

# Rotary



## Club of Asheville THE COG

Wednesday, February 5, 2025



### Club Meeting

Asheville  
Meets at TUTON HALL, TRINITY  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
60 Church St  
Asheville, NC 28801  
Time: Thursday at 12:30 PM

### Speakers

#### February 06, 2025

[Ed Kolesar, Dan Rogers, and  
Mary Brown](#)  
New Member Talks

#### February 13, 2025

[Lisa Raleigh, RiverLink Executive  
Director](#)  
River Resilience in the Wake of  
Hurricane Helene

#### February 20, 2025

[Varied](#)  
Community Grants Recipients

#### February 27, 2025

[Varied](#)  
Community Grants Recipients

### Coming Events

February 5th  
[Urban Hiike](#)

February 6th  
[Peace Pole Dedication  
Ceremony](#)

February 8th  
[Propane Tank Exchange  
Project](#)

February 19th  
[Thirsty Third Wednesday](#)

February 20th  
[Red Cross Blood Drive](#)

March 5th  
[Urban Hiike](#)

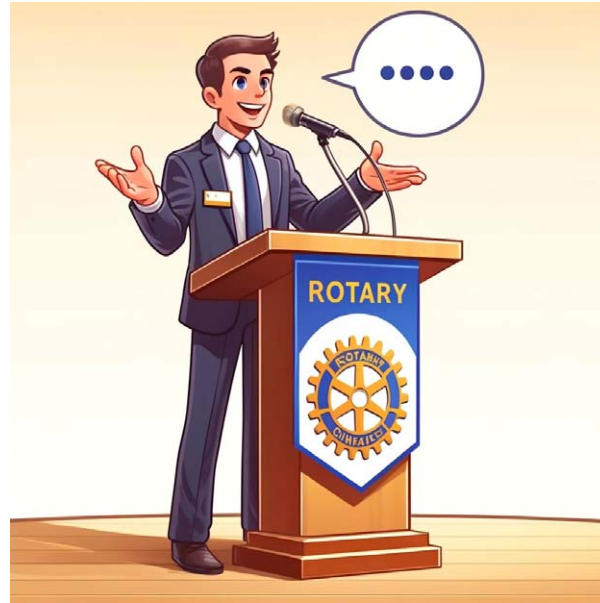
March 6th  
[Rotary People of Action Gala](#)

### Club Leaders

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

## Today's Meeting (February 6, 2025) - New Member Talks

By Richard T. Devereaux on Friday, January 31, 2025



It's time once again for our favorite quarterly program - **New Member Talks**, where we hear short, biographical talks from our newest club members. Scheduled speakers are **Ed Kolesar, Dan Rogers, and Mary Brown**. Don't miss it!

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



## January 30 Meeting Summary - State of the City

By Richard T. Devereaux on Friday, January 31, 2025

**What a great meeting this week! Here are some of the highlights:**

Lots of announcements regarding **opportunities to serve**, an interesting presentation by Dave Kaverman on the **Vocational** Rotary Avenue of Service, Tim Owings passionate plea to support **Polio Plus**, Pat Snyder's impressive summary of **Helene Response efforts** to the tune of \$373,000, Mark Chase's **Paul Harris Fellow +3 Award**, four **new member inductions**, and an incredible presentation by **Mayor Esther Manheimer** on the Asheville's Hurricane Helene Response.

[CLICK HERE TO READ A TWO-PAGE AI-GENERATED MEETING SUMMARY](#)



Stephanie A. Urchick  
2024-25 President  
Rotary International



David Mans  
President-Elect



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



Michael Thomas  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Tracy Eames  
Club Public Image  
Chair



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

Zachary F. Lamb  
Club Director



Mayor Manheimer New "Former" Member Alex Comfort

## Peace Pole Dedication February at Asheville High

By Sharon Kay LeDuc on Friday, January 31, 2025



The **Peace Pole** provided to Asheville High School by Rotary Club of Asheville will be planted at **2:30 on Thursday, February 6** at the Memorial Garden. The Garden is located in the interior of the campus. Parking and security advice will be provided to attendees. Contact Sharon LeDuc by text 828-230-0464.

