



# Bulletin

## East Memphis Rotary Club

Cliff Williams, President

April 20, 2022  
Photographer: Bill Pickens  
2021-2022  
Our 33rd Year

[www.rotaryclubofmemphiseast.org](http://www.rotaryclubofmemphiseast.org)

Meeting 12:00 Noon

Shady Grove Event Center, 5530 Shady Grove, Memphis, TN 38120

### Upcoming Meetings

**April 27, 2022**  
Autumn Chastin  
Thistle & Bee

**May 4, 2022**  
Andy Nix  
MyCityRides

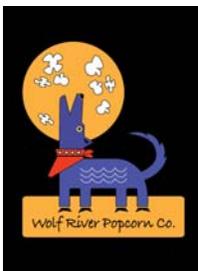
**May 11, 2022**  
Richard Myers  
Whitehaven HS/STEM

**May 18, 2022**  
Otis Sanford  
Journalism Chair, U of M

**June 1, 2022**  
Newcomers Reception  
Home of  
Mark Griffiee

**June 8, 2022**  
Ursula Madden  
Office of the Mayor

**June 15, 2022**  
Richard Shadyac  
St. Jude Children's Hospital



### Speaker Sponsor

### An Opportunity to Serve

See page 2 for an opportunity to be a part of new project where Braver Angels are proposing an alliance in Memphis.

Mark Beutelschies is spearheading this project. You can get in on the ground floor as the project develops.

### April 27, 2022

### CEO Autumn Chastin, Thistle & Bee



Autumn brings with her twenty years of experience as a lawyer and leader of her own firm, with a background of significant experience in child welfare and family law, and a passion for protecting the rights of trafficking survivors.

Autumn plans to continue to strengthen the basic Thistle & Bee program. In 2022, Thistle & Bee will expand both the clinical program resources and social enterprise. The latter will increase the number of beehives, expand the honey product line, and launch the corporate gift division. Autumn has laid out two goals to build upon Thistle & Bee's success. First, will be to find or build a transitional property where graduates can rent an apartment while they work and build their credit. Her second goal will address the issue of the children and survivors. Thistle & Bee will work with a guardianship program to provide the option of safe housing for children during the two years so mothers can focus on the program.

### April 20, 2022

### Gary Rosenfeld and Leo Arnoult Better Transit for a Better Memphis

To own a car, your income should be at least \$64,000 a year. Cars are expensive to purchase and to maintain which means there are many skilled workers in the city who rely on the Memphis Transit system. The city's system is greatly underfunded with few routes. In 1970 there were 300 buses running and today there are 80, trying to cover 300 square miles. There are jobs available to workers, but they must have access to the better paying jobs.



Gary Rosenfeld, CEO of MATA, pointed out that a plan to fully fund MATA, called Memphis Transit Vision 3.0, has been put in place and is supported by both the city and county mayors. When funded, at least 79,000 more people would have better service with buses running every 15 minutes to areas like the medical center and the southeast Memphis industrial area. The jobs are available, the workers just need reliable transportation.

Leo Arnoult, Arnoult & Associates, is working with Memphis Interfaith Coalition for Action & Hope (MICAHA) to fully fund the Vision 3.0. MICAHA is committed to a "Better Transit for a Better Memphis," by adding \$38 million to the plan. They are working with the city, county and TDOT to make the Vision a reality.



Gary Rosenfeld, Leo Arnoult and Cliff Williams



Jimmy Norman  
Northeast Rotary Club  
with us again this week



Also welcomed  
back was visitor  
Bobby Simmons



Mary Lou McCas  
guest of today's  
speakers



COVID and the holidays prevented us from presenting Joe Doss with his packet of information and Rotary pin. He has already proven he deserves the pin as he has been a star in our club

**Proposed New Member**

**Cal Overman**  
**Business Development**  
 Simmons Bank  
 sponsored by  
 Beth Dowdie

Classification:  
 Banking: Business Development

Classification Committee and Board of Directors recommend the named individuals for membership in our club. Any comments concerning the prospective members should be made in writing to Nina Gourley at 1661 Aaron Benner, Suite 300, Memphis, TN 38120. Email: ngourley@wucpas.com with a copy to Lee Hughes, 504 Sanga Circle West, Cordova, TN 38018, Email: lmhughes@costconsulting.net



Cal Overman  
He came  
He saw  
He joined!!!!

## Braver Angels

Have you ever struggled to have a calm discussion about a charged political issue with a family member or neighbor? We all know how difficult that can be.

We heard from Braver Angels, an organization that trains people from both political meanings to communicate civilly in March of this year. The organization is working to create a local chapter or an alliance in Memphis. As part of the process, they need to hold workshops that are equally populated by people who self-identify as red (Conservative) or blue (Progressive) leaning. The purpose is to provide a balanced experience that is co-moderated by one blue and one red moderator. Mary (red) who attended a recent workshop said, *I was amazed that the course really did help me talk to someone of a different party than I without arguing or feeling uncomfortable. We even found out we thought alike on several issues. It was well worth it to attend!*

The Mid-Town Rotary Club has expressed an interest in having a workshop with us with the presumption that our group will mostly be red and that their group will be mostly be blue. Wherever we will need each person to verify their typical disposition. This event will be held in the Fall. If you are generally interested or have any questions, please let Mark Beutelschies at [markb@farris-law.com](mailto:markb@farris-law.com) know so that he can coordinate with Mid-Town Rotary Club and Braver Angels.