



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

The Great American Eclipse

On Monday, August 21st, a total solar eclipse will traverse the U.S. continent from Oregon to South Carolina. This astronomical event has become known as the Great American Eclipse. On Thursday, Dr. R. Scott Harris, Planetary Geologist for the Fernbank Science Center, spoke to the Club about the upcoming eclipse noting that this "Great American Eclipse" will be the first one in 99 years that will go from coast to coast. The duration of totality with the moon blocking the sun will be only one to two minutes depending on location. This will be the first total solar eclipse in 38 years in the U.S. and the first in Georgia in 47 years. Harris



explained that the moon is moving as it orbits the earth while the sun is stationary as the earth rotates on its axis resulting in the shadow of the moon going from west (Salem, Oregon) to east (Charleston, South Carolina). Cloud cover often hinders observing an eclipse, especially in the southeastern U.S.

So, much effort has been placed in predicting cloud cover along the zone of totality for this eclipse. Many predict that Casper, Wyoming will be the very best land-based vantage point because of great weather prospects. Hopkinsville, Kentucky will experience the longest duration of totality (2 min 41.2 sec). But, Harris said the best place to view the eclipse may be in a boat on the ocean. He explained the boat could relocate quickly to view the eclipse if the weather was bad at that original viewing location. Indeed, hotels are booked along the zone of totality, and the highways will likely be jammed before and after the eclipse. The total eclipse across northeast Georgia will last 45 seconds to two and half minutes, depending on location. Clayton, Georgia will begin seeing the total eclipse at 2:36 p.m. Harris explained



Harris

that just before totality, the sky will appear a little red and then turn totally dark. During a total eclipse, you can see a "diamond ring effect" with the sun's light showing around the edge of the moon, as well as the appearance of "Baily beads" due to craters on the moon's surface. Harris recommended that we use solar eclipse glasses or welding glass grade 14 or higher to look directly at the sun during the eclipse. He added that the safest way to view the eclipse is using indirect projection, like pinpoint projection boxes. He discussed several ways to create these with the most interesting using the small holes in a Ritz Cracker. We will experience a 95 to 96% eclipse here locally, but we must also use glasses or indirect means to view the eclipse here. Harris said that the question that he is most frequently asked about this eclipse is why the shadow moves from the west to the east. He explained that the rotational speed of the earth is greater than the speed of the moon as it orbits the earth, thus causing the shadow to move from west to east. And, because the orbit of the moon is tilted approximately 5%, total eclipses usually occur over water. But, our earth's surface is also 75% water. Harris concluded by inviting everyone to visit the Fernbank Science Center, which is owned by the DeKalb School System and is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. He also encouraged everyone to get out and watch the Great American Eclipse because the next solar eclipse that will occur in the U.S. will be April 8, 2024.

....By George Granade

Club Calendar

AUGUST IS MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT MONTH IN ROTARY

August 17	Local High School Gridiron Preview with Coach Lloyd Bohannon
August 24	Kathleen Smith Wellstar Foundation Georgia Rural Tax Credit Program
August 31	Mathew Hauer Demographer, UGA Carl Vincent Institute of Government What Our Community Numbers Tell Us
September 7	Dr. Steve Wrigley Chancellor University System of Georgia

Our Rotary Family

BIRTHDAYS

August 13	John Newton
16	Tamara Ison
18	Bill Hardee

ANNIVERSARIES

August 15	George & Jill Granade
	Jim & Jayne Kirby
21	Wade & Jill Miller
23	Josh & Lauren Sprayberry
31	Thom & Linda Sandwich

THE GRIFFITARIAN

Host Families Needed for GRSP Event



Contact John Quinn to volunteer to host GRSP students for the GRSP weekend in Clayton County September 8-10. Our Club will provide homestays for 15 of the students. That will be housing for Friday and Saturday evenings.

View Eclipse Safely



Dave Lamb introduced our speaker by donning American Astronomical Society approved solar filters or "eclipse glasses" (ISO 12312-2 safety standard). Dave reminds us that looking directly at the sun is unsafe.

ROTARY CLUB OF GRIFFIN, GA
PO Box 473, Griffin, GA 30224
Club Number 4129

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Rotary International President

JOIN GRIFFIN ROTARY ONLINE

griffinrotary.org

FOLLOW ROTARY CLUB OF GRIFFIN



USE SAFETY GLASSES TO VIEW THE ECLIPSE



MEETING MAKEUP INFORMATION

Monday – 12 Noon	Henry County	PJs Sidewalk Café, McDonough
Monday – 12:15 PM	Fayetteville	IHOP, Fayetteville
Monday – 6:30 PM	Coweta-Fayette	Senoia Coffee Company, Senoia
Tuesday – 12 Noon	Barnesville	Lamar Co. College & Career Academy
Tuesday – 12 Noon	Jackson/Butts Co.	Daughtry Park, Jackson
Tuesday – 12:15 PM	Thomaston/Upson Co	Thomaston-Upson Senior Center
Wednesday – 7:30 AM	Griffin Daybreak	J. Henry's Restaurant, Griffin
Wednesday – 12:15 PM	Clayton County	Holiday Inn, Jonesboro
Thursday – 7:15 AM	Fayette Daybreak	Windham ,Peachtree City
Friday – 12 Noon	Newnan	Newnan Country Club, Newnan

Rotary eClub One– One Makeup per Quarter

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION



YEARS OF DOING GOOD IN THE WORLD

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