



Upcoming Events

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

Tues., Jan. 28 - Weekly Meeting: *Jonathan Justice, Art: The Accidental Asset*
Last week to bring warm clothing for Crisis Assistance Ministry.

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

Thurs, Feb. 20 - Club Event: *Minds Matter! Event to Support Alzheimer's Research*, Thurs., Feb. 20 at The Village on Morehead, 5-7 p.m. See below for details.

July 17-20 - District Event: *Seminar for Tomorrow's Leaders (SFTL)*, Gardner-Webb University. Volunteer and Scholarship Opportunities and open to High School rising Juniors and Seniors. See below for details.

This Week's Meeting



Rhett N. Mabry, President, The Duke Endowment
by ***Elly Clary***

The \$5 billion, Charlotte-based Duke Endowment focuses philanthropy tightly in four areas. Its president, Rhett Mabry, explained what they are and why.

“James Buchanan Duke was very specific about where he wanted to give his money and how he wanted to give it,” said Greensboro native Mabry, with the Duke Endowment since 1992 and president since 2016.

Duke targeted four Carolinas institutions of higher learning and three other areas: child and family well-being, health care, and rural Methodist churches. He wanted to give back to Carolinas communities that helped him amass his fortune, Mabry explained.

Duke built impressive wealth with tobacco and hydroelectric power. He founded the American Tobacco Company and what is now Duke Energy.

He created the Duke Endowment in 1924 with \$40 million. When he died a year later, his estate contributed another \$67 million. In December, his eponymous endowment celebrated its 100th anniversary. To date, it's given away about \$5 billion with an inflation-adjusted value of \$11.6 billion. **Click here to read more.**

A recording of the meeting can be found here:

With Slides: <https://vimeo.com/1049526960>

Without Slides: <https://vimeo.com/1049527547>

The presenter's introduction begins at approximately 18 minutes and 50 seconds.





Thank you to Kevin Ellis and our friends at *Business North Carolina Daily Digest* for a featured article in this week's newsletter about our speaker this week. [Click here](#) to read the article.



Welcome Leslie Fisher! Leslie Fisher is a Charlotte native that brings over 30 years of experience to her role as a global real estate advisor with Premier Sotheby's International Realty. A top producer since 1998, Leslie specializes in Charlotte's most prestigious neighborhoods, including Myers Park, Eastover, and SouthPark. In 2023, she ranked No. 3 in closed sales volume for the firm's Charlotte office. Licensed in both North and South Carolina, Leslie is known for her market expertise and ability to help clients navigate transitions with ease. As a Real Estate Negotiation Expert and Graduate, REALTOR® Institute designee, Leslie also serves as a mediator for the National Association of REALTORS®, a skill she's used since 2008. Her volunteer work with the Canopy REALTOR® Association and NC REALTORS® has helped her build a strong network within the local real estate community. Beyond her professional

achievements, Leslie is deeply involved in philanthropy. She serves as secretary on the Board of Directors for SouthPark Community Partners, promoting economic growth, and is a member of the development committee for Carolina Breast Friends, supporting breast cancer patients and survivors. A graduate of Appalachian State University, Leslie enjoys yoga, golf, walks with her dog Ginger, and wine. She worships at Myers Park United Methodist Church and has volunteered with organizations like the United Way of Central Carolinas and Novant Health. Leslie's dedication to both her career and community makes her a valued leader in Charlotte. *Welcome Leslie!*



Super Bowl Sunday

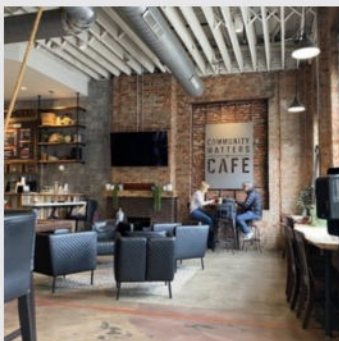
If you are not at Caesars Superdome on Sunday, Feb. 9, be at the next best place - SMS Catering Services! (1764 Norland Road).

For \$25, our friends at **SMS Catering, Bob Freeman** or **Robert Freeman**, are offering three 9 ft x 12 ft TV screens in addition to more extra wide-screen TVs, including a complete BBQ dinner, pre-game food, and a full-service cash bar.

Are you ready for some giving? Bob and Robert are also giving 20% back to Rotary for everyone who attends from Rotary!

