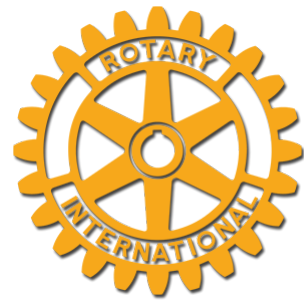


Rotary

Club of Forsyth County (Cumming)



Speakers

July 22, 2021
Beth Hathorne,
Whispering Hope

July 29, 2021
OPEN

Aug. 5, 2021
OPEN

Aug. 12, 2021
Secretary of State Brad
Raffensperger

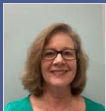
Aug. 19, 2021
Joni Smith, The Place of Forsyth
County

Aug. 26, 2021
OPEN

Club Leaders



J.B. Bader
President



Denise Leeson
On-To Conference
Chair
President-Elect
Rotary Foundation
Chair



Robert Lee Parrish
Secretary



Donna S. Wade
Treasurer



Zack A. Rice Jr.
Family of Rotary
Membership Chair



Matthew Van Dyke
Public Image Chair

Stephanie Woody
Bulletin Editor

Club Meetings

Forsyth County (Cumming)
Meets at New Academies of Creative Education
1160 Dahlonega Hwy.
Cumming, GA 30040
Time: Thursday from 12 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

(Use entrance off Pilgrim Road, third left from Hwy. 9, then take first right, 1160 is the second building, which has two sets of double doors on the front. Use the doors to the right.)

This Day in History

2003

Jessica Lynch gets hero's welcome

On July 22, 2003, U.S. Army Private Jessica Lynch, a prisoner-of-war who was rescued from an Iraqi hospital, receives a hero's welcome when she returns to her hometown of Palestine, [West Virginia](#). The story of the 19-year-old supply clerk, who was captured by Iraqi forces in March 2003, gripped America; however, it was later revealed that some details of Lynch's dramatic capture and rescue might have been exaggerated.

Lynch, who was born April 26, 1983, was part of the 507th Ordnance Maintenance Company from Fort Bliss, [Texas](#). On March 23, 2003, just days after the U.S. invaded Iraq, Lynch was riding in a supply convoy when her unit took a wrong turn and was ambushed by Iraqi forces near Nasiriya. Eleven American soldiers died and four others besides Lynch were captured.

Lynch, who sustained multiple broken bones and other injuries when her vehicle crashed during the ambush, was taken to an Iraqi hospital. On April 1, she was rescued by U.S. Special Forces who raided the hospital where she was being held. They also recovered the bodies of eight of Lynch's fellow soldiers. Lynch was taken to a military hospital in Germany for treatment and then returned to the United States.

Lynch's story garnered massive media attention and she became an overnight celebrity. Various reports emerged about Lynch's experience, with some news accounts indicating that even after Lynch was wounded during the ambush she fought back against her captors. However, Lynch later stated that she had been knocked unconscious after her vehicle crashed and couldn't remember the details of what had happened to her. She also said she had not been mistreated by the staff at the Iraqi hospital and they put up no resistance to her rescue. Critics and Lynch herself charged the U.S. government with embellishing her story to boost patriotism and help promote the controversial Iraq war.

In August 2003, Lynch received a medical honorable discharge. She collaborated on a book about her experience, *I Am a Soldier, Too: The Jessica Lynch Story*, which was released later that year. In April 2007, Lynch testified before Congress that she had falsely been portrayed as a little girl Rambo and the U.S. military had hyped her story for propaganda reasons. According to Lynch: "I am still confused as to why they chose to lie and tried to make me a legend when the real heroics of my fellow soldiers that day were, in fact, legendary." She added: "The truth of war is not always easy to hear but is always more heroic than the hype."

[Twitter Launches](#)

Upcoming Events:

Club Socials:



Club Programs Chair



Denton B. Ashway
Sergeant-at-Arms



Terri L. Willett
Club Socials Chair



Jeremy P. Skinner
Club Service Chair



Chuck Welch
Laws of Life Contest
Chair



Burton Blackmar
Youth Services Chair



Austin McNeely
Interact Club Sponsor



Claire H. McDonald
iPast President



- * Aug. 17: Legends Distillery, 210 Industrial Park Dr., Suite A, Cumming, GA 30040
- * Sept. 14: Marlow's Tavern, 410 Peachtree Parkway, Cumming, GA 30041
- * Oct. 12: Bagwell Boat Cruise
- * Nov. 9: Freedom Mill, 2730 Spot Road, Cumming, GA 30040
- * Dec. 5: Christmas Party TBD

If you have any upcoming events that you would like to see in the bulletin, please reach out to Stephanie Woody at swoody@forsythnews.com.

Rotary Club of Forsyth County

<http://www.rotarydistrict6910.org>
PO BOX 57
Cumming, GA 30028
rotaryofforsyth@yahoo.com

Social Media Links

For more information about our club click on one of the links below:

[Website](#)
[Twitter](#)
[Facebook](#)

If you have a question about the bulletin/programs, or have a program of interest to the club, please contact Stephanie Woody at swoody@forsythnews.com or mobile 678-878-0516.