

Rotary

Club of Asheville Breakfast



Hat Duty

- January 15 - Sara Purser
- January 22 - Linda Ruhland
- January 29 - James Shelton
- February 5 - Shawn Smart
- February 12 - Ruth Summers
- February 19 - Don Swaby
- February 26 - Frank Ungert
- March 5 - Brent Wyatt
- March 12 - Stephanie Young
- March 19 - Henry Zaremba

Please bring a consolation prize for the hat drawing and if you cannot serve on your date try to trade places with someone on the list. Arrive about 15 minutes early and be ready to greet other members and sell tickets for the drawing. Thank you all and have fun with it!

Elizabeth Bunner New Member Induction



Club Meeting Place & Time

Asheville Breakfast Meets at Renaissance Hotel Downtown Asheville
31 Woodfin Street Asheville, NC 28801
Time: Wednesday at 07:30 AM

Club Officers



Henry Watson
Jordan II
President



Gary K. Bockhold
President-Elect



Ruth T. Summers
Vice President



Randy S. Lehman
Treasurer



Carl T. Chesick
Secretary



Richard Anderson
Club Admin Chair
Sergeant-at-Arms

David L. Hayes

We welcomed our newest member Elizabeth Bunner a local Real Estate agent who is passionate about volunteer work. We look forward to her new member talk soon. Make sure to introduce yourself to Elizabeth if you haven't already!

Meeting Notes 1.8.25

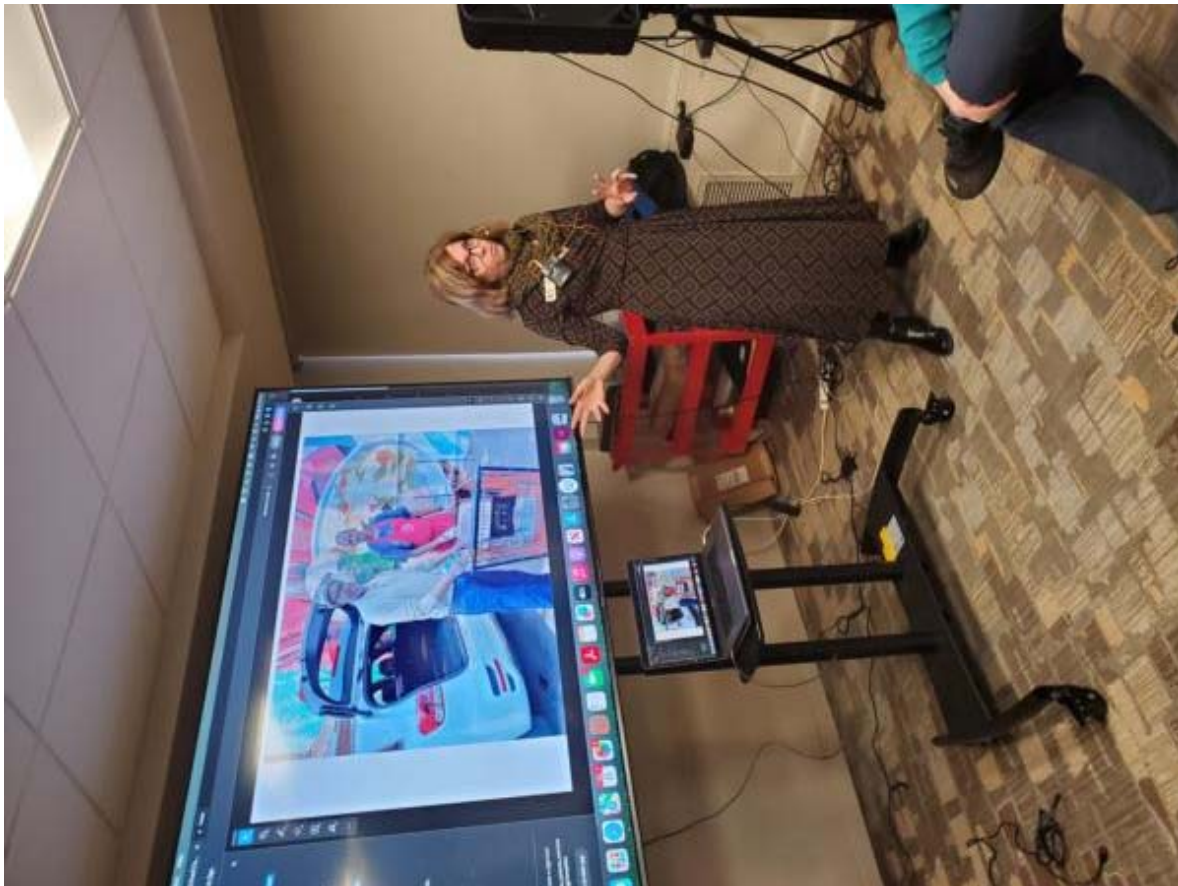
The club spent some time remembering Bruce Tompkins, a long-time member who passed away December 22nd. Bruce served as sergeant at arms for years and will be remembered by all of us who had a chance to cross paths with him.

