

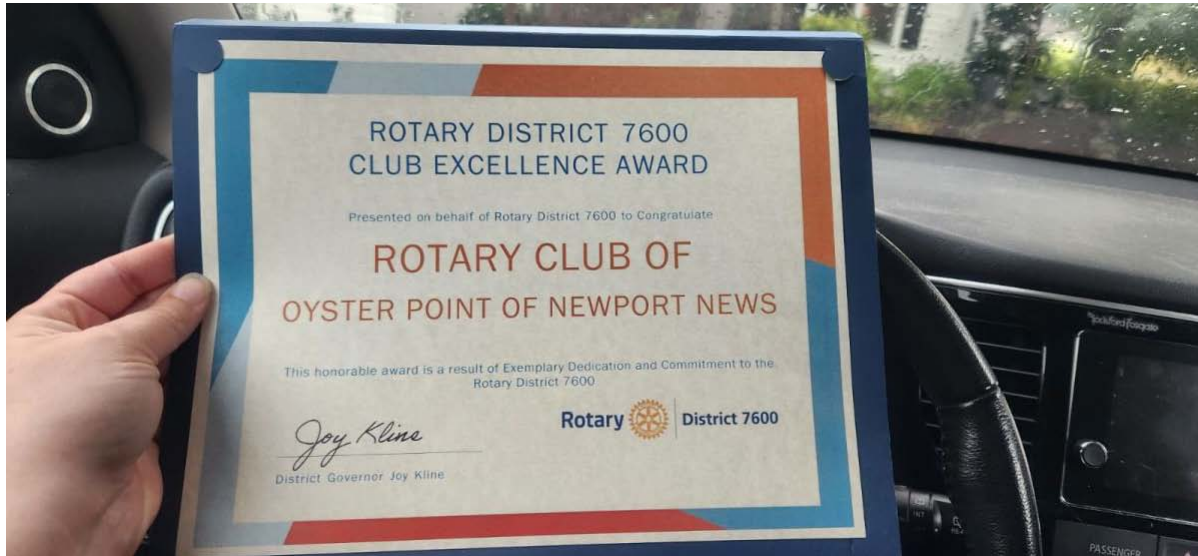
# Rotary

## Club of Oyster Point of Newport News



### 24-25 Club Excellence Award

Congratulations to the Rotary Club of Oyster Point for a Club Excellence Award from District 7600!



### Speaker 7/25/25 Eric Wildemann on Napoleon Bonaparte



This Friday, Club Director Eric Wildemann will take us on a fascinating dive into Napoleon Bonaparte. In preparation, here are a few surprising facts about the infamous emperor you may *not* have learned in history class:

- He may have had a fear of cats.
- He wasn't actually French by birth; he was born in Corsica and spoke

Corsican and Italian growing up.

- His troops accidentally discovered the Rosetta Stone during a campaign in Egypt.
- He established the Bank of France, which still exists today.
- And in true dramatic fashion, he wore poison around his neck in case of capture.

Get ready for an intriguing presentation on one of history's most complex and captivating figures!

## New member Ahmad Bahrami inducted on July 11

We are thrilled to welcome new member Ahmad Bahrami, sponsored by Mark Fendrick!

In his own words: I am a first generation immigrant looking to help people in the community that I have grown in and was raised in. I started with Bank of America as a teller and worked my way up to Financial Advisor at Merrill Lynch proving that hard work and commitment takes you places. I would love to take some of that hard work and commitment and apply it to making my community a better place to grow and thrive!

Ahmad was inducted on July 11 and we look forward to serving together!



## This Month in Motion - July

We're off to a strong start! This month, your new Board held its first meeting and hit the ground

running. We reached an action plan on Club dues (more to come soon once a few final tasks are complete), confirmed this year's Club goals, and finalized our lineup of Directors and Committee Chairs. Check out the spotlight article in this Bulletin to meet your leadership team!

We also had the honor of being officially inducted by Assistant Governor Deloris at our Friday meeting on July 11. Thank you to everyone who joined us for that special moment! And we're proud to share that our Club received a Club Excellence Award at the recent District Luncheon, recognizing the great work of our members over the past year. Let's keep that momentum going!

Concurrently, our Companion Club Chair Leslie Bryant has facilitated a warm and service-oriented environment, already inducting one new member this year and more on the horizon. I challenge all of our Club members to join a Companion Club meeting this year! Meetings are usually every first Thursday at the Coastal Fermentory Uptown.

It's already been a full and exciting July: we've enjoyed wonderful speakers, made progress on our informal "business continuity plan" by giving President-Elect Delp Givens the chance to run a meeting, and signed on to create a Strategic Plan for the Club (huge thanks to Director Eric Wildemann for driving that effort). We continue to be graciously and efficiently welcomed at every weekly meeting by our Sargeant-at-Arms, Tony Manzie.