Friend **SMS Catering on Facebook** for a chance to win prizes!

Pre-Game: 4 p.m. Game: 6:30 - 10 p.m. Register by phone at 704-536-1500 or email at info@smscater.com. Include your name, phone and email address.



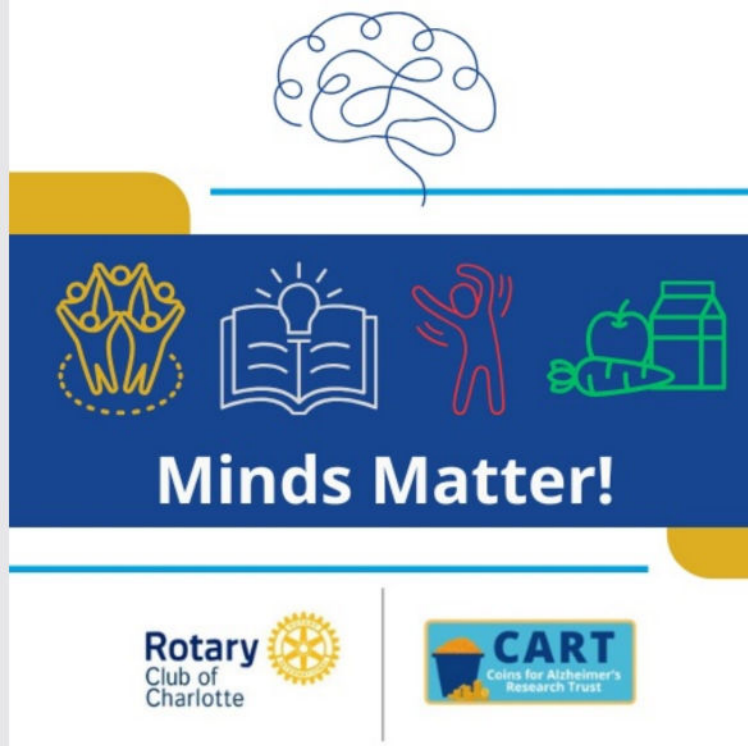
Community Matters Cafe Earns Esteemed Recognition

Operated by the **Charlotte Rescue Mission**, led by Charlotte Rotarian **Trina Fullard**, **Community Matters Cafe** is a unique life skills program for graduates of its no-cost 120-day drug and alcohol recovery initiative, combining exceptional dining experiences with transformative community impact. Community Matters Cafe combines "house-roasted" coffee, intentional dining, and a life-changing mission.

Chef Chayil Johnson, a shining star at **Community Matters Cafe**, has been named a semifinalist in the James Beard Awards' Best Chef: Southeast category. This recognition highlights his culinary excellence and dedication to the cafe's mission. The James Beard Awards, celebrating their 35th anniversary in 2025, are among the nation's most

prestigious culinary honors. Winners will be announced on June 16 at the Lyric Opera of Chicago.

Please join our club in congratulating **Trina** as well as Charlotte Rotarian and President Emeritus of Charlotte Rescue Mission, **Tony Marciano**.



Minds Matter! Event to Support Alzheimer's Research

The Rotary Club of Charlotte is excited to host "*Minds Matter!*", a special benefit event supporting the **CART (Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust) Fund**

Individual tickets are \$40, and sponsorship opportunities are available to honor a loved one. Thanks to a generous donor, we have already secured a \$2,500 matching grant, ensuring your contributions make an even greater impact.

All profits from the event will directly benefit the Rotary**CART Fund**, advancing research to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease. **Click here** to register for this meaningful evening of community and support for a vital cause! Together, we can make a difference!

February 20, 2025 (5-7 pm)

The Village at Morehead

Click here to register.

Join us for an evening dedicated to benefiting Alzheimer's research! Let's come together to support an incredible cause, inspire hope, and take action for healthier minds.

Thank you to our sponsors:

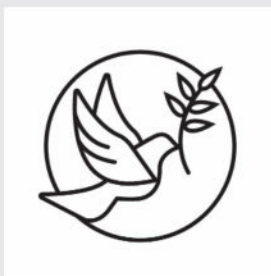
THE VILLAGE
on Morehead



Beyond the Club



Don't forget to check out the District newsletter for the latest updates!
Click here to read the District newsletter.



