

Rotary



Club of Asheville THE COG

Tuesday, March 7, 2023



THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM March 9, 2023



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

March 09, 2023
Varied
Community Grants (I)

March 16, 2023
Varied
Community Grants (II)

March 23, 2023
Dr. Lisa Raleigh
The River and the
Community

March 30, 2023
Jim Lenburg
U.S. Relations with China

Coming Events

March 7th
Board Meeting

April 3rd
Community Service
Monday

April 4th
Board Meeting

Club Leaders



Ross Sloan
President



Patrick A. Snyder
Attendance
Secretary
President-Elect
Sergeant-at-Arms



Betty A. Doll
Secretary



Janet L. Whitworth
Past President
Treasurer

The program for March 9, 2023, is from the **Community Grants Committee** presenting our club's grant recipients of the Harry R Morrill Community Grants for 2023.

As a reminder of how these grants began; in 1981, Harry R. Morrill donated funds to our Rotary Club with the intent of using the spendable income "for educational or local charitable donations that conform to Rotary ideals." This is our club's 41st year of distributing these grants.

This year the Morrill endowment funded \$12,500 to be awarded to 10 recipients at \$1,250 each. We had 44 organizations apply for a grant. More than any previous year in recent memory. The grant committee members evaluated all the applications, then selected 10 organizations to send to the club's board for approval.

At this meeting we will hear presentations from representatives of 5 grant recipient organizations.

Asheville Symphony Society, Inc. Madeline Womack.

The Asheville Symphony Society's funding is to help reestablish the impactful music educational program known as "Young People's Concerts" (YPC). This event provides the opportunity for all 5th grade students (approximately 4,000) across Buncombe County and Asheville City Schools to attend and experience a live, in-person symphonic concert in a performance hall, featuring students from our Asheville Symphony Youth Orchestra (ASYO) playing side by side with professional musicians from the Asheville Symphony Orchestra (ASO), and world-renowned GRAMMY Award winning banjo performer, Béla Fleck.

The return of Young People's Concerts will take place on May 19th, 2023 at the Thomas Wolfe Auditorium in downtown Asheville. The goal of the program is to offer accessibility to live arts performances to the school system, students, and teachers. The ASO has been working closely with Laura Mitchell (Arts Education Specialist, Buncombe County School System) and the Asheville City Schools and has secured the support and endorsement of this program with both school systems. The ASO aims to resurrect the program to be more successful than it has ever been and continue the tradition by providing the event on an annual basis, as opposed to a biennial basis, for the ASYO students and students across Buncombe County and Asheville City Schools.

This concert is one of the highest-impact tools implemented by the Asheville Symphony Orchestra to make a positive, long-lasting impression on students in our community. For many attending this concert, this will be their first time experiencing a symphonic concert in a performance hall, as currently there is no other program in our area that transports students into a concert hall for a live, in-person, orchestral performance like this one. It is our goal for the program to be tailored to engage students so that they are inspired to seek out additional music experiences (orchestra/band, etc.), and provide a long-lasting impact on their knowledge and understanding of what music is, and what it can represent.

Green Built Alliance, Jamie Wine

The funds will be used to hire a member of the local BIPOC community as a contractor to review the committee's strategic plan, make edits and adjustments, then help collect additional feedback from local leaders. An effort would also be made to engage BIPOC members of the Rotary Club of Asheville to identify good candidates and to help tighten the relationship between our organizations. The BHPCC is also in the midst of recruiting to expand its size. One member of the local club, Ken Nelson, currently serves on the council. An additional benefit of this project is that the contractor chosen might also become a candidate for a position on the BHPCC through their increased awareness of its mission and activities.

Buncombe County and The City of Asheville have set an ambitious goal of 100% renewable energy by 2042. This goal was set to attempt to minimize the worst effects of climate change and to boost the local economy through the implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. The Blue Horizons Project Community Council (BHPCC), facilitated by Green Built Alliance, has been working to collaboratively create a strategic plan for moving us toward the 100% renewable energy in Buncombe County by 2042.