Behind the scenes, we're closing out last year's charitable givings (thank you to IPP Jeff Trimbur and Director Betsy Fink) and completing our annual financial review (thank you Treasurer Ed Maroney). Ed is also working hard towards the Oyster Bash scheduled for November 15th, 2025. A draft budget is ready and will be shared with the Club after Board approval at an upcoming Club Assembly, currently being scheduled with support from Programs Chair Nelson Kelley. Secretary Trevor Vonu has had a stellar start with Club needs across member roster duties, purchasing processes, and Board facilitation. Director Rick Brandt is settling into Foundation planning, Director Bootsie Hatchett and others are digging into our Public Image needs, and Director Tom Herbert and others are digging deep on Club's opportunities across several themes. International Service Chair Sarah Saville has multiple leads toward support of needful communities.

Last but not least, our Service and Social committee chairs (thank you Director Michael Daniels and Director Kristen Montanaro respectively) are energized and already setting thoughtful, fun goals for the year ahead. It's shaping up to be a purposeful, joyful year and I couldn't be more proud of the start we've made together.

Yours in service,  
President Lindsey

## Your 25-26 Board is Instantiated!

### 2025-2026 Rotary Club of Oyster Point Board was inducted on July 11, 2025

- Lindsey Watson, President
- Delp Givens, President-Elect and Membership Chair
- Jeff Trimbur, Immediate Past President
- Trevor Vonu, Secretary (first year of term)
- Ed Maroney, Treasurer (last year of term)
- Rick Brandt, Director of Foundation Giving (2nd year of term)
- Michael Daniels, Director of Service (new term)
- Betsy Fink, Director of Charitable Giving (2nd year of term)
- Bootsie Hatchett, Club Director (2nd year of term)
- Tom Herbert, Club Director (2nd year of term)
- Kristen Montanaro, Director of Club Social Events (new term)
- Eric Wildemann, Director of Strategic Partnerships (new term)

### Club Leadership Team

- Leslie Bryant, Companion Club Chair
- Nelson Kelly, Programs Chair
- Tony Manzie, Sargeant-at-Arms
- Sarah Saville, International Service Chair

**Thanks to the entire Club for your service and putting goodwill back into our communities!**

## 25-26 Club Goals

Rotary Club of Oyster Point Club 25-26 Goals

- 60 members (currently 53)
- An up-to-date strategic plan
- 30 members participating in a service project at some point in the year
- \$5,200 contributed to the Annual Fund
- \$1,500 contributed to Polio Plus
- 12 social events
- 12 service project events
- Online presence uses correct Rotary branding and shows People of Action
- 1 member participating in a Rotary Action Group
- 3 updates a month to website and social media
- 2 members participating in Leadership Development programs or activities
- Review and consider updating Club bylaws
- 2 members attending the District Conference
- 3 members attending a district training event for a leadership role

## 25-26 Presidential Message

The Rotary International presidential message for 2025-26 is Unite for Good. This message replaces the traditional "presidential theme" and aims to unify Rotary members under a consistent message that aligns with the Rotary Action Plan. It emphasizes the power of human connection and collaboration in service to create positive change.



## Rotary's Four-Way Test

Rotary



## THE FOUR-WAY TEST

*Of the things we think, say or do:*

*first*

Is it the **TRUTH**?

*second*

Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

*third*

Will it build **GOODWILL** and  
**BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?

*fourth*

Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to  
all concerned?

## The Rotary Foundation

The Rotary Foundation transforms your gifts into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world.

Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects.

With your help, we can make lives better in your community and around the world.

### Our mission

The Rotary Foundation helps Rotary members to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty.

What impact can one donation have?

- For as little as 60 cents, a child can be protected from polio.
- \$50 can provide clean water to help fight waterborne illness.
- \$500 can launch an antibullying campaign and create a safe environment for children.

More at: <https://www.rotary.org/en/about-rotary/rotary-foundation>

## Texas Flood Relief

In July 2025,  
destructive and  
deadly [flooding](#)  
took place in the  
[Texas Hill  
Country](#),  
particularly in  
[Kerr County](#), in  
the U.S. state of  
[Texas](#). During the  
flooding, water  
levels along the  
[Guadalupe River](#)  
rose rapidly. As a  
result, at least  
132 fatalities  
have been

confirmed, of which at least 106 are in Kerr County, with about 170 reported missing. The flooding was caused by a [mesoscale convective vortex](#)



with enhanced tropical moisture from the remnants of a short lived [Tropical Storm Barry](#).

