



Rotaripost

NOON — 12:00
Meeting
August 3,
2021

Keynote

Rotary Membership Strategies

Tuesday,
12:00 Noon

Historical Start
12:13 p.m.
In-Person at
Hilton Hotel
Restaurant &
Zoom On-Line
Option

Rotarians
Serving Others

Lunch James
Money Adams

Raffle Mark
Tickets Crews

Invocation Robert
 McGowen

Zoom Richard
Operator Brontoli

Greeter - Thomas
Scanner Mayfield

Verni Wright Howard



Our very own **Verni Howard** was selected to serve Rotary District 6190 as District Membership Chair. She has already made numerous presentations on Rotary membership strategies to clubs in our district.

Verni is a native of Shreveport, a graduate of Caddo Magnet High who furthered her studies at LSU Baton Rouge earning a BS in microbiology and a MPA a few years after that.

After more than 18 years of corporate and non-profit banking experience, Verni became the executive director of Providence House in 2015. Under her leadership, Providence House became the only 4-STAR Child Development Center in Caddo Parish.

Verni has been a finalist for numerous awards including the Virginia Shehee Influential Woman Award and the Athena Award and is a recipient of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Angel Award. She is a member of the Louisiana 4-H Foundation's Board of Directors, Christus Highland Quality, Strategic Planning/Finance Committees, the Choice Neighborhood Implementation Advisory Group, Bancorp South CRA Advisory Group and an ex-officio member of the board of Providence House. In 2021 she was named a Top Business Professional of the Year Honoree.

Verni became a member of our Rotary club in 2016, served as a club director in 2018-2019 and is a Paul Harris Fellow.

President Lawrence let the club know that rather than having a Rotary moment each week, he wants to provide an opportunity for our members to have a two minute podium time to tell about themselves, their business, their hobbies, etc.

This is a great opportunity to let fellow Rotarians know a bit about you.

Volunteer for this opportunity! See page 2 for our first volunteer!



Engagement

Hybrid Meetings

We will continue to offer hybrid meetings (in-person and Zoom). Here is the Zoom recurring invite that can be used for meetings. If you are unable to use the link, simply sign into your free Zoom account, click on the option to Join a Meeting and use the Meeting ID and Password. The waiting room will be used to monitor admittance and avoid any “Zoom bombing”.

Topic: Rotary Club of Shreveport Weekly Meeting
Time: August 3, 2021—12:00 PM Central Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83836609051?pwd=VGlxbUFL0ILSGIwVVNEM3kzL0dGZz09>

Meeting ID: 838 3660 9051
Passcode: 870740

SIGN UP FOR THIS SPOT!

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Sarah Collier provided our first “2 Minute Engagement” last Tuesday. Sarah was born and raised in a small town in Kansas and attended the University of Kansas. She came to Shreveport in 1984 and two years later she and her husband Mike bought three **Manpower** franchises. Today, they own 12 franchises in four states with their corporate office in Benton, LA.

In 2003, they bought an old church in Benton and moved their corporate office into part of that building but also created **Bellevue Place** which is a wonderful wedding chapel venue.

Two of their sons are involved in drag racing so now **Collier Racing** has a full drag racing team and the family spends many weekends on the road. More recently, the Colliers have become involved in horse racing—although Sarah is quick to point out that is Mike’s hobby, not hers. Sarah enjoys glass fusing, sewing and pottery.



Sarah joined our club in 1989, one of our first women members! She served as club president in 2008-2009, is a Major Donor Level 2, a Rotary Foundation Benefactor and a member of the Paul Harris Society.

New Member—Steve Lesher

Steve Lesher was introduced as a new member last Tuesday. Steve and his family relocated to Shreveport last April as he began to serve as the Senior Pastor at Kings Highway Christian Church at the corner of Kings Hwy and Line Ave.

Steve was born in Escondido, California but grew up in Virginia. His father was a Navy fighter pilot in Vietnam so the family was stationed at Virginia Beach and Washington, D.C. Interestingly, Steve's great-grandfather manufactured Lesher bassoons and oboes in Elkhart, Indiana. His grandfather operated the Lesher Reed Company, which specialized in oboe and bassoon reeds for music educators and their practicing students.

