



# Rota - Reel

## The Rotary Club of Valdosta

*"A 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club"*



www.ValdostaRotary.org

Volume 1, Issue 27, February 9, 2011

### This Week's Program

#### *Opportunity Central - ReKasa Deen*



The Valdosta-Lowndes Chamber is positioning Metro Valdosta as Opportunity Central with opportunities for business to grow and thrive, career opportunities for well-educated young professionals and opportunities for cultural interests and active lifestyles.

Today we will be learning more from the Chamber's Business Development Director ReKasa Deen. She will be sharing with us how the Chamber is working to facilitate the growth of knowledge-based jobs, which traditionally pay

higher wages.

ReKasa Deen is a 2009 Graduate of Valdosta State University. She is currently the Business Development Director for the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce. She works on the Chamber's initiative to facilitate job growth for college and university graduates as well as the Chamber's initiative to enhance the pro-business environment in Valdosta-Lowndes County.

Deen also serves as the Chambers staff liaison for MetroOne Young Professionals Network, working to attract and retain young professionals. Before becoming Business Development Director for the Chamber, she held the positions of Business Expansion and Development Coordinator and Communications Director. She is currently working toward her Master of Arts in Communication at VSU.

### This Week At A Glance

Program:

*Opportunity Central  
ReKasa Deen*

Greeters:

*Arthur Herndon  
Al Howell*

### OPPORTUNITY CENTRAL

The Chamber's Smart Community Initiative



### L.E.A.D.

#### *Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner*



The Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner is an opportunity for our community to say thank you and to show its appreciation for local law enforcement professionals serving in Lowndes County. All Lowndes County communities are invited to participate each year.

The two-fold purpose of this dinner is: 1) to give recognition to law officers in general and to honor "Officers of the Year" from area agencies, and 2) to set up a law enforcement assistance fund where 100% of the net proceeds from the dinner goes to assist law enforcement professionals and their families in times of special need.

*This may be the easiest service project you ever choose to get involved with. All you have to do is buy a ticket and enjoy dinner. Likewise, this is the single, largest audience we have in the Valdosta-Lowndes County area where the community gets to see Rotary at work. Please consider attending this very important event. Visit our website at [www.LEADDinner.com](http://www.LEADDinner.com) or see **Barbara Knight** to purchase your tickets today. Ask to have the tickets included on your next quarterly billing. It's that easy! Remember, this event will take the place of our regular meeting, and there will be no meeting at the conference center on Wednesday, February 16.*

### L.E.A.D. Law Enforcement Appreciation Dinner

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

James H. Rainwater  
Conference Center

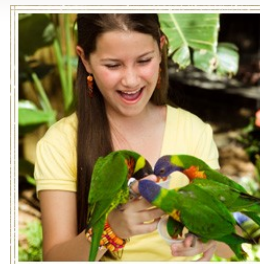
### Family of Rotary

#### *Family Fellowship Event*



On **Saturday, March 12** we will be partnering with Wild Adventures for our next Family of Rotary fellowship opportunity. Rotarian **Bob Montgomery** is putting together a very unique program.

Come and enjoy the park, a meal with your fellow Rotarians, and then go behind the scenes to see things you'll never get to see as a regular guest. Be sure and save the date and make plans to bring the entire family.





Attendance & Donations

Attendance:  
55 of 103

Happy Dollars:  
\$20.00

Literacy Buckets:  
\$42.65



Last week's program was brought to us by our friends Randy and Suzanne Cox. Randy and Suzanne are members of the local Dance Club, USA Dance. The Valdosta Chapter of USA Dance, Inc. is part of a national organization that promotes social ballroom dancing. The Valdosta Chapter holds its dances the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month at the lovely Woman's Building next to Drexel Park and across from VSU. The dance starts at 8:30 p.m. and includes the opportunity to perform a wide range of dances from the Waltz to the Swing.

Sunshine Report



*Charles Powell brought our Sunshine Report last week. Charles welcomed our guests and shared a few very powerful words from Mother Teresa. Thank you Charles!*



After doing a brief presentation on the USA Dance, Inc. organization, Randy and Suzanne performed a couple of demonstration dances. They encouraged everyone to come out and participate and have fun learning the dances.



*It was good to have Harriett Messcher with us once again. Harriett has been traveling and was very happy to be back in south Georgia and not caught in the snow storms to the north. Harriett also announced that she is now freelancing. To learn more about her new adventure, To The Rescue, visit [www.hpmtotherescue.com](http://www.hpmtotherescue.com).*



Multiple generations of Rotarians were present at last week's gathering, and the fellowship and friendships just keep getting stronger. We were honored with many special guests. Here we see Art Smith accompanied by his lovely wife Helen, and Zach Miller who was accompanied by his lovely new bride Cassie. If you're missing our weekly gatherings, you are missing out on the great fellowship of Rotary.