## Pass Gas with Your Fellow Rotarians!

Friday, January 31, 2025

Sign Up Now: [Click here to volunteer!](#)

We have an amazing opportunity to make a real impact! On **Saturday, February 8th**, the Rotary Club of Asheville is teaming up with local partners to host a **Propane Tank Exchange Day at Covenant Community Church (11 Rocket Dr, Asheville, NC 28803)**.

This event will provide **free propane tank**



Vocational Service  
Chair



Marcia Whitney  
Club Admin Chair  
Club Director



Richard T. Devereaux  
Bulletin Editor  
Diversity Equity &  
Inclusion  
Webmaster



Chris Werts  
Diversity Equity &  
Inclusion



Virginia Lawrence  
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

John Davis Matheson  
February 8th

Matthew Bacoate Jr.  
February 10th

Donald P. Weidemann  
February 11th

Steven Shreiber  
February 11th

Kelly McCullough  
February 11th

Harold Bradley Rouse  
February 19th

Virginia Lawrence  
February 22nd

Winston C. Payne  
February 22nd

Marvin M. Thomas III  
February 22nd



exchanges to families who need them most, helping them stay warm and safe this winter. **We need 25-35 Rotarians to ensure the event runs smoothly!**

## How You Can Help – Choose Your Shift!

- **Morning Shift (7:30 AM – 11:30 AM)** – Set up, unload full propane tanks, direct traffic, facilitate exchanges, and assist during the morning hours.
- **Afternoon Shift (11:30 AM – 3:30 PM)** – Keep the exchange running smoothly, help with final swaps, and assist with clean-up.
- **All-Day Volunteer (7:30 AM – 3:30 PM)** – Be there for the full experience and make the biggest impact!

- **Sign Up Now:** [Click here to volunteer!](#)

## Why This Matters

This is **Rotary in action**—providing direct, meaningful support to families in our community. The more hands we have, the more people we can serve. Let's show up, serve, and make this a day that truly reflects the power of **Service Above Self**.

I know weekends are busy, but even just **a few hours of your time** can change someone's life. **Please sign up today** and encourage fellow Rotarians to do the same.

Thank you for all that you do—I look forward to serving alongside you on February 8th!

### Alan West

Disaster Relief Volunteer Coordinator  
Rotary Club of Asheville  
[alanwest242@gmail.com](mailto:alanwest242@gmail.com)  
832-458-6227

## Club Foundation - Disaster Support

By Patrick A. Snyder on Friday, January 31, 2025

## Local Disaster Relief



**Total Donations/Grants Received: \$373K**  
**Results: \$148K in grants made to 29 organizations,**  
**\$112K for 994 heaters, propane, and water distribution.**

ABCCM  
Arts AVL  
Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity  
Asheville Downtown Association Foundation  
Asheville Greenworks  
Bountiful Cities  
Brother Wolf Animal Rescue  
CORE (Community Organized Relief Effort)  
EcoForesters  
Equal Plates Project

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church  
Habitat for Humanity  
Jewish Family Services  
Local Cloth  
Madison County Arts Council  
Manna Food Bank  
Mountain Housing Opportunities, Inc.  
Mountain True  
Pisgah Legal Services  
Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County

Riverlink  
Root Cause Farm  
Southside Community Farm  
The Christine Avery Learning Center  
Trauma Intervention Program  
Western North Carolina Public Radio, Inc. (DBA Blue Ridge Public Radio)  
WNC Food Systems Coalition  
Working Wheels  
YWCA of Asheville and Western NC



As of Jan 28, 2025

The Disaster Relief Committee is proud to update the club and all of our donors on the status of relief efforts. Since the first donations just days after the storm, our Club Foundation has raised over \$373K through donations from individuals across 41 states and through Rotary Grants provided by the district, zone, and Rotary International. Many of the grants have go toward the purchase of roughly 1,000 electric and propane heaters as well as propane tanks and refill cards. These purchases were made from local businesses like Young's Ace Hardware and Blossman Gas. The club has worked with many non-profits across the region to get these heaters out to the people who need them most throughout the winter months. We also have an upcoming propane tank exchange day scheduled and are working on a grant for a mulit-home repair project that will



Millie J Farmer  
February 23rd  
Alexander P. Pence  
February 23rd  
Carter B. Webb  
February 23rd  
Sophia Stefanidis Ungert  
February 24th  
Sue Rhody  
February 26th  
David R. McCartney  
March 1st  
Christy Cheek  
March 3rd  
Anthony D Lynch  
March 6th

## Wedding Anniversaries

Patrick A. Snyder  
February 11th  
Carol E Bornstein  
February 13th  
Alvin Ward Peacock Jr.  
February 14th  
Frank Harwell Rutland  
February 26th  
Michael E. Greene  
March 4th

be announced soon.

