

The Nerve



A Weekly Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Tuscaloosa
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This Week, May 22 Brigadier General Allen M. Harrell

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The Rotary Club of Tuscaloosa has a long tradition of members with decorated service in the military, and of celebrating and honoring our active duty armed forces members and veterans. This Tuesday, just days after Armed Forces Day, the Club will continue to uphold that tradition. We welcome Brigadier **General Allen M. Harrell**, who will speak to the club on a wide range of matters stemming from his long experience in the military.

Harrell is Deputy Commander of the 167th Theater Sustainment Command, a logistics headquarters for United States Army operations in North America. He is responsible for strategic planning and coordination of support to active duty and federalized reserve forces in the United States Northern Command.

General Harrell was commissioned into the Regular Army in August 1980 through the ROTC program at the University of Alabama. He served as a Field Artillery officer on active duty in various battery and battalion level assignments from 1980-1986. He then served in the Army Reserve for three years before joining the Alabama Army National Guard in 1989.

General Harrell is a graduate of the University of Alabama, where he received a Bachelor's degree from the College of Commerce and Business Administration, in 1980, and of Emory University, where he earned an MBA in 1991. He also holds a 2002 Master of Science degree from the Army War College.

Last Week, May 15 Tuscaloosa Tourism and Sports Commission in Capable Hands

Susan West was our guest at last week's meeting of the Rotary Club of Tuscaloosa. West is the new CEO of Tuscaloosa Tourism & Sports Commission. **Rotarian Tina Jones** introduced the speaker.

West, who was an assistant dean at the Manderson School of Business at Alabama before accepting the position, was among ten applicants chosen from a nationwide search. She focused her remarks on three key services that the TTSC offers: First, they promote events, meetings, and so on (West mentioned the dragon boat races as an example of a recent success). Second, they assist companies and individual citizens in planning large meetings. Finally, West noted her organization's role in the bidding, staging, promotion and sponsorship of important sporting events. The Blue Angels and the Super Six State Football Championships have been among the most visible successes, of course, and Tuscaloosa is now planning to host a regional Archery Championship.

The collective economic impact of West's new organization on the city has been considerable. The numbers are still hard to gauge, but West estimates that in the last calendar year the events sponsored by the TTSC have had an economic impact of around \$11 million in Tuscaloosa.



Rotary Proposes New Member and Congratulates a Paul Harris Fellow

The Rotary Club of Tuscaloosa is pleased to propose **Jeremy Jones** as a new member. Jeremy is an engineer with Almon Associates. He was nominated by Bob Almon and has completed his Rotary orientation. Also, at last Tuesday's meeting, Rotarian Jerry Shepherd recognized **Rotarian John Wise** as the Club's newest Paul Harris Fellow. Congratulations

to John, and thanks to all of our Club's Paul Harris Fellows. Their contributions to the Rotary Foundation have helped eliminate polio on all but three countries worldwide.



At the Head Table, May 15

David Saylor is Senior Vice President and Director of Human Resources for Capstone Bank. He has degrees in Business Administration from the University of New York and Troy State University. He is also retired from the Army with 26 years active duty. He has lived in Selma for 29 years, and is married to the former Jennifer Rae Sellers, who is a retired Army aviator and retired school teacher. They have two children and one grandchild. **Nancy Jones**, an attorney for the Alabama Department of Mental Health, is a second generation Rotarian. Her father was a member of the Tuscaloosa Rotary Club for a number of years. Nancy attended both undergraduate and law school at the University of Alabama. She has been a member of our club since 2004 currently serves as the club Secretary. She also serves on the Board of A Woman's Place, a substance abuse treatment program for indigent women in Tuscaloosa County. She is married to Cam Jones, and they have two adult children and a grandson on the way. **Don Alverson**, born and raised in Tuscaloosa, graduated from the University of Alabama and entered the Air Force through ROTC. He was an Air Force pilot for 21 years and flew 331 combat missions in Vietnam. He retired in 1986 as a Lt. Col. and joined Merrill Lynch. He recently retired from that company as Director of Administration for Merrill's east coast offices. He has been married for over 37 years to his wife Sherri, and they have two grown children, Ryan and Ashley. **Tina Jones**, originally from Huntsville, moved to Tuscaloosa in 2008. She attended Southeastern

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

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May 29

**Dr. Mark
Heinrich, Shelton
State**

—

June 5

**Arcola Adduci,
Aliceville Prison
Warden**

“If there is any one particular in which I would have Rotary distinguished from other organizations, it is in the quality of character which results in the doing of things.”

— Paul Harris

Business College and Drake State College in Huntsville. She started in the hotel industry in 1983 and graduated Marriott Global Sales School in 2003. She currently serves on the Tuscaloosa Tourism and Sports Commission Board Executive Committee as Treasurer. She was also a member of the 2011 class of Leadership Tuscaloosa. She has two teenage sons, Jordan and Jonah.