This plan is almost complete. Unfortunately, black, indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) members of our community have not had very much input into writing the strategic plan, despite our best efforts so far. We believe if we can pay someone from the BIPOC community to review our work, we can help mitigate this shortcoming. Our goal is to ensure that we address concerns from the City of Asheville's Climate Justice Map and Energy Burden Map as well as other concerns that likely have surfaced since those resources were created.

[Habitat for Humanity Asheville. Cassidy Moore](#)

AAHH's Home Repair Program addresses the home repair needs of eligible Buncombe County homeowners. Home Repair clients must own/reside in the home, be current on property taxes, and have household income of 70% of the Area Median Income.

When an applicant is approved, construction staff conducts a site visit and drafts a contract, prioritizing emergency, health, and safety needs. Repairs may include addressing accessibility issues by repairing steps, widening entryways, adding or repairing handrails, installing walk-in showers, adding grab bars, improving walkways, or adding ramps. More generally, projects have included repairs to plumbing, electrical systems, flooring, roofs and gutters, windows and doors, siding, heating and cooling systems, decks and porches, exterior painting and staining, and a variety of other repairs.

Many homes achieve improved energy efficiency through weatherization or the installation of energy efficient appliances such as new water heaters and HVAC systems.

[Haywood Street Congregation, Lorili Toth](#)

Established more than a decade ago, the Downtown Welcome Table meets one of the most basic of human needs – food. What started as a program to feed people has grown into a program that seeks to build human connections, show respect and restore dignity to those struggling



[Celeste B. Collins](#)
Club Admin
Chair
Club Director



[Lisa Cutshaw](#)
Bulletin Editor



[Tanya N. Fletcher](#)
Club Director
Youth
Protection
Officer
Youth Services
Chair



[David T. Kaverman](#)
Membership
Chair
Club Director



[Kevin R. Montgomery](#)
Club Director



[Rachel Rion Moran](#)
Bulletin Editor



[Linda Nelson](#)
Club Director
Communication
and Outreach



[Maxine O. Parsons-Kogut](#)
Club Director
Rotary
Foundation
Chair



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



[Kristy Wilson](#)
Club Director
Vocational
Service Chair



[Albert Davis](#)
Club Service
Chair



[Richard T. Devereaux](#)
Webmaster



[David Andrew Mans](#)
International
Service Chair



[Andrew Mercurio](#)
Club Fund
Raising Chair



[Marcia Whitney](#)
Diversity Equity
& Inclusion



[Daniel M. Crupi](#)
RYLA Point of
Contact



[Katherine Morosani](#)
IPast President

[Lynne Porter](#)
Assistant
Governor

with poverty and homelessness.

Every Sunday and Wednesday, the **Downtown Welcome Table** sets its tables with fresh flowers, cloth napkins, and a menu with a variety of food options. When the doors are open, all are welcome – many greeted by name – to sit and be served their meal (and seconds or more if desired) on East Fork Pottery plates. More than 1,000 servings of restaurant quality meals feed both body and soul weekly.

During Covid-19 meal service was moved outside, which magnified the need to include an outdoor dining option for the Downtown Welcome Table. Haywood Street serves the needs of many individuals living with PTSD, anxiety, and other mental illnesses. For these individuals, dining inside a crowded and loud area may be uncomfortable or triggering. With the objective of better serving this population, **Haywood Street is building a patio**. Connected to the kitchen, for easy food delivery, the outdoor patio will feature a view of the garden. New coated steel tables with attached seating, and umbrellas will provide dining space for a minimum of 20 to 40 individuals at one time.

[Homeward Bound, Eleanor Ashton](#)

The project we request funds for is **"A Place to Lay Their Heads"**. This project is operated within our **Welcome Home Donation Center**. The Welcome Home Donation Center is a big part of Homeward Bound's 92% housing success rate.

