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## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

August 25, 2020

August is Membership and New  
Club Development Month

Thursdays, 12:15 pm  
The Plaza Restaurant  
217 South Broad Street  
Thomasville, GA 31792

## Join the Check Up on Them Challenge

☒ Our District Governor has challenged us!

While Covid-19 has changed our day-to-day activities, what are you doing to still stay connected? There are many that have not been able to adapt to the change as fast as others. We are all familiar with the most common CDC recommendations on limiting contact, but what about calling your friends? Dr. Lim, a psychologist says, "Loneliness is about feeling disconnected, even when you have people around you." I have seen many clubs adapt quickly, but that does not mean that all of their members have. Now more than ever it is important to reach out and check on your family, friends and club members. If you have not seen them online or in person lately, give them a call. We never know how much a simple phone call can impact someone. I believe that the only way we can keep what we have is to give it away every day. With that being said, I am more focused on the quality of the interactions that I have rather than the quantity. Reach out and give yourself the time to invest in the conversation. Send someone an invitation to a facetime / zoom call to virtually share a cup of coffee or go on a walk together. We can engage and have meaningful conversations even while we are not meeting in person. A simple phone call letting them know you are thinking about them could save a life! Share with us on social media if you join the challenge.

## This Week's Program - The Psychology of Negative Elections

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Dr. Steve DePaola is a professor in the Psychology program at Thomas University. He received his Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Memphis and has 18 publications and over 53 conference presentations focusing on issues such as death and dying, domestic violence, and elder abuse.

He was a Long-term Care Ombudsman for the state of Georgia covering Thomas and Grady County for over 4 years.

He is a board member of the following organizations in Thomasville: Halcyon Home, United Way, The Alzheimer's Association, Easter Seals, and The Southwest Georgia ESL Roundtable. Steve is also on the executive council of the Georgia Psychological Society.

## Last Week's program

Rotary Club of Thomasville members probably all agree that the last few months have been quite challenging. Zoom meetings are a far cry from in person meetings. But we are Rotarians, and Rotarians do not run away from challenges.

Rotarians accept challenges and make the best of the situation. In other words, when Rotary Opens Opportunities, Rotarians take advantage of them. We were reminded of this at last week's meeting when Andy Jones used English poet William Ernest Henley's poem Invictus for his Sunshine talk.

"Invictus" is about resilience in the face of suffering, challenges and the ups and downs of everyday life. This resilience comes from the courage to embrace life and refuse to despair. As we struggle to figure out what our Rotary meetings of tomorrow will look like, let us not despair. Let us be encouraged and inspired by the opportunity before us to use our creativity to build a better tomorrow. This is what I took away from Andy's Sunshine message.

Bonnie Hayes did her 1.0 and we thank her for allowing us to get to know her better. Bonnie share with us her journey to Thomasville and how Thomasville has quickly before her home away from home. Bonnie, we are excited about having you in our Rotarian family. We are looking forward to working with you to as we strive to make a difference in our community.

Many of us know something about Second Harvest of South Georgia. But how many of us knew their involvement in our community? How many of us knew the impact Second Harvest in having in south Georgia during these challenging times? Our program speaker Eliza McCall not only enlightened us about Second Harvest, she even let us know how we can become involved as individuals in the work they do. For those who may not know, the Rotary Club of Thomasville donated \$850 to Second Harvest. That is the equivalent to 7,500 meals. We all have a part to play in our community.

We do this best when we work together as a team.

Second Harvest of South Georgia serves an area of almost 12,000 square miles. They have 400 Network of Partners assisting in the distribution of food. From 13 March to 1 August Second Harvest distributed over 10 million pounds of food. That is about 9.7 million meals. In the age of Covid, Second Harvest will double their distribution this year over last year. With such an increase Second Harvest is in need of volunteers. If you are looking to be more involved, this could be your opportunity.

Even though our weekly meetings are not what we prefer, let us be thankful that we are able to meet. Let us focus on doing the best we can, with what we have, where we are. Just because things are not what they once were, is no reason to despair and do nothing. May we all have the mind and attitude of Helen Keller. She is credited with having said, "I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something that I can do." Rotary Opens Opportunities, what will we do with them? Following the Four Way Test answers that question. Have a great week fellow Rotarians and I hope to see you at Thursday's meeting.

*"The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make a difference that you have lived and lived well."* Ralph Waldo Emerson

## Meetings

August is Membership and New Club Development Month

- 8/27 Steve Depaola - Psychology of Negative Elections
- 9/3 Jack Hadley and Melanie Martin - Imperial Hotel
- 9/10 Valerie Scoon
- 9/17 Wayne Johnson - served under Betsy Devos

## Our Rotary Family BIRTHDAYS

- 8/6 Janet Liles
- 8/9 Cameron Jahnke
- 8/9 Andre Marria
- 8/13 Andy Vann
- 8/13 Harry Tomlinson
- 8/13 Joe Tarver
- 8/15 Scott Smith
- 8/17 Donald Sims
- 8/18 Christy Cooke
- 8/18 Chris Lovelady
- 8/22 Frank Helms
- 8/23 Rankin Smith, Jr.
- 8/29 Mike Stephenson

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 8/2 Krista Peace (7)
- 8/7 Niki Gatlin (10)
- 8/8 Ben Wilds (50)
- 8/10 Bill Dickey (52)
- 8/13 Coy Irvin (43)
- 8/18 Arlen Yokley (63)
- 8/18 Doris Yokley (63)
- 8/19 Gary Tucker (60)
- 8/19 Carlton Bryant (45)
- 8/20 Russell Chubb (60)
- 8/26 Copper Comita (31)
- 8/26 John Comita, Jr. (31)
- 8/28 Albert Park (49)
- 8/29 Andre Marria (2)
- 8/29 Walter Marria, Jr. (47)

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8/30 Scott Sterling (40)

## YEARS OF SERVICE

8/1 Fran Milberg (24)  
26 years in Rotary  
8/1 Wilson Carraway, Jr. (37)  
70 years in Rotary  
8/1 Walter Gilbert (29)  
8/2 Doris Yokley (2)  
8/2 Walter Marria, Jr. (2)  
8/2 Pat Choice (2)  
8/2 Adrian Burns (2)  
8/2 Carlton Bryant (2)  
8/3 Susan Backofen (3)  
8 years in Rotary  
8/8 Scott Sterling (12)  
8/10 Debbie Quinton (8)  
8/13 Mark Lowe (11)  
8/13 Cameron Jahnke (5)  
8/16 Niki Gatlin (2)  
8/23 Philip Leabo, Jr. (2)  
8/24 Krista Peace (3)  
8/24 David Hufstetler (3)  
8/25 Andy Sheppard (4)  
8/27 David Flowers (11)

## Rotary Online

<https://thomasvillerotary.org>  
<https://rotary6900.org/>  
<https://rotary.org/>

## ROTARY CLUB OF THOMASVILLE

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## LEADERSHIP

President	John Brown
President-Elect	Wayne Newsome
Immediate PP	Kim Walden
Treasurer	Teri White
Secretary	Angela Williamson
Foundation	Fran Milberg
Membership	Janet Liles
Public Image	Mike Bixler

before her home away from home. Bonnie, we are excited about having you in our Rotarian family. We are looking forward to working with you to as we strive to make a difference in our community.

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