



# MILLEDGEVILLE ROTARY - MAY 21, 2009



## TODAY'S PROGRAM

Milledgeville Rotary welcomes Georgia State Senator Johnny Grant (R-25) as our keynote speaker.

### Rotarian of the Day

Keith Barlow

### LAST WEEK



Dale Young, the Interim Dean of the J. Whitney Bunting School of Business at GCSU, was the guest speaker last week. He gave an update of all the improvements, upgrades, and new things going on at GCSU. GCSU is growing by leaps and bounds and is an institution of which we should all be proud.

### VISITING ROTARIANS

None

### GUESTS

Ben Archer . . . . . Mark Archer  
Peter and Ginny Spataro - Ed Weimer

### ABSENTEES

Becker, Black, Burke, Chandler, Collins, Cox, Davidson, Dyer, Gandy, Gheesling, Gunn, Hall, Hattaway, Johnson, Jones, Neely, Parker, Reese, Roberts, Sibilsky Jr., Stephens, Theus

### MAKE-UPS

None

### RICH BERTOLI MEMORIAL CART FUND

\$8<sup>61</sup> TOTAL: \$2,138<sup>99</sup>

### 50/50 CLUB

47 Cards Left

Pot: \$81<sup>50</sup>

## Oliver wows audience at Downtown Rotary

Our Brad Oliver was the guest speaker at the Downtown Rotary Club on April 29 and presented a program on "What Rotary Means To Me". Accompanying Brad were Rotarians Laura Thompson, Larry Kenyon, and Assistant Governor Tommy Jefferson.

Brad did an outstanding job with his presentation & received a standing ovation from Club Members at the conclusion of his speech! Good job, Brad...we are proud of you!



Shown in the picture with Brad, Laura, Larry, and Tommy are Club President Cyndee Busbee and her entire Board of Directors.

## New member push

Don't forget we really want to push getting new members into the club. So much so that if you bring a new member into the club you will be reimbursed for 2 meals and receive \$50 off of your membership dues for the year. If you think about it, we will basically pay you to eat lunch with a friend once a week. You can't beat that deal!

## RLI Training Schedule

May 23rd, Savannah, GA — Savannah Technical Institute Parts 1,2,3

June 27th, Dublin, GA — Heart of Ga. Tech. College Parts 1,2,3,DL



Hopefully you've already registered for the Rotary International Convention. The deadline was Tuesday, March 31.

If you haven't been back to Birmingham since the 1984 convention, you may not recognize this former industrial town. Now a lively canal city known for its outstanding shopping and dining, Birmingham — or Brum, as the natives call it — underwent a dramatic facelift in the 1990s. The transformation resulted in a modern, more pedestrian-friendly city that retains traces of its medieval and Industrial Age roots.

Visit [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) to download the convention booklet for more reasons to come to Birmingham in 2009. This 24-page booklet also contains registration, hotel reservation, and Host Organization Committee forms.

All housing changes/inquiries must be made directly to the Birmingham Convention Bureau until 8 May 2009. Birmingham Convention Bureau will handle all individual and group housing requests. Reservations are fulfilled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Mail:  
Birmingham Convention Bureau  
Millennium Point Level 4  
Curzon Street  
Birmingham  
B4 7XG  
England

Phone: +44 (0) 121 202 5154  
Fax: +44 (0) 121 202 5123  
E-mail: [bcba.commodation@marketingbirmingham.com](mailto:bcba.commodation@marketingbirmingham.com)

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Iran releases former Rotary Scholar, journalist

The 11 May release of former Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar and U.S. journalist Roxana Saberi, imprisoned in Iran on charges of spying, brought elation and relief to people worldwide, especially to Rotarians of Fargo, North Dakota.

Saberi, a Fargo native, was arrested in January and initially accused of working with expired press credentials, but authorities later charged her with espionage. Her release came after an Iranian appeals court reduced her eight-year prison sentence to a suspended two-year sentence.

