

# THE ROTARY CLUB OF MARIETTA **ROTALIGHT**

*Celebrating 100 Years of "Service Above Self"*

*August 14, 2019 • Volume 83, Number 6*



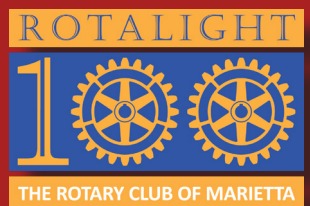
**TODAY'S SPEAKER**  
**Bob Hagan**  
Rotary Club of Roswell  
District Governor 2015-16



**Rotary**  
Club of Marietta



**ROTARY**  
**CONNECTS**  
**THE WORLD**



# Today's Speaker:

## BERT WHEELER HAGAN (BOB)

District Governor 2015-16 | District 6900 | Rotary Club of Roswell



Bob joined the Rotary Club of Roswell in 1998 and served as its President in 2008 – 2009 Rotary year. Prior to serving as Club President, he served as Treasurer, Secretary and President Elect. He has worked on multiple Roswell Rotary International Club Projects in Haiti, Costa Rica, Honduras, the Bahamas and Puerto Rico and India. Bob served on the Roswell Board of Directors from 2001 – 2010 and as Presidential Advisor for 2012 – 2013 and 2014 – 2015.

He was honored to receive the 2007 Roswell Rotarian of the Year Award and the 2008 Sheffield Award for leadership as Club President. He has been recognized for his contributions to the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International with a Paul Harris Fellow, Paul Harris Society, Arch Klump Society, Level 4 Foundation benefactor, and is a member of the Bequest Society. His contributions toward the Georgia Rotary Student Program have been recognized with a presentation of a Will Watt Fellow, Hue Thomas Fellow, Kendall Weisiger Fellow and a Ronnie Waller Fellow.

He has served Rotary District 6900 for many years including the 2009 Paul Harris Society Chair, 2010 Major Donor Chair, 2010 RI Montreal Convention Coordinator, 2011 Audit Committee, 2012 – 2014 Assistant Governor, 2013 District Conference Co-Chair and 2012 – 2014 Finance Committee and he was District Governor of District 6900 in 2015-16.

Bob's profession is Nursing and Assisted Living Homes Administration. An Advocate for long-term care for our seniors, he has owned and managed thirty-two nursing and assisted living homes in the southeast employing approximately 2,500 employees. Born in Lake City, Florida and raised in the Atlanta area, Bob has lived in Roswell since 1973. He graduated from Valdosta State University earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminology in 1976 with post graduate studies in Guidance and Counseling. He was a member of the ODK Honor Society and the Kappa Alpha Fraternity. He has served on the Board of Governors at VSU since 1986. He is still an active member of the Alumni Association, a current

Board Member of the VSU Foundation and the Blazer Athletic Board. Bob was the recipient of the Valdosta State University Distinguished Alumni Award for 2015. PDG Bob was recently inducted into the VSU athletic Hall of Fame.

Bob is a long time member of the Roswell United Methodist Church, and is on the Board of Stewards, as well as the Foundation Committee and Vice Chair of the Finance Committee. He has served for 20 years as the Foundation Chair for the "Malone Dodson Golf Tournament".

Bob also serves on the Board of many local charities including Homestretch, Chattahoochee Nature Center, Star

House Foundation, and the Child Development Association. Bob was honored in 2009 by the Georgia Ensemble Theatre by receiving the esteemed annual "Legacy Award" for his contribution to the community of Roswell. He is a long time Board member of The Cottage School where he had served as President for 9 years. He was honored for his long time support with the new education building named after him – HAGAN HALL. He is also the past President of the Georgia Ensemble Theatre and the HomeStretch Foundation. Bob was honored during the 2013 Magnolia Ball for his long support and dedication to the preservation of Bulloch Hall and was the President in 2017. He is currently active with the American Cancer Society who honored him at the 2014

"Evening of Hope", celebrating his bravery, positive attitude and a desire to help the American Cancer Society finish the fight against cancer. He is a 2014 recipient of the "History Maker of the Year Award 2014" from the Roswell Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Bob is serving as the Zone 34 - End Polio Now Coordinator in 2017-20 for Rotary International and has recently received the Regional Service Award for a Polio-Free World from The Rotary Foundation for his efforts in promoting polio eradication.

Bob is the proud father of two adult married children, Brooke and Chad, who are both Rotarians. He also has one grand-daughter named Winnie. Bob enjoys traveling, walking and is an avid tennis player.



# WHEN WE LAST MET

## Minutes from the August 7 Meeting

President **Chris Bethel** opened our meeting. **Neera Bahl** delivered the invocation, and **Mark Adams** introduced several visitors and guests. There were several announcements regarding upcoming events and other items of interest. Among these are the following:

- Family Social Night (afternoon) at SunTrust Park in conjunction with the San Francisco Giants game against the Braves. Starting time is 1:20.

- **Morgan Robertson** found a copy of the original charter of our club, and for that he was awarded the coveted Hershey Chocolate Bar.

- **Dan Kirk** attended the recent Polio Eradication Symposium and had his fourth published piece in the Marietta Daily Journal in the last three weeks.

- **Abbott Hall** and **Dale Covington** were among the recent featured speakers regarding the history of the Forest Hills neighborhood in Marietta for the Remember When series. They both grew up there, and from their talk, all of the rest of us wish we did too. A very nice account of their presentations was published in last Sunday's *Marietta Daily Journal*.

- The MUST crew is in great need of assistance this week. If you can help, please contact **Harold Hobbs**.

- Chief **Dan Flynn** announced that the Marietta Police Department will present a class entitled CASE (Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events) on what to do if you are confronted with an active shooter. This will occur on August 14th at Marietta High School from 6:30 until 8:30.

