

Rotary



Club of Asheville THE COG

Wednesday, December 4, 2024



This Week's Meeting - December 5, 2024 - New Member Talks

Good morning Fellow Asheville Rotarians! What better way to come off a Thanksgiving Holiday Weekend than with our favorite program - New Member Talks! Today we'll be hearing from "newish" members **Beverly Jurenko, Danielle Kwasnik, and Sarah Cockman**. Hope to see you at noon!

Join us in person and enjoy a great lunch, or [virtually via this Zoom link](#).

Click below to electronically contribute Happy Dollars, Fines, and donations to our Rotary Club of Asheville Foundation, Inc.

Donate



Club Meeting

Asheville
Meets at TUTION HALL,
TRINITY EPISCOPAL
CHURCH. To request a
Zoom simulcast link email
avrotary1915@gmail.com.
60 Church St
Asheville, NC 28801
Time: Thursday at 12:30
PM

Speakers

December 05, 2024
[Sarah Cockman, Beverly Jurenko, & Danielle Kwasnik](#)
New Member Talks

December 12, 2024
[Dr. William McLean](#)
Silver Tsunami

December 19, 2024
[Paul Keckley](#)
Landscape of Healthcare Today

Songwriters in the Round Hits the Jackpot!

By Marvin M. Thomas III on Wednesday, December 4, 2024

Last month's Nashville Songwriters in the Round fundraiser at Highland Brewery was a huge success. Longtime event co-chair Marvin Thomas summed it up well:

*"We hope those of you who were able to attend had a great time! Our efforts produced **\$47,750** that will provide scholarships to a number of Buncombe County students who now, more than ever, need a hand to make their dreams come true. THANK YOU ALL!"*

[Here's a link to the event program](#) with all the details on those amazing Nashville performers.

Coming Events

December 4th
[Urban Hike](#)
December 8th
[Holiday Party!](#)
December 18th
[Thirsty Third Wednesday](#)
January 1st
[Urban Hike](#)

Club Leaders



[Eva-Michelle G. Spicer](#)
President



[David Mans](#)
President-Elect



Rotarians Serve Thanksgiving Cheer to the VRQ

By Thomas G. Leavesley on Tuesday, December 3, 2024



Ten members of our club got up early Thanksgiving morning to serve breakfast to dozens of Veterans at ABCCM's Veterans' Restoration Quarters (VRQ). Many thanks to Tom Leavesley, President Eva-Michelle, and their team of Rotarians for demonstrating "Service Above Self" on this special day. Here's an excerpt from the thank you note from the VRQ's Volunteer Coordinator:

Just want to express our thanks for the beautiful hot breakfast you brought on Thanksgiving morning! What a great way to start the holiday!

Although I wasn't there for it, I have heard a number of comments from the men about how good it was. They don't get hot breakfasts very often, so this was a treat.

Please pass on our thanks to everyone who helped. Taking the time and effort to organize that breakfast and come out early in the morning on Thanksgiving to serve it is a gift not lost on the men - they are most appreciative. Your efforts made them feel loved and cared for. Thank you!!!

God bless you!