Flooding began on the morning of July 4, after significant rainfall accumulated across [Central Texas](#). Six [flash flood emergency](#) warnings, which included the cities of [Kerrville](#) and [Mason](#), were issued the same day. The Guadalupe River rose about 26 ft (7.9 m) in 45 minutes.<sup>[3]</sup> It surged an estimated 29 ft (8.8 m) in the [Hunt](#) area, where more than 20 children were declared missing from a summer camp. July 5 saw more flash flood warnings for the [Lake Travis](#) area, which is part of the [Colorado River watershed](#). In the span of a few hours, the equivalent to four months worth of rain fell across the Texas Hill Country region, with the highest rain totals being 20.33 in (516 mm). This flood was the deadliest inland flooding event in the United States since the [1976 Big Thompson River flood](#), surpassing flooding from [Hurricane Helene](#) in 2024.<sup>[4][5]</sup>

Rotary District 5840 - South Central Texas needs our support and is now accepting donations for Flood Relief for Kerrville and surrounding communities. Rotary District 5840 - South Central Texas is calling on all Rotarians and friends to Unite for Good as we support those affected by the devastating floods in Kerrville and surrounding areas; District 5480 is accepting tax-deductible donations through a 501(c)(3) Foundation to provide immediate relief and long-term recovery assistance.

Ways to Give:

Credit Card – <https://rotary5840.org/donate/>

district-5840-disaster-relief/

Check – Payable to Rotary District 5840 Foundation, Memo: Disaster Relief - Mail to: Rotary District 5840 Foundation, P.O. Box 13, Boerne, TX 78006

Zelle – Send to [D5840floodrelief2025@gmail.com](mailto:D5840floodrelief2025@gmail.com) , Memo: Disaster Relief

Let's show what happens when People of Action Unite for Good.

## Pour for a Purpose at the Tech Center Concert Series

### Pour for a Purpose – Volunteer at the Summer Concert Series!

Get ready to raise a glass *and* raise funds! Our Club has been offered a fantastic opportunity to staff the beer sales tent at **eight free summer concerts** — and here's the best part: **we get 50% of all beer sales!** That's right, your volunteer hours could help bring in major dollars for our service projects

and maybe even some new members. The concerts are fun, outdoors, and a perfect way to enjoy live music while doing good. Grab a friend, throw on your Rotary pin/hat/shirt, and sign up to serve some suds for a cause! If you have any questions, please contact Michael Daniels.

Sign-up links:

[May 22nd Concert Volunteer Sign-up](#)

[June 5th Concert Volunteer Sign-up](#)

[July 3rd Concert Volunteer Sign-up](#)

[July 31st Concert Volunteer Sign-up](#)

[August 14th Concert Volunteer Sign-up](#)

[September 4th Concert Volunteer Sign-up](#)

[September 18th Concert Volunteer Sign-up](#)

[October 2nd Concert Volunteer Sign-up](#)

Concert series info: <https://www.visitnewportnews.com/articles/post/tech-center-research-park-unveils-summer-2025-concert-series/>

## Rotary International Convention Update

International Convention highlights, shared from Sarah Saville...

- Over 20 Rotarians and guests from D7600 attended. Terri Nathan of the James City County Club led a breakout session.
- Bill Gates renewed the Gates Foundation Commitment of a 2:1 Match for Polio Plus Donations
- Rotary announced its partnership with Symbiosis International University in India to establish The Rotary Peace Center at Symbiosis International University to offer a one-year peace fellowship program
- Speaker highlights included Singer/Author David LaMotte (born in Norfolk VA), Academy Award Winner Geena Davis, Nobel Peace Prize Winner Tawakkol Karman, and NPR's Scott Simon
- Next year's convention will be in June in Taipei. 2027 will be in Dubai due to renovation issues in Honolulu. 2028 will be Minneapolis. 2029- TBD. 2030 - Chicago. I would strongly encourage members to plan to attend at least one.
- WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus in the list of speakers. His speech is available on the link.

An official report and select videos can be found here: <https://convention.rotary.org/en-us/about/past-and-future-conventions>

## 2026 Rotary International Convention

The friendly city of Taipei, Taiwan invites you to the 2026 Rotary International Convention from 13 to 17 June, 2026. This Convention is the perfect occasion to discover new opportunities for service and friendship.

We are 12 Host Districts from Taiwan with around 37,000 Rotarians, eager to express our hospitality and welcome you. The charm of Taipei lies in its spirit, enthusiasm, culture, and endless delights. The innovation and ongoing developments in Taipei attract people from all over the world.

Come feel the vibrancy in Taipei and visit us in 2026.

We look forward to seeing you!

More here: <https://www.rotarytaipei2026.org/en/welcome>

Why attend the 2026 Rotary International Convention in Taipei?