This Rotary year features a culture of innovation in which we are looking at all aspects of our policies, practices, and procedures to see if they can be modernized and improved. Not surprisingly for an old and large organization like ours, we are identifying many areas that could, and should, be brought up to date.

But at the same time, I fully recognize that some things are so significant in Rotary's success that they are sacrosanct. They are referred to in the RI Strategic Plan as our core values, but I prefer to call them our DNA. They are the characteristics that distinguish Rotary from all other organizations. They are the essence of who Rotarians are and what Rotarians have in common around the world.

The five core values named in the RI Strategic Plan are fellowship, service, integrity, diversity, and leadership. Young people prefer the word *networking* to our traditional word of *fellowship*, but to me they are equivalent. Both words lead to lasting friendships in our clubs, which keep us together between projects and which make Rotary membership truly priceless. Friendship is clearly the most essential element of Rotary's DNA!

Rotarians should not worry that the current emphasis on modernization will damage our core values. That would be alien to Cowboy Logic, which includes the admonitions "Remember that some things are not for sale" and "Know where to draw the line." I want to assure Rotarians that we will not alter the values and attitudes that have made Rotary a premier organization – one that is now on the world stage through PolioPlus!

We have so much to be proud of as Rotarians. This is our finest hour, and our best days are still ahead as we help our clubs to be Bigger, Better, and Bolder. Along with our five core values, persistent progress is another prestigious part of Rotary's DNA!

RI President  
Ray Klinginsmith

*The  
Strategic Plan  
is Part of Our  
Rotary DNA*





Greeter Schedule

Date	Greeter 1	Greeter 2
February 9	Arthur Herndon	Al Howell
February 23	Bill Kent	Sharon LaBranche
March 2	John LaHood	Claire Lee
March 9	Bill Lester	Jerry Long

Greeters are assigned alphabetically using the roster found on the back of your Rota-Reel. Greeters play an important role in our weekly gathering, not only for our guests, but to each one of us as members. Greeters should be in place from 12:00 to 12:30. Please help by watching the schedule and knowing when you are scheduled. If for any reason you cannot serve on your scheduled date, please contact **Corinne Simmons** at [corinne.simmons@themethodisthome.org](mailto:corinne.simmons@themethodisthome.org) or **Kerry Morris** at [kwmorris@valdosta.edu](mailto:kwmorris@valdosta.edu).

Upcoming Programs & Meetings

February 15  
*LEAD Dinner*  
Rainwater Conference Center

February 16  
*No Weekly Meeting Today*

February 15  
*METS*  
Linda Herdina

Club Projects and Activities

Club Service



MEMBERSHIP

Members are encouraged to help attract new members to the club.

ORIENTATION

New members are made familiar with the purpose and expectations of Rotary before induction.

FOUNDATION

Members work together to fund the goals of Rotary.

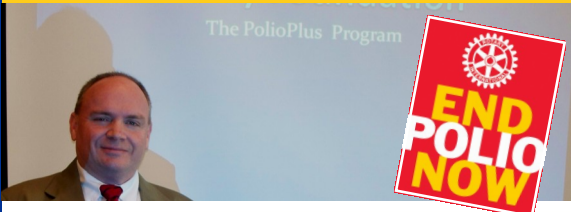


PAUL HARRIS FELLOW

Rotarians who have made a cumulative contribution of \$1,000 are designated Paul Harris Fellows. Our club has achieved the status of a 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club.

EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR [EREY]

A project to get every member to donate \$100 a year to the Foundation. With that donation one becomes a sustaining member and takes part in fueling the economic engine of Rotary.



POLIO PLUS

A program that has helped eradicate polio throughout most of the world. With the help of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Rotary is in the final push to eliminate it in Pakistan, Afghanistan, India, and Nigeria.

MEETINGS

Members coordinate weekly greeters, song leaders, invocation, and Sunshine Report.

PUBLIC RELATIONS INTERN PROGRAM

Top Valdosta State University public relations students compete for the opportunity to assist the club with its PR activities. They work with a club member to disseminate news about the impact of Rotary within the club and district and in the community. For this, each is awarded a stipend.

BULLETIN

The weekly Rota-Reel gives information about programs, activities, members, and events.

WEBMASTER

Our website [www.valdostarotary.org](http://www.valdostarotary.org) is a gateway to Rotary for Rotarians and non-Rotarians alike.

Vocational Service



LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DINNER [LEAD]

The dinner has two objectives: to recognize and honor the officers of the year; and to build the Rotary Law Enforcement Fund, which can be used to assist officers and their families in times of special need.

VOCATIONAL AWARDS

Our club recognizes persons within our community that have demonstrated outstanding vocational and occupational service. Nominations are submitted by our members, and the award is presented to the winner during a club meeting.

