



# Bulletin

## East Memphis Rotary Club

Nina Gourley, President

November 9, 2022  
Photographer: Bill Pickens  
2022-2023  
Our 34th Year

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

Meeting 12:00 Noon

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

### Upcoming Meetings

November 16, 2022  
Gina Sweat  
Memphis Fire Chief

November 23, 2022  
No Meeting  
Thanksgiving Week

November 30, 2022  
Brian McCurry  
Athletic Ministries

December 7, 2022  
Christmas Luncheon at  
White Station Elementary



December 15, 2022  
Christmas Party  
Home of  
Debra & Doug Owings

December 21, 2022  
No Meeting  
Christmas Week

December 28, 2022  
No Meeting  
New Year's Week



### Speaker Sponsor



Neal Graham spoke about his late father, Homer Albert Graham, who served in the U. S. Navy from 1943 -1966. Neal carries his father's dog tags every day as a reminder of the sacrifices he made in service to his country.

### November 16, 2022

#### Gina Sweat, Memphis Fire Chief



Gina Sweat began her career as a firefighter with the Memphis Fire Department on May 26, 1992. After rising through the ranks of the department, she was appointed by Mayor Jim Strickland in 2014 as the Fire Chief for the Memphis Fire Department.

She earned a Bachelor's of Business Administration in Marketing from Freed-Hardeman in 1988 where she played collegiate basketball. After joining the Department, she continued her education by obtaining a Bachelor's of Professional Studies in Fire Administration in 2000 and a Master's of Professional Studies in Strategic Leadership in 2013, both from the University of Memphis.

Chief Sweat has focused on many health and safety issues including purchasing SCBA with built-in thermal imaging cameras, on-duty health physicals, multiple carcinogen reduction initiatives, therapy dog program, and an online therapy program. The Memphis Fire Department became the lead agency for COVID-19 vaccinations in Shelby County in 2021 facilitating the delivery of over 1M doses. Chief Sweat contributes these successes and more to the dedicated members of the department who make a difference in the City of Memphis every day.

### November 9, 2022

#### Honoring our Veterans



This past week East Memphis Rotary honored veterans who served to protect our country during times of war; namely, WWII, Korea and Vietnam. We were honored to have veteran members and guests, representing every branch of service to briefly tell us about the places and times of their service. There were tears and laughter as they described their experiences.

Our program speaker was Diane Hight, founder of Forever Young, an organization dedicated to the Honor, Healing, and Hope for veterans. She shared that so many of our veterans suffer in silence as they relive the drama and trauma of their experiences and she just wants to bring joy into their lives. Forever Young has provided many trips to Washington, D.C., Pearl Harbor and numerous European countries, which has proven time and again to be healing for those making the trip.

Forever Young is funded by donations that go directly to grant wishes and services to veterans. It has become a full-time job with no pay for Diane and her family. Her pay is the satisfaction of being able to return veterans to the places where they once fought. Since its beginning in 2006, Forever Young has honored thousands of veterans.





*Thanks to Curt Schultheis  
for arranging the Color Guard  
as a part of our  
honor to veterans  
Also we have to thank John Snyder for  
introducing us to Curt.*



*Bob Schreiber was the  
only one who could  
still fit in his uniform,  
and he was proud of it!*



*President Nina, another great  
program. We were all so proud to say  
"Thank You for your Service"*



*Who does this guest look like?  
You guessed it,  
Lyle McGee, son of Dale McGee*



*A veteran and guest of  
Matt Haaga,  
Thomas Lanigan, did not  
make the group picture.*

*Earn your success based on service to  
others, not at the expense of others.*

*J. Jackson Brown, Jr.*

