

Rotary

Club of Fort Lauderdale



[The Rotary Tarpon](#)

Sunday, April 12, 2026

Rotary Weekly Meeting - Annual Raffle

Annual Raffle Drawing

Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 12:15 p.m.

[RSVP](#)



We meet at Cafe Vico, 1125 N. Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale.

Join us at Noon; the meeting will begin at 12:15 pm.

Email rotaryftlaud@gmail.com with questions.

[Read More](#)

**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**



Club Meeting

Fort Lauderdale
Meets at Café Vico
1125 N. Federal Highway
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304
Time: Wednesday at 12:15
PM

Events

April 1st
[Rotary Cares Collection Drive](#)

April 14th
[Rotary Cares In Action - PB&J Sandwich Preparation](#)

April 15th
[Rotary Weekly Meeting - Annual Raffle Drawing](#)
Speaker: Raffle Drawing

April 15th
[Rotary Cares - Comfort Items to Support Donation Drive](#)

April 20th
[Club Board of Directors Meeting](#)

April 22nd
[Rotary Weekly Meeting - Speaker Doug McCraw](#)
Speaker: Doug McCraw,
African-American Research
Library and Cultural Center
(AARLCC)

Pay Membership Dues 2025-26



Please check your email for your quarterly dues statement.

Zeffy's 100% free platform for nonprofits allows us to fundraise at no cost. They are entirely funded by voluntary contributions, and an amount will be suggested to you before you complete your payment.

You can always change the amount to one of your choice (or "0") by selecting "Other" in the dropdown menu.

[Pay Membership Dues](#)

Summary

Order	\$300.00
1x Regular Membership	\$300.00

Help keep Zeffy free for Rotary International Fort Lauderdale Rotary Club ❤️ (optional)

Your generosity allows Rotary International Fort Lauderdale Rotary Club to use Zeffy's 100% free fundraising and emailing platform with unlimited support, making your impact even stronger.

[Learn more](#)

Other ▼

Contribution

Total USD 300.00

Payment method

Or you may choose to pay Membership Dues using Zelle:

Send Money with Zelle®

Scan in your banking app to pay

Rotary Club Of Fort Lauderdale



April 25th
[Rotary Club Community Service Day](#)

April 29th
[Rotary Weekly Meeting - Monthly Social](#)
Speaker: TBA

May 6th
[Rotary Weekly Meeting - Business Meeting](#)
Speaker: Business Meeting

In This Issue

[Rotary Weekly Meeting - Annual Raffle](#)

[Pay Membership Dues 2025-26](#)

Published on 04/04/2026

[Rotary Weekly Meeting](#)

[April Service Opportunities – Rotary Cares](#)

[Share the Fundraiser on Social Media](#)

[New Member Resources](#)

[New Mobile App - IGNITE](#)

[Rotary Connection Wish List](#)

Birthdays

No Birthdays Found

Years of Service

Anthony J. Abbate
04-18-2001
25 Years

Rotary Weekly Meeting

Rotary Weekly Meeting
Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at 12:15 pm

[RSVP](#)



Speaker: Doug McCraw
African American Research Library and Cultural
Center (AARLCC)

We meet at Cafe Vico, 1125 N. Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale.

Join us at Noon; the meeting will begin at 12:15 pm.
Email rotaryftlaud@gmail.com with questions.

[Read More](#)

April Service Opportunities – Rotary Cares

You're Invited to Join Us This April – Rotary Cares in Action

Throughout the month of April, the Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale is coming together to uplift our neighbors, support families in need, and strengthen our community through hands-on service. We invite you, your family, your business, and your organization to participate in any—or all—of the meaningful opportunities below. Every act of service, no matter the size, helps create a more compassionate and connected Fort Lauderdale.

April Service Opportunities – Rotary Cares

April 1–24: Rotary Cares Collection Drive

Every day, hundreds of our neighbors face the realities of extreme poverty and homelessness. Throughout April, we are supporting Fort Lauderdale nonprofits by collecting essential hygiene items to assemble care packages. These packages will be distributed at Rock Island Elementary School during the first week of April (time TBD) and again at the Rotary Cares Event on April 25 at J. Carter Park.

