



Upcoming Events

*Speaker schedule and upcoming events can also be found on
Charlotte Rotary's website under "Events / News"*

Please note: The Rotary office will be open by appointment only from Mon., Dec. 23, 2024 through Fri., Jan. 3, 2025. Executive Secretary, [Christine Cipriano](#), will be available either by phone at 704-375-6816 or by email at christine@charlotterotary.org.

Tues., Dec. 24 - No Weekly Meeting

Volunteer opportunity is full! Weds., Dec. 25 - Volunteer Opportunity: [Christmas Morning Breakfast at Charlotte Rescue Mission](#), 6–8:30 a.m., 907 W. 1st St., Charlotte, NC 28202. Dress Attire: Black pants and white shirt. Email Tracy Reading at treading1@mac.com with questions.

Tues., Dec. 31 - No Weekly Meeting

Tues., Jan. 7 - Weekly Meeting: [Jen Thompson](#), 11-time I.P.F. World Powerlifting Champion and Influencer

Sat., Jan. 11 - RLI (Rotary Leadership Institute) Event: RLI, 8:15 a.m., Rowan Cabarrus Community College, 399 Biotechnology Lane, Kannapolis, NC. All Parts (I, II, and III) offered as well as two Graduate Courses. See details below.

Fri., Jan. 31 - District 7680 Event: [Charlotte Hornets Game](#), 7 p.m., Spectrum Center, Discounted tickets for members to sit together. See details below.

SAVE THE DATE! Thurs, Feb. 20 - Event: [CART Event](#), The Village on Morehead, 5-7 p.m.

This Week's Meeting



Holiday Program

by [Susie Masotti](#)

This week's Rotary program, emceed by [Tony Marciano](#), was a wonderful time celebrating the Holiday Season for everyone in attendance.

This festive affair was kicked off with an Ugly Sweater Contest. [Carla Dupuy](#) and [Susie Masotti](#) served as judges for the very tight competition. Susie took the microphone to award the prize. She recognized several members who participated in the contest – Past President [William Bradley](#) was quite dapper in his tacky Christmas suit (sweater) while [Mark Norman](#) wore a Santa sweater with adorable elf shoes. Master of Ceremonies [Tony Marciano](#) had a surprise “ugly” sweater that wished everyone a

Merry “Fishmas”. [Al Allison](#) brought the heat with an Elvis style Christmas shirt that was given to him by his mother many years ago. [Maggie Mitchem-Flanigan's](#) Pink Flamingo sweater was a huge hit and ran a close second. But the winner of the day was [Chuck Howard](#) who hit it out of the park by wearing a unique Christmas sweater featuring pockets that could hold your drink! Chuck received an adorable prize.

When the “business” was complete, Tony introduced Rotary members to share their favorite Christmas gift and why it was so special. [Click here to read more.](#)

A recording of the meeting can be found:

With slides: <https://vimeo.com/1040925528>

Without slides: <https://vimeo.com/1040926205>

This recording is fun from start to finish but the Holiday Program starts at about 39 minutes.







Club News

Condolences It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Kathy McElroy, beloved wife of Past President **Pender McElroy**. The arrangements are being handled by **Ken Poe Funeral Services**. We extend our deepest sympathies to Pender and the McElroy family during this difficult time. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they navigate this loss. Further details will be shared as they become available.

Welcome to Ayo Johnson!

Ayo Johnson joined Mental Health America of Central Carolinas as Executive Director in January 2024. Her extensive resume centers around nonprofit management, where she has held all facets of executive leadership. Her experience includes a decade with the Capital Area YMCA in New Jersey, where she served as Chief Operating Officer and Chief Human Resources Officer and completed her tenure there as interim CEO. A staunch advocate for eradicating food insecurity, during her tenure at the YMCA, Ayo birthed their highly successful, award-winning, food access program that served close to 1 million meals to children during the pandemic and doubled the organization's operating revenue. She is a former Board Member and Treasurer of the I Am Trenton Foundation, and has served on a host of community steering committees. Throughout her decades working in the nonprofit arena, the native New Yorker has demonstrated herself as a leader in building meaningful partnerships and collaborations in



the community, as well as developing a strategic vision that encompasses specific organizational objectives and strategies to strengthen nonprofits. She is a graduate of Rider University in New Jersey, with an MA in Organizational Leadership, and a BS in Global Marketing. *Welcome, Ayo!*



Christmas Morning at Charlotte Rescue Mission

The volunteer opportunity of serving breakfast at Charlotte Rescue Mission is now full. If you have questions, email [Tracy Reading](mailto:TracyReading@treading1@mac.com) at treading1@mac.com directly.

Here are the details:

- Date: December 25, 2024
- Time: 6:00 AM – 8:30 AM
- Location: 907 W. 1st St., Charlotte, NC 28202
- Dress Attire: Black pants and a white shirt



Blood Drive Results!

