

ROTARY CLUB OF ABILENE

The Rotator

Service Above Self

THIS WEEK: March 23, 2018 - Gary Grubbs - Freedom Fest



Gary Grubbs will tell the club all about this summer's planned Freedom Fest, an "official" 4th of July event planned this year for Abilene.

As a longtime community booster active in all over town, Grubbs needs little introduction to this group. He's a native son, a lifelong West Texan.

He serves as the

Marketing/Advertising Manager at AdVantage Media/Lawrence Hall Abilene, but his involvement includes these few roles: Chamber of Commerce (Chair - 2014-2015); Abilene Business Council (Chair - 2005/2006); Abilene Convention and Visitors Bureau (Chair - 2012); Abilene Industrial Foundation (Chair-Elect - 2018) Military Affairs Committee (Honorary Commander - 7th OG - 2008 - Present); Crimestoppers of Abilene (President - 2009 - 2011); American Heart Assoc. - HeartWalk Committee (Chair - 2009); BBB (Chair 2013); Love and Care Ministries; He's active at Beltway Park Baptist Church; and various other civic activities and committees;

He and wife Karanne have three grown/married children and seven grand-children.

LAST MEETING: March 16, 2018 - Daina Jurka-Owen

Daina Jurika-Owen PhD is a former refugee resettlement professional and an academically trained folklorist.

Originally from Riga, Latvia,

She lives in Abilene and is a freelance writer, translator and refugee advocate. Her previous book, published in

ROTARIAN OF THE WEEK



**KAYLA BELLE
CHRISTIANSON**

Kayla Belle Christianson was born in Washington D.C. At that time her parents worked for the government, and grandfather was a Diplomat who traveled to over 149 countries, often taking Kayla with him. She grew up in Alexandria, Virginia, a suburb of Richmond, and her senior year of high school in Nelson County which is famous for The Walton's television show. Ironically, the woman who played Elizabeth was her drama teacher! She is the oldest of five girls. She met a boy at Christian Camp who told her about ACU, even though she was planning to attend NYU's

Latvia, Amerikas "salātu trauks" (Salad Bowl of America: Cultural Cookbook) introduces different cultural regions of the US through foodways. She is the author of several scholarly publications about folklore, culture and proverbs. Jurika-Owen is a member of AAUW Abilene Branch and of the Anthropology Association of Latvia.



She is BIA (Board of Immigration Appeals) accredited to provide legal immigration services to refugees and immigrants.

Jurika-Owen is married, has children and grandchildren, enjoys reading, gardening and is a 'fitbit' fan. She also likes to discover new cultures through travel.

NEXT WEEK: March 30, 2018 - No Meeting - Good Friday



As March 30 is Good Friday, we will not be meeting.

Have a safe and Happy Easter and we will see you back here Friday, April 6.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar. 23, 2018 - Gary Grubbs - Freedom Fest
- Mar. 30, 2018 - NO MEETING - GOOD FRIDAY
- April 6, 2018 - Steve Deiterich - Downtown Manager
- April 13, 2018 - Nancy Robinson - Keep Your Club Climbing on Course
- Apr. 17, 2018 - Taste of Abilene
- April 20, 2018 - Chuck Moser Day with Al Pickett
- April 27, 2018 - Klara - Exchange student from the Chez Republic
- May 4, 2018 - Isra - Exchange student from Chili

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[VOLUNTEERS NEEDED](#)

Time is closing in on our annual Taste of Abilene scheduled for Tuesday, April 17.

Our co-chairs, Kate Alvarez and Kayla Christianson, are working their ___s off to give Abilene another successful event but in order to do so, they need everyone's HELP. So, when they pass around the sign-up sheets Friday, be sure and put your name down at lease once, but twice would be

theatre program. Upon seeing the television studio at ACU and being told she could be in front of the camera her freshman year, she switched her focus and came to Abilene in 1997 at age 17. Kayla graduated her 4.5 year journalism program in 3 years (not even old enough to have an adult beverage at her graduation party). After accepting a job with the Discovery Channel, she met a boy named David who changed her mind about moving back to DC. They got married within the year (2000) while she was working on her Master's in Organizational Communication from ACU.

Kayla is the Owner and CEO (Chief Encouragement Officer) for IN-Focus Digital, a multimedia production company in Abilene. She founded IN-Focus Digital in 2001 as a video production business, and grew it slowly while completing a Masters in Communication at ACU ('03). Kayla continued building IN-Focus while teaching Communication, Website Development, and B&W Film Photography for HSU from 2003-2008. In 2006, Kayla devoted her time to the growing small business, expanding its services with graphic design. Most of her team are Millennials. Her experience in leading them over the last decade has led to a side speaking-career informing groups about multi-generational communication (2011). She founded La Belle Productions, LLC in 2014 allowing for three companies to be formed. In addition to IN-Focus Digital, she is CEO of IN-Focus Studio 302, a photography & media transfer studio in

nice.