Additionally, the committee has reviewed over 90 applications from other non-profits, churches and schools, and they've funded grants up to \$5K for 29 other organizations providing immediate relief, restoration, and capacity building. Funds have been fairly evenly disbursed across food security, crisis support, repair/rebuilding, and housing/rent support, as well as other causes such as environmental.

The committee continues to evaluate and award grants with a focus on:

- Facilitating immediate relief and long-term recovery, by providing grants to other 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, government agencies, or churches acting in alignment with the intent of the disaster relief program.
- Strengthening community resilience by supporting projects that address systemic challenges and build sustainable capacity.
- Ensuring funding decisions reflect Rotary's commitment to ethics, inclusivity, and impactful service.

Interested qualified organizations are encouraged to submit a grant application with 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 by [clicking here](#).

Donations continue to come in and can be made [BY CLICKING ON THIS LINK](#).

## Bring us Your SWAG!

By Eva-Michelle G. Spicer on Wednesday, February 5, 2025



### SHOW SOME SWAGer!!

Each week we give out nice consolation prizes for our 50/50 raffle. We're out of prizes! So, if your company has cool SWAG (like a pot holder!) or you'd like to re-gift something that they "really shouldn't have" that you got over the Holidays, please bring it to our meeting tomorrow so that we can re-stock the prize closet. Your "stuff" might just be someone else's treasure!

## Tennent Scholarship Applications Open

By Sharon Kay LeDuc on Friday, January 31, 2025

Applications may be submitted by high school seniors in Buncombe County for Tennent Scholarships. Multiple scholarships are awarded and are based both upon academic merit and financial need. Due date is April 13. Application is at [TINYURL.COM/TENNENTSCHOLARSHIP](https://tinyurl.com/TennentScholarship)

For more information, check out the [Tennent Scholarship folder on our website](#).



# BUZZ TENNENT SCHOLARSHIP

The Rotary Club of Asheville decided in 1998 that there was a need for a scholarship program that was based upon academic merit as well as financial need. The funds for these scholarships are derived from fundraising and donations. The amount available varies from year to year as does the number of qualified students. In 2024, thirteen local students were awarded \$1,000-\$9,000 each.

Applications Due April 13, 2025

**CRITERIA**

- Be a high school senior
- Have un-weighted GPA of 2.0 if planning to attend 2 year program at technical school, community college or junior college and 3.0 if planning for 4 year college
- Be enrolled in a college, university, community college or technical school
- Have three letters of reference
- Be a Buncombe County resident

QUESTIONS? Contact Sharon LeDuc at SKLEDUC@PRODIGY.NET




Apply Here

TINYURL.COM/TENNENTSCHOLARSHIP

## Rotary Club of Asheville Honors Eight Outstanding Local Teachers

By Kyle Parks on Friday, January 24, 2025



The Rotary Club of Asheville hosted its third annual Teachers of Excellence Awards luncheon on Thursday, January 23 at Trinity Episcopal Church. Eight teachers were recognized this year, each receiving a cash award of \$2,000.

The following teachers were commended for their outstanding commitment to their profession and to their students:

- Maired Smitka, Issac Dickson Elementary
- Gabriel Al-Shaer, School of Inquiry and Life Sciences
- Rodney Workman, Asheville High School
- Jesse Pitt, Asheville Middle School
- Thomas Oliver, Weaverville Elementary
- Samantha Aycock, Lucy S. Herring Elementary
- Hope Willis, Asheville Middle School
- Sarah Duffer, Asheville High School

The goal of this program is to foster and encourage excellence in teaching and reward dedication to education in the Asheville City and Buncombe County School Districts.

The selection process began with 30 teachers nominated for the award. Each nominee and their nominator submitted essays that were reviewed by a selection committee consisting of three Rotarians and the presidents of the Buncombe County and Asheville City Schools Foundations. The Committee selected 10 semi-finalists, each of whom were interviewed. After these interviews, the eight Teachers of Excellence were chosen.

Our children and their futures are shaped and educated by the innovative, hard-working, and caring teachers who have dedicated their lives to bringing enthusiasm and expertise into the classroom each day.