Thank you to everyone who stepped up to give the gift of life at our American Red Cross Blood Drive. After having lost donors due to emergencies and illness, a last minute appeal brought more of our community of givers to the rescue.

We made our goal of 22 units collected! And fulfilled our promise to help save someone's family member, someone we love, and maybe ourselves, this holiday season. Thank you to Chair, [Terri DeBoo](#) for her passion for this project!



The Salvation Army continues to recognize the Rotary Club of Charlotte for our incredible support this Christmas season! Thank you to Charlotte Rotarians [JD Dupuy](#) and [David](#)



Zimmerman for volunteering their time at The Salvation Army facility on Tuesday morning.



Thank You for Supporting The Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign!

A heartfelt thank you to all our Rotary members for your incredible participation in The Salvation Army bell ringing and the Red Kettle Campaign!

This year, your efforts raised an amazing total of \$5,710.43 to support those in need. The kettles raised \$820.43 and the raffles raised \$4,890.

Congratulations to our raffle winners: **Margaret Donovan** (Kendra Scott Jewelry), **Glenn Bouley** (Total Wine Class for 20 Certificate), **Tara Terry** (Golf Foursome at The Club at Longview), **Diego Ramon** (Birdsong Brewery Gift Basket), Amy Norman (NASCAR Hall of Fame Admission tickets), **Luther Moore** (Top Golf Gift Certificate), **Richard Malnati** (U.S. Whitewater Center Day Pass for Two), **Dena Diorio** (Two-night stay at The Dunhill Hotel and a \$100 credit to Asbury Restaurant), and **JD Dupuy** (AutoBell Annual Pass for full-service car wash). We hope you enjoy your prizes, and thank you for supporting this wonderful cause.

A special shoutout goes to **Maggie Mitchem-Flanigan** who served as **Mark Norman's** "Co-Elf" on this project bringing in some great prizes for the raffles, Rotarians **Chuck Howard** and **Elizabeth Caspers** for their generous donations, as well as **Herb Harriss**, **Margaret Donovan**, and **Christine Cipriano** for your invaluable assistance in making this campaign a success.

Your dedication to Service Above Self continues to inspire and make a real difference in our community. Thanks to your time, energy, and contributions, The Salvation Army will be able to spread hope and joy to families in need this holiday season.

Thank you again for being part of this impactful effort. Together, we're changing lives!

It's never too late to make a difference.

Click or scan the QR code to donate to Charlotte Rotary's Red Kettle Campaign.





Doing Good in the World



Congratulations to recent Paul Harris Fellow recipients, and Thank you for your dedication to **The Rotary Foundation**. Your generous contributions are essential to securing and growing Rotary programs throughout the world. Recognition of donors helps express our gratitude for your commitment.

Paul Harris Fellow - Level 1

Henry Batten
Kim Brattain
Hunter Widener

Paul Harris Fellow - Level 2

Tom Blocker
Edwin Peacock
Roger Sarow

Paul Harris Fellow - Level 3

Doug Bean
Catherine Bracey
Chuck Howard
Chad Lloyd
Pat Millen
Bill Nichols

Paul Harris Fellow - Level 4

William Bradley
Elly Clary
Carol Hardison
Dr. Harriman Jett

Paul Harris Fellow - Level 6

Bill Gill
Mark Norman
David Tobin

Paul Harris Fellow - Level 7

Benton Bragg

Paul Harris Fellow - Level 8

Warren Kean



Rotary's 2023-24 Annual Report

As a Rotary Direct donor, you play an essential role in ensuring that Rotary Foundation programs can continue to create positive and lasting change in your community and around the globe. The future of The Rotary Foundation depends on leaders like you, and that's why we want you to be one of the first to see

Rotary's 2023-24 annual report.

The annual report includes information on life-changing member-led service projects, financial information, and more exciting highlights from the year. Supporters like you contributed over US\$417 million in gifts and commitments, and we awarded US\$82 million in total funding to more than 1,200 global grants. This important work is made possible by your generosity. Thank you for your leadership and support, which allow us to continue Doing Good in the World.

Find Your Passion in Rotary



Mid-Atlantic RLI

MD • DE • DC • WV • TN • VA • NC • SC

Discover Your Rotary Passion at the Rotary Leadership Institute

The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is a dynamic, multi-district program designed to engage and educate Rotarians through activity-based learning in small group settings. Facilitated by trained RLI faculty, the program offers an excellent opportunity to connect with fellow Rotarians, share ideas, and strengthen your club.

RLI consists of three progressive parts:

- Part 1 introduces the basics of being a Rotarian.
- Part 2 enhances your effectiveness within your Rotary club.
- Part 3 focuses on leadership, club engagement, and international service.

