

Rotary



Club of Warrenton

MARCH NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Rotary Club of Warrenton Virginia



The **Rotary Club of Warrenton** has been serving the greater Warrenton and Fauquier County community since 1926. We are an organization of business and professional leaders united within our community who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Rotary is where neighbors, friends, and problem-solvers share ideas, join leaders, and take action to create lasting change.

Rotary unites more than a million people around the world. Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

We take action locally and globally. Each day, our members pour their passion, integrity, and intelligence into completing projects that have a lasting impact. We persevere until we deliver real, lasting solutions.

Club activities, social events, and volunteer projects offer networking opportunities that build personal and professional connections. And Rotarians can extend those networks by visiting other clubs around the globe.

Club Leaders



Christopher B. Coutts
President-Nominee
Club PI/PR Chair
Club Public Image Chair
Vice President



Lauren Marie Buffum
President



Kevin P. Greeley
President-Elect



Ariana M. Myers
Secretary



Lisa Marie Chicchitto
Treasurer



Jeremy Falls
Club Admin Chair



David M. Furia
Sergeant-at-Arms



H. Frank Ramey III
Rotary Foundation Chair



Tania Anne Cubitt Ph.D.
Club Service Chair
Club Service Chair



Erin Mann
Youth Services Chair
Youth Services Chair



Amelia J. Stansell
iPast President

Birthdays

Jeffrey W. Parker
March 14th

Kevin P. Greeley
March 14th

JANUARY - FAUQUIER ANTI SEX TRAFFICKING ALLIANCE

The Fauquier Anti Sex Trafficking Alliance (FASTA) led a candlelight vigil on Jan. 11 to mark National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness and National Slavery & Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

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Candles were provided at the vigil, which was held at 5:30 p.m. at John Barton Payne Hall at Court House Square.

The **Rotary Club of Warrenton** is a sponsor of the third annual vigil, which included remarks from Sheriff Jeremy Falls.

“The best defense in preventing the fastest-growing criminal enterprise in the world which targets children is through education,” Falls said in a news release. “Knowledge is power, which is why it is critical to educate parents, children and the community by increasing awareness, recognizing the patterns and instructing them on what to do when it is recognized.”

For more information on the Fauquier County Anti Sex Trafficking Alliance, you can follow the group on Facebook at @FauquierAntiSexTraffickingAlliance or email Amelia Stansell, the alliance’s chairman, at amelia@unstoppablefutures.com.

In 2017 WTOP reported that there has been at least one reported case of sex trafficking in every high school in Northern Virginia,” Stansell, who is also a past president of the **Rotary Club of Warrenton**, said in the release.

“As a mother, this startled me and got me to work, ultimately creating FASTA ... we work to bring awareness to our community about human trafficking and more specifically, sex trafficking and most recently sextortion through community conversations and this community candlelight vigil.”



George D. Scheulen
March 21st

Ernest M. Oare
March 29th

Wedding Anniversaries

Ariana M Myers
March 12th

James A Rankin
March 20th

Ernest M. Oare
March 21st

John S. Chadsey
April 2nd

T. Tyrone
Champion
April 4th

FEBRUARY - MENTAL HEALTH UPDATE



The **Rotary Club of Warrenton** has been working toward a powerful initiative since March of 2023 to improve mental health for the youth in Fauquier County. Our club and the Gainesville/Haymarket Rotary Club partnered to kick off this initiative with a pickleball fundraiser held at Chestnut Forks Tennis Club last March, where we raised approximately \$26,000 for each club. Our 2nd fundraiser at Chestnut Forks

kicked off on March 3, 2024, from 12:00-8:00 PM. Thank you to all who volunteered, played or donated.

The **Rotary Club of Warrenton's** Youth Mental Health Committee has been meeting with local organizations to determine the best use of the funds. Our goal was to see what was already in place and to fill in the gaps as a partner to help support local organizations. Cindy Legg and Bridget Downey are co-chairs of this committee with robust and passionate committee members Lisa Chichetto, Wayne and Debbie Hauter, Dawn Aruda, Anne Hall, and Lauren Buffum. Additionally, we have a full club of Rotarians supporting this effort.

Our Club is excited to have partnered with several local organizations this past year with the following support projects:

- **Hope Bags:** with a rise in crisis and suicides, we wanted to do something to help these youth know we care and put together duffel bags with various items that were approved by the Mental Health Association of Fauquier County and Youth for Tomorrow. We have partnered with Fauquier County Public Schools, providing these Hope Bags to each of the Directors of Counseling in the 3 area high schools. We also partnered with Youth for Tomorrow and Fauquier Health and provided the Hope Bags to be distributed as they saw the need.

- **Hope Cards:** in addition to the Hope Bags, we put together Hope Cards that include an inspirational message, small gift card and resource card with the suicide hotline and other local agencies they can contact for support. These cards are geared towards any student who could use hope - from those suffering from anxiety, depression, or just going through a temporary difficulty. These cards have also been distributed to the area High Schools, but we are in the process of expanding this distribution.

- **Funding Support:** One of the areas of need was to help those in counseling pay for co-pays and other support for counseling services where there is a financial need. We donated \$10,000 to Youth for Tomorrow for this cause and had a very generous match from the foundation of Wayne and Debbie Hauter!