Ruth Lolo

*Volunteer Coordinator
Veterans' Restoration Quarters (VRQ)*



Michelle Daniels
President-Nominee
Club Director
International Service Chair



Betty A. Doll
Secretary



Cathy Early
Treasurer



Anthony D Lynch
Attendance Secretary
Sergeant-at-Arms



Alvin Ward Peacock Jr.
Club Director
Membership Chair



Janet L. Whitworth
Treasurer



Timothy L. Owings
Club Director
Rotary Foundation Chair



Steven Shreiber
Sergeant-at-Arms



Tracy Fames
Club Public Image Chair



Alexander P. Pence
Club Director
Community Service Chair
Club Service Chair



Zachary F. Lamb
Club Director
Vocational Service Chair



Marcia Whitney
Club Admin Chair
Club Director



Richard T. Devereaux
Diversity Equity & Inclusion Webmaster



Dwayne Richardson
Diversity Equity & Inclusion

Chris Werte
Diversity Equity

Meeting Summary - November 21, 2024



Wow--what a meeting! BIG news: Ross Sloan was announced as the District Governor-Nominee Designate, meaning that he'll be the District 7670 Governor for the 2027-28 Rotary Year. Congratulations Ross! Also announced were nominees for President-Elect Dave Mans' 2025-26 Board of Directors and our **club President Nominee-Designate for 2027-28, Anthony Lynch!** Congratulations to all!

You can read all the details by [clicking on this link to the two-page meeting summary.](#)



Our guest speaker was Debbie Sprouse, the Executive Director of one of Asheville's most prominent helping agencies, Meals on Wheels! Debbie provided an overview of the organization, its Hurricane Helene response, and led us through a fun and educational interactive "hands-on service activity."



& Inclusion



[Virginia Lawrence](#)
Bulletin Editor
CCO-Club
Comm. Offcr
Club Director



[David T. Kaverman](#)
Club Director
Youth
Protection
Officer
Youth Services
Chair



[Carol E. Bornstein](#)
Club Fund
Raising Chair



[Albert Davis](#)
RYLA Point of
Contact



[Patrick A. Snyder](#)
iPast President

Birthdays

- Kevin R McRae
December 4th
- Brandon E Oliver
December 4th
- Bruce G. Clark
December 6th
- Zachary F. Lamb
December 6th
- Steven B. Shechter
December 7th
- John C. Palmer
December 10th
- Margot Baron
December 11th
- Glenn W. Wilcox
December 11th
- Paul Hyler
December 12th
- Carol C. Hensley
December 13th
- David K Snider Sr.
December 13th
- Lawrence E. Thompson
III

Sign Up for our Rotary Holiday Party!

By Betty A. Doll on Sunday, December 1, 2024

We are VERY excited for our Rotary Holiday Party this year! You will find all the event details below but feel free to reach out if you have any additional questions.

Please [RSVP here](#) or to Katherine.Morosani@edwardjones.com by Thursday, December 5th if you are able to attend.

EVENT INFO:

When is the Party?

Sunday, December 7, 4 - 7pm

Who is invited?

All Rotary Club of Asheville members and their plus 1 (and kids!)

What should I wear?

Attire is "holiday casual".

What the heck does "holiday casual" mean?

Think Ugly or normal Christmas sweaters, red and green, jeans, dresses... really whatever you feel most comfortable in to celebrate the holiday season!

What will we be doing at the holiday party?

*Stop in for heavy hors d'oeuvres, drinks, mingling, and holiday cheer! **Wear your ugliest Christmas sweater or outfit!***

Where is Kimpton Hotel Arras the Wilcox Room?

The Kimpton Hotel Arras is located in the heart of downtown Asheville. The address is 7 Patton Avenue, Asheville, NC 28801.

Where do I park?

Attached is a document showing multiple different parking options walking distance from The Kimpton Hotel Arras. You can also park along the road wherever you find metered spots. Metered spots that use the Passport Parking app or credit card payment are free after 6pm. For ease of parking, download the Passport Parking app prior to attending to save some time the day of the party. Please note, you will be responsible for parking fees.

Click the following link for a map of parking locations referenced in the above attached PDF. [Parking Near The Kimpton Hotel Arras - Google Maps](#)

[RSVP here](#) or directly to Katherine.Morosani@edwardjones.com by Dec. 5th!