As we didn't have enough volunteers from our club last year, we had to enlist volunteers for the other two Abilene Rotary Clubs.

GRANT RECIPIENTS



President Paul Thomas talks to several children at the annual Spring Family Night at The Grace Museum. During this night families enjoyed a movie, special art activities, old-fashioned festival games, face painting and other events. Our Rotary Club was featured as the sponsor for this event...our 2017 TOA grant money at work!

NEW MEMBER LUNCH POLICY

The Rotarian bringing a prospective new member to a meeting is responsible for paying for his/her lunch. The only free lunch from the club for the new member is on the day he/she is introduced as a new member.

CLUB ATTENDANCE

March 16, 2018 meeting

34 members out of 73 for an attendance percentage of 47.

DEALING FOR DOLLARS

Friday our pot will start out at \$661.00

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Paul Thomas
President-Elect	Kate Alvarez
Secretary	Mary Beth Kilgore

downtown Abilene, and La Belle Productions, a brand management and consulting firm. As of January 2017, her husband, David, joined the company as COO, Chief Optimism Officer, to run the day-to-day operations allowing Kayla to travel for Rotary and other speaking engagements.

Kayla is a past-president of the Rotary Club of Abilene (2011-2012). She attended the first-ever Rotary Young Professionals Summit in Chicago in 2014. She has presented to clubs, district assemblies, district conferences, and a zonal membership summit. She co-chaired our annual Taste of Abilene fundraiser. Since she began directing it five years ago, the event has grown from 18 restaurants to 55, and from 500 attendees to a sold-out 1500. She also chaired the Club's bylaws committee, and is serving as District 5790 Alumni Chair for 2015-2018. She is our Assistant Governor for 2017-2018 and will take on 10 Clubs with the start of the new Rotary year.

Kayla & David are new puppy parents to Brielle, a FRUG (French Bulldog & Pug). She is known for her pictures of Abilene and West Texas sunsets from her penthouse apartment at the Hotel Wooten. IN-Focus Digital & IN-Focus STUDIO 302 are on the first floor meaning only a 17-story elevator commute to work.

MAKE-UPS

SOUTHWEST ROTARY

Richard Rolison

PETS

Kate Alvarez

Treasurer	Peter Agnell
Directors	Donna Albus Dave Boyll Myra Dean Keith Carroll Shaun Martin Jim McNiece
Sergeant at Arms	Marty Pothier Asst: Charlie Kitchell
Immediate Past President	Richard Rolison

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

This section highlights our Rotary members who are active in the community.

Please let Mary Beth or Barbara know when you are involved in activities outside Rotary, vacationing in exotic places, change jobs, etc.

POLIO PLUS CONTRIBUTORS

for the 2017-2018 Rotary Year

All members are asked to contribute \$30.00 towards the 2017-2018 End Polio Now campaign. Those contributing thus far are listed below. Members who have donated since last week are in bold.

Peter Agnell
Donna Albus
Jared Bailey
Morris Baker
David Boyll
Ed Brokaw
Kent Brown
Keith Carroll
Turner Cariker
Kayla Christianson
Myra Dean
Frank Dlugas
Don Drennan
Doug Eichorst
Peter Fox
Gayla Fullerton
Renee Gaskin
Craig Haterius
Fred Lee Hughes
Betty Hukill
Erik Johnson
Mary Beth Kilgore
Austin King
Patty Knight
Paul Lenker
Sidney Levesque
Shaun Martin
Jim McNiece

Kayla Christianson

eCLUB One

Renee Gaskin - 2

MARCH BOARD MEETING

Peter Agnell
Jared Bailey
Dave Boyll
Kayla Christianson
Myra Dean
Mary Beth Kilgore
Charlie Kitchell
Jim McNiece
Marty Pothier
Richard Rolison
Paul Thomas

Send make-ups to

marybeth.kilgore@gmail.com

To complete a make-up online, contact one of the organizations below:

<http://www.oneworldrotary.org/>

<http://rotaryclubone.org/>

CLUB SERVICE

March 16, 2018

Registration:

Kate Alvarez

Invocation:

Chris Meeks

Singing/Pledge:

Morris Baker

Introductions:

Becky Spargo

Dealing for Dollars:

Sharla Wallace

EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR (EREY)

Congratulations to the following who have contributed to the 2017-2018 EREY program.

Morris Baker
Dave Boyll
Ed Brokaw

Debbie Moot
Bob McMillan
Peggy Manning
Marty Pothier
Erik Presley
Richard Rolison
Barbara Rollins
Mike Sadler
Mike Schweikhard
Becky Spargo
Paul Thomas

Kent Brown
Keith Carroll
Kayla Christianson
Don Drennan
Peter Fox
Gayla Fullerton
Erik Johnson
Paul Lenker
Shaun Martin
Marty Pothier
Richard Rolison
Paul Thomas