



## THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

### Miracle League = Miracles for All Involved



Perhaps the best way to summarize Thursday's program was to hear and see our own Emily Wallace (see picture to the left) at the conclusion of the program as she exclaimed her love of the Miracle League program in Conyers and tearfully thanked her coaches who have impacted her own life. Stephanie Davis of the Miracle League (pictured with Emily) explained that the Miracle League was the brain-child of Conyers Rotarian Dean Alford who realized the impact that youth baseball coach Eddie Bagwell had made in inviting the first child with a disability to play on his team. Realizing that the standard baseball diamond presents a number of obstacles for those who may be in wheelchairs or using walkers, the league which had thrown out its first pitch in the spring 1999 season

designed, developed, and built a complex with cushioned rubberized surfaces, wheelchair accessible dugouts, and completely flat surfaces. The word about this Miracle League spread quickly, largely through Rotary International and attention by prominent sportscasters including those on ESPN. Davis led the effort to build the second Miracle League complex in Myrtle Beach, SC. She eventually moved to Covington, GA, where she works with the Alford family in helping additional communities construct their own Miracle League fields and complexes. "My primary job is to assist communities in the process so that they do not have to re-invent the wheel. I can help with the policies, procedures and other details of planning and construction," she added. There are now over 300 communities in 4 countries with Miracle League facilities. "And, we are adding 20 complexes a year," she said. The success of the League, however, is not just facilities but participation by the community. Davis showed a short video, *Kids Helping Kids*, to underscore that everyone involved learns valuable life lessons. Each player has a "buddy" who assists the player in various ways. Players and their buddies often become good friends so that their relationship extends beyond the diamond and game day. While buddies are important, the relationships among the players are also important. Davis explained that no one every 'ages-out' of the Miracle League. "Our oldest player is 89 years old," she said. There are currently about a dozen fields in the Atlanta area. Davis said that a goal of the League is to have fields within commuting distance for all wishing to participate. She invited those interested to visit their website at [miracleleague.com](http://miracleleague.com) and to contact her if anyone knew of a community wishing to build a Miracle League complex.



## Club Calendar

### OCTOBER IS ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH

- October 27      Brittany Stikes  
G-S Historical Society
  
- November 3      Will Garner  
Mid-west Food Bank
  
- Board Meeting @ 5:45 PM
  
- November 5      Rotary Leadership Institute  
Carrollton
  
- November 10     Veterans Day Program  
Recognizing Our Veterans

## Our Rotary Family

### BIRTHDAYS

- October 25      Charles Woodroof
- October 29      Chuck Copeland

### ANNIVERSARIES

- October 24      John & Elizabeth O'Neal
- November 2      Tamara & Greg Ison
- November 2      Bill & Ann Jones
- November 7      Tom & Gail Gardner

**DARE TO BE BETTER!**

GIFFIN ROTARY ONLINE  
[griffinrotary.org](http://griffinrotary.org)

## JEFF ROSENCRANS INDUCTED



Club Vice-President Allen Edwards (left) did the honors in inducting Jeff Rosencrans (center) as our newest Griffin Rotarian at Thursday's meeting. Jeff serves as Purchasing Manager at Caterpillar and is no stranger to Rotary as a former member of the Peoria (IL) Downtown Rotary Club. Jeff's classification is Manufacturing: Equipment. Stephanie Windham (right) proposed Jeff for membership. Welcome to our Rotary Family, Jeff.



## DONATION SUPPORTS FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Allen Edwards presented Natalie Marshall a check for \$500 in support of the Friends of the Library upcoming Book Bolt 5K on November 5<sup>th</sup>. This event will raise funds to support the library and to promote awareness of services offered by the library.

## ROTARY NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Rotarians are encouraged to vote YES for the Safe Harbor Amendment** in early voting or on November 8<sup>th</sup> as part of our efforts to End Human Trafficking.

**Quarterly dues invoices will be sent via email in the future.** Please watch for those emails with the attached invoices. If you wish to receive your dues invoice via regular USPS mail, please contact Yvonne Langford.

**Raffle Reminder.** Please visit the website [RotaryCaresForKids.com](http://RotaryCaresForKids.com) to purchase tickets for the Infinity car raffle. Proceeds for this raffle will support the Children's Village at Christian City. Tickets are \$25 each or 5 for \$100.

**Hero Boxes for Our Overseas Troops.** Please donate to our project of helping to provide Hero Boxes to our troops overseas this holiday season. Boxes cost \$25 to \$40 each to stock and ship, and they are personalized for our individual service men and women. Buckets for donations will be on our tables during next week's meeting **or you can be billed for your donation by the Club.** **Contact Yvonne Langford if you wish to be charged for your donation** (770-227-1090 or [ymlangford@gmail.com](mailto:ymlangford@gmail.com)).

### ROTARY CLUB OF GRIFFIN, GA PO Box 473, Griffin, GA 30224

#### OFFICERS

President	-	Janice Wallace
Vice-President	-	Allen Edwards
President-Elect	-	Tom Gardner
Treasurer	-	Art Hammond
Secretary	-	Yvonne Langford
Sergeant-at-Arms	-	Kim Brown
Club Chaplain	-	Med Roach
Bulletin Editor	-	Wayne Gardner
Photographer	-	William Wilson

#### DIRECTORS

Membership	-	Chris Holdorf
Public Relations	-	Brett Bell
Club Administration	-	Robert Parker
Rotary Foundation	-	George Granade
Vocational Service	-	Corey Letson
Community Service	-	Kelvin Williams
International Service	-	John Crouch
New Generations	-	Brian Upson

#### ED OUTLAW

Assistant District Governor

#### RAYMOND RAY

District 6900 Governor

#### JOHN F. GERM

Rotary International President

## MEETING MAKEUP INFORMATION

Monday – 12 Noon	Henry County	PJs Sidewalk Café, McDonough
Monday – 12:15 PM	Fayetteville	Village Cafe, Fayetteville
Monday – 6:30 PM	Coweta-Fayette	Senoia Coffee Company, Senoia
Tuesday – 12 Noon	Barnesville	Lamar Co. College & Career Academy
Tuesday – 12 Noon	Jackson/Butts Co.	Daughtry Park, Jackson
Tuesday – 12:15 PM	Thomaston/Upson Co.	Thomaston-Upson Senior Center
Wednesday – 7:30 AM	Griffin Daybreak	J. Henry's Restaurant, Griffin
Wednesday – 12:15 PM	Clayton County	Holiday Inn, Jonesboro
Thursday – 7:15 AM	Fayette Daybreak	Windham, Peachtree City
Friday – 12 Noon	Newnan	Newnan Country Club, Newnan

**Rotary eClub One – One Makeup per Quarter**