



THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Telling A Story To Create Bridges



Richardson

Norma Richardson, Creative Director for the Main Street Players, loves to tell a story, and she especially loves to do it through theater and media productions. Richardson began her program by telling the story of how she returned to her hometown Griffin to establish the Main Street Players. She returned home in the mid-1990s to be the caregiver for her mother who passed 4 years later. Norma decided to remain in Griffin and, along with 3 high school classmates who had also returned to Griffin, established the nonprofit in 1999 for an adventure in theater. At that time, it was all a dream, but eventually Main Street Players arose from their efforts. *Yours, Anne* opened on September 13, 2001, just after the 9/11 attacks. But, as Richardson noted, that story was one of fear, an appropriate topic for that time. She now proudly tells

a story of the accomplishments and impacts made by Main Street Players. "We have brought 30,000 to 40,000 people to our downtown which is significant for a little theater," she said. "It's a destination!" Over the past 16 seasons, Main Street Players has put on 80 productions with over 700 performances. They have diversified with 9 student productions and now their new Young Audience program which involves adults performing to youth audiences. Richardson also shared the story that theater is much more than just entertainment; it also educates and inspires. When their productions involve social awareness topics, they will bring in specialists and experts on the topics to provide "talk backs" with the audiences after the performances. She shared that their most recent performance of *Steel Magnolias* with its focus on organ transplants inspired a mother and daughter to register as organ donors. The daughter passed away recently, but many of her organs were used to save the lives of several recipients. "You never really know what kind of impact you are making," Norma added. Richardson is now at the threshold of planning to tell yet another story. She plans to replicate the Story Bridge Method used by Dr. Richard O. Geer to build community cohesion and commitment here in Griffin. She said, "Everyone has a story, and sharing those stories with others creates connections." The process will likely take 12 to 18 months to complete and will involve gathering and recording stories from all sectors of our community, conducting workshops within community groups, and eventually translating all into stage performance that is fun, inspirational, and educational. For more information on the Story Bridge Program and Method, you might visit the url communityperformanceinternational.org. And, for more information on the Main Street Players, visit mainstreetplayers.org. *The Boys Next Door* will open next week with performances from April 20th through 30th. "This is a story of 4 mentally challenged men living in a group home," Richardson said. "It is funny and heartbreaking."

...By Wayne Gardner

Club Calendar

APRIL IS MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH MONTH

April 20	No Noon Meeting
April 21-24	District Conference
April 27	Kristen Miller UGA Archway Update
May 4	Kevin Hawkins Project Unlearn
	Board Meeting @ 5:45 PM

Our Rotary Family

BIRTHDAYS

April 18	Pricha Bunya
21	Sonny Hunt
26	Bill Baldwin
28	Ann Walker
30	Tommy Hopkins

ANNIVERSARIES

April 23	David & Marie Knight
26	Jim & Eileen Ogletree
28	Katy & Ben Arrowood

GRIFFIN ROTARY RECOGNIZED FOR KETTLE DRIVE



George and Jill Granade were on hand at the April 10th Salvation Army Appreciation Banquet where Griffin Rotary was recognized as managing the Kettle that collected the most donations during the Holiday Season. George and President Janice Wallace are shown proudly displaying the recognition plaque.

PAUL HARRIS FELLOW RECOGNITION



Tony Powell was recognized by President Janice Wallace with his Paul Harris Plus One commemorating his continued giving and commitment to the Rotary Foundation.

SUNSHINE CHUCK RIPS MILLENNIALS



Chuck Copeland provided a ray of sunshine during Thursday's meeting by ripping on the highly underserved Millennials. Visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RGvrmItfMrA> for far more details on Chuck's position.

GRIFFIN ROTARY ONLINE
griffinrotary.org

ATTENDANCE

Thanks to all who attended this week's meeting. With the 4 makeups, we had an attendance of 67% this week. For those who could not attend Thursday's meeting, please know that you were missed and we hope to see you at our next meeting.

MAKE UPS (4): Stephanie Windham @ Barnesville; Eddie Johnston @ Daybreak and Rome; George Granade @ Salvation Army Appreciation Banquet

MISSING SPOKES (45): Tim Bevins, Kim Brown, Pricha Bunya, Eric Callahan, Bobby Chappell, Will Childs, Bill Cooper, Kristen Dutton, Allen Edwards, Chris Edwards, Bennie Evans, Jim Fortune, Joy Gaddy, Adam Greer, Eddie Grogan, Ben Johnson, Eddie Johnston, Kirk Kealey, Brant Keller, Terry Killingsworth, Alton Knight, David Knight, Dave Lamb, David Luckie, Henry Mabbett, Josh Messer, Patrick Michel, Mark Milam, Steve Mulder, Niles Murray, Jim Ogletree, John O'Neal, Mark Peek, Eric Pitts, John Plageman, John Rainwater, Med Roach, Jeff Rosecrans, Thom Sandwich, Bill Shapard, Brooke Tardy, Ann Walker, John White, Kelvin Williams, Charles Woodroof

GRSP FAMILY VISITS GRIFFIN ROTARY



Bill and Alyson Dallas welcomed our GRSP student, Julia, and her mother, father, and brother to Griffin Rotary this week.

ROTARY CLUB OF GRIFFIN, GA
PO Box 473, Griffin, GA 30224

OFFICERS

- President - Janice Wallace
- Vice-President - Allen Edwards
- President-Elect - Tom Gardner
- Treasurer - Art Hammond
- Secretary - Yvonne Langford
- Sergeant-at-Arms - Kim Brown
- Club Chaplain - Med Roach
- Bulletin Editor - Wayne Gardner
- Photographer - William Wilson

DIRECTORS

- Membership - Katy Arrowood
- Public Relations - Brett Bell
- Club Administration - David Galloway
- Rotary Foundation - George Granade
- Vocational Service - Corey Letson
- Community Service - Kelvin Williams
- International Service - John Crouch
- New Generations - Brian Upson

ED OUTLAW

Assistant District Governor

RAYMOND RAY

District 6900 Governor

JOHN F. GERM

Rotary International President

MEETING MAKEUP INFORMATION

Monday – 12 Noon	Henry County	PJs Sidewalk Café, McDonough
Monday – 12:15 PM	Fayetteville	Village Cafe, Fayetteville
Monday – 6:30 PM	Coweta-Fayette	Senoia Coffee Company, Senoia
Tuesday – 12 Noon	Barnesville	Lamar Co. College & Career Academy
Tuesday – 12 Noon	Jackson/Butts Co.	Daughtry Park, Jackson
Tuesday – 12:15 PM	Thomaston/Upson Co	Thomaston-Upson Senior Center
Wednesday – 7:30 AM	Griffin Daybreak	J. Henry's Restaurant, Griffin
Wednesday – 12:15 PM	Clayton County	Holiday Inn, Jonesboro
Thursday – 7:15 AM	Fayette Daybreak	Windham ,Peachtree City
Friday – 12 Noon	Newnan	Newnan Country Club, Newnan

Rotary eClub One– One Makeup per Quarter