- **Youth Mental Health Certification Training:** We partnered with The Mental Health Association of Fauquier County to provide certification training for any Rotary member from our club and the Gainesville/Haymarket Club who wanted to go through that training. We just completed this on February 1, 2024. The Mental Health Association of Fauquier County is doing great things to raise awareness and educate us on how to respond to a youth in need.

- On the horizon " One of our new initiatives is to provide funding for an independent full-time counselor that could support the schools. This is the goal for our March pickleball fundraiser!

We also had Dona Rogers from Morgan's Message come speak to the club and plan to partner with her in the future. We are grateful to have this opportunity to support our youth.

MARCH - PICKLEBALL WITH PURPOSE

Our kids are facing an unprecedented epidemic of mental health issues, including suicide, anxiety/depression, cyber-bullying/social media, trafficking, and stress.

On Sunday March 3rd, the **Warrenton Rotary Club** in partnership with the Gainesville Haymarket Rotary Club, held their 2nd annual Pickleball With Purpose fundraiser at the Chestnut Forks Tennis Club. A great day was had by all, monies raised will continue to support youth mental health in our community.



Last years funds helped create:

Hope Bags: duffel bags with various items that were approved by the Mental Health Association of Fauquier County and Youth for Tomorrow. The bags were distributed to Directors of Counseling in the 3 area high schools. We also partnered with Youth for Tomorrow and Fauquier Health and provided the Hope Bags to be distributed as they saw the need.

Hope Cards: these include an inspirational message, a small gift card and a resource card with the suicide hotline and other local agencies they can contact for support.

Funding Support: Donated \$10,000 to Youth for Tomorrow

One of our new initiatives is to provide funding for an independent full-time counselor that could support the schools.

APRIL - BABY SHOWER

The items gathered for the baby shower benefit families with very young children here in Fauquier County who use The Fauquier Community Food Bank & Thrift Store. The Food Bank will distribute excess items to other organizations who serve this same community, such as FISH, Community Touch and others. We are accepting:



MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

- non-expired baby food
- formula, wipes
- creams
- diapers
- any other non-perishable food item
- any other baby items

The Food Bank/Thrift Store can decide what to do with items that are donated.

If someone wants to donate funds, they can write a check directly to: The Fauquier Community Food Bank & Thrift Store OR they can still purchase through the Amazon Baby Registry, which will never close – it is super easy and will be shipped directly to the Food Bank.

Just go to the Amazon Baby Registry and search for Warrenton Rotary, or The Fauquier Community Food Bank & Thrift Store (really – Warrenton or –Fauquier will populate it too).

<https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/2023warrenton-rotary-thefauquiercommunityfoodbank-thriftstore-june-2023-warrenton/2DN6W7FIFP8QH>

Lastly, if you need to reach the Food Bank for anything, please call 540-359-6054 and ask for Sharon or Tom and they can help you out. If you need it, their address is 249 E. Shirley Ave, Warrenton, VA 20186.

Maternal & Child Health

Baby Shower \$20,000+
Youth Mental Health \$26,000+

Baby Shower to support the Fauquier Food Bank & Thrift Store, serving families in our community

Charity Pickleball Tournament to support youth mental health initiatives in our community

If you would like to support our baby shower or youth mental health initiatives please scan the QR code

Rotary Club of Warrenton
Service Above Self since 1926

Meet the Board: Lauren Buffum - President

- What year did you join Rotary?
 - 2017
- Why did you want to join?
 - It was important to me to join a service organization that aligns with my core values.
- What excites you most about Rotary?
 - The accomplishments we achieve for our local community, year after year!
- What is a fun fact about you?
 - After giving this a lot of thought and Googling – fun fact idea – LOL. I decided to share why we named our 1st dog, Talia. My husband and I’s 1st dog together was a chocolate lab. We wanted to name her from the movie series, Rocky. Matthew and I both appreciated the love Rocky and his wife had for each other. So, we chose Rocky’s wife, Adrian’s, real name, Talia.



Meet the Board: Kevin Greeley - President Elect

- What year did you join Rotary?
 - I joined in 2021.
- Why did you want to join?
 - I was curious about Rotary, not really knowing much about the organization. Once I attended a few meetings and better understood the community focus I wanted to help. Although I still have to say I joined because Amelia told me.
- What excites you most about Rotary?
 - Keeping a local focus on the needs of the community and being able to assist either directly or working through other established programs.
- What is a fun fact about you?
 - Wile E. Coyote is my favorite Looney Tune.



Events

March 6th, 5:30-6:30 PM

Rotary Club of Warrenton AMPT-Up Meeting @ Death Ridge Brewery

March 14th, 12:15-1:15 PM

Warrenton Weekly Club Meeting

Speaker: Becca Segal

Subject: Meet the Member presentation

March 21st, 10:45-12:00 PM

Warrenton Board Meeting

March 28th, 12:15-1:15 PM

Warrenton Weekly Club Meeting

Speaker: Major Warner

Subject: Fauquier County Public School Superintendent.

April 4th, 12:15-1:15 PM

Warrenton Weekly Club Meeting

March 7th, 12:15-1:15 PM

Warrenton Weekly Club Meeting

Speaker: Jodi Navin

Subject: Laurel Ridge Workforce

March 14th, 1:15

Warrenton Monthly Planning Club Meeting

March 21st, 12:15-1:15 PM

Warrenton Weekly Club Meeting

Speaker: Molly Brooks

Subject: Hero's Bridge.

April 3rd, 5:30-6:30 PM

Rotary Club of Warrenton AMPT-Up Meeting @ Death Ridge Brewery