[CLICK HERE FOR PHOTOS AND BIOS OF THE EIGHT WINNERS!](#)

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## 2025 Rotary People of Action Awards Gala

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

[Tickets on sale now!](#)

On Thursday March 6th from 6-9pm, The Rotary Club of Asheville is delighted to host our second recognition gala honoring our local community heroes. Rotary clubs worldwide focus their efforts on seven areas, and we are thrilled to present awards for outstanding achievement to individuals who embody a "service above self" mindset in our local region. The following awardees will be honored for their dedication in specific areas at our People of Action Gala event:

- Peace-building and Conflict Resolution: Dr. Oralene Simmons (MLK Prayer Breakfast)
- Disease Prevention and Treatment: Dr. Shannon Dowler (US Dept. of Health & Human Services; MAHEC; CDC)
- Water Sanitation and Hygiene: City of Asheville, Water Resource Dept (Assistant City Manager, Ben Woody)
- Maternal and Child Health: Dr. Amy Mariette (MAHEC)
- Basic Education and Literacy: Marta Alcalá (Asheville City Schools)
- Economic and Community Development: Jeffrey Kaplan (Venture Asheville)
- Supporting the Environment: Lang Hornthal (EcoForesters)

We invite you to join us as we formally thank and highlight the accomplishments of these community leaders. Enjoy this celebration with drinks, music, and a seated dinner while we raise money for the Rotary Club of Asheville Foundation. This fundraiser supports our projects, including local scholarships, recognition of teachers and first responders, protection of the French Broad watershed, local food security initiatives, and international support for medical, dental, optical, and literacy projects in Guatemala, Honduras, and Argentina.

Tickets are \$150 per person or \$1,000 for a table of 8 and include dinner with your choice of Braised Airline Chicken Breast with Veloute Sauce, Center Cut Sirloin, or Vegetarian (Chefs Choice) and complimentary self-parking at the Renaissance Hotel in Asheville (March 6th, 6-9pm)

If you have any questions, please reach out to [avl.rotary.gala@gmail.com](mailto:avl.rotary.gala@gmail.com)

Buy your tickets BEFORE Feb 24th at: <https://rotaryasheville.betterworld.org/events/people-of-action-awards-gala>

### **Basic Education and Literacy:**

#### **Awardee: Marta Alcalá (Asheville City Schools)**

Marta Alcalá, Executive Director of Equity for Asheville City Schools, has spent over 33 years promoting equity, racial justice, and literacy in Asheville. She founded *Motheread*, a program enhancing literacy and fostering racial equity discussions among multi-racial mothers, and co-founded the *Marvelous Math Club (MMC)*, an afterschool program empowering Black elementary students with asset- and justice-based practices. Her work extends to key initiatives like the Asheville Buncombe Preschool Planning Collaborative and the Asheville City School Foundation. She also co-authored *Relevant Education Grows All Learners (REGAL)*, a justice-centered education approach. Through her leadership, Marta creates safe, inclusive spaces that inspire growth and community transformation.

### **Community Economic Development**

#### **Awardee: Jeffrey Kaplan (Venture Asheville)**

Jeffrey Kaplan, Executive Director of Venture Asheville, leads a \$150M mentorship-driven incubator fostering entrepreneurship and innovation in Asheville. Under his leadership, Venture Asheville has created 186 high-growth jobs and earned a Gold Award for Innovation from the International Economic Development Council. Kaplan launched initiatives like the Venture Asheville Honors, celebrating business resilience and raising \$1M to rebuild Western North Carolina's economy post-Hurricane Helene. He also plays a key role in the Mountain Community

Capital Fund, supporting local business financing, and serves on the North Carolina Board of Science, Technology, and Innovation, promoting regional research and development.

#### **Disease Prevention and Treatment**

**Awardee: Dr. Shannon Dowler (US Dept. of Health & Human Services; MAHEC; CDC)**

Dr. Shannon Dowler, a family physician and public health leader, has dedicated decades to improving healthcare access and disease prevention. She served as NC Medicaid's Chief Medical Officer, leading its transition to managed care and advancing vaccine equity during COVID-19. Dr. Dowler has worked extensively in STD education, creating the internationally acclaimed rap video "Vigorous: STDs Never Get Old" and writing "Never Too Late: Your Guide to Safer Sex after 60." A past president of the NC Academy of Family Physicians, she has also led public health initiatives with MAHEC and the Buncombe County Health Department, earning numerous state and national awards.