Community Service

HAPPY DOLLARS / GUEST SPEAKER

Money raised from members wanting to make announcements at club meetings. The money is used to buy books in honor of our guest speakers, and the books are placed in our local library.

COINS FOR ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH TRUST [CART]

On the fourth Wednesday of the month, CART containers are passed around the tables. The money collected is sent to the Trust which distributes funds to selected research institutions. 100% of the money goes towards research for a cure.



IMAGINATION LIBRARY

The Rotary clubs of Valdosta, Valdosta North, and Valdosta Sunrise are working with the Ferst Foundation and the Dolly Parton Foundation to raise money for books for pre-school children in Lowndes County. Children enrolled in the program receive an Imagination Library book - from *The Little Engine that Could* to *Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come* - each month until age five.



**COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN EDUCATION [CPIE]** - Our club is partnered with Valdosta's and Lowndes County's only Title I public schools to provide educational Assistance.

● PAUSE TO PASS / SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Cups are passed at each table every week. The money raised is donated to the libraries at J.L. Lomax and Pine Grove Elementary Schools, our CPIE schools.

● MAGAZINES FOR STUDENTS

Magazines are brought to the meeting on the first Wednesday of every month. They are collected as members walk in and taken to J.L. Lomax School for children to read.

● READING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

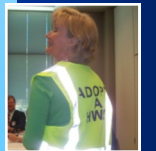
Members of our club go to J.L. Lomax to help teachers with under-privileged children. Activities include helping with reading, math, and general mentoring.

RING THE BELL

Our club volunteers to ring the bell for the Salvation Army for one day during the Christmas season. Members sign up to ring the bell for one hour.

HIGHWAY CLEAN UP

Our Club participates in the Adopt-A-Highway program. Our mile is on US 84, just east of the intersection with Inner Perimeter Road.



TRAVELERS ASSISTANCE

Club members help people involved in accidents while traveling through Valdosta get back on the road.

New Generations

INTERACT

Interact is the high school version of Rotary. Students ages 14-18 are able to participate. Each Interact Club is sponsored by a Rotary Club. Our club sponsors Interact Clubs at Georgia Christian School, Lowndes High School, Valdosta High School, and Valwood.



ROTARACT

Rotaract is the college version of Rotary. Our club sponsors the Rotaract club of Valdosta State University. The VSU faculty advisor is *John Gaston*.



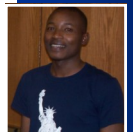
SPEECH CONTEST

The High School Speech Contest is a District 6920 sponsored contest to introduce students in our District to the concepts and workings of Rotary. These students compete in a contest in the local clubs, and the top two contestants from each club advance to the Zone competition. The winner from the Zone will present his or her speech at the District Conference and receive a check for \$1,250.



GEORGIA ROTARY STUDENT PROGRAM [GRSP]

Our club helps sponsor a foreign student to attend VSU for one year. A family from our club helps host the student during his or her stay in Valdosta.



WILL WATT

Rotarians who have made a cumulative contribution of \$1000 to GRSP are designated Will Watt Fellows.

International Service

INTERNATIONAL PROJECT

Our Club, in conjunction with Rotary clubs in another countries, sponsors a community project in that country. The Rotary Club of Valdosta has participated in a number of international projects, such as: earthquake relief in Haiti and Chile, and providing water filtration units for households in Rancho Dolores, Belize River Valley, Belize.



GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE

Each year our District pairs with a district in another country to exchange Rotary-led teams of young professionals who are not Rotarians.





**Rotary District**  
6920

**Club**  
4220

**Established**  
1919

**Officers**  
**President**  
Walter Elliott  
**President Elect**  
Greg Reid  
**Past President**  
Dennis Marks  
**Treasurer**  
Nick Valenti  
**Secretary**  
Barbara Knight  
**Sergeant at Arms**  
Bill Booth

**Board of Directors**  
 Myrna Ballard  
 Bo Broadfoot  
 Patti Clark  
 Kerry Morris  
 Bob Moon  
 Greg Reid  
 Wes Sewell  
 Nancy Warren  
 Rich Yokeley

**District 6920 Gov.**  
Lloyd Horadan  
**District 6920 Dir.**  
Bill Booth  
**District 6920 A. G.**  
Bob Harrison  
**RI President**  
Ray Klingensmith  
**GRSP Student Intern**  
Benjamin Ikaal  
 Sonia Robinson

