



Having trouble reading this email? [Click here](#) for the web version.



# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

February 9, 2021

February is Peace and Conflict  
Prevention/Resolution Month

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

## What You Missed Last Week!

What an outstanding meeting we had last week. Whether you attended online or at the Plaza, it was an opportunity to be encouraged and inspired. There was a total of fifty-nine in attendance to enjoy the program. The meeting provided something for everyone. If you missed the meeting, next week is standing room only, and we have one of our own doing the program.

John Glenn is scheduled for surgery on the 9th and Tom Everett has contracted Covid. The celebration for Gerhard Sommer is at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday 9 February 2021. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Terry Rouse gave his classification talk which centered around things he had learned since his last talk. With Rotary opening opportunities to us, we are all learning different things as we march down the road of time.

A great opportunity for newer members (and not so new members) to learn about Rotary, our club and the avenues of service available to them, will be the upcoming **Fireside Chat. This event will be on 23 March 2021 at Harry Tomlinson's Fish Camp.**

✘ The program was Nathaniel Abrams, Lauren Radford and Karly Thomas. As part of recognizing Black History Month, the group opened our eyes to the contributions local African Americans are making serving our country.

Those highlighted last week were:

- Christopher Coes, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy U.S. Department of Transportation
  - Cedric B. Guyton Assistant Surgeon General
  - Cedric Terrell Johnson photographer for Senator Joe Biden
  - Lloyd James Austin III, Retired U. S. Army Four-Star General, U. S. Secretary of Defense

A familiar quote says, "Things Turn Out Best for Folks Who Make the Best of the Way Things Turn Out." I think we can all say with pride, things turned out best for each of these who made the best of the way things turned out for them.

## This Week's Program

✘ Jared Benko was hired in March of 2020 as the leader of the Georgia Southern Athletics Department and began his new role on April 1. Benko, who has more than a decade of progressive leadership experience in the Southeastern Conference (SEC), comes to Statesboro from Mississippi State where he served as Deputy Director of Athletics/Chief Financial Officer for nearly four years (2016-2020).

✘ Benko reports directly to the University president, serves as a member of the President's Cabinet and oversees 17 NCAA Division I varsity athletics programs, 15 of which compete in the Sun Belt Conference. Benko is from Watkinsville, Georgia. He earned a bachelor of science in sports studies from Georgia in 2005 and then a master of public administration in Athens in 2007.

He got his start in the athletic business field as an intern at Georgia from 2007 to 2008. He also spent seven years in sports communications at Georgia, including five years as a student and two years as a graduate assistant, while assisting with the Atlanta Falcons and Atlanta Braves.

**See you soon!**

## Meetings

February is Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month

- 2/11 Ron Salter - We're all Ignorant
- 2/18 Jared Benko - Athletic Director at GSU
- 2/25 On site Visit at Archbold Advanced Therapy and Sports Medicine facility
- 3/4 Christopher Jones - Secure Record Solution

## Our Rotary Family BIRTHDAYS

- 2/1 W. Clay Campbell
- 2/1 Gerry Gilmer
- 2/5 Gregory Adams
- 2/5 Claire Bowen
- 2/9 Michele Arwood
- 2/11 Nick Murray
- 2/12 Lorraine Williams Rahming
- 2/16 Renee Oliveto
- 2/19 Tom Harrison, Jr.
- 2/19 Marta Turner
- 2/27 Ronnie Godwin

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 2/4 Bob Ackerman (53)
- 2/6 Julie Carter (28)
- 2/15 Erik von Hellens (20)
- 2/22 Eugene McNease (54)
- 2/28 John Archer, Sr. (7)

## YEARS OF SERVICE

- 2/1 Marta Turner (27)
- 2/1 Bradford Jackson (27)
- 2/1 Russell Chubb (44)
- 2/8 Joe Tarver (3)
- 2/26 Nate Tyler, Sr. (23)
- 2/27 Shelba Sellers (6)


## What You Missed Last Week!

What an outstanding meeting we had last week. Whether you attended online or at the Plaza, it was an opportunity to be encouraged and inspired. There was a total of fifty-nine in attendance to enjoy the program. The meeting provided something for everyone. If you missed the meeting, next week is standing room only, and we have one of our own doing the program.

John Glenn is scheduled for surgery on the 9th and Tom Everett has contracted Covid. The celebration for Gerhard Sommer is at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday 9 February 2021. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Terry Rouse gave his classification talk which centered around things he had learned since his last talk. With Rotary opening opportunities to us, we are all learning different things as we march down the road of time.

A great opportunity for newer members (and not so new members) to learn about Rotary, our club and the avenues of service available to them, will be the upcoming **Fireside Chat. This event will be on 23 March 2021 at Harry Tomlinson's Fish Camp.**

 The program was Nathaniel Abrams, Lauren Radford and Karly Thomas. As part of recognizing Black History Month, the group opened our eyes to the contributions local African Americans are making serving our country. Those highlighted last week were:


- Christopher Coes, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy U.S. Department of Transportation
- Cedric B. Guyton Assistant Surgeon General
- Cedric Terrell Johnson photographer for Senator Joe Biden
- Lloyd James Austin III, Retired U. S. Army Four-Star General, U. S. Secretary of Defense

A familiar quote says, "Things Turn Out Best for Folks Who Make the Best of the Way Things Turn Out." I think we can all say with pride, things turned out best for each of these who made the best of the way things turned out for them.

## This Week's Program



Jared Benko was hired in March of 2020 as the leader of the Georgia Southern Athletics Department and began his new role on April 1. Benko, who has more than a decade of progressive leadership experience in the Southeastern Conference (SEC), comes to Statesboro from Mississippi State where he served as Deputy Director of Athletics/Chief Financial Officer for nearly four years (2016-2020).

 Benko reports directly to the University president, serves as a member of the President's Cabinet and oversees 17 NCAA Division I varsity athletics programs, 15 of which compete in the Sun Belt Conference. Benko is from Watkinsville, Georgia. He earned a bachelor of science in sports studies from Georgia in 2005 and then a master of public administration in Athens in 2007.

He got his start in the athletic business field as an intern at Georgia from 2007 to 2008. He also spent seven years in sports communications at Georgia, including five years as a student and two years as a graduate assistant, while assisting with the Atlanta Falcons and Atlanta Braves.

## Rotary Online

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

---

### ROTARY CLUB OF THOMASVILLE

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

---

#### LEADERSHIP

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

**See you soon!**

