



## Meetings

January is Vocational Service Month

- 1/5 General Meeting - Howard Berk, President, Ellijay Mushrooms
- 1/12 General Meeting - Justin Campbell, Atlanta Assembly
- 1/26 General Meeting - Buzz Law, Creative Financial Group
- 2/2 General Meeting

## Our Rotary Family BIRTHDAYS

- 1/1 Marie Crean
- 1/1 P. Game
- 1/2 Jeannette Jezerinac-Prince
- 1/11 Jim Glass
- 1/20 Brian Harper
- 1/29 Kobelah Svensen Bennah
- 1/30 Anita Augello

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 1/23 Tina Philpot (16)
- 1/28 Bill Woulfin (16)

## Rotary Online

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

## ROTARY CLUB OF DUNWOODY

Fridays, 7:15 am  
AC Hotel Atlanta Perimeter -  
Bar Peri  
40 Perimeter Center Pl NE

## This Week's Speaker

### Howard Berk, Ellijay Mushrooms



Come out to hear the story of a Georgia Start-up Business from founder, Howard Berk, of Ellijay Mushrooms this Friday morning at the AC Hotel.

In Felicia Feaster's Fast Lane article, "Fun with Fungi," Felicia tells the story of Howard's journey starting with creating a garden at his daughter's Brookhaven Elementary School to being named by the state of Georgia as a "2023 Small Business ROCK STAR" with his 1.3 million in annual revenue business. His intriguing rebound story, along with his newest endeavor with KSU and their sustainability solutions using these shade-loving fungi, are sure to be an inspiration to us all.

We are so excited to hear more about how mushrooms can not only improve health, but add some tasty flavor to our tables!

Check out more about Ellijay Mushrooms at <https://www.ellijaymushrooms.com>

## GRSP Leadership Weekend

### Help Us Welcome the World to Dunwoody - February 9-11,2024



## LEADERSHIP

President	Jack Sparks, Jr.
President-Elect	Louise Barden
President Nominee	Matthew Johnson
Immediate PP	Jennifer Shumway
Vice President	Louise Barden
Treasurer	Carter Stout
Secretary	Dave Burr
Sergeant-at-Arms	George Stewart, Jr.



For 20+ years, the Georgia Rotary Student Program's Leadership weekend has been a signature event - welcoming more than 40 international students to Dunwoody and providing an opportunity for everyone in our Family of Rotary to enjoy fellowship with those students and each other. Our weekend is focused on leadership skills and instilling Rotary's spirit of Service Above Self in these future leaders.

This year, students will be with us in Dunwoody from Friday afternoon, February 9, through Sunday morning, February 11. Co-chairs Jackie Cuthbert and Meredith Morris need your help = as host families, and to help with set-up, food and logistics throughout the weekend.

Students are generally assigned to weekend host parents in pairs - the host provides beds to sleep in on Friday and Saturday. breakfast early Saturday and Sunday mornings, and transportation to and from the Dunwoody Annex on Shallowford. Hosts are invited to join the students for group dinners on Saturday in Rotarian homes and drop in on other parts of the program as they'd like.

To volunteering for the weekend, please contact Jackie Cuthbert at 770-597-1183 or via email at [cuthbert@mindspring.com](mailto:cuthbert@mindspring.com). We'll have a meeting in next Thursday January 11 at the Dunwoody Annex to finalize our weekend plans.

### Dues Update

## Vote This Friday on Proposed Dues Increase

As discussed back in our July Club Assembly meeting; our club needs to balance our operating budget. Operating revenues have declined in the past few years as during COVID we gave the

option of having a membership type of 'no meals'. We currently have 63 total members, of which 28 are 'Full Members' who pay for meals, 19 members chose to go to 'no meals' when the option was available and 14 are under the 'Rule of 85' membership (Age+Year of Membership > 85 so they have the option of no meals). The meal fee is what pays for our meeting space, but the burden for that is falling on too few members. At Le Meridian, for example, the cost to rent the space and only serve coffee was roughly the same as what it cost to serve 25 people breakfast.

To balance our operating budget the Board of Directors voted to raise dues \$50 per quarter (\$200 per year) across all membership types. To raise dues in this manner our club will need to vote on this at our next meeting, January 5, 2022. Our dues structure is set in the Club's bylaws, and accordingly, a vote of the Club membership is required to amend the bylaws to increase the quarterly dues.

If you are unable to attend the January 5th meeting you can vote by proxy. To vote by proxy please email Dave Burr at [dave@mailcenteretc.com](mailto:dave@mailcenteretc.com) and he will send you a proxy form.