Your generosity helps provide dignity, safety, and basic comfort to families who need it most.

Ways You Can Get Involved

1. Organize a personal or group collection drive for new or gently used items.
2. Create your own Amazon Wishlist and purchase essential supplies directly.
3. Host a collection drop-off site at your workplace or organization.
4. Drop off donated hygiene items at designated collection points.

For more information, contact Jorg Hruschka at Jhruschka@fortlauderdale.gov.

April 10 | 8:00 – 10:00 AM Real Men Read

Dillard Elementary School is hosting their third Real Men Read event and is looking for male role models to read to their scholars. To register, contact Anyia Nesbeth at anyia.nesbeth@browardschools.com or 954-554-3502. The school is located at 2330 NW 12 Ct, Fort Lauderdale 33311, and the students will put a smile on your face!

April 14 | 6:30–7:30 PM

Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich Preparation

RSVP required

Join us **every third Tuesday** as we spread kindness—one PBJ sandwich at a time. Volunteers gather at the Edgewood Clubhouse (1790 SW 32 St) to prepare meals for neighbors experiencing hunger.

Sandwiches are delivered Wednesday morning to partner organizations like Community Court and/or the Rotary Connection Bus serving individuals and families facing homelessness. It's a simple act with a meaningful impact.

For more information, contact Jorg Hruschka at Jhruschka@fortlauderdale.gov.

April 15 | 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Comfort Item Purchases to Support the Donation Drive

Help us complement our hygiene collection by purchasing comfort items that will be added to the care packages. These small touches—socks, wipes, snacks, and more—go a long way in supporting families in crisis.

For more information, contact Jorg Hruschka at Jhruschka@fortlauderdale.gov

April 25:

Rotary Club Community Service Day as part of Fort Lauderdale Cares Day

The Rotary Club will join the City of Fort Lauderdale's 13th Annual Cares Day, supporting two meaningful service projects. Family members and partner clubs are

welcome to participate. Please share with everyone who might be interested. The more, the merrier.

1. Power of One Hour – Street Cleanup

This year, the Rotary Club continues its decade-long commitment to cleaning SW 11th Avenue, from Broward Blvd. to the swing bridge. Please participate responsibly, especially if you have allergies or special needs. Suggested volunteer guidelines:

Meeting Place: Fire Museum, 1022 W. Las Olas Blvd.

Time: 9:00–10:00 AM

Contact: Gabe Bodnar – gaborbodnar15@gmail.com

Suggested Volunteer Guidelines:

Wear closed-toe shoes and comfortable clothing you don't mind getting dirty.

Because this is an outdoor activity, we recommend a hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, and plenty of water and snacks.

All tools will be provided, but feel free to bring your own gloves or protective gear.

2. Rotary Cares Resource Event

Invitation-only event

The Club is working with City park managers in underserved neighborhoods who are identifying homeless families who are known to rely on their facilities. Care packages assembled throughout April will be distributed during this event to select families.

Meeting Place: J.C. Carter Park Community Center, 1450 W. Sunrise Blvd.

Time: 9:00–10:00 AM

Contact: Jhruschka@fortlauderdale.gov

[Read More](#)

Share the Fundraiser on Social Media

SHARE OUR FUNDRAISER ON SOCIAL MEDIA

If you'd like assistance sharing your team's fundraiser on social media, please stay a few minutes after Wednesday's meeting. Carol Koepke will be available to help. You can access Carol's instructions by clicking the link below.

[How to Share the Fundraiser on Your Social Media](#)



 Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale

Our Biggest Fundraiser

OF 2026

Your Generosity Changes Lives.

We need your help to continue to make a difference both here in Fort Lauderdale and around the world. Your \$100 donation per raffle ticket not only helps others in need but also registers you for a chance to win **\$30,000!!**

(see details on Zeffy site)

**DRAWING WILL BE HELD
APRIL 15, 2026
SCAN THE QR CODE TO BUY
YOUR TICKETS**






@rotaryfortlauderdale.org

[Our Biggest Fundraiser of 2026](#)

New Member Resources

NEW MEMBER RESOURCES

Welcome to Rotary!