Cheers,
Rotary Fellowship Committee

Christmas Angel Opportunity

December 14th
Edward Broadwell Jr.
December 17th
Mark E Chase
December 18th
Robert C. Kendrick
December 20th
Donald K. Reback
December 25th
Carolyn Cronin
December 26th
Eva-Michelle G. Spicer
December 27th
Anna Peddy
December 28th
Kyle Parks
December 28th
Edward L Bleyntat Jr.
December 31st
Robby Cusic
January 1st

Wedding Anniversaries

Louise C Bijesse
December 5th
Denise M Lawson
December 9th
Tanya N. Fletcher
December 12th
Bruce L Waller Jr.
December 18th
Lucian Undreiu
December 29th
David Mans
December 29th

By Eva-Michelle G. Spicer on Tuesday, December 3, 2024



Tis the season to help our neighbors! The ABCCM Christmas Angel Christmas Shop is set up at Abernathy United Methodist Church (1418 Patton Ave) and they need volunteers! If you find yourself with a little bit of free time and can help them package up Holiday gifts for children in need, please email jordan.linkston@abccm.org. Shifts are from 10a-1p, 1p-4p and 4p-6p. **They especially need volunteers this Thursday, December 5!** I was there today and it's tons of fun to "shop" for kids and fill their wishlists with donated toys!

If you have treasure but not time to donate, you can also shop the most requested items on this [Amazon wishlist](#) or feel free to bring a toy to the meeting on Thursday and I'll take it to the Christmas Shop!

With Holiday Cheer, Mrs. Claus (aka Eva-Michelle)

Sign Up for Salvation Army Bell Ringing

By Alexander P. Pence on Tuesday, November 26, 2024



It's time to sign up for Salvation Army Bell Ringing! We'll be looking for members to sign up for 2-hour shifts from 10am to 8pm on Thursday, December 19 at Sam's Club. If you'd like to volunteer, [click on this link to email Alex Pence](#). Thanks!!

People of Action Nominations

By Patrick A. Snyder on Wednesday, December 4, 2024



Help us with the 2025 People of Action Gala by nominating your hero before Jan 8th!

Nomination Form Link: [https://forms.gle/](https://forms.gle/9eTsujrNGzPknUya6)

9eTsujrNGzPknUya6

Please also share this link with your community of friends and other local influences who might know others that embody our "Service Above Self" mindset, so that we can recognize people of action in our community across all seven Areas of Focus.

Thank you,
Pat

[Read More](#)

Sign Up for the Honduras Medical-Dental Brigade



The Medical/Dental Brigade is headed to Honduras Jan 22-29 and has room for volunteers from our club. The estimated cost to the participant is about \$1500. Please [email Bob Haggard](#) with questions.

Helene Volunteer Opportunities

By Richard T. Devereaux on Wednesday, October 23, 2024

Here are some Helene volunteer opportunities suggested by our members:



[Veterans Restoration Headquarters](#) was flooded and most of the cars belonging to the veterans as well as the staff cars were destroyed. They need a pool of volunteers they can call when a veteran needs transport to appointments or errands. An example of a need is a blind veteran needs transport to dialysis 3 times per week. Please [e-mail Janet Whitworth](#) if you are willing to be on the list of volunteers willing to provide assistance. She will give this list to Ruth Lolo at ABCCM and she will handle everything from that point forward.

HELENE REBUILD COLLABORATIVE

[Helene Rebuild Collaborative](#)



[Beloved Asheville](#)

Beloved is looking for volunteers to sort donations. It is at [Highland Brewing Co.](#) in the warehouse on the far left side of the building. Tuesdays through Saturdays between the hours of 1:00 and 4:00. They'll take any help they can get!

Beloved Asheville

On Saturday, November 9th, 36 Rotarians and friends gathered at Beloved Village to help clean up the site post-construction. We coordinated with the local non-profit, Beloved Asheville, on this community service project. Beloved Village provides a solution for those struggling in the housing crisis by providing affordable tiny homes situated in a village format with shared gathering spots. The homes are targeted for lower income families and are nearby to public transportation within the city of Asheville. [Read More](#)



Rotary Club of Asheville Offers Disaster Relief Grant

Friday, November 22, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT: Kyle Parks

Rotary Club of Asheville Offers Disaster Relief Grant to Support Recovery Efforts in Western North Carolina

ASHEVILLE, N.C. (November 22, 2024) — The Rotary Club of Asheville has launched a Disaster Relief Grant program to aid in the recovery and rebuilding efforts following the devastation caused by Tropical Storm Helene.

