



Fresh off the presses — your latest *Orange Wheel* snapshot!

Date: April 1 , 2026

This month, we're sharing a snapshot of the good work happening in our club and throughout the community. Inside, you'll find updates on upcoming club meetings, news on Rotary grants now underway, and information on several upcoming events that support causes making a real difference.

Be sure to check out details on our **Annual BBQ benefiting scholarships, 50/50 Raffle, Silent Auction, Pickleball Fundraiser**, and the **Walk to End Alzheimer's**, along with other opportunities to stay involved and support Rotary's work in Orange County. Thank you for all you do to keep our club active, visible, and engaged in service above self.

This newsletter is also available on our website at <https://orangerotaryva.org/> under *Club Links → Monthly Newsletter – Orange Wheel*, so you can stay up to date anytime, 24/7.

Check it out!

Take a moment to explore upcoming events, club news, volunteer opportunities, and all the ways we're making a difference right here in Orange at <https://orangerotaryva.org/>. It's the easiest way to stay up to date and see what's on the horizon.

And while you're browsing, hop over to our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/OrangeVARotary>. If you haven't already, give us a "Like" and a "Follow"—and please invite your friends to do the same. A simple click from you helps our club reach more people, share our projects, and strengthen Rotary's presence in the community.

How to Get Involved

Don't forget—there are plenty of other ways to get involved through Rotary committees, like **Membership, Public Image, Scholarships, CART, Grants, Finance, Social, Programs, Age Better Orange Committee, Community First Response and Fundraising**. Wherever your passion lies, there's a place for you.

Not sure who our committee chairs are? Look below — this quick list makes it easy to know who's leading what and who to reach out to when you need something.

Corporate Sponsorship – Doug Ponton
Age Better Orange Committee – Jess Thompson
BBQ Fundraiser – Adrianna Cowan-Waddy
Membership – Doug Harris
Conservation – Jamie McConnell
Christmas Parade – Curtis Clark & Jess Thompson
Memorial Tree – Jamie McConnell
Grants – Martha Roby
Programs – Ellen Wessel
Public Image/Communication/CART – Joan McGregor
Community First Response – Deanne Marshall

Don't see a committee that aligns with your passion? Rotary is built on member ideas and initiative. If there's a cause you care deeply about, share it with the Club President and fellow Rotarians. Your passion could spark the creation of a new committee and a meaningful new way to serve.

Looking for meaningful ways to serve our community?

Rotary opens the door to *many* opportunities to make a real difference right here in Orange County.

Visit **Find Your Place to Serve** on our website to explore current volunteer opportunities and discover where your time, talents, and interests can have the greatest impact:

👉 <https://orangerotaryva.org/volunteer-opportunities.php>

Know of another organization or service opportunity we should highlight? We'd love to expand this list and strengthen our community connections. Please email **joanlmcgregor0@gmail.com** with details.

Together, Rotarians don't just volunteer — we build relationships, meet real needs, and turn service into lasting impact.



CART Fund Update – The Missing Piece is You

Club Goal: \$2,000 | Progress: 28.96% | Deadline: July 1

Let's be honest — we're behind.

We've reached just **28.96% of our goal**, and with the Rotary year ending **July 1**, time is not on our side. That leaves the majority of our goal still ahead of us — and a short window to get there.

Alzheimer's isn't waiting, and neither should we.

This isn't about large donations — it's about participation. If every member gave just a small amount consistently between now and July 1, we would meet — and likely exceed — our goal.

Here's the ask:

- Bring something for the **Blue Bucket at every meeting**
- Set up a quick online or recurring gift today

Small, consistent giving from everyone is what gets this done.

Did You Know?

- Donate online at www.cartfund.org (be sure to list *Orange Rotary* for club credit)
- Give through the Rotary Ignite app → Impact Partners → CART Fund
- Donations are tax-deductible

Blue Buckets Are Waiting

At the coffee station and front tables. Easy to find. Easy to use. Easy to ignore — unless we decide not to.

Happy Bucks — Let's Raise the Bar

As of March 17, 2026, we've collected **\$165.79**.

