

THE ROTARY CLUB OF MARIETTA **ROTALIGHT**

Putting "Service Above Self" in Marietta Since 1919
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Today's Guest Speaker
Jennifer D. Dobbs
Executive Director
Arts Bridge Foundation



Rotary
Club of Marietta



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Executive Director Arts Bridge Foundation

Jennifer D. Dobbs is the executive director for the ArtsBridge Foundation at the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre.

Since her arrival in May of 2017, Dobbs has increased revenue, inaugurated new programs, created new partnerships, conducted the first environmental scan and full strategic plan, revived various committees to assist with programming, hired and developed a new ArtsBridge team, expanded and diversified the Board, and much more. In recognition of her efforts, Dobbs received the 2019 liveSAFE Resources Tribute to Achievement, naming her to the organization's Academy of Women Leaders.

Dobbs hopes to continue outreach expansion at ArtsBridge and encourages businesses, organizations, foundations, and individuals to become invested partners.

Previously, Dobbs was the executive director of the Alonzo F. and Norris B. Herndon Foundation in Atlanta starting in 2015. Prior to that Dobbs was the director of development for the Center for Ethics at Emory University, where she raised funds for an inaugural international summit.

Before moving to Georgia from Pennsylvania, Dobbs' previous positions included director of development for the nationally-recognized Erie Art Museum; adjunct English faculty for Mercyhurst University at its inner-city Booker T. Washington Center satellite location; Leadership Giving Coordinator for United Way of Erie County, where she inaugurated a new women's leadership initiative, Women In Action; Target Area Local Leaders (TALL) Team Coordinator of the City of Erie's Weed and Seed Program, where she coordinated residential

participation in helping to eliminate problems in the city's most impoverished areas; and higher education administration at Gannon University and LaRoche College.

Dobbs graduated in 1999 with a bachelor's degree in English with a concentration in writing from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. She is a 2001 graduate of United Way of Erie County's Project Blueprint minority leadership development program. She was named a 2001-2002 Jupiter Fellow through the Clarence J. Jupiter Fellowship for Minority Professionals at the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), a program that trained her in institutional advancement. In August 2003, she earned a master's degree in public administration with a concentration in organizational leadership from Gannon University in Erie, Pa. In 2008 Dobbs completed her international Resident Fellowship program with United Way of America (now United Way Worldwide), which trained her to be a CEO by developing her professional and personal skills. Currently, Dobbs is a doctoral candidate at Walden University studying public policy and administration with a specialty in policy analysis.

Dobbs was a charter member and the inaugural chair of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA), established in 2008, where she assisted in the distribution of over \$20 million into the community for economic development purposes. Dobbs is a member of The Pennsylvania Society which honors achievement, rewards excellence, promotes good will and understanding and celebrates service to humanity in general. She is a devoted mother to three children, Xavier, Roman, and Isis, and a proud grandmother to twins, Presley Rose and Peyton Lily.

May Birthdays

Dan Flynn - May 1
Abbott Hall - May 5
Becky Sawyer - May 18
Gayle Jones - May 21
Walt Walker - May 23
Fred Beloin - May 29
Doug Haynie - May 31

Important Upcoming Events MARK YOUR CALENDAR

GOLF TOURNAMENT
MARIETTA COUNTRY CLUB
MONDAY, MAY 20

PRESIDENTS' NIGHT
MARIETTA COUNTRY CLUB
THURSDAY, JUNE 27

WHEN WE LAST MET

Minutes from the April 17 Meeting

With a strike of the Rotary Bell President **Jesse Evans** called the meeting to order at 12:15 PM. The invocation was offered by **Morgan Robinson**.



JESSE EVANS

Phil Knight introduced our guests: Visiting Rotarian Chuck Holmes, Renee McCormack, guest of **Marlys Williams** and Michael Drestdmic, guest of **Tom Downs**.



BARBARA SHAW

On a sad note, President Jesse announced the passing of **Barbara Shaw**, Rotary Club of Marietta member who joined our Club June 10, 1988.

Announcements included an invitation to attend a Rotary District social at Hoyle's, April 18, Easter sunrise service at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield, and Memorial Day 5K race May 25.

Today's program speaker, Ron Sifen was introduced by Past President **Fred Beloin**. Ron is a knowledgeable source of community issues especially related to traffic and transportation in the metropolitan Atlanta region. A graduate of Washington University, his topic was Improvements in Mobility.