Rotary Clubs and individuals in the United States and Canada have contributed more than \$150,000 in donations to help support this initiative, which will provide financial assistance to eligible organizations in our community.

Nonprofits, schools, and government agencies with 501(c)(3) status are invited to apply for grants of up to \$5,000. The Rotary Club of Asheville Disaster Relief Committee will evaluate applications on a bi-weekly basis, ensuring that funds are distributed efficiently to those with the greatest need.

"Our mission is to support recovery and rebuilding efforts for those affected by Tropical Storm Helene," said Janet Whitworth, chair of the Rotary Club of Asheville's Disaster Relief Committee. "We are proud to collaborate with Rotary Clubs across North America to help Western North Carolina."

Interested organizations are encouraged to submit a project budget, their most recent IRS Form 990 or year-end financial statements, and any supplementary materials. Applications can be [submitted online](#) or emailed directly to Janet Whitworth at jwhitworth711@gmail.com.

The Rotary Club of Asheville will continue the grant process until the funds have been fully utilized, to make sure that the community receives the necessary support to rebuild and recover.

For more information or to submit an application, visit www.rotaryasheville.org

About the Rotary Club of Asheville:

The Rotary Club of Asheville is a service club of engaged and passionate members who desire to do good in the community and world while honoring shared ethics and core values. The club, which has over 165 members from a wide range of backgrounds, finds ways to help the community at local, national, and international levels. This can involve anything from doing volunteer projects overseas to finding ways to support nonprofits in Asheville and Buncombe County. For more information, visit <https://www.rotaryasheville.org/>.

A Special "Thank You" from DG Connie

By Connie M. Molland



Looking back on the last 8–9 weeks and all the amazing work that's been done by Rotarians around our District, I am so proud of you all! While our District didn't have a disaster preparedness plan in place, we quickly formed a core team who met daily to chart our path through the immediate crisis. This was especially challenging due to communication issues (remember not having cell or internet?!?!?), but we kept getting stronger every day. I won't be able to recognize everyone who stepped up in the wake of Helene at the District level, but I want to give a shout-out to the following:

- DGE Alpo for leading the supplies initiative,
- DGN Paige for leading us with the Club Grants application process,
- DRFC Ken for leading the way to get the first Disaster Relief Grant from TRF,
- Finance Chair Jim Cruickshank for leading our District in fundraising for Helene efforts,
- Community Service Director Guy Gooder for helping share workday opportunities for Rotarians to sign up for,
- District Public Image Chair Julie West for keeping up with all that was going on in our District – posting to our Facebook page, website, and most importantly, providing a special weekly bulletin to keep members informed, and
- Chief of Staff to the District Governor Rick for helping me every step of the way, and
- Rotary International Director Patrick Eakes for establishing the RI Zones 501c3 Disaster Relief Fund.

Of the 25 counties and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians that were in the federally declared disaster area, several counties in our District – Avery, Buncombe, Madison, Mitchell, Watauga, Rutherford, and Yancey, are still very much struggling and have a seriously long road of recovery ahead of them. The Rotary Clubs located in these counties are both affected and working to help those in need. If you are interested in helping financially, please consider giving to the District Fund or the RI Zones Disaster Recovery Fund. Visit [Rotary District 7670](#) for more information.

With this being the week of Thanksgiving, I am thinking of all that I am grateful for. I am thankful for each

and every Rotarian in our District, our District Leadership Team, and I am humbled by all that is being done by you all to spread the Rotary Magic during this incredibly difficult time for so many of us.

Rotary Four Way Test



The 4-Way Test

of things we do and say:

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?