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Fargo, Saberi was selected as a 1999-2000 Ambassadorial Scholar to attend the University of Cambridge, where she studied journalism.

Fargo club president Joel Fremstad wrote a letter to Mohammad Khazaei, permanent representative of Iran to the United Nations, and Iranian

Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki, explaining Saberi's connection to Rotary and its mission and requesting her release.

Fremstad, who worked on Capitol Hill in 2003-04 for U.S. Representative Earl Pomeroy of North Dakota, contacted his former boss to express concern on behalf of all Rotarians in the state. Pomeroy, who was a Rotary Scholar in 1975-76 at Durham University in England, got involved and worked closely with the U.S. State Department on Saberi's release. Days before she was freed, he contacted Khazaei for an update on her situation.

"A lot of people, including Iranian officials, coordinated together so that the proper diplomacy [could] take action in



Former Rotary Scholar Roxana Saberi smiles as she talks with media in Tehran, Iran, 12 May after her release from prison.

Saberi's release," says Fremstad. "Everyone was excited and relieved to hear the good news."

"In North Dakota, when a friend or neighbor is in trouble, we come together and lend a hand," says Pomeroy. "That was especially true in Roxana's case, where countless individuals and groups came forward to offer their support.

"As a fellow Rotary Scholar, I am especially proud of the work Rotarians did on Roxana's behalf throughout this ordeal," he says. "We don't know what ultimately led to Roxana's release, but I am confident that the rallies, letters, and countless displays of support for Roxana back home played no small part."

Gary Nolte, past governor of District 5580, who helped select Saberi for the Ambassadorial Scholarships program, rejoiced after hearing the news of her release.

"It was an absolute rush when I heard," says Nolte, a member of the Rotary Club of Moorhead, Minnesota, USA. "Saberi is extremely intelligent and confident. During the scholarship interview process, it actually seemed like she was interviewing us. She had everything going for her."

Saberi, whose father was born in Iran, holds dual U.S.-Iranian citizenship. She moved to Iran in 2003, where she worked as a freelance journalist for the BBC and National Public Radio. She plans to return to Fargo, where her family lives.

"We're all very much looking forward to her coming home," says Fremstad. "I'm sure there will be a great celebration upon her return."

## DEFINITION OF ROTARY

Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide, who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. There are approximately 1.2 million Rotarians, members of 31,936 Rotary clubs in 166 countries. Rotary is not a political organization, but all Rotarians are vitally concerned with everything pertaining to good citizenship and the election of good men and women to public office.

Rotary is not a charitable organization, yet its activities exemplify the charity and the sacrifices that one should expect from people who believe that they have a responsibility to help others. Rotary is not a religious organization, but it is built on those eternal principles that have served as the moral compass for people throughout the ages.

## OBJECT OF ROTARY

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise through the development of acquaintance as the opportunity for service, the promotion of high ethical standards in business and professions, through service in one's personal, business, and community life, and the advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace.

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Rotary International is to support its member clubs in fulfilling the Object of Rotary by:

- Fostering unity among member clubs;
- Strengthening and expanding Rotary around the world;
- Communicating worldwide the work of Rotary; and
- Providing a system of international administration.

## ONGOING MAKE-UP OPPORTUNITIES

(1) Sponsoring a new member. (2) Volunteering at a local school.

(3) Visiting another Rotary Club. (4) Earn one make-up per quarter by visiting the e-club at [www.rotaryclubone.org](http://www.rotaryclubone.org) and taking the "test." Print the receipt and give it to Club Secretary Halsey Leavitt. (5) Attend a Rotary Board meeting. (6) Attend monthly breakfast meeting.

## ROTARY WEBSITES

Milledgeville Rotary: [www.milledgeville Rotary.org](http://www.milledgeville Rotary.org) District 6920: [www.rotarydistrict6920.net](http://www.rotarydistrict6920.net) Rotary International: [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)