

Summit Rotary



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SISTER CLUB TO MOSCOW RUSSIA and RENNES FRANCE

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Starmount Forest Country Club, Greensboro North Carolina

March 2024

FROM THE PRESIDENT



The Rotary theme for March is Water and Sanitation, which focuses on life-changing improvements made by increased access to resources. In Guilford County, we are fortunate to have access to these particular resources. However, there are many in our community who lack access to other things that markedly improve lives. One example is literacy education and availability of reading opportunities to children ages 5 and below.

Our Thrive by Five committee has been working tirelessly to address this issue. They quickly realized that one of the key barriers is easy access to books. Rather than try to bring

people to books, they decided to bring books to people, via a book trailer.

The book trailer was officially launched and we got the chance to see it in person after our meeting on February 16th! I am so pleased to share that the trailer is already scheduled for events through October with local partners such as Out of the Garden, Backpack Beginnings, the City of Greensboro Parks & Recreation Department, and Ready for School Ready for Life. These partners have deep knowledge of populations and parts of town most in need of the services of the book trailer. We are grateful to partner with these organizations and bring the trailer to those in need.



We will be creating a web page on the Summit Rotary website for the trailer and list of calendar events. In the meantime, reach out to **Laurie Scotton** or **Lynn Pitman** to learn more about how to volunteer. There will be opportunities to read at trailer events and/or drive the trailer.

The purchase of the trailer itself has prompted some interesting questions about the club's tax status. The board is currently investigating converting the club to a 501(c)(4). This designation would allow us to own property and would not change our relationship with Rotary International in any way. In the coming months, we will be sharing more information about this possible change and will answer any questions you may have.

I hope you have a great month filled with high fidelity connections, both with your fellow Rotarians at service and social events, as well as with our community through our new book trailer.

Keir



SUMMIT ROTARY MISSION STATEMENT

Improving people's lives, especially youth, by doing good in our community and around the world.

SUMMIT ROTARY VISION STATEMENT

Summit Rotary is a diverse and innovative club known for its commitment to service, friendship, and fun.

SUMMIT STORIES *By Ray Alley* *Two Decades Of Award-Winning Growth*



It's an eight-hour drive from Butler, PA., to Greensboro, NC, give or take. Just under 500 miles, but for 13-year-old **Keir Davis** it must have seemed far longer. Keir grew up in Butler, 35 miles north of Pittsburgh. Yes, he's a lifelong Pittsburgh Steelers fan!

Nancy McCaw Davis, recently divorced, decided to pursue graduate studies in North Carolina, and made the decision to make the move, with Keir and his two younger sisters in tow.

"My mother was a stay-at-home mom, but got a BFA degree from Slippery Rock in Fiber Arts in the early 80's. After moving here she got into counseling, worked at Charter Medical, running the daytime adolescent program." She earned a masters degree in counseling from UNCG in 1995. She passed away in 1996 at age 46. Keir was 24. "I think it has had a profound impact on who I am today."

Keir's father was a systems analyst for a hardware distributor. Keir liked tagging along with his Dad to his work, and got to see late-70s-early-80s computer systems. Little did he know then that this introduction was only a preview of his future career. "I got my first computer at 10 or 11, and learned how to program it."

Keir's education track included two elementary schools, two junior high schools, two high schools, and two universities. He took high school classes at Weaver Center and graduated from Grimsley in 1990.

His early fascination with computers was more hobby than career interest. He became interested in video/film production at Weaver, which would carry over to a degree in RTVMP at UNC Chapel Hill.

Was he an early "computer nerd?" Probably yes, in a good way! "I started at a very young age when it was decidedly not cool. Was picked on because I played video games and programmed computers."



Keir (R) Receives Better Business Bureau Torch Award

At Carolina, he earned an undergraduate degree in RTVMP (Radio, Television, Motion Pictures). That degree no longer exists at UNC. He earned a Masters degree from UNC Greensboro in Computer Science.

"The video/film didn't work out and I ended up back at home in Greensboro. I realized that my hobby could be a good career and went back to school at UNCG. The first semester at UNCG I answered an ad for a programmer and got the job. I worked through school for a company that sold business systems. I wrote custom programs for the customers."

Keir and **Jennifer** were married in 2004. Their daughter **Caroline** is now a freshman at Carolina. He was laid off from his job in 2002, but opportunity quickly followed. Four months later he started Xtern Software, and his company has grown significantly over 21 years to include 14 employees and has earned numerous awards. These include the Triad Business Journal Family Business Award 2021, and the Chamber of Commerce Small Business Award and United Way Spirit of NC Award, both in 2023.