After a brief career in graphic design, Steve received his B.S. in Christian service and then attended Lexington Seminary where he received his masters in divinity. He met his wife at Seminary. Steve's passion is mission work. He has led high school youth on mission trips for 30 years including trips to Kenya, Bogota and Ecuador. He enjoys fishing, golf and pottery.

Steve first joined Rotary in Maysville, Kentucky and later a club in Somerset, Kentucky. He enjoyed the Rotary service projects, particularly the toilet seat horseshoe game hosted by the Mayville Rotary Club. Steve's classification is Religion, Christian and his sponsors are Dianne Clark and Laurie Boswell.



(From left) Steve Lesher, Dianne Clark and President Lawrence.

Last Week's Program



The video from last week's program (presenter: Dr. Eric Kalivoda from the Louisiana DOTD) has been uploaded to our Facebook page. You can view it [at this link](#).

Surprise Paul Harris Fellowship For Graham Thompson



(From left) Graham Thompson, Greg Lott and Lawrence Calhoun.

Last Tuesday, Greg Lott surprised fellow Rotarian **Graham Thompson** with a Paul Harris Fellowship.

Graham is a native of Nacogdoches, TX who received his B.S. in petroleum engineering from the University of Texas. He joined Brammer Engineering in 2009. For the last several months he has been managing an oil and gas operation near San Augustine, TX and has not been able to get back to our Tuesday lunch meetings.

Graham is a member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers and has served on the board for the Ark-La-Tex Oilmen's Golf Association. He and his wife Carolyn are active in their church and with the Volunteers of America organization.

LAST CHANCE : Rotary Leadership Institute

All three parts of RLI are scheduled for **Saturday, August 7 from 8:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Squire Creek Country Club in Choudrant, LA.** Lunch is provided.

What is RLI? The initials stand for Rotary Leadership Institute. It is a three-part program and provides leadership lessons that apply to Rotary and your work. Most of our red badge members and other new members will find this to be a valuable leadership tool.

See Judy for registration instructions:



Part 1 is paid by the District. Our club will pay Parts 2 and 3. Great opportunity for a leadership course!!

FREE

FREE

FREE

FREE



- 1—Guest Greg Barkley with Anna Maria Sparke.
- 2—Guest Grant Smith with Doug Abington.
- 3—Graham Thompson, Renee Petree, Melissa Ricou and Donna Johnson.
- 4—Greg Lott and Patrick Harrison.
- 5—Kirk Davis and Donna Johnson.

Seen on Tuesday
Seen on Tuesday





Rotaripost

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Call Judy Bellew if you have any questions about the club.

Follow us on Facebook



Raffle Winners Last Week

TRF Raffle—Kathy French

*Thank you for your donation to The Rotary Foundation.
This applies toward your Paul Harris Fellowship*

Flowers from Rose-Neath Florist—

Mark Snow

Eggs from Andy Shehee's chickens—

Kathy French, Mark Crews & Larry Evensky

Vodka—Robert McGowen & Robert Smith

**Upcoming In-Person (Hilton
Restaurant) and
Zoom Program
August 10, 2021**

Pam Atchison

Shreveport Regional Arts Council

Birthdays

* Paul Harris Fellow + Past President PDG Past District Governor

◆ Major Donor

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|-----------|--------------------------|
| August 3 | Jennifer Elliott |
| August 4 | Zelda Tucker* |
| August 5 | Allen Organick* |
| August 8 | Peyton Cole* |
| August 10 | Jon Keith* |
| August 11 | Scott Wysong* |
| August 16 | Paul Demopulos |
| August 18 | Jim Graves* |
| August 19 | Pete Bratlie* |
| August 23 | Justin Lord |
| August 25 | Amanda Simpson* |
| August 29 | Karen Johnson◆, Sue Lee* |
| August 31 | Carl Bullard |



Going-Going-Gone

The last of the Meleck vodka has now been awarded. Robert Smith was pleased that his was the last name called!