



Rotaripost

NOON — 12:00 Meeting

February 14, 2023

Keynote

Ronald McDonald House — Shreveport



Janell Mason is the CEO of the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Arkansas based in Little Rock. During the eight years she volunteered and served on the Board of the organization she was asked to chair its \$9 million capital campaign to build the much-needed and new Ronald McDonald House to replace the current facility. Near the end of the successful campaign, the Board of Directors recruited her to become the charity's Executive Director in late 2015.

Prior to volunteering with Ronald McDonald House, Janell served as president of two managed healthcare companies in Arkansas and, previously, as a managed healthcare contracting consultant for multi-specialty physician groups in her hometown of Houston, Texas.

Since taking the helm of the Ronald McDonald House in Little Rock, the charity has been recognized for its impact and as an outstanding non-profit by local, state and national organizations. With oversight of its \$2.5 million annual budget, Janell has worked with the board and her leadership team to develop a comprehensive strategy for enrichment of care for families of critically ill children while building capacity for program expansion.



At this time, Janell is laser-focused on bringing the first Ronald McDonald House to Northwest Louisiana in Shreveport.

Congratulations, Rotarian Roy Griggs!

This month Ronald McDonald House Charities of Arkansas announced that Rotarian Roy Griggs, President & CEO of Griggs Enterprise and a McDonald's Owner/Operator, was added to the organization's Board of Directors. Griggs has been a McDonald's Operator for 34 years and is the first Owner/Operator from our area. Roy has been a Rotarian in our club since 2006.

**Tuesday,
12:00 Noon**

**Historical Start
12:13 p.m.**

**In-Person at
Hilton Hotel
Restaurant &
Zoom On-Line
Option**

Rotarians Serving Others

Lunch Money James Adams

Raffle Tickets Ross Smith

Invocation Laurie Boswell

Zoom Operator Lawrence Calhoun

Greeter - Scanner Need A Volunteer

Music Ross Smirh

MAJOR DONOR AWARDS



William E. "Wishy" and Janet Nolan were presented with their Major Donor Level 4 Crystal, pendant and pins by our District's Past District Governor Pamela Stewart, Rotary's Zone 31 Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator. Wishy first joined our club in 1963. As an ordained United Methodist clergy, he subsequently moved around the State with his Louisiana Methodist Conference assignments, always joining a local Rotary club. As a result, several clubs can claim him as a prior member- Bossier City, Winnsboro, Baton Rouge, and then Bastrop where he served as club president. He returned to our club (his FIRST club) in 1995. He has devoted over 60 years to Rotary. In addition to being Major Donor, Wishy established the Rotary Foundation Wishy Nolan Family Endowment. He is a Rotary Benefactor and a member of the Paul Harris Society. He has shared his love of Rotary with several family members, friends and fellow Rotarians by naming them as a Paul Harris Fellow.



Not only is Wishy devoted to Rotary, he is also devoted to Centenary College where he has endowed chairs. He is a published author, a renowned poet and a great photographer. With all of that, Wishy will tell you that he is just a humble preacher!

Wishy's most recent gift of \$50,000 to The Rotary Foundation was to the Polio Plus Challenge which results in financing polio doses to 83,000 children around the world. With the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation "2 to 1 Match", the donation will provide impactful lifesaving vaccines to 250,000 children.

Celebrating Wishy and Janet's generous donation were several Rotary leaders in addition to Pamela Stewart: Past District Governor Ted Huffhines of the Rotary Club of Marshall, the Zone 31 Rotary Foundation Endowment/Major Gifts Advisor; Past District Governor Mike Groom of the Rotary Club of Cedar Creek Lake, TX, the Zone 31 Rotary Foundation End Polio Now Coordinator; 6190's District Governor Feico Kempff from the Red River Rotary Club; 6190's District Governor Elect Linda Thomas from the Rotary Club of Leesville; 6190's Past District Governors Jane Molloy, Bob Molloy, David Bellew all from the Rotary Club of South Shreveport; our club's district leaders (Past District Governor Karen Johnson, District Governor Nominee Rich Brontoli and District Governor Nominee Designate Lawrence Calhoun).

MAJOR DONOR AWARDS

Pamela Stewart presented our Rotarian **Karen Johnson** with her Major Donor Level 2 Crystal, pendant and lapel pin. In addition to being the Immediate Past District Governor and our District's Foundation Chair, she is the Treasurer for Ole Man River PETS, a facilitator for Rotary Leadership Institute and the Zone's Global Grant Resource Coordinator.

Karen's first connection with Rotary was in 1996 when she became a member of the Capital City Rotary Club. After she relocated to our area, she joined the Bossier City Rotary Club and became their club president. In 2015 she moved her membership to our club.



As owner of Lighthouse Home Sales and Property Management, Karen is a self-described recovering CPA and an avid scuba diver.



