



Christy Plott
American Tanning &
Leather Company

EVOLUTION OF AMERICAN TANNING & LEATHER CO.

Christy Plott of American Tanning and Leather Company (MTLC) spoke of her family's 95-year-old business that has evolved from tanning furs and skins from trappers to the preparation and sale of high-quality alligator skins. Christy's great-grandfather started the business in 1923 working with furs and associated skins. After WWII, they expanded into raw alligator skins which is now the primary component of their work production. Today, AMLC purchases alligators directly from trappers. Each gator must be federally inspected and tagged. Sizes of the animals and grades of the skins vary. She explained that tanning an alligator skin is a 10-step process initially involving descaling, treating with mineral chrome to give the hide the blue-green color, stretching, shaving to desired thickness, and re-tanning to add oils to the skin. At this stage, the skin can be stored indefinitely. Eventually, the skin is selected, dyed, toggled (tacking to a board) when a variety of finishes can be added, and graded for quality control. Sustaining their business relies on the conservation and management of the alligator. The hunting of alligators is regulated by the Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species that insures threatened species are not overhunted to extinction. Alligator famers also contract with landowners for the right to collect alligator eggs from their undeveloped lands. These eggs are hatched and the gators are raised to 3-feet in length when 10% are released on the contracted land to sustain their populations. The others are farmed for other purposes including hides. For more information, visit <https://www.amtan.com>.



GRIFFIN ROTARY NETWORKING AFTER HOURS

Kathleen Smith announced a new membership building initiative at Thursday's meeting. Kathleen is planning bimonthly social gatherings that will be in the evenings and will be more informal than our weekly daytime meetings. This will allow for Griffin Rotarians to get to know each other even better, to more effectively introduce and integrate our new members into the Club, and to invite prospective members. Smith hopes these After Hours Networking events will support our membership goals of retaining members and attracting new members. The first Griffin Rotary Networking After Hours will be held on Thursday, October 25th, from 5:30 to 7:00 PM at Margo's. All are invited to attend and enjoy a favorite beverage and some extended fellowship. The first drink is on the Club. After that, all drinks and food are the responsibility of the Club member. Bring a friend or someone you know who will be an excellent Rotarian and may have an interest in joining Rotary.



BE THE INSPIRATION

WATCH ROTARY'S WORLD POLIO DAY EVENT

World Polio Day is October 24th. Rotary will host a special event that evening in which health experts and celebrity ambassadors will discuss progress towards a polio-free world. You can live stream the event on your computer or smartphone by registering in KUDO (computer) or adding the KUDO app to your phone. The event will begin at 6:30 PM on October 24th.

OUR NEXT PROGRAM – HISTORIC BANNING MILLS

Cynthia Cole will speak on the adventure-based leadership and education programs offered at this very unique and pristine area on the Snake Creek Gorge in Banning, GA.



GABRIEL'S VISIT TO SAVANNAH

I visited Savannah with the other GRSP Students last weekend. On Friday night, we had a ghost tour around the city. On Saturday, we visited the Webb Military Museum and went to the beach at Tybee Island. It was a great day to swim and enjoy the beach with a warm weather but some wind. Savannah is a very beautiful city, and I liked walking downtown because of its plan, the good sidewalks with trees, and a lot of squares which reminded me of my city. At night, it seems to be a very lively city, with a lot of bars and restaurants. It was very interesting to see the places where parts of 'Forest Gump' were filmed and the church where Martin Luther King first delivered his 'I Have a Dream' speech. Savannah is now my favorite city I have visited in the US so far.

PLEASE SIGN UP TO BE A PART OF OUR SALVATION ARMY KETTLE DRIVE PROJECT

George Granade and Wayne Gardner are co-chairing the Salvation Army Kettle Drive and are asking everyone to help with this large project. The Kettle Project promises to be our largest project again this year in terms of manpower and resources required. Rotarians and business/organization partners are needed for the 316 hours of ringing at our Kettle. Please sign up to ring at least one 2-hour block of time. If you are part of a business or organization who can help us with ringing, please let George or Wayne know. Ringing will begin at the Food Depot on South Hill Street on November 16th. We will then shift to the west entrance at



Kroger's from November 23rd through December 24th. You can sign up at one of our upcoming meetings or email Wayne. Thanks to these businesses and organizations who have signed up to be our ringing partners this Holiday Season: Beck, Owen & Murray

(10 hrs); Caremaster (10 hrs); Daybreak Rotary (13 hrs); First National Bank (20 hrs); Flint River Regional Library (10 hrs); Griffin Region College and Career Academy Student Ambassadors (15 hrs); Memorial Drive Vet Clinic (8 hrs); Paragon Consulting (4 hrs); Sprayberry and Company (10 hrs); United Bank (8 hrs). And, 17 Rotarians have signed up to ring 38 hours. Please add your name and/or business to our list of ringers.

ROTARY CLUB OF GRIFFIN, GA PO Box 473, Griffin, GA 30224 Club Number 4129

OFFICERS

President	-	Randy Peters
Vice-President	-	Tom Gardner
President-Elect	-	Charles Penny
Treasurer	-	Art Hammond
Secretary	-	Yvonne Langford
Sergeant-at-Arms	-	George Granade
Club Chaplain	-	Wade Miller
Bulletin Editor	-	Wayne Gardner
Photographer	-	William Wilson

DIRECTORS

Membership	-	Charles Woodroof
Public Relations	-	Tim Hearn
Club Administration	-	John White
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Vocational Service	-	Nat Doughtie
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New Generations	-	John Rainwater

DISTRICT 6900 AND ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

ED OUTLAW

Assistant District Governor

COURT DOWIS

District 6900 Governor

BARRY RASSIN

Rotary International President

JOIN GRIFFIN ROTARY ONLINE

griffinrotary.org

FOLLOW ROTARY CLUB OF GRIFFIN



Club Calendar OCTOBER IS ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH

October 20	Rotary Leadership Institute, Gordon College
October 24	WORLD POLIO DAY
October 25	Cynthia Cole Historic Banning Mills
October 25	ROTARY NETWORKING AFTER HOURS Margo's 5:30-7:00 PM
November 1	Darrell Dix, Sheriff Spalding County
	Board Meeting

Our Rotary Family

BIRTHDAYS

October 19	Terry Killingsworth
20	Jim Fortune
21	Bobby Chappell
25	Charles Woodroof
29	Chuck Copeland
November 12	John Plageman
13	Thom Sandwich
17	Charles Jones

ANNIVERSARIES

October 24	John & Elizabeth O'Neal
November 02	Bill & Ann Jones
02	Tamara & Greg Ison
07	Tom & Gail Gardner
19	Robert & Karol Sullins
24	Hal & Cathy Rahn
25	Chuck & Teresa Copeland
28	John & Ann Dillon
30	Brant Keller & Ann Cherette

MEETING MAKEUP INFORMATION

Monday - 12 Noon	Henry County	PJs Sidewalk Café, McDonough
Monday - 12:15 PM	Fayetteville	IHOP, 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

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION



100 YEARS OF DOING GOOD IN THE WORLD