The recently completed managed traffic lanes (toll lanes) on I-75 and I-575 cost \$835million. This cost was borne approximately 1/3 equally through Federal grants, State of Georgia and a private partnership. Drivers using these roadways are benefiting by average daily speeds of 50MPH on managed lanes and 30MPH on the traditional or unmanaged traffic lanes.

Future transportation infrastructure construction plans with completion scheduled for 2028 include managed lanes on GA 400, and through the middle of I-285 stretching around the northern arc from I-20 West to I-20 East. Further interstate road construction over the next 9 years includes replacement of the I-20 East and West interchanges.

The Opportunity Drawing was managed by **Carlos Rodriguez** and **Abbott Hall**. Phil Knight led the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4 Way Test. The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM. 🌀



RON SIFEN



~ Jim Peeler, Scribe
~ Richard Cope, Photos



Easter Sunrise Service at Kennesaw Mountain

Photos by Dale Covington and Chris Bethel

The Rotary Club of Marietta and the Kiwanis Club of Marietta again jointly sponsored Community Sunrise Services for approximately 400 people at the base of Kennesaw Mountain on Easter Sunday. Following prelude music, the services opened with a "Call to Sunrise Celebration" by the Assistant Governor of Rotary District 6900, Rev. Dr. **Mark Barbour**. Kiwanis President-Elect Debbie McCracken and Rotary President **Jesse Evans** extended "Welcomes and Greetings."

Rev. Nicholas Pepper, Lead Pastor of New Salem Baptist Church, gave the "Invocation," read selected passages from the Gospels and delivered the morning's message of assurance and hope. Rev. Chris Chance, song leader at New Salem, had the crowd on their feet singing *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* and three other hymns affirming Christ's resurrection.

The services were greatly facilitated by Rotary President-Elect **Chris Bethel** and his daughter Emma distributing programs and a team of Rotarians with flashlights in hand led by Past-President **Fred Beloin** stationed along the dark, half-mile hike

from the Park's auxiliary parking lot to the esplanade in front of the Park's headquarters building where the services were held. Taking seriously the musical admonition *This Little Little of Mine, I'm Gonna' Let it Shine* were Dr. **John Knox**, Police Chief **Dan Flynn** and his son Bill and **Dale Covington**.

~DWC



The 62nd Annual Rotary International District 6900 Conference

April 25-28, 2019 - Sandestin, Florida

by Mark Barbour and Chris Bethel



District Governor Court Dowis' proclamation to "Have Fun and They Will Come" proved to be true as AG **Mark Barbour**, President Elect **Chris Bethel**, and Past President **Joe DeSantis** and his bride Jo attended and enjoyed this year's annual District Conference. Mark, Chris, Joe and Jo took advantage of the opportunity to come together with 744 registered Rotarians from our District to energize, galvanize, maximize, optimize, socialize, summarize, and synchronize in convention revelry as brother and sister Rotarians.

As customary each year, our District General Sessions held Friday evening through Sunday morning, were all well done with a combination of skits, patriotic tributes, District and Rotary International Business presentations, District Awards, special "Service Recognitions", and special featured guest speakers and outstanding entertainment. The setting was beautiful; the camaraderie commendable, the House of Friendship remarkable, and the Rotary Spirit was, as always, exceptional! 🌈



The Kennesaw State University Rotaract Club at District Conference
Our Club and North Club sponsored their attendance

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, May 8, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting - Roger Tutterow, Ph.D Economist from Kennesaw State University
Thursday, May 9, 2019	10:30 AM	Cook and Serve at MUST Ministries
Wednesday, May 15, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – Meris Lutz, Atlanta Journal Constitution; Journalism & Foreign Correspondence
Monday, May 20, 2019	12:15 PM	S. A. White Annual Golf Tournament
Wednesday, May 22, 2019	12:15 PM	NO MEETING due to Golf Tournament
Wednesday, May 29, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – TBA
Wednesday, June 5, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – TBA
Wednesday, June 12, 2019	12:15 PM	Luncheon Meeting – Kevin Scott, Principles of Leadership
Thursday, June 13, 2019	10:30 AM	Cook and Serve at MUST Ministries
Thursday, June 27, 2019	5:00 PM	Presidents' Night – Marietta Country Club

MARIETTA ROTARY CLUB

CLUB OFFICERS 2018-19 Jesse Evans, *President*

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Marla Blackstone, *Co-Secretary*
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Jeff Cooper, *Co-Secretary*
Brad Leskoven, *Treasurer*
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Meeting makeups may be emailed to:

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