas Holidays and it would be a good project for the Rotary Club of Greenville. Bob talked with Darrell Harrison, then director of Roper Mountain and told him about Amy's idea. Darrell was enthusiastic about its potential for Greenville and for Roper Mountain. Bob then took it to the Rotary board and they decided to commit the club to the project and underwrite it. The Roper Mountain Holiday Lights opened on Thanksgiving Day in 1992.



This year will mark the 24th Christmas gift of lights on the mountain and we have come a long way. The event has continued to grow substantially every year with more lights, more dramatic displays and Santa himself (occasionally the Tiger shows up). The project has grown from some 70,000 lights in 1992 to over a million lights of all colors today. Working on the set-up or attending as a visitor is equally as exciting and energizing.

Roper Mountain Holiday Lights is managed by Roper Mountain Holiday Lights, Inc., a non-profit corporation led by a board of directors composed equally of members from the Roper Mountain Science Center and the Rotary Club of Greenville. The president of Roper Mountain Holiday Lights is appointed by the Board of Directors and is charged with management of day-to-day operations. Proceeds from Roper Mountain Holiday Lights are shared by Roper Mountain Science Center Association and Rotary Charities, Inc. The total net income from last year was \$155,000 which was split evenly between the two organizations. The Rotary Club of Greenville uses funds for programs such as Read to Me, character education, scholarships and grants for non-profit organizations. Since 1992, Holiday Lights has raised more than \$2,200,000 million for science education and community service programs in Greenville.

For Rotarians, Holiday Lights begins this Saturday as we begin to work on these extensive lighting displays. This is a chance for all of us to really get engaged in the spirit of Rotary. The work on Saturdays and Sundays is not only rewarding but fun. It's a chance to get to know your fellow Rotarians better and even get to meet outside helpers including students, Roteractors, parents and military Veterans. One Rotarian has said, "working on Holiday Lights and spending nights on the Gate has been one of the most rewarding times of my life ... I have met so many people and developed so many friendships."

We need your help at Roper Mountain. It takes about 900 volunteers and 7,000 person-hours to plan and execute this remarkable event. Those hours spent on the Mountain will definitely add a richness to your life and it will be something you will remember for years to come. We will begin on Saturday, September 5 from 8:30am until 12:30pm and then on Sunday, September 6, 1:00pm until 5:00pm. The full schedule will be on your table at the luncheon on September 8. Please come join us.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Don Koonce".

Don Koonce
President

Upcoming Meetings

September 07, 2015

Hugh Weathers
Commissioner of Agriculture

September 22, 2015

Representative Jenny Horne
Republican - Dorchester County
District 94 - Charleston & Dorchester Counties

Meet Our New Members



New Member, William Crawford



New Member, Charlie Hall



Be a gift to the world

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.



Speaker, John H. Magill, SC Director of Mental Health



Rotary Benefactor's Russ Miller, Don Koonce, Mandy Dutton, Delisa English, and Maria Ahn

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

CONNECT WITH KOREA – TOUCH THE WORLD

**SEOUL, KOREA
28 MAY-1 JUNE 2016**

Register early and save!

Rotary   www.riconvention.org



The Greenville Rotarian

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Greenville

Organized January 7, 1916

Volume 61, No. 05

September 03, 2015

RI President	Ravi Ravindran
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Rotary Club of Greenville

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Office Hours

Monday - Thursday - 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Friday - Closed

Member Calendar

Tuesday, September 8th	Rotary Club of Greenville meeting 12:00 Noon, Westin Poinsett Hotel, Hugh Weathers, Commissioner of Agriculture
Monday, September 14th	Health and Happiness Hour, 5:30pm- 7:30pm, Soby's
Tuesday, September 22nd	Rotary Club of Greenville meeting 12:00 Noon, Westin Poinsett Hotel, Representative Jenny Horne
Saturday, September 5th	Holiday Lights Set-Up Day, 8:30am-12:30pm
Sunday, September 6th,	Holiday Lights Set-Up Day, 1:00pm-5:00pm
Sunday, September 13th,	Holiday Lights Set-Up Day, 1:00pm - 5:00pm
Saturday, September 19th,	Holiday Lights Set-Up Day, 1:00pm-5:00pm
Sunday, September 20th,	Holiday Lights Set-Up Day, 1:00pm-5:00pm