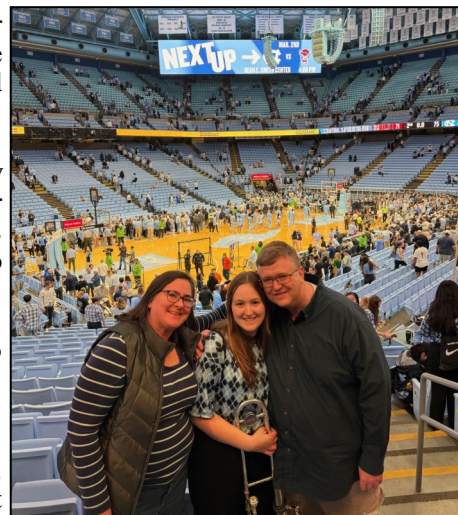
There have been others such as: Business North Carolina 2023 Best Small Employer Winner and 2022 Better Business Bureau Torch Awards Winner. No longer a hobby for the teenage "soccer nerd" from Northwest PA, Keir is a successful software developer in Greensboro and a Summit Rotarian.

His company accountant **Greg Ashley** first invited Keir to consider Rotary, but work, family and Senior Warden of St. Francis Episcopal Church responsibilities left little time for another commitment, so he passed. But Greg, as his sponsor, was persistent, and when the time was right, Keir said yes to Summit, and later when asked, accepted the call to serve as club president,

"I am drawn to leadership positions and I love Summit Rotary. I felt that I could contribute to its success. The experience has been amazing. We have a wonderful group doing great things. It is an honor to be president of this wonderful club."

A special Summit program involvement for Keir has been the McKnight Scholar Program, specifically the student mentoring component. "The young people that we touch with that program are incredible."

There is much to like about Summit Rotary, and Keir can wrap it up with two words..... "The People!"



Jennifer, Caroline And Keir Davis In The Dean Dome

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS

Club Anniversary (years)

Lynn Hale	1
Todd McCurry	1
Alex Spencer	1
Stephanie Sackel	2
Bonnie Cienek	5
Ira Ross	10
Bubba Atkinson	11
Mark Kolada	13
Sun Breza *	14
Deborah Friedman *	14
Rhonda Joyce	15
Ken Shahbaz	16
Ted Oliver	20
Todd Rangel	20
Doug Allen *	35
Ray Alley	37
Salem Bullard	42

Birthday

Steve Rayburn	3-Mar
Sydney Britt	8-Mar
Ray Alley	9-Mar
Patrick Brady (SC)	14-Mar
Gary DeVillers	18-Mar
Brooks Haworth	21-Mar
Bob Shields	23-Mar
Todd Rangel	25-Mar
Lonnie Raper (SC)	25-Mar
Laurie Scotton	28-Mar

INVOCATION

Please scan the QR code to sign up for one or more dates to share the invocation at a club meeting.



* members with service years in other Rotary Clubs



CALL TO ACTION

Summit Rotary has partnered with Church World Service (CWS) to support all branches of their work on refugee resettlement. CWS has asked us to partner with them on their advocacy initiatives. Our goal: we will harness the voices of Summit Rotarians to speak out on behalf of our refugee community. Church World Service works alongside its community partners to make sure Congress and the White House do what's right.

[CLICK HERE TO ADVOCATE FOR OUR REFUGEES](#)

January 2024 Students of the Month



Chase Johnson

Grade 12

A&T Four Middle College

Nominated by **Shana Richards**,
School Counselor

Keyla Hernandez Flores

Grade 8

Jackson Middle School

Nominated by **Dwayne Davidson**,
Teacher

Summit Rotary, in partnership with Greensboro Parks and Recreation, recognizes students who have demonstrated personal and academic growth despite significant obstacles.

Each monthly student winner receives \$100 gift card, plaque, and will be invited to be recognized at a Summit Rotary meeting. Each monthly winner is then eligible to be selected as the Student of the Year award and receive \$1000.

Nominators of the monthly winners receive \$50 gift card for the efforts of submitting student nominations.

Students are nominated by a school official, coach, teacher, counselor, therapist, volunteer, or mentor. Summit members may also nominate a deserving student. If you know someone that deserves such recognition, please follow the link and to submit a nomination.

<https://www.greensboro-nc.gov/departments/parks-recreation/teens/student-improvement-award>

McKnight Scholar prep session



Thank you **Thayle** and **Tammy** for your continued support of the McKnight Scholars!

WINE REDUCTION PARTY

WE GATHERED AT DEBORAH'S HOUSE TO HELP REDUCE HER WINE STASH AND SNACKS!



Queen of Spades
is at an all time high!
The pot is \$4,613!!

Only 10 cards left!
Every purchase gets an extra ticket
this Friday!