One of the items we cannot accept is used beds. We have a relationship with Ashely Homestore that donates beds to us based on credits that are built up over time from the sale of beds. It has not been enough this year and **we have had to purchase beds** at a cost of \$300 each or wait until we build up enough credits with Ashely Homestore. This means that there are times when our clients are moved into housing with only an air mattress to sleep on or no bed at all. The resident has to wait, sometimes for months, until we can build up enough credits with Ashley Homestore to receive additional beds. Not having a place to lay their head can be frustrating and often add more trauma to an already traumatized person, and does not set up that individual for success in housing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



LOOKING AHEAD - INVITE GUESTS

Overview of Rotary for Potential Members

Starting the **2nd Thursday of each month** this year, we will be offering an exciting new way for potential new members to learn about Rotary and whether it's a good fit for them. **The next session will be March 9th at 11:15 in the main conference room at Trinity.** We will finish by noon, so any guests can join us for lunch if they would like.

Future Dates: April 13, May 11



Blank or "Thank You" Note Cards Requested

Betty

SUSAN



Got Note Cards?

The next **Honor Flight** is in April and one of our club's projects has been to write notes and cards to the Veterans who participate. We want to thank them for their service to our country and to let them know how many people appreciate them.

If you have any note cards (they can be thank you cards or blank note cards) that you can contribute to this project, please bring them to a Rotary meeting and give them to either Susan Harper or Betty Doll. (At a future meeting we will take some time to write cards to the veterans.) Thank you in advance for your help!

RAFFLE ITEMS REQUESTED



Birthdays

Frank S. Smith III
March 9th
 Kyle R. Boyd
March 10th
 Ross Sloan
March 15th
 Jessica Z Hendrix
March 15th
 Allison C. Krivatch
March 20th
 Kristy Wilson
March 28th
 Patrick A. Snyder
April 3rd

Wedding Anniversaries

Kirk Borland
March 22nd
 Rachel Rion Moran
March 23rd

Please donate raffle items for our weekly drawing that benefits the Tennent Scholarships. This is an opportunity to promote your business! Donate your company SWAG or other prizes!



To explain...at the end of each meeting, we have a raffle. Be sure to buy raffle tickets at the desk when you sign-in. The winning pot accumulates each week until the winner not only has their raffle number called out but also draws the "Ace of Spades" from the deck on the first or second try. We go through the entire deck of cards, so as the pot increases, so does your chance of drawing the "Ace of Spades" and winning!

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS - JUMP IN

The Public Image Committee of the Rotary Club of Asheville is looking for help producing a 60-90 second video that can be used on social media and entered into the district's PI video contest.



The concept will be as simple as a handful of people speaking briefly with pictures intermingled. The district's requirement as a contest entry is that we cannot pay to have it produced.

If you have any skills that you could lend to this project, please contact **Linda Nelson**.

Thank you to Mark Chase for taking on the editing part of this project.

Additional volunteers are still needed.

MARK



ABCCM is in need of volunteers to help with their **Code Purple Safe Haven Program**. It runs through April 15. Please contact club member Shannon.Paris@ABCCM.org



Additional Volunteer Opportunities:

Please submit any volunteer opportunities you feel your fellow Rotarians would enjoy to Al Davis or Jane Brody.

COG Corrections? Suggestions? Compliments?



If you would like to add an announcement to an upcoming COG, please email RachelRionMoran@gmail.com no later than the Saturday before the Tuesday publishing.

Don't like the photo of you that I used here in the COG? You are welcome to email me the headshot of your choice. I will update your DACdb listing. That is where I copy them from.

[Read More](#)

Monthly Board Meeting Highlights - March



Each month, **President Ross Sloan** gives a summary of the minutes of the last club board meeting. These minutes are also available in-full on DAC.db. You reach DACdb by starting on our club's website, then clicking the hyperlink in the top right corner DACdb.