Rod needs more volunteers for the Martin Luther King Jr day flag project especially in the afternoon. Please contact Rod to help.

Pictured is the sign up sheet for the roles needed for the upcoming Fat Tuesday Fiesta on March 4th. With the budget planned, the committee thinks we can raise \$16,000. Please contact Cindy to sign up to help.

Asheville Breakfast Rotary Club - Fat Tuesday Fiesta	
March 4, 2025 - Volunteer Sign-Up	
Role	Name
Posters and Advertising	Phil Pratt
Posters and Advertising	Sara Foner
Gift Baskets	Marie Anderson
Sponsors	
Live Auction Items	James Shelton
Live Auction Items	Henry Swaby
Ticket Sales	
Day of Event Set Up	Deborah LaSore
Day of Event Set Up	Caroline Gabriela
Selling Raffle Tickets	Sara Foner
Selling Raffle Tickets	Phil Pratt, Patrick Hubble
Clean Up	Gabe B.
Clean Up	Deborah

Flori Pate, Food Connection



Flori Pate and her husband had started a business and website, diglocal, to help people find what to do locally which led to a conversation with Pack's Tavern. The conversation was about catering events and how much food was getting thrown away. That is how Food Connection was born in 2015. The concept is simple, taking donations of food that would otherwise be thrown out, packaging it, and getting it to



Rotary Foundation Chair



Nathan Patrick Moran CCO-Club Comm. Offcr



William Taylor Biddle Jr. International Service Chair



Donald R. Swaby Community Service Chair



Linda J Ruhland Club Public Image Chair



Rodney Douglas Club Social Chair



Henry P Zaremba CART Fund Chair



James Hylemon Youth Services Chair



Cynthia K. Ireland Club PolioPlus Chair iPast President



James Walter Shelton RYLA Point of Contact



Jennifer L. Maneely Club Programs Chair

those in need. Execution is difficult when dealing with perishable chef-prepared food items. In 2015 they provided 10,000 meals. Last year they provided 134,000 meals.

That expansion in ability to serve has come from the evolution of their operations as well as their increased number of relationships. At the start they approached catering outfits for donations from food not eaten at catering events, packaged it into individual meals and distributed where they could. Through the years they have built relationships, purchased a food truck to be able to move meals to where they are needed, purchased a mobile trailer to accept donations after hours, and now purchasing a second trailer to expand into Hendersonville as well.

The need is great as Buncombe County has a food insecurity rate of 14%. Almost 1/3 of those do not qualify for any form of assistance. They want to reach those families, and they give to anyone who comes for meals without question. There are no qualifying criteria or income limits. At the same time, 40% of food we prepare in the USA ends up in the trash. That equates to about 168 million tons of food waste in our country per year. Food is one of the most prevalent things in landfills and creates methane when decomposing, contributing to greenhouse gasses released into the atmosphere. Reducing this waste helps in more ways than one.

If you want to get involved and help:

- Volunteer
- Consider sponsoring their golf tournament at Grove Park Inn on April 21st
- Follow them on Social Media
- Spread the word about what they do and if you're at a party with lots of food share what Food Connection is
- visit their website at food-connection.org for more information

Carl Chesick and Surprise visitors from Cameroon



Breakfast Rotary club member Carl Chesick was hosting guests before the holidays. They visited Asheville to see the Center For Honeybee Research since Cameroon had won a category in the International Honey Contest, which is the world's largest. It turns out... they are Rotarians! Pictured in the white sweatshirt is the 40 year old assistant governor in charge of 10 African countries. They were taken to the downtown club meeting and had a great time. Thanks to Carl for all he does and showing how Rotary brings the world together.

Birthdays



[Carmen Y Cabrera](#)
January 28th



[David L. Hayes](#)
January 31st

Speakers

January 15th

[Jennifer Bauer: Landslides in WNC](#)

Events

January 20th, 7:30-5:30 PM

[Flag Project, Martin Luther King Jr day](#)

March 4th, 5:00-10:00 PM

[Fat Tuesday Fiesta!](#)

June 19th, 7:30-5:30 PM

[Flag Project, Juneteenth](#)

September 1st, 7:30-5:30 PM

[Flag Project, Labor Day](#)

November 11th, 7:30-5:30 PM

[Flag Project, Veterans Day](#)

Thursday, January 9, 2025

February 17th, 7:30-5:30 PM

[Flag Project, President's Day](#)

May 26th, 7:30-5:30 PM

[Flag Project, Memorial Day](#)

July 4th, 7:30-5:30 PM

[Flag Project, Independence Day](#)

October 13th, 7:30-5:30 PM

[Flag Project, Columbus Day](#)