I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, letters, phone calls, emails, text messages, Facebook likes & comments, hospital visits, apartment visits, food, and positive vibes that were sent my way. I can't tell you how much it meant to have so many people in my corner. I drew strength from that every day. I felt the love and wanted to let you all know I love you all. Joe

Baptist Children's Home Luggage Drive March 8

Bring your gently used luggage, backpacks, tote bags, or cash/check to our meeting at Starmount on March 8.

We also will need drivers willing to help transport them to Baptist Children's Home after the meeting.

Many of the children transitioning from the children's home to their new foster family do not have luggage to pack their belongings.



Help us change this!

Questions? Reach out to
Carol Rauch at
carolrauch@mc.com



Did you know...

The first Rotary **convention** was in Chicago in 1910. There were 16 Rotary Clubs.

The Summit Rotary Fellowship Committee

Invites you to join us for

Jazz Night at the O.Henry

When: March 21, 2024

Where: The O.Henry Hotel
624 Green Valley Road

Time: 5:45 p.m. arrival
6 p.m. performance

Performer: Clinton Horton



Please feel free to bring spouses and invite friends to join us!
Questions? Contact Dot Murphy at dotmurphy1@gmail.com



Haw River Clean Up-A-Thon Saturday, March 16

Join the Rotary Club of Alamance and the Rotary Club of Pittsboro for the Haw River Clean Up-A-Thon on Saturday, March 16th, 2024!

We issue a friendly challenge to all other clubs in our district near the Haw to join us for the 2024 Clean up and see which club can pick up the most garbage at a site of their choosing! The Haw River flows through Guilford, Rockingham, Alamance and Chatham Counties and has many creeks and waterways which join in along the way. Many are in desperate need of volunteers to do litter pick up.

Please sign up below and **Tony Bullock** will sign up our group! Summit Rotarians will rise to this challenge! Questions? Reach out to Tony at tonybullock48@gmail.com.

[SIGN UP HERE AND TONY WILL DO THE REST!](#)

NO FOMO!

FEAR OF MISSING OUT



WE NEED YOU AT DISTRICT
CONFERENCE!

THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR
CONFERENCE. DON'T MISS HANGING
WITH OVER 300 OF YOUR BEST ROTARY
FRIENDS IN NEW BERN APRIL 25-28!



Register for District
Conference TODAY!

Learn more at
<https://notyourmamasdistrictconference.com/>



VOCATIONAL DAY AT SUMMIT ROTARY



Chris Troise
ABS Ducts

Andy Purcell
Total Computer
Solutions



Emily Linden
Xtern Software

Pat Brady
Help 4 Homes



Summit Rotary Club has a new
FACEBOOK page!

[Please be sure to "Like" and follow us!](#)

MARCH PROGRAMS

March 1	Mary Ellen Shiflett, League of Women Voters
March 8	No Speaker Date
March 15	Reginald Holiday, City of the Triad
March 22	Kevin Gray, Family Support Network
March 29	No Meeting, Good Friday

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 8	Luggage Drive
March 9	Food for Families
March 16	Haw River Clean Up-a-Thon
March 21	Jazz Night at the O.Henry
April 25-28	District Conference

CLUB STATISTICS

Active Members 2/29/24:	100
Satellite Club Members:	8
Honorary Members:	12
Resignations 2023-2024:	7
New Members 2023-2024:	1
Approved for membership:	0
Paul Harris Fellows:	672
Benefactors:	213

MAKE UP IN GREENSBORO ANY DAY OF THE WEEK

Airport	Tue 7 AM	WellSpring
Crescent	Mon 12:30	The Terrace GSO Coliseum
Downtown	Wed -alternating 7AM/5:00PM	Weir-Jordan House
E. Greensboro	Wed 7:30 AM	Bennett College D. Dallas Student Union
Gate City	Thu 7 AM	The Sage Mule
Global Trekkers	Mon 6 PM	Online meeting
Greensboro	Wed 12:30	The Terrace GSO Coliseum
Guilford	Tue 12:30	Weir- Jordan House
So. Guilford	6:30 PM	Sara's Kabob Shop and Zoom

E-makeups at www.rotaryclubone.org

Bulletin Editor
P.O. Box 3601
Greensboro, NC 27402

Editor:

Our objective is to publish a timely and interesting newsletter to enhance communication and fellowship within the Rotary family.

Deadline for submitting articles is the third Friday of each month.

Send information for publication to Sherry Barr

◆ execsec@summitrotary.org

Newsletter archives: <https://www.dacdb.com/Files/Index.cfm?Type=Bulletins&ClubID=6083>

Bring your luggage donations this Friday!