March Highlights included:

- Approving money for the **Sustainability Committee's bee pollinator project** at Carrier Park. If you are new to this area, our club maintains the landscaping at a pavilion there. We hold our annual fellowship cook-outs there, too.
- A \$1,000 donation was approved to go to the district project funding Wheelchairs in the Philippines.
- Club sponsorship of \$500 to be given to [the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Fundraiser](#). *More details in the next paragraph.*
- [Our club's March community service project will be the BigBrothers/Big](#)

[Sisters Fundraiser. Committee Chair AI Davis gave the information for the fundraiser, inviting all members to participate at whatever level they can. The Bowling for Kid's Day will be at Sky Lane on Saturday, March 11, from 9-11 a.m. Come and bowl, or come and hang out. Let Jane Brody or AI Davis know if you are coming, please.](#)



- **Interact Chair Jim Davidson** gave a report on the strength of **Asheville High School's Interact Club**. They have participated in projects at Haywood Street Congregation and Habitat for Humanity. Also, they are putting together two bowling teams for the **Big Brothers/Big Sisters fundraiser**.

Jim



• **Daniel Crupi, club RYLA chair**, has enrolled eight students (5 from our Interact Club) to go to the Blue Ridge Assembly YMCA camp for a week-long leadership training session. This is a district wide camp and we are sending more than ever this year.

Daniel needs a few coaches to lead certain activities. Please email him at [**dcrupi@ashevillesymphony.org**](mailto:dcrupi@ashevillesymphony.org) for a packet of information.

LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Last Week's Program

One of our favorite Rotary programs is when we get to hear from the new members!

This is how the process works:

- Optional **"Discover Rotary"** on the Second Thursday of the month in the conferenceroom here at the church at 11:15.
- Visit a club meeting one or more times--you get a free lunch on the first visit. Thereafter, the cost is \$18.
- Connect with **David Kaverman, Membership Chair**. If you know someone already in this club, he/she may be your sponsor. If you are new to this area, David will serve as your sponsor. **Yes, you can "walk-in" to Rotary! All area residents are welcome!**
- Apply for membership.
- Orientation Session to help you decide if Rotary is "right" for you at this time.
- Induction ceremony during a meeting.
- Participate in club activities for several months. There is a checklist to complete.
- New Member Talk--your "About Me" message to the club. Most new members are nervous, but you decide what to share with your new friends.



First up was **Jacqueline Boone**! Originally from Atlanta where her grandmother had a pronounced influence on her as she was growing up. She attended Boston University and climbed the corporate ladder. She went to China as a volunteer teacher and volunteered at the Beijing Olympics. A friend of hers asked her what would you do if you only had six months to live? That insightful question prompted Jacqueline to reinvent herself, launch her consulting firm-The Dream Academy, move here to Asheville and got married! She is happy and passionate to be a part of Rotary!

Jackie is serving as Chair of the Public Image Committee.



Anthony Lynch was next up and we all had a great moment as he introduced his mother to the club. Anthony is a true Asheville

Anthony



native as he was born and raised here. Family & sports have always been important to him. He went to North Carolina A&T University and stayed in Greensboro for 13 years. He moved back to Asheville and became re-acquainted with J Hackett. J Hackett helped to spur Anthony into entrepreneurship and into Rotary!

Anthony is easy to find--he is often at the check-in desk. He will officially become the club Sargeant-At-Arms in July.

David McNamee was born in a military family where his father had a great influence on him with all of their travels. He graduated from high school in Guam! He served in the Air Force for the full 20 year career in various capacities within the military communications. I believe David has a lot to say about the 20 years. However, it appears if he is sworn to secrecy!

He has been married for over 40 years, he and his family are close. In fact, he and his brother hiked the Pacific Crest Trail in four months. Even now, at the age of 70, he has participated in and completed a triathalon! His father always taught about serving others, and he provided great examples of his works across the world.

David



We are certainly glad to have David, Jaqueline & Anthony being a part of our Asheville Downtown Rotary Club.

Annual Donation Request Rotary International EREY



At our last meeting, I asked for your help in meeting our Rotary International Foundation (RI) goals. As our President stated in the State of the Club, we are in great position at this time of the Rotary year. Our Club has met the goals to be a Club of Distinction. Asheville Rotary Club has time to complete more goals for the the Club of Excellence.