The Rotary Club of Valdosta  
 P O Box 517  
 Valdosta, GA 31603-0517

**Area Rotary Meetings**

**Valdosta North**  
 Tuesday - 12:15 p.m.  
 Rainwater Conference Center

**Valdosta Sunrise**  
 Thursday - 7:30 a.m.  
 Kinderlou Ravine

**Nashville, GA**  
 Tuesday - Noon  
 Cadillac Ranch

**Tifton, GA**  
 Tuesday & Wednesday - Noon  
 Holiday Inn

**Quitman, GA**  
 Thursday - Noon  
 Presbyterian Home

**Madison, FL**  
 Wednesday - Noon  
 E & J's Restaurant

- |                                     |                                 |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| h Joyce Aigen                       | h John Gaston 84                | h Keven Parks ★                    |
| h*w Sam Allen                       | h Wendell Godbee                | h Henry Parrish                    |
| h*w Myrna Ballard 84 ★              | h Bob Goddard, III              | pp*th Suzannah Patterson 2005-2006 |
| h Anne Barnas                       | h Tim Golden                    | h Charles Powell 84                |
| h Felecia Barnes                    | h Tom Gooding                   | pp*h*w Jennifer Powell 1993-1994   |
| pp*th Richard Barnes 2006-2007      | h Lacie Guy ★                   | pp*h*w Malcolm Rainey              |
| h*w Keith Barrett                   | h*w Owen Harris ★               | h*w Patsy Reaves                   |
| pp*h*w Bill Booth ★ 1999-2000       | h Jack Hartley                  | h Greg Reid                        |
| h Ron Borders                       | h Jack Hearn ★                  | h*w Chris Roan ★                   |
| h Bo Broadfoot                      | h Arthur Herndon                | h Sonia Robinson                   |
| h*w Nathan Brown                    | h Al Howell                     | h Bert Rutland                     |
| h*w Stacy Bush                      | h Bill Kent                     | h*w Randy Sauls                    |
| h Sandy Campbell                    | h Barbara Knight                | h Wes Sewell ★                     |
| h Mason Caracciolo                  | h Sharon LaBranche ★            | h Corinne Simmons                  |
| h Austen Carroll                    | h John LaHood                   | h Arthur Smith                     |
| pp*h*w Carl Cates 2008-2009         | h Claire Lee                    | h Steven Smith                     |
| h Patti Clark 84                    | h Bill Lester                   | h*w Richard Stalvey ★              |
| h Russ Collett                      | h Jerry Long                    | h Alison Still                     |
| pp*th Marshall Conner ★ 1997-1998   | h Terri Lupo ★                  | h Joe Stubbs                       |
| pp*h*w Joe Cordova 1977-1978        | pp*th Tim Mabe                  | pp*th Robert Stump                 |
| h Bruce Cousins                     | pp*th Dennis Marks 84 2009-2010 | h*w John Thomas                    |
| h Lee Cox                           | pp*h*w Billy Martin 1985-1986   | h William Tidmore                  |
| pp*h*w Ed Crane                     | h Greg Martin                   | pp*h*w Al Turner 1992-1993         |
| h John Crawford                     | pp*h*w Richard May              | pp*h*w Nicholas Valenti 2000-2001  |
| pp*h*w V.L. Daughtery Jr. 2002-2003 | pp*h*w Arthur McLane 1984-1985  | h Donnie Warren                    |
| h Donald Davis                      | pp*th Tyson McLane ★ 1972-1973  | h*w Nancy Warren ★                 |
| pp*th James Dominey ★ 2007-2008     | h*w Roy McNeal                  | h Ryan Williams                    |
| h Beverly Edwards                   | h Harriet Messcher              | h Ed Willis                        |
| h John Edwards                      | h Zach Miller                   | h Clint Wills                      |
| h Moshe Elbaz                       | h Bob Montgomery                | h Rich Yokeley 84                  |
| p*th Walter Elliott 84              | h Walter Moody                  |                                    |
| h Trey Fausett                      | h Bob Moon                      |                                    |
| h Bill Feimster                     | h Kerry Morris ★                |                                    |
| h John Fretti                       | h Casey Music                   |                                    |
| h Bob Ganzak                        | h Ivan Nikolov                  |                                    |
| h Laverne Gaskins                   | h Tyrone O'Steen                |                                    |
|                                     | pp*th John Page                 |                                    |

h Paul Harris Fellow  
 w Will Watt Fellow  
 p Club President  
 pp Past President  
 ★ LEAD Dinner Supporter  
 84 Adopt-A-Highway  
 Ringing the Bell  
 Literacy Project

**FOUR-WAY TEST**

ROTARIANS STRIVE TO LIVE AND CONDUCT BUSINESS USING THESE GUIDELINES

- ✓ Is it the TRUTH?
- ✓ Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- ✓ Will it build GOODWILL and better FRIENDSHIPS?
- ✓ Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



For Rota-Reel corrections or comments please contact **Kerry Morris** at: [kwmorris@valdostarotary.org](mailto:kwmorris@valdostarotary.org) or call 229.245.3828.