Attending an RI Convention is a highlight for the members of the Rotary International family. Rotarians and Rotaractors come together in a welcoming atmosphere to exchange ideas, inspire each other and start the new Rotarian year with fresh ideas. Because the Convention takes place in a different country every year, it is an honor for the 2026 Convention to take place in Taipei, Taiwan. This is the second time, 1994 was the first, for Taipei to host the Convention!

## Registration is open for the Citizen Water Academy this fall!



Ever wonder what it takes to deliver clean, reliable drinking water to your tap —day in and day out?

This fall, Newport News Waterworks is pulling back the curtain with our first-ever Citizen Water Academy! This free, 6-week program offers a behind-the-scenes look at the people, places, and processes that keep water flowing to over 410,000 customers across the Peninsula. From forested watersheds to high-tech

treatment plants, and from underground infrastructure to customer service, you'll experience it all. Classes are on Thursday evenings, 6–8 p.m., starting September 11 and wrapping up with a graduation on October 16, 2025. Expect facility tours, hands-on activities, and face time with the experts who keep the system running. Topics include water sourcing, treatment, distribution, infrastructure, customer support, and where we are heading.

Space is limited to 20 participants, so don't wait! Registration opens August 1. Reserve your seat and learn more at <https://www.nnva.gov/cwa>, or email [cmasterstaff@nnva.gov](mailto:cmasterstaff@nnva.gov) with any questions.

## In Person Breakfast Meeting + Zoom

The Rotary Club of Oyster Point meets at the James River Country Club at 7:30 am for breakfast as well as in a [Zoom Meeting](#).

The Zoom meeting will start at 7:45 a.m. You can log in as early as 7:00 am to enjoy coffee and social time before the meeting starts. There is plenty of capacity to host visiting Rotarians, potential members, and guests. Bring a guest and introduce them to the Rotary Club of Oyster Point!

[Read More](#)

## Events

July 25th, 7:00-8:30 AM

### Oyster Point of Newport News Weekly Club Meeting

**Speaker:** Eric Wildeman

**Subject:** Napoleon Bonaparte

August 7th, 5:30-6:30 PM

### Rotary Club of Oyster Point - Companion Meeting

August 14th, 6:00-8:00 PM

### Rotary Club of Oyster Point Board Meeting

August 1st, 7:00-8:30 AM

### Oyster Point of Newport News Weekly Club Meeting

**Speaker:** Doug Miller Federal Judge Magistrate

August 8th, 7:00-8:30 AM

### Oyster Point of Newport News Weekly Club Meeting

**Speaker:** Jodi Fisler

**Subject:** Braver Angels <https://braverangels.org/>

August 15th, 7:00-8:30 AM

### Oyster Point of Newport News Weekly Club Meeting

**Speaker:** William Kelly President CNU ( tentative date )

**Subject:** President's Leadership Program at CNU

## Birthdays

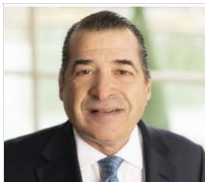


[Delp C. Givens](#)  
August 3rd



[Ed Maroney](#)  
August 21st

## Years of Service



[Raymond H. Suttle Jr.](#)  
17 Years



[Eric R. Wildemann](#)  
10 Years

## Club Leaders



[Lindsey Watson](#)  
President  
Bulletin Editor  
Club Director



[Leslie A. Bryant](#)  
Satellite Club  
Chair



[Delp C. Givens](#)  
President-Elect  
Club Director  
Membership  
Chair



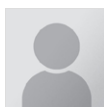
[Jeffery Andrew Trimbur](#)  
Club Director  
iPast President



[Trevor James Vonu](#)  
Club Director  
Secretary



[Ed Maroney](#)  
Club Director  
Treasurer  
Webmaster



[Robert A. Manzie](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Richard Brandt](#)  
Club Director  
Rotary  
Foundation  
Chair



[Michael Daniels](#)  
Club Director  
Club Service  
Chair



[Betsy Fink](#)  
Club Director  
Community  
Service Chair



[Philip L. Hatchett](#)  
Club Director



[Thomas P. Herbert](#)  
Club Director



[Kristen Montanaro](#)  
Club Director  
Hospitality



[Eric R. Wildemann](#)  
Club Director  
Future Visions  
Chair



[Nelson E. Kelley](#)  
Club Programs  
Chair



[Sarah M. Saville](#)  
International  
Service Chair

## Club Meeting

Oyster Point of Newport News

Meets at We are meeting in person at the James River Country Club and via Zoom. Please email the President for the link to join us.

1500 Country Club Road

Newport News, VA

Time: Friday at 07:30 AM