We have until **March 31** to fulfill one of the last goals of the RI Committee. The Committee committed to becoming an EREY Club. Every member needs to make a contribution of \$25 annually with the overall club contribution per member of \$100.

The Asheville Rotary Club has never become an EREY Club. A past President seated at my table at lunch said this year that was a goal but was not reached. We have a great opportunity this year to make this goal a reality. Please do your part.

(click "Read More" for more details....)

Maxine ParsonsKogut
District and Club Rotary Foundation Chair

[Read More](#)



THE GREEN CORNER

By Christena Southwick

FASHION'S LANDFILL

"With fast fashion causing clothing to be seen more as consumable goods rather than an investment, we've seen clothing become increasingly

disposable, leading to vast amounts of textile waste. On average, each American now generates 82 pounds of textile waste each year, which adds up to more than 11 million tons of textile waste from the U.S. alone." (source: sustainably-chic.com).

Further, the source says, "Of the discarded clothes, only 15% is recycled or donated; the rest goes to landfill or is incinerated. Clothes with synthetic fibers can take hundreds of years to decompose, and during the decomposition process, textiles release methane gas and leak toxic chemicals and dyes into the groundwater and our soil." This affects every citizen of this planet.

World news organizations such as the BBC run regular articles and videos are placed on youtube.com decrying the crisis. Horrifying statistics run across the screen.

In 2021, ABC's foreign correspondent said, "Since 2000, global production of clothing has doubled. We're buying 60 per cent more clothes now than we did 15 years ago, but we're keeping them for half as long...Waste is a part of the business model of [fast] fashion. A lot of brands overproduce by up to 40 per cent." In 2020, it was determined that fast fashion produced 92 million tons of waste per year.

In Ghana, over 15 tons of clothing waste comes into port every week. Where does this all go? Eighty five percent stays there as landfill. There are other countries that serve as the world's clothing waste dumping grounds such as India, Pakistan and Chile.



Besides buying less, what else can you do? Even with consuming less, it is environmentally beneficial to all concerned to choose wisely the garments you do buy:

- * Make sure that you check labels for fabric content.
- * Opt for organic and natural fibers that do not require toxic chemicals to be produced.
- * Learn creative ways to recycle or reuse discarded clothing.

With so many problems in the world that need fixing, new disasters such as the recent earthquake in Turkey/Syria shove other concerns to the back burner. This is a problem, a clear and present danger. It is a problem that can be fixed through daily individual choice. Choose to do your part. Don't play the fast fashion game. Chose to not use.

New Members Inducted



The Rotary Club of Asheville welcomes all interested area residents! Reach out to our Membership Chair, **David Kaverman**, by [email](#). (A sponsor is not required to come to a meeting to "check us out.")



Inducted on February 23:

Allison Krivatch, Joe Lancaster, Jordan Israel



Allison Krivatch

Sponsored by Janet Whitworth

Having enjoyed a long career as the Chief Marketing & Communications Officer for a large healthcare enterprise, Allison is now leveraging her innovative marketing strategies towards launching a real estate career in Asheville, achieving over \$10 million in sales in 2022 working as a team with her husband Sean - a property developer and large-scale construction project manager. They are associated with [Premier Sotheby's International Realty](#) and focus on the Asheville to Lake Lure areas – with a strong emphasis on lakefront properties.

Joe Lancaster

Sponsored by Dave Kaverman

Joe moved to Asheville about 2 years ago after retiring from 35 years as the owner/President of LaSalle Dry Cleaners in Coral Gables, Florida. Joe was a third generation owner of LaSalle, a business his grandfather started. Joe joined Rotary when he was 27 and was a member for 30 years until he moved to Asheville. Both his father and Uncle were Rotarians. Joe is a three-time Ironman finisher plus 12 half Ironmans. His current hobbies include cycling, hiking and fishing. He and his wife, Isabel, live in Black Mountain.

