Rotary Club of Thomasville

Newsletter

JANUARY 13, 2026

UPDATE

Regular Meeting Location Update

Following a decision by the board this week, plans are underway to **move the club's regular meetings to the Plaza in mid-February**. President Elect Joe Tarver will share more details about the move as plans are finalized. Third Thursday meetings at Second Harvest to pack vegetables and fruit will continue, and regular meetings will be at the Plaza.

As part of the transition, Community Service Director Melanie Cromartie will form a team to strengthen the club's current service projects and financial support for the Vashti Center. Members interested in joining the Vashti project team should contact Melanie.

Vashti has been a focus for our club's service since the club's founding in 1921. During the past year, our meetings on the Vashti Center's campus and interaction with staff and students helped members more fully understand the critical support the organization provides to more than 500 children and their families through our region.

GRSP Foundation Update

GRSP GEORGIA ROTARY STUDENT PROGRAM

At the mid-point of the fiscal year, current giving for the year toward the **Georgia Rotary Student Program Foundation** is just over $13,000, leaving us $11,850 shy of our $25,000 goal.

Your 100% giving rate allows our club to get back at least 50% of

MEETINGS

January is Vocational Service Month

1/15	Second Harvest: Sort & Pack Produce
1/22	All the Buzz Apiaries
1/29	Thomasville Antiques Show
2/5	Rotary Foundation Update | Jason Goldman
2/12	Thomasville Bicentennial
2/19	Second Harvest: Pack & Sort Produce
2/26	A Visit at Hands and Hearts | Susie Shin
3/5	Ashley Palmer & Lorrie Millings-Thomasville School/Credit

EVENTS

1/17	NEW! Fresh Produce Market at Restoration Tabernacle Ministries
1/21	Coffee Chat
2/12	Blood Drive
2/13	Valentine Party at Scott Senior Center
2/18	Coffee Chat
2/21	Fresh Produce Market at Weston Park
3/9	Board Meeting
3/17	Honoring our local Heroes-Thomasville Police & Thomas Co Sheriff

LEADERSHIP

President	Nathaniel Tyler
President-Elect	Joe Tarver
Immediate PP	Marta Jones-Turner
Vice President	Joe Tarver
Treasurer	Warren Ballard
Secretary	Anne Candelaria Flores

the funds required to host a GRSP student or students. This year, donations from last year covered 100% of our current GRSP student's costs, meaning no money came from our local budget to support **Helena Komrzyova**.

All donations toward GRSP must be recorded by March 26 to be counted this year in our efforts to win the **Jake Cheatham Award** at District Conference in April. The Jake Cheatham award is based on per capita giving for clubs our size in the district. We've won the Jake Cheatham Award 16 consecutive years (18 times, total), and are hopeful of winning it again this year, but it is not a given! At this point last year, our giving total was significantly higher — $21,177, with per capita giving of $169.42. Currently, our per capita giving is $105.20, so we have ground to make up!

You received a letter in October that included your current donation level, but if you'd like an updated record of your GRSP donation total for the year, please contact Debbie Goodman at dgoodman@116dawson.com or (229) 227-8249. As always, I appreciate your generosity and ask for your continued support for this great program.

Donations to the GRSP Foundation can be made at any time in any amount. Write a check to GRSP and either give it to a board member at the check-in table at a club meeting or mail it to Thomasville Rotary Club, P.O. Box 1277, Thomasville, GA 31799.

Thursday, Jan. 15 & Saturday, Jan. 17

UPDATE: Partnering with HOTC for Manna Drop

The club will meet on **Thursday, Jan. 15** at **11:30 a.m.** at Second Harvest Food Bank to pack food boxes for Second Harvest. This month, we will not be packing for our typical fresh produce distribution. We will be helping Second Harvest pack food. After we finish packing, enjoy a box lunch with the team or grab one to go. Please join us!

Executive Secretary/Director	Teri White
Past President	Wayne Newsome
Past President	André Marria

Directors

Club President Nominee	Chandler Giddes
Public Image	David Sofferin
Foundation	Jason Goldman
Membership	Arthur Wigfall
Service Projects	Melanie Cromartie
Youth Service	Chandler Giddes
Admin	Sally Bowman

ROTARY CLUB OF THOMASVILLE

Thursdays, 12:15 pm
The Plaza Restuarant
217 Broad St
Thomasville, GA 31792

ROTARY ONLINE

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

YEARS OF SERVICE

1/14	Scott Smith (18)
1/15	Vann Middleton (11)
1/16	Chris Kerr (1) 10 years in Rotary
1/24	Charlene Parrish (24)
1/31	Dawna Bicknell Tanner (7)
1/31	Lorraine Williams Rahming (7)
2/1	Marta Jones-Turner (32)
2/1	Bradford Jackson (32)
2/2	Frances Parker (3) 30 years in Rotary
2/2	Harry Tomlinson (3) 45 years in Rotary
2/6	Craig Miller (1) 19 years in Rotary
2/8	Joe Tarver (8)

2/9 Arthur Wigfall (3)



On **Saturday, Jan. 17** we will join forces with Hands On Thomas County and other community partners for the **MLK Jr. Day of Service Manna Drop** at Restoration Tabernacle Ministries, 1002 N. Broad St. Set up will begin at 8 a.m. and distribution will begin at 9 a.m. or sooner. Please join us for this powerful event to support the community.



Thursday, Jan. 15

Wine or Whine at Sweet Cacao



Wine or Whine
Thursday, Jan. 15
Sweet Cacao
114 N. Broad St.
5:30 to 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 21

Coffee Chat

Join us **Wednesday, Jan. 21** at Grassroots Coffee anytime between **7:30 a.m. and 8:15 a.m.** for a cup of coffee and a casual conversation with fellow Rotarians! Stay long enough to enjoy breakfast and get to know your fellow Rotarians better or grab your coffee to go. No agenda, no program.

