



The COGnition

The Official Publication of the Montgomery Rotary Club

Volume 108 No.28

Glenn Halbrooks, Editor

Jan. 9, 2023

NEXT PROGRAM, Jan 9th...



Will Ratliff recently stepped down after serving 34 years as CEO of Collateral Holdings, a company founded by his grandfather. He passed the CEO role to his nephew, Jonathan Ratliff. Collateral's businesses are in employee benefits, insurance services, and commercial real estate.

Will attended Amherst College, earned a doctorate in Applied Behavioral Science at UMass Amherst, and worked as a teacher, counselor, and school director before joining Collateral. He has been active in many community organizations, including YouthServe, which he helped found; Rotary Club of Birmingham; the National Conference for Community and Justice; St. Mary's Sewanee; Good News Children Education Mission in Kolkata, India; the Society of International Business Fellows; and A+ Education Partnership. Civic activities take up an ever-increasing share of his time. He is chair of an International Peace Conference taking place in Birmingham in 2023 initiated by Rotary.

Will and his wife, Carolyn, are members of St. Luke's Episcopal Church and have three grown children. His son Tom is married to the former Melody Gillezeau of Trinidad, whom he met while they were both working in Costa Rica. Tom also works at Collateral. His daughter Cassie lives and works in Atlanta. His daughter Lillie lives and works in New York and recently married Sam Breslow.

Monday's Greeter

Chris Dunn – Past President 2006-07

Morgan Laird – New Member

WEAR YOUR ROTARY PIN PROUDLY EVERYDAY!

Upcoming Programs

Jan. 9 Will Ratliff – Rotary Peace Conference

Jan. 16 No Meeting – MLK Day

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89075480240?pwd=WHNYWUtPOVdZR2tJRkN1UjV3SzMyQT09>

Meeting ID: 890 7548 0240

Passcode: 310095

Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89075480240>



Our Service Above Self Essay contest winner, Terecko Moore, named student of the month for December 2022. Congratulations Terecko!!

Rotarian News



Gov. Kay Ivey has announced she is naming Stacia Robinson of Montgomery to serve as director of the Alabama Office of Minority Affairs.

Nichelle Nix, who has served in the role for the last six years, is moving to the private sector to practice law.

Robinson comes to the post from BeneChoice Companies, LLC, a benefits and financial choices company. She also serves as district manager of Colonial Life Insurance Company. Robinson's expertise in business involvement includes employee benefits design and administration, as well as advertising consulting and professional speaking.

"From looking to engaging our students at Alabama's Historically Black Colleges and Universities to supporting minority and women-owned businesses to ensuring every Alabamian has the opportunity to provide for their families, we are setting important and necessary goals and having Stacia at the helm of the Alabama Office of Minority Affairs will be instrumental. I am sure that good things are in store for our folks," Gov. Ivey said in a statement.

Robinson also recently sold her BNI-Business Network Int'l Franchise, which she owned for 25 years. Further reiterating the fact that Robinson is a champion of small business, her involvement locally in Montgomery includes serving on the Industrial Development Board of Montgomery, the Leadership Council of the NFIB, the Alabama Small Business Commission, among many other ventures.

She was also the first African American female to serve on the Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors. As chairman of the Marketing & Promotions Task Force for the Council of Small Business Enterprises (COSBE), she won an ADDY award for the "Buy Greater Montgomery" campaign.

Robinson is excited to bring her experience to the Ivey Administration.

"I am looking forward to serving the great state of Alabama in this role on behalf of women and minorities," said Robinson. "I hope to bring my own experiences and curiosity of others to the role as this Administration strives to make 'Alabama the Beautiful' also Alabama the better for its citizens, especially for its women and all minorities."

A military career brought this Denver, Colorado native to Alabama. While spending seven years in the Air Force as a communications-computer officer, she completed her Master of Science degree in Counseling and Human Development at Troy University in Montgomery. Prior to that, she received her Bachelor of Science in Mathematics degree from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. Robinson's appointment is effective January 1, ahead of the governor's second term. Gov. Ivey will be inaugurated Monday, January 16, 2023.

— Information from the Office of Governor Kay Ivey



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2022-23 Officers

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President	Larry Carter, carter.lg@gmail.com	356-2278
President Elect	Taylor Williams, taylorwilliams@powersouth.com	324-4410
Vice President	Wes Littlefield, Littlefieldw@gokemco.net	651-1262
Immediate Past President	Stacia Robinson, stacia@benechoicecompanies.com	356-0243
Treasurer	Hank Hector, hjhector@netzero.net	279-6575
Executive Secretary	Brandi Hayes, office@montgomeryrotaryclub.com	467-0742

Directors

Kimberly Baker	538-1181, kimberlycp@aol.com (2020-2023)
Gary Cobbs	229-0032, gcobbs@ymcamontgomery.org (2020-2023)
Jerry Ingram	300-4273, Jerry@LandinAlabamaForSale.com (2019-2023)
Rodney Cousin	316-518-0261, rodney.cousin@scouting.org (2021-2024)
Jeff Gold	782-2269, jeff.gold@campbowwow.com (2022-2024)
Meredith Wills	221-0547, meredithpbrown@gmail.com (2021-2024)
Joel Roy	546-8163, jroy@amerifirstbank.com (2022-2025)
Kandis Steele	205-454-6777, ksteele331@yahoo.com (2022-2025)
Ted Hailes	451-1654, tchailes@mindspring.com (2022-2025)

Other Rotary Club Meeting Times for Makeup's:

Monday 7 a.m.

Prattville-Millbrook Sunrise Club
Hampton Inn

Tuesday 12 p.m.

Wetumpka Rotary Club
Wharf- 1st and 3rd Tuesday

Tuesday 12 p.m.

Prattville Rotary Club
Prattville Country Club

Tuesday 5:30 p.m.

Montgomery Sunset Rotary Club
Goat Haus

Thursday noon

Montgomery Capital Rotary Club
Wynlakes Country Club (upstairs meeting room)

Friday 7 a.m.

Montgomery Sunrise Rotary Club
Commerce Café (in Trustmark Bldg.)

[Make-up Online: www.rotaryclubone.org](http://www.rotaryclubone.org)

For directory of members & other club information please visit www.dacdb.org and register. (Use your email & last name or RI number as password)

Also visit www.rotary.org, www.montgomeryrotary.com (The password for the members only page is – tmrc) and www.rotary6880.org for useful information about our club and district.

Our Club address: 5015 Woods Crossing/ Montgomery, AL 36106.

Rotary District 6880 Mid-Year Conference and District Assembly – All Rotarians invited

January 20 – 21, 2023

Montgomery, Alabama

Conference Site and Host Hotel:

Hilton Garden Inn

7665 EastChase Parkway

Montgomery, AL 36117

To register for the event:

<https://www.dacdb.com/SecLogin3.cfm?EventID=77626686>

Dictionary Project



Picture of John Bowman and Jeremy Moreland delivering dictionaries to Chisholm Elementary on October 19th.

Happy Birthday to our Friends celebrating in January!!



Bob Seibels – Jan. 2nd
Robert Allan – Jan. 7th
Cristen Bozeman – Jan. 9th
Henry Davis – Jan. 10th
Charlie Edwards – Jan. 11th
Wes Littlefield – Jan. 28th
Amy Johnson – Jan. 30th
Larry Kloess – Jan. 30th
Bart Reeves – Jan. 31st

Important Update on Parking at RSA

We received notice that they do not want to leave the parking gate up for a long period of time anymore. Our Rotary club has been given one permanent number that you will need to use from now on. This is only good from 10:45 am-12:30pm. **CODE: 897745**