Jordan Israel

Sponsored by Betty Doll

I am a proud 6th generation Buncombe county native! I started my career in real estate at 18; I began selling second homes in the Wolf Laurel area and quickly transitioned into property management. While working in real estate I attended East Tennessee State University and graduated as an economics major, B.B.A with a general business concentration.

As I grew and matured, so did my career. I moved on to SVN International to train and sell commercial real estate. I now own [EXIT Realty Vision](#) and am very proud to take my experiences to help better educate our clients and teach agents how to achieve and maintain longevity in the often tumultuous world of real estate.

In my downtime I enjoy reading, cooking, traveling, and hosting dinner parties for friends. My penchant for adventure has carried me all over the world and led to some exciting hobbies like skydiving and scuba diving. I hope to create new memories and shared experiences with my fellow Rotarians!

Membership Update Through February 2023



FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By David T. Kaverman

This is our latest membership update for the Rotary year from July through February. I've flipped the order so the most recent month is first on the list, so it's easier for you to quickly see the changes. Thank you to the sponsors and to all who made our guests feel welcome! What is a "sponsor"? A member who asked an associate, "Have you ever tried Rotary? Would you like to join me at a meeting?"

Any feedback or suggestions are welcome. Send those to me at dave@acuityma.com.

Membership at a Glance: 153 Active & 6 Honorary

New Active Members:

Rebecca Robertson (February)—Community Volunteer, Asheville Sister Cities Int'l, Sponsored by Ken Nelson

Jenny Bunn (February)—College Advancement, UNCA Advancement, Sponsored by Susan Harper

Kevin McRae (February)—Landscape Services, K2 Irrigation Services, Inc, Sponsored by Lacy Hagan

Allison Krivatch (February)—Real Estate Agent, Premier Sotheby's International Realty, Sponsored by Janet Whitworth

Jordan Israel (February)—Business Owner, EXIT Realty, Sponsored by Betty Doll

Joe Lancaster (February)—Business Owner, retired owner of LaSalle Dry Cleaners, Sponsored by Dave Kaverman

[Read More](#)



Club Donations Each Week



DONATIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Donations to our **Club Foundation** can now be made online directly on our website.

- Couldn't make the fundraiser but want to contribute to our projects this year?
- Owe happy dollars for birthdays and anniversaries?
- Been fined for looking "too good" in the media?

Hit the EASY button by going to RotaryAsheville.org.

Or mail your check to
Rotary Club of Asheville Foundation



COINS FOR ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH TRUST (CART)

CART has started a new program wherein a club member volunteers to be a Matching Donor for the funds collected in the CART buckets on each table that week. To keep it sane, the top matching request is \$50.00. The idea came from Tim Owens, who was last week's Matching Donor.

The CART Fund is dedicated to raising funds to provide "seed" money for cutting edge, high-impact research in hopes of finding a cure/prevention for Alzheimer's disease. [Learn more about CART here.](#)

Can you **remember** to toss some small bills or coins into the blue bucket on each table? (That's a little ALZ joke.)



If you wish to sign up, email our club CART chair, Michelle Daniels at michelle4rca@gmail.com



PAT SNYDER POINTED OUT THAT "HAPPY DOLLARS" GO TO HIM OR THE SGT-AT-ARMS AT THE REGISTRATION TABLE--NOT in the blue CART buckets in the center of each table.

March is Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Month

By Tim Radford on Tuesday, February 28, 2023

Over 750 million people in the world lack access to safe water and more than 2.5 billion people lack access to adequate sanitation facilities. At least 3,000 children die each day from diseases caused by unsafe water.

When we talk about the need for clean water and sanitation, our immediate thoughts go to those who live in underdeveloped countries around the world, but there are communities in our own districts that have a real need for clean water.

During the month of March, or anytime throughout the year, clubs and districts can promote our commitment to providing clean water and sanitation and encourage others to join us in our efforts. One way to raise awareness is hosting a "Walk for Water."

For more information on the need for clean water, as well as resources on how to host a "Walk for Water" [click here](https://www.watermission.org/), or go to <https://www.watermission.org/>

[get-involved/walk-for-water](#)