Rotarian Wishy Nolan presented **James and Silvia Blewett** with their Major Donor Level 1 Crystal, pendant and pins. James is a life-long resident of Shreveport, graduated from Byrd and then LA Tech with a finance degree. He began his 50+ years in the banking industry at First National Bank. James joined our club in 1993 and served as a club director in 2019-2020.

In his retirement, James spends time at his farm near Plain Dealing. He and Silvia have been married for 54 years, have three children and six grandchildren. Wishy shared that when he (Wishy) was younger and broke that James loaned him \$300 to make it through a month—Wishy publicly thanked him for that loan so many years ago. James shared that Wishy has been a close personal friend for many years and has been an inspiration for him.

MORE MAJOR DONOR AWARDS



Richard and Sil Brontoli received their Major Donor Level 1 Crystal, pendant and lapel pins. A native of New York, Rich grew up often out of the U.S. (Indonesia, Somalia) with the family following his dad's job. After graduating with a degree in civil engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and a masters degree from the University of Florida, Rich joined the Army and served for 20 years as an engineer. He met Sil while in the Army as she was an Army nurse. When Rich retired from the Army, he and Sil relocated to Shreveport in 1993 where Rich became the Executive Director of the Red River Valley Association. He joined our club in 1994. They have been married for over 30 years and have two grown children.



Over the years, Rich has served and/or led almost all of our committees, received our club's Service Above Self award in 2014-2015 and served as Club President in 2019-2020. He has been a District Assistant Governor, is chairing our district finance committee and will be our District Governor in 2024-2025.



(Above) Bob Molloy and Jane Molloy with Judy Bellew.



(Above) Scott Bates, Scott Hughes and Ross Smith

MORE MAJOR DONOR AWARDS

Fred and Melinda Kent were presented with their Major Donor Level 1 Crystal, pendant and lapel pins. Fred, a native of Shreveport, is a graduate of LSU and participated in Leadership Louisiana. He has served in several leadership roles in local organizations: past president of B'nai Zion Congregation, past president of Independent Insurance Agents of Shreveport-Bossier, past president of Goodwill Industries, past campaign chair for United Way and Vice-President of Arthur J. Gallagher Co. He and Melinda recently received the Outstanding Fund-raising Volunteers by the Association of FundRaising Professionals of North LA Chapter. Fred joined our club in 2001. He and Melinda have been married for 42 years and have two children.



(From Left) Sidney Kent, Fred Kent, Melinda Kent.



District Rotary Foundation Banquet

Saturday, February 25th—Hilton Garden Inn, Bossier City—6:00 P.M.

\$65 per person (\$67 credit card at door)

Our Board approved that our club will pay for the member's registration (with the member paying for his/her guest). Limited offer due to budgeting.

Advise Judy Bellew if you are interested and want her to register you!

10 of our club's Rotarians are already registered—get in on the free registration!



(Clockwise from top left)

- Hoyt Bain & James Blewett.
- Walter Lamb.
- Curtis Joseph, Pamela Stewart & David Brainis.
- Curtis Joseph in his Mardi Gras tux.
- Trey Giglio & Megann McDaniel



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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Unless written objection is received within seven days, there will be added to the membership of

Rotary Club of Shreveport

the following:

David L. Callecod

**Callecod Advisory
Group, LLC
Owner**

Classification

Medical Services, Consulting

Proposer & Endorser

Gard Wayt & Africa Price

Pierre L. Smith

**Salvation Army of NWLA
Major, Commanding Of-
ficer**

Classification

Associations, Charitable &
Service

Proposer & Endorser

Gard Wayt & Greg Juneau

Scott R. Wolf

(Prior Member of Rotary
Club of West Shreveport)

**Blanchard, Walker,
O'Quin & Roberts
Director/Shareholder**

Classification

Law Practice, General

Proposer & Endorser

Curtis R. Joseph, Jr. &
John T. Cox, Jr.



(From left) Kathy French, Darrell Rebouche, Tim Magner, Lamar Goree and Curtis Joseph.



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Judy Bellew
Executive Director
P.O. Box 380
Shreveport, LA 71162



Cell Phone: 318-294-8385
shreveportrotary@gmail.com
www.rotaryclubofshreveport.org, Grady

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

Follow us on Facebook



Raffle Winners Last Week

TRF Raffle—Merritt Chastain
This will go toward your Paul Harris level

Rose-Neath flowers—Megann McDaniel

Eggs from Andy Shehee’s hens—
Karen Johnson, John Tuggle, Peyton Cole

Upcoming In-Person (Hilton Restaurant) and Zoom Program

February 21, 2023

**Michael Riordan
Shreveport Citizens United**

Food Bank Quarterly Rotary “pack the senior boxes” Service Project

Tuesday, February 21st—5:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.
285 Mt. Zion Rd—Food Bank’s new warehouse

Maximum of 14 spots available—10 spots are still up for grabs—great activity for youth so bring a child or grandchild!

[Register at this link!](#)

Watch last week’s meeting video on our Facebook page at [this link](#).