Happy Bucks support needs in the community, and more. If we want stronger results, we need stronger participation.

Dinner with the Easter Bunny

Our Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser in support of Orange County TRIAD raised \$201. These funds will be donated by Rotary to help provide an emergency pendant for a local senior in need.

Upcoming Community Events

Age Better Orange Committee and Orange County Triad will co-host a two-day **Pickleball Tournament Fundraiser on June 13–14 at Orange County High School**, with proceeds shared to support community safety and aging initiatives.

The event will feature food trucks, awards, and plenty of on-court action for players of all levels.

Volunteers and spectators will be needed, and community members are encouraged to come out and support the event — even if they don't play.

Fundraiser Committee Update

The Fundraiser Committee has been hard at work planning the Rotary Club's Annual BBQ, scheduled for April 11. This signature event is a longtime favorite in our community and plays an important role in supporting scholarships.

Planning is well underway to ensure another successful and well-attended gathering filled with great food, fellowship, and community spirit.

As always, this event requires all hands-on deck. From preparation and setup to serving and cleanup, every helping hand makes a difference in making the BBQ a success.

Get Your BBQ Tickets Today!

Purchase your BBQ tickets online: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/annual-bbq-3>

- Or visit the Rotary website at <https://orangerotaryva.org/index.php> and click the “Red BBQ” button on the right-hand side

Tickets: \$40 each

Don't Miss the 50/50 Raffle!

Get your raffle tickets here:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/rotary-orange-bbq-5050-affle>

- \$10 for 1 ticket
- \$100 for 11 tickets

When you purchase online, your ticket(s) are automatically entered into the drawing — **no need to be present to win.**

Help us build an incredible **Wheelbarrow of Cheer!** We're collecting top-shelf liquor donations for this popular auction item. Drop off your contribution at Cowan Realty during normal business hours.

On The Horizon!

Save the Date!

April 4 – Time 9:00a

Rounton Farm

Clean the Barn – BBQ Event

Save the Date!

April 7 – Time 8:00a – 9:00a

Club Meeting – Speaker: Bill Donohue Host: Ken Wyvill

Save the Date!

April 11 – Time 6:00p

Rounton Farm

Annual BBQ Event

Save the Date!

April 21st – 8:00a – 9:00a

Club Meeting

Scouts Troops 14 & 2020 – Host Jess Thompson

Save the Date!

April 27th 2:00p – 3:00p

Rotary Board Meeting

Location: Cowan Realty – 151 W. Main St

Save the Date!

June 13th - 14th Time: 9:00a each day

Pickleball Tournament Fundraiser - Host: Age Better Orange Committee & Orange County – Triad - Location: Orange County High School

Save the Date!

October 26th – Walk to End Alzheimer's - Charlottesville, Va

Team: Rotary Club of Orange, Va

Location: Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital
400 Martha Jefferson Dr
Charlottesville, VA 22911

12:00 Site opens
1:00 pm Ceremony
1:30 pm Walk Starts

Join the Rotary Club of Orange, VA as we walk in the Walk to End Alzheimer's.

Be part of our team and help make a difference. If you can't walk with us, you can still support by donating to our team.

To Join our team or donate:

https://act.alz.org/site/TR?pg=personal&px=23454058&fr_id=19974

Every step—and every dollar—brings us closer to a world without Alzheimer's.

Share Your News!

If you're involved in events, activities or volunteering, and you'd like the club to know about, please **send me the details**. I'd be happy to include them in our newsletter or on social media so we can celebrate and share everyone's contributions!

joanlmcgregor0@gmail.com

Rotary Moment: A Season of New Beginnings

Spring reminds us that growth doesn't happen overnight—it takes time, care, and intention.

Think about the impact you're making right now. Every connection you build, every effort you make, every small act of service is a seed planted in our community. Some results you'll see quickly. Others will take time—but all of it matters.

As we move into this season of renewal, take a moment to ask yourself:
What am I planting now that will make a difference later?

Because it's not just about what we do today, it's about what grows from it tomorrow.

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?