2026–2027 Rotary Peace Center Fellowship Application

Rotary Peace Centers have announced that applications will be accepted starting February 1st with submissions due by May 15, 2025.

This prestigious program offers master's degrees and certificate programs at Rotary Peace Centers worldwide, aiming to develop leaders committed to peace and development. The steps to apply are:

Preparation: Review eligibility requirements and program curricula. Engage with a local Rotary or Rotaract club for mentorship and support.

Documentation: Gather a resume, recommendations, personal statement, transcripts, English proficiency scores (if required), and a social impact plan

(certificate program only). Submission: Complete the application process online, ensuring all materials are in English and submitted before the deadline.

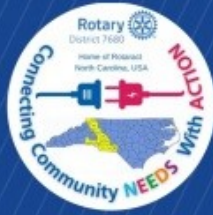
Eligibility Highlights:

- Certificate programs require relevant regional experience or interest in Africa (Makerere University) or the Middle East/North Africa (Bahçeşehir University).
- Candidates must have at least three years between their most recent degree and the program start date.
- Fellowship recipients are announced in November, followed by university admissions processes at the Peace Center of assignment.

For full details, visit the Rotary Peace Fellowship [website here](#). Charlotte Rotarian and PDG [Luther Moore](#) has kindly agreed to serve as Peace Fellow Subcommittee Chair.

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!



Exciting Opportunities or the 2025 Seminar for Tomorrow's Leaders (SFTL)

Mark your calendars! The dates for the 2025 Seminar for Tomorrow's Leaders (SFTL) have been set: July 17-20, 2025, with volunteers arriving on July 16.

This transformative leadership experience will take place at Gardner-Webb University and is open to rising high school juniors and seniors.

We are thrilled to offer several ways for you to get involved:

- **Scholarship Opportunities:** Support students by sponsoring their participation in this life-changing event.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Join our dedicated team and help make this event unforgettable for tomorrow's leaders. ([Click here to volunteer.](#))
- **Student Participation:** Encourage rising juniors and seniors in your community to apply and take part in this exceptional leadership development program. ([Click here to nominate your student.](#))

For more details on how to volunteer, apply, or sponsor a student, contact Scott Van Der Linden, Governor 2017-2018, Rotary Club of Charlotte South, SVanDerLinden7@gmail.com or 704.574.5000

Don't miss the chance to shape the leaders of tomorrow!

Mooresville-Lake Norman Rotary Club

PICKLEBALL

Fundraising Tournament

Talbert Recreation Center

210 Talbert Pointe Dr
Mooresville, NC

Proceeds benefit:
Western NC Hurricane Relief
STARS
(Scholarships for At-Risk Students)
Healthreach Community Clinic
Richard's Coffee Shop
& Military Museum
& more



Raffles
Refreshments
Prizes
Fun, Fun, Fun!

Saturday

February 1, 2025

Registration - \$60/pp

MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE

**Use QR Code
Or Enter URL
in web browser**



<https://Registrations.DACdb.com/Register/index.cfm?EventID=77801917&NoCaptcha>

For more information: www.mooresvillelakenormanrotaryclub.com

Round Robin Format

Check-in begins at 8:30a

**Advanced Grouping
starts 9:30a - 11:30a**

**Beginners/
Intermediates Grouping
starts 12:30p - 2:30p**

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Membership Update

07/01/2024 249
12/31/2024 244
01/21/2025 241

Recommended for Membership (comments to Rotary office by January 31, 2025):

Jamie Goldenberg, Owner, Turn Prop LLC

Sponsor: Andy Dinkin

Endorsed: Kim Brattain and John Cantrell

James J Gilligan, Retired Founder and President, American Pricemark Company

Sponsor: Bill Gill

Endorsed: Kim Brattain and John Cantrell

Meeting Attendance - Tuesday, January 21, 2025: 94

Guests in attendance: John Bauer (Rotary Club of Milwaukee), Kevin Ellis (Media), Lauren Taylor (Darrell McGill), Kristi Walters (Luther Moore) Robb Web (Jim Mannix)

Milestones

(Week of Jan. 28 - Feb. 3)

Birthdays

1 - Chuck Dahlgren
3 - Jesse Hite

Rotary Anniversaries

29 years: John Lassiter
10 years: Michael Orzech
8 years (24 total): Mike Wollinger

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: 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

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