- Past President **Mark Barbour** announced the "Bring the Heat Cook Off" November 14th at Jim R. Miller Pavillion, of which our club is a sponsor. This event raises money for the Georgia National Guard Family Support Foundation, the Cobb County Public Safety Foundation, and the Veterans Court of Cobb County Bravo/Victor Fund.

Among Sunshine were:

- **Sandeep Kapoor's** son Ashton is a leading student at Harrison High School and was present to hear our speaker.

- Mark Adams announced that yesterday was his parents' fifty-eighth wedding anniversary which they celebrated by dining at Zaxby's and purchasing two new Chevrolets.

- Judge **Reuben Green** announced it his twentieth wedding anniversary.

- Tomorrow is **Ralph Knight's** seventieth birthday.

In honor of the club's 100th birthday, Morgan Robertson delivered the first of several presentations on the history of the Rotary Club of Marietta. He has worked many hours, along with **Buck Northcutt** and Harold Hobbs, to organize and analyze the available materials pertaining to club history. The primary sources are accounts from local newspapers, the original club minute books, the Rotary Buster (the predecessor to the *Rotalight*), thirty club scrapbooks, five previous histories of the club, and archived Rotalights - courtesy of past president **James Eubanks'** hard work.

**Jeff Cooper** introduced our speaker, Evan Mercer. Evan recently completed his first year at Vanderbilt Medical School. He is a graduate of Harrison High School. No written narrative can do justice to Evan's speech, but he began it by stating that he was "born into a world of silence." His story is one of perseverance which encouraged all of us to summon the courage and fortitude to power through life's difficulties.

As a child, he was not diagnosed with hearing loss until age four, when it was determined he had no hearing in his left ear and very little in his right ear. His elementary school classmates wanted to help him, but he wanted to go beyond needing their help. He wanted to assist them when they encountered a word they did not know or could not pronounce. He was told he could, at best, hope to be a janitor, preferably on the night shift, so he would not have to communicate as much. And so, spurred on by his mother, he began an extraordinary childhood of thousands of hours of extra reading and study to overcome his hearing issues.

Evan's efforts met with much success. He attained the rank of Eagle Scout and then went on to be named the National Eagle Scout of the Year. He graduated first in his class at Harrison High School and was a Commodore Scholar at Vanderbilt earning both neuroscience and communications degrees prior to starting medical school. His was perhaps the most inspiring Rotary speech of my years in Rotary.

The opportunity drawing was administered by **Chris Mitchell** and **Julie O'Meara**. The red marble remained in the bag this week. Julie led the pledge and the four-way test, and then the meeting was adjourned.

~ Scribe, Joe Atkins

# PHOTOS FROM AUGUST 7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

*by Jim Kellogg*



**JEFF COOPER INTRODUCES OUR GUEST SPEAKER**



**MARK ADAMS WELCOME VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS**



**IT WAS RALPH KNIGHT'S 70TH BIRTHDAY. MARK BARBOUR LEADS THE MEMBERS IN "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" TO RALPH**



**MORGAN ROBERTSON DELIVERS THE FIRST IN A SERIES ON OUR CLUB'S HISTORY**



**PRESIDENT CHRIS WITH EVAN MERCER**



**SPEAKER EVAN WITH HIS PROUD PARENTS**

# Rotarians Do Lunch at MUST Ministries

by Dale Covington

What's on the grocery bill of the RC of Marietta for doing this month's lunch at MUST Ministries? Here's what Master Chef **Harold Hobbs** and his son Adam brought into MUST's Kitchen:

- 30 lbs. of ground beef
- 4 # 10 cans of fruit salad
- 24 cans of tomato sauce
- 12 huge bags of egg noodles
- 5 lbs. of shredded Mozzarella cheese
- 4 bags of shredded lettuce
- 4 bags of shredded slaw

By 9:40 a.m., a 30-gallon pot of water for the pasta was getting really hot. Chef **Harold** began browning one of the 10-pound tubes of beef on the grill and Adam, **Marlys Williams** and **Dale Covington** opened cans of tropical fruit and tomato sauce. Once the noodles and beef were done, activity in the room kicked-up a notch as **Morgan Robertson** and everyone else at hand assembled six serving trays of the day's main entree, **Italian Hamburger Casserole**. Before long, Past-President **Tom Downs**, Dr. **Lewis Lipsius** and **Don Barbour** arrived to help followed by the best food servers on the planet, Dr. **John Knox**, **Ralph Knight** and **Doug Haynie**. Altogether, 105 diners at MUST enjoyed the best Italian fare this side of *Bel Paese*.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

|                               |          |  |
|-------------------------------|----------|--|
| Wednesday, August 21, 2019    | 12:15 PM | Luncheon Meeting – Scott Gerald,<br>Hollywood's \$1.5 billion Hard Rock Guitar!              |
| Wednesday, August 28, 2019    | 12:15 PM | Luncheon Meeting – Scott Hilton,<br>Executive Director for the Georgians<br>First Commission |
| Wednesday, September 4, 2019  |          | NO MEETING   |
| Wednesday, September 11, 2019 | 12:15 PM | Luncheon Meeting – TBA   |
| Thursday, September 12, 2019  | 10:30 AM | <b>MUST Ministries - Cook &amp; Serve</b>  |
| Saturday September 14, 2019   | 8:00 AM  | <b>Marietta READS! Kickoff (Marietta Square)</b>   |
| Wednesday, September 18, 2019 | 12:15 PM | Luncheon Meeting – District Governor,<br>Jim Squire  |
| Wednesday, September 25, 2019 | 12:15 PM | NO MEETING   |
| Wednesday, October 2, 2019    | 12:15 PM | Luncheon Meeting – Brad Hawkins,<br>Director of the Aviation History                         |

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