#### **Environment**

**Awardee: Lang Hornthal (EcoForesters)**

Lang Hornthal, Co-Executive Director of the non-profit sustainable forestry organization, EcoForesters, has led efforts to conserve and restore Appalachian forests. Under his leadership, EcoForesters completed 26 forest management plans covering 3,300 acres, treated 400+ acres for invasive species, and provided consultations for over 4,000 acres of forestland. Lang organized free workshops, panel discussions, and educational events to promote forest health, wildfire prevention, and invasive species management. He also coordinated post-Hurricane Helene efforts, enabling crews to clear downed trees for communities in need and clear public trails. Lang's advocacy extends to partnerships with organizations like the USDA Forest Service and public events, including panels on forest health after major regional impacts due to the closure of the Canton paper mill and the destruction of Helene.

#### **Maternal and Child Health**

**Awardee: Dr Amy Marietta (MAHEC)**

Dr. Amy Marietta has expanded MAHEC's Project CARA, a prenatal health program for women with substance use disorders (SUD), using a hub-and-spoke model to increase access to care across multiple counties. This initiative has led to fewer babies entering foster care and more women achieving recovery. Project CARA also improves birth outcomes, reduces infant mortality, and increases infant birth weights. As a founding advisory council member of Nurture NC, Dr. Marietta has united government leaders, Medicaid experts, managed care organizations, and philanthropic groups like Dogwood Health Trust and The Duke Endowment to address maternal and infant health challenges in North Carolina.

#### **Peace and Conflict Prevention**

**Awardee: Dr. Oralene Simmons (MLK Prayer Breakfast)**

Dr. Oralene Simmons is the founder and president of the MLK Prayer Breakfast in Asheville, which she has led since 1982, growing it to over 1,000 attendees. She is a pioneering civil rights leader from Western North Carolina, who served for 27 years as the Cultural Arts Supervisor under a contract with Asheville Parks and Recreation and led the YMI Cultural Center. She made history in 1961 by integrating Mars Hill College, earning recognition in Jet and Time magazines. Ms. Simmons has received numerous honors, including North Carolina's prestigious Order of the Long Leaf Pine in 2016 and the Making of the King Holiday Award presented by Coretta Scott King. She remains a dedicated advocate for human rights.

#### **Water Sanitation and Hygiene**

**Awardee: Asheville Water Resources Department, Ben Woody representing**

Assistant City Manager Ben Woody accepts the award on behalf of the Asheville Water Resources Department and the many individuals, agencies, contractors, and community members who united to restore potable water following Hurricane Helene. The department guided a coordinated response involving local and federal agencies, nonprofits, and private contractors to rebuild water infrastructure across the county. Heroes at every level worked tirelessly to assess the damage, engineer emergency and long-term solutions, and rebuild vital water infrastructure critical to Asheville and surrounding communities. Thanks to their dedication, potable water was restored in just 57 days. Ben Woody's strategic coordination and clear communication helped mitigate the public health crisis, showcasing the strength, resilience, and spirit of our community.

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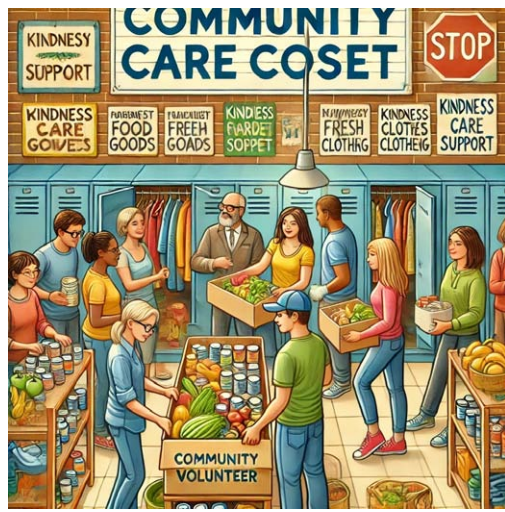
## **Help Erwin Middle School Families - Volunteer!**

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

**After the storm, several of us volunteered at the Resource Center established by United Way on the campus of Erwin Middle School. They have asked us to help them restock their pantry and clothes closet.** Originally, Manna was to keep them supplied in food, but their resources are too limited at this time to fulfill that commitment.

