

The Rotary Spokesman

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of West Pine Bluff

Monday, October 7, 2024



Aftermath of Hurricane Helene Disaster Relief Assistance Solicited

Recently, Hurricane Helene made landfall, leaving devastation in its wake. Now, communities are facing the immediate aftermath, with families displaced, homes destroyed, and critical infrastructure damaged. This is when we rely on your charity, as we keep working to provide critical funding for essential relief and support recovery efforts.

Your gift to The Rotary Foundation makes funding available through [disaster response grants](#). Rotary districts in affected areas can [apply for grants](#) from the Disaster Response Fund to quickly provide essential supplies such as water, food, medicine, and clothing. When you donate to the Disaster Response Fund, our Foundation has the financial resources to help communities through immediate responses, short-term assistance, and long-term rebuilding efforts.

Your generosity enables Rotary to respond swiftly when a disaster like Hurricane Helene strikes, giving hope and support to people in communities affected by disasters.

Here's how you can take action:

- [Donate today](#) to the Disaster Response Fund.
- [Fundraise](#) with your friends, family, and colleagues using Raise for Rotary.
- Encourage your district leaders to [allocate District Designated Funds](#).

As a global humanitarian organization, Rotary is committed to taking action to support those affected by disasters like Hurricane Helene. We appreciate your desire to help people during this urgent time.

The Rotary Foundation
Trustee Chair Mark Maloney, RI Treasurer Beth Stubbs, Trustee Vice Chair Larry Lunsford

Club Meeting

West Pine Bluff
Meets at Pine Bluff Country Club with Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 882 2017 7860
Password: wpbrotary
1100 W. 46th Avenue
Pine Bluff, AR 71603
Time: Thursday at 12:00 PM

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Club Leaders



[Miloud Bahadi](#)
President



[Kevin Harris](#)
Club Programs Chair
President-Elect



[Michael S Heisler](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms
Service Projects Chair
iPast President



[David L. Sims](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair



[Nveshia Aldridge](#)
Club Director



[Roy W. Ferrell](#)
Club Director
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Santrice M Kearney](#)
Club Director



[ShaNeisha E Robinson](#)
Treasurer



[Scott Kirk Solomon](#)
Public Image Coordinator
Public Relations Chair

SBA Program Presentation

Last Thursday's meeting of the Rotary Club of West Pine Bluff featured one of the most interesting and engaging programs we have had in a while. Alan arranged for several members of the Pine Bluff Small Business Association to be our guests, and Mr. Bill Brumett presented the program. The main thought of his program was the promotion of buying local goods and frequenting local businesses to grow the community's economy. While the program was very interesting, it was the question and answer period that was extremely engaging.

One question was about the aftermath of Go Forward Pine Bluff since voters chose not to continue the taxpayer funding of the program. Another question was regarding cleaning up our community, specifically taking care of empty houses and buildings. Still yet another comment was regarding the need to make our community safer and more attractive for prospective businesses. It was pointed out that the economic contribution and progress of the Casino is offset by regress elsewhere.

The conversation after the program was as informative as the program itself. In fact, it was quite exhilarating to hear the discussion and the questions that were asked. Everyone, including our guests, was engaged, and interests and ideas were piqued by the dialogue. One thing is certain: the problems are obvious and solutions are evasive, and it will take all of us to make our community more appealing and attractive enough to grow our economy.

"If every family in the Pine Bluff metro area spent just \$10.00 a month with a locally owned, independent business instead of a national chain, over \$3,113,122 would be directly returned to the Pine Bluff community. That means better schools, better roads, more support for police, fire and rescue departments and stronger local economies." This is taken from the handout for our meeting that quotes *Civic Economics Andersonville Study of Retail Economics: When you spend \$100 at an independent business.*

Thanks, Alan, for the program.

The Secret of Flourishing Clubs

What is one thing the most successful clubs have in common? They set goals and not just for the upcoming year.

When club leaders plan for the future, they provide the club with direction and purpose. Whether that's welcoming more members, completing more service projects, or improving the club experience, goal setting motivates members and inspires you all to work towards a common purpose.

Rotary Club Central makes planning and tracking their goals easy for Rotary and Rotaract clubs. Club leaders can use the tool to set and record accomplishments, while members can view the club's progress. Plus, future club leaders can use previous goals to make informed decisions about the club's future and set up to three years' worth of goals.

If you're not sure where to begin, ask yourself:

- How many members does our club want by the end of the Rotary year? How about two years from now?
- How many members do we want to participate in service projects?
- Does our club have an up-to-date strategic plan?
- How much money (US\$) do we want to contribute to The Rotary Foundation?
- How can we increase our public image in the community?
- What type of club experience do we want to offer members?
- Are there any local organizations we can establish partnerships with?

It's never too late to start planning for your club's future. Visit [Rotary Club Central](#) and get started.



Robert Jaye Thompson
Secretary
Sergeant-at-Arms
Membership Chair



Linda F. Bateman
Club Learning
Facilitator



Program Schedule



Program Chairman for October: Alan Frazier

Date	Program/Speaker
October 3	Small Business Association
October 10	No Meeting - Club Project TBA
October 17	Patrick Lockett, Pine Bluff Code Enforcement Director
October 23	Club Board of Directors Meeting
October 24	Club Assembly
October 31	TBA

2024-25 Program Coordination Chair

Kevin Harris

Weekly Club Meeting Invitation

The Rotary Club of West Pine Bluff invites you to join us for our regularly scheduled meetings. Since the time of separation due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have chosen to give members the option to meet virtually as well as in person. The invitation for our virtual meetings is below. All members are asked to place the meeting on their schedules and join us. Phone and computer connections are available. This is the weekly invitation that you should save and share with others. Fellowship is one of Rotary's core values along with service. Our meetings allow us to fellowship with each other and build relationships that bridge the divisions that we create in our community. We know that you and others are busy, so we ask you to plan to join us even if only for a short while so we will know how things are going for you. Everyone is welcome to our time of fellowship.

Topic: RC of West Pine Bluff Zoom Meeting
Time: This is a recurring meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88220177860?pwd=bHdKLTlVLaHUyRkEtadXlsaoRiYXhZZo9>

Meeting ID: 882 2017 7860

Password: wpbrotary

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,88220177860# US (Houston)

+12532158782,,88220177860# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 882 2017 7860

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kdRXLxMzon>

Birthdays



[Tish Bullard](#)
October 22nd



[Jason Duren](#)
October 24th



[Jeremy Lambert](#)
November 4th



[Robert Jaye Thompson](#)
November 4th

District Leaders



[Sherry E. Polsgrove-Taylor](#)
District Governor



[Brian W. Jones](#)
DG-Elect / RI Convention
Promotion



[Shawnee Michelle Cooper](#)
DG-Nominee / District Grants
Chair