Rotary is proud to welcome you to our global community of more than 1.2 million Rotary and Rotaract members dedicated to building a better world.

You make Rotary stronger. By adding your skills, experience, and enthusiasm to your club, you can advance communities at home and on a global scale. Together, we can eradicate polio, train more skilled peacemakers, and provide lasting solutions for communities fighting disease, hunger, illiteracy, and poverty.

Through the Rotary community, you can exchange ideas and build lifelong friendships with people who share your passion for service. Take advantage of the resources and activities available through your club, district, and Rotary International to make your experience with Rotary both rewarding and fun.

How do I start?

There are many ways to make the most out of your [Rotary experience](#).

Get started today:

- Sign up for a My Rotary account to access the [benefits of Rotary](#)
- Learn about Rotary and The Rotary Foundation in [Rotary Basics](#)
- Take a course in the [Learning Center](#)
- Serve on a club committee where you can use your skills
- Identify a need in your community and suggest a hands-on project to address it
- Work with a youth service program sponsored by your club, such as [Interact](#) or [Rotary Youth Leadership Awards](#) (RYLA)
- Recommend a colleague or friend for membership in your club

How can I meet other members?

Rotary's global network provides a great opportunity to expand your contacts and friendships to other countries while creating a foundation of support with communities around the world.

Consider these opportunities:

- Visit [another club](#)
- Connect with members around the world who share your [hobbies and personal interests](#) or your [expertise](#) and make a difference in projects outside your club or district
- Participate in a [Rotary Friendship Exchange](#)
- Attend the [Rotary International Convention](#)

Stay Connected — Join Our Rotary Club WhatsApp Group!

Rotary has always been about connections — connections to service, to our community, and to each other. In today's world, staying connected has never been easier, but it does require trying something new from time to time.

That's why The Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale invites all members, especially those of us from the Baby Boomer generation, to join our club's official WhatsApp Group. Think of it as the digital version of gathering around the lunch table — friendly, informal, and a great way to stay in touch between meetings.

Why consider joining?

- **Stay in the Loop:** Receive timely updates, reminders, and news from fellow Rotarians — all in one easy-to-use app.
- **Foster Friendships:** Share photos, celebrate milestones, and enjoy light conversation beyond the weekly meetings.
- **It's Simple:** If you can send a text message, you can use WhatsApp. No technical expertise required.
- **Privacy is Protected:** Only club members are included. It's a closed group meant just for us.

Rotary is built on relationships, and this is simply another tool to help strengthen the bonds we've already built. Whether you're snowbirding, traveling, or just busy with life, WhatsApp keeps you part of the conversation.

Ready to give it a try?

Click the links below to join or reach out to [Barbara Sanchez](#) or [Carol Koepke](#) for help getting set up. You'll be surprised how easy — and enjoyable — it is.

Let's keep Rotary strong, connected, and moving forward — together.

Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale WhatsApp Community

[Rotary Fort Lauderdale Members](#) - chat group

[Rotary Moments Gallery](#) - Please share your photos from projects, socials, meetings, or other Rotary events here.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

- Facebook Business Page - <https://www.facebook.com/rotaryfortlauderdale>
- Facebook Members Group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/173995709341224>
- Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/rotarycluboffortlauderdale/>
- LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/rotaryfortlauderdale>

Where do I go for help?

Want to learn more? Talk to your club members or committees, and if we can help, let us know. Email the Rotary [Support Center](#).

<https://my.rotary.org/en/knowledge-and-resources/resources-and-reference/resources-by-role/new-member>

New Mobile App - IGNITE



Stay Connected with the New IGNITE App!

Great news — the new IGNITE App is here! It's a simple, fun way to stay up to date with everything happening in Rotary. You can check upcoming events, see what other clubs are doing, and connect with members — all right from your phone.