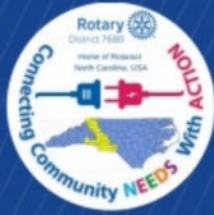
Graduate courses provide a deep dive into Rotary's history and ethical foundations.

Each course is a full-day session (9:00 AM to 3:30 PM) with coffee, snacks, and lunch provided. The next RLI event will be held on January 11th in Kannapolis, NC at Rowan Cabarrus Community College.

Don't miss this opportunity to grow as a Rotarian! Sign up [HERE](#).

ROTARY DISTRICT NIGHT WITH THE CHARLOTTE HORNETS

IT'S
GAME
TIME



Friday, January 31, 2025

Arrive at 4:45 PM for Pre-Game warmups

Tip-Off at 7 PM

Spectrum Center

Charlotte Hornets vs. Los Angeles Clippers

Group Tickets:

[https://hornets.spinzo.com/?
group=rotary-international--y5et](https://hornets.spinzo.com/?group=rotary-international--y5et)



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO:

[HTTPS://WWW.NBA.COM/HORNETS/VISITING](https://www.nba.com/hornets/visiting)

QUESTIONS: NICK BOWE: (704) 688-9057 OR
NBOWE@HORNETS.COM

Charlotte Hornets Rotary Night – January 31st!

The Charlotte Hornets invite Rotarians from District 7860 to a special Rotary Club Night on Fri., Jan. 31, as they take on the Los Angeles Clippers at the Spectrum Center. Discounted group tickets are available, and all attendees will enjoy a special pre-game experience, watching warmups from Lower-Bowl seats from 4:45–5:30 p.m. Tip-off is at 7 p.m.

Purchase tickets through this link to participate in group experiences: [Hornets Rotary Ticket Link](#)

For questions, contact Nick Bowe at (704) 688-9057 or nbowe@hornets.com.
DG Kevin Kendrick hopes to see you there!

Membership Update

07/01/2024 249

11/30/2024 248

12/17/2024 244 (Resignation: Clark Goodman, Karen Steffens)

Guests in attendance: Meg Adams (Bryan Adams), Christal Adkins (Rob Thomas), John Bauer (Rotary Club of Milwaukee), Mary Burritt (Carla DuPuy), Matthew King (Joel Ford), Ugo Oriaku (Andy Dinkin), Damon Stinson (J Hill), Bob Wilhelm (Catherine Bracey), Beth Zeiss (Tony Zeiss)

Milestones (Week of Dec. 17 - Jan. 13)

Birthdays

25 – Pender McElroy
26 – Andy Dinkin
26 – Carol Ransone
28 – Kip Kiser
29 – Clark Goodman
30 – Ed Kizer
3 – Anne Cullip
4 – Doug Bean
5 – Angela Broome Powley
6 – Tracy Reading
8 – Bob Finley
10 – Shelley Dean
12 – Tish Atkins Charles

Member Anniversaries

35 years: Jim Woodward
33 years: David Anderson
30 years: Doug Bean
25 years: Brian Gibson
24 years: Benton Bragg
24 years: Russell Ranson
20 years: Tom Cottingham
19 years: Karen Calder
16 years: Gray Langley
15 years: John zumBrunnen
9 years (11 total): Stuart Hair
3 years: Jim Mannix
2 years: Tod Thorne

Wedding Anniversaries

28 – Elizabeth Teagarden & Scott Anderson
30 – Aice & Benton Bragg
30 – Christine & Rich Duncan
31 – Samantha & Ben Goebel
5 – Carole & Kip Kiser

2024 - 2025 Board Members

- President Kim Brattain
- President-Elect Patrick Baker
- Immediate Past President Edwin Peacock
- Secretary Bill Gill
- Treasurer Craig Field
- Sergeant at Arms Mike Wollinger

Current Directors: Linwood Bolles, Woodson Bradley, Benton S. Bragg, John F. Cantrell, Tish Atkins Charles, Terri DeBoo, Andrew "Andy" B. Dinkin, Dena R. Diorio, Donna Y. Dunlap, Joel D. Ford, Stuart P. Hair, David Head, Jesse G. Hite, Virginia Owen

Contact Us

For more information about how to get involved, volunteer opportunities and meeting topics, contact [Christine Cipriano](#), Executive Secretary at christine@charlotterotary.org



Photos from our luncheons, historical photos, and other events and projects can be found on the club's Flickr site. Click here [charlotterotary6006](#) to view pictures from recent meetings.



Recordings of weekly club luncheons can be found on the club's Vimeo site. Click here <https://vimeo.com/user24733153> to watch recent videos.



Guest Check-In If you have a guest who would like to preregister for the weekly meeting, a QR code is provided for easy scanning, or the link can be found here: [Visitor Pre-Register \(jotform.com\)](#)

Rotary Club of Charlotte | 1850 E 3rd St, Ste 220 | Charlotte, NC 28204 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!