From Emily Swan, Resource Coordinator: "*Erwin Middle School Resource Room is open every Monday 5:00-6:30 for families to supplement their families'*





food, clothing and household items. From September-December the CAEMS Resource Room served around 300 people in the Erwin District. Often we will see our full students' families, including grandparents, siblings, aunt/uncles, etc. Families can make appointments, request items to be sent home/delivered, or visit on Mondays (where they can also enjoy a free catered meal and

tutoring). On an average day we have anywhere between 2-4 students requesting resources and using our center."

I will add they also offer a washer & dryer so that students and their families can do their laundry.

They established a wish list on Amazon to simplify donating - [here is a link to that list](#). Orders will ship directly to the school.

If you prefer to purchase items locally, bring them to a meeting, and we will make sure they are delivered.

In service,

Disaster Relief Committee  
Rotary Club of Asheville

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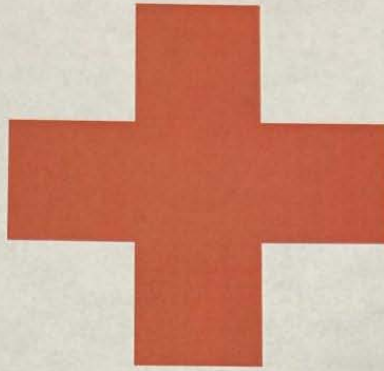
## Give Blood - Help Save Lives!

By Reilly Wilkes on Saturday, January 18, 2025

Rotary Club of Asheville Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday, February 20th, during our regular club meeting. Questions?? [email Reilly Wilkes](#)



Give blood. Help save lives.



**Blood Drive**  
**The Rotary Club of Asheville**  
**at Trinity Episcopal Church**

Fellowship Hall  
60 Church St  
Asheville, NC 28801

**Thursday, February 20, 2025**  
**11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

To schedule an appointment, please call  
1-800-RED-CROSS or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org)  
and enter Sponsor Code "AVLRotary".

Bring your Red Cross or Photo ID.

**Create a flurry of hope! Come give blood Jan. 27 to  
Feb. 28 for a \$15 e gift card [rcblood.org/flurry](http://rcblood.org/flurry)**



Scan to schedule  
an appointment.

**American Red Cross**

1-800-733-2767 | [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)  
Download the Blood Donor App

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## Rotary Club of Asheville Offers Disaster Relief Grant

Friday, November 22, 2024

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Kyle Parks  
Parks PR, (813) 352-1325  
[kyle@parkspublicrelations.com](mailto:kyle@parkspublicrelations.com)

**Rotary Club of Asheville Offers Disaster Relief Grant to Support Recovery Efforts in**

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 by [clicking this link](#).

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](http://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/>.

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## The 2025 Rotary District 7670 Conference: Fun, Excitement, and Making Magic Happen!

By Karolyn W. Killian



#### Get Ready for the 2025 Rotary District 7670 Conference: Fun, Excitement, and Making Magic Happen!

The 2025 Rotary District 7670 Conference promises to be a thrilling event, full of fun, inspiration, and opportunities to make a lasting impact. This year, we're bringing the magic to life, and we want YOU to be part of it!

One of the highlights of the conference will be an **art auction** to benefit the fight against polio, led by District Polio Chair, Cindy Ireland. This special auction will feature unique and beautiful pieces of art, all donated to support Rotary's ongoing efforts to eradicate polio worldwide. It's an exciting way for attendees to contribute to a vital cause while adding a little creativity

to the event!

In the coming months, Conference PI Chair, Joan VanOrman, will be sharing more details about the conference, including what you can expect and how to get involved. Stay tuned for updates that will give you a sneak peek into all the exciting activities and guest speakers lined up for the event.

Additionally, Shawn Hamm is hard at work building a dynamic new **conference website** that will be your go-to destination for everything related to the conference. The site is set to launch by mid-February, and it will serve as the official platform for **registration** to open. Make sure to visit the website as soon as it's live, so you can secure your spot for what's shaping up to be an unforgettable conference.

This year's Rotary District 7670 Conference is all about connection, celebration, and making a real

difference. Get ready for an inspiring, action-packed experience—don't miss out on the magic! Keep an eye on the website and get ready to register. We can't wait to see you there!

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## 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?
-