Here's how to get started:

For iPhone users:

1. Open the App Store.
2. Search for "IGNITE App" (look for the Rotary flame logo).
3. Tap Get to download, then open it once it's installed.
4. Sign in with your Rotary email or follow the quick setup steps.

For Android users:

1. Open the Google Play Store.
2. Search for "IGNITE App."
3. Tap Install, then open it after it downloads.
4. Log in or create your account — it only takes a minute!

A few quick tips:

- Turn on notifications so you don't miss important updates or meeting reminders.
- Add a photo and update your profile so fellow Rotarians can recognize you.
- Explore the menus — you'll find lots of useful tools and ways to connect.

The IGNITE App is designed to make Rotary engagement easier (and a bit more fun). Give it a try today and stay connected wherever you are!

DACdb
Member Service and Online

IGNITE Mobile App

- COMMUNICATE WITH PUSH NOTIFICATIONS
- ADD VOLUNTEER EVENTS TO YOUR CALENDAR
- PAY INVOICES ON YOUR PHONE
- LOG SERVICE HOURS WITH A CLICK OF A BUTTON

APPLE **ANDROID**

What is the **IGNITE** App?

The Ignite App is a mobile app for smartphones and tablets designed by DACdb. This app takes the most common tools and features from DACdb and makes them easier and more convenient to use from your mobile device. Whether you love or loath DACdb, you're sure to find their new Ignite App to be both clean and simple to use. The screens are clutter-free making it effortless to find exactly what you need.

How to **Download** the **IGNITE** App:



1. Open up the App Store (Apple) or Google Play Store (Android) on your device.
2. Enter "Ignite" in the search bar.
3. Scroll down until you find the IGNITE app and click on the red fire icon.
4. Download the app by clicking the "Get" or "Install" button.

Sign in to the **IGNITE** App:

Simply enter your DACdb login credentials.

Remember, IGNITE is powered by (and is effectively just a better version of) DACdb.

- Username: This is your email address (the one you received this message on)
- Password: If you don't remember your DACdb password you can reset it by going to www.DACdb.com and click "Forgot/Reset Password?"

IGNITE App **Features!**

- Log service hours in seconds from anywhere
- View club calendar
- Look-up, call, text, or email club members directly
- Send messages within the app to club members (like Facebook Messenger)
- Check your foundation points (Paul Harris Fellow)
- Donate directly and securely to Rotary Foundation
- Share photos with our Public Image Committee to use on social media/website
- Add prospective members
- Pay dues (not available at this time)

THE FOUR-WAY TEST OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY, OR DO:

1. Is it the TRUTH? 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned? 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Rotary Connection Wish List



At the October 1st meeting, Gwynne shared about the Rotary Connection and the ongoing needs of the individuals who rely on the bus services. If you'd like to support this effort, you can contribute by purchasing items from the Amazon wishlist linked below.

All donations will be shipped directly to Rick Riccardi at Fellowship Recovery. Whether you're able to give a little or a lot, every contribution makes a meaningful difference.

[Click here to view the wishlist and help support the Rotary Connection.](#)

Club Leaders



[Jeffrey Michael Shaffner](#)
President



[Gabor Bodnar](#)
Vice President
President-Elect
Vice President
President-Elect



[John Aquino](#)
Club Director
Rotary Foundation
Chair
Club Young
Leaders Contact
Youth Exchange
Office
Youth Services
Chair



[James J Grant](#)
Treasurer



[Susan Clark Shaffner](#)
Club Administrator



[Gwynne Beatty](#)
Club Director



[Cynthia Fardella](#)
Club Director
Service Projects
Chair



[Christopher M. Kerlin](#)
Club Director



[Carol Koepke](#)
Public Relations
Chair



[Kristin LaFleur](#)
Club Director



[Melissa Lane](#)
President-
Nominee
Secretary



[David Sage](#)
Club Director



[Barbara C Sanchez](#)
Club Director
Club Executive
Secretary
Webmaster



[Linda M. Cooke](#)
Membership Chair



[Les R. Campbell](#)
Youth Services
Chair



[Jorg Hruschka](#)
Community Service
Chair



[Rick Riccardi](#)
Past President