

# Rotary



## Club of Asheville THE COG

Monday, March 13, 2023



### IMAGINE ROTARY

## THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM March 16, 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 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

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

Celeste B. Collins  
Club Admin  
Chair  
Club Director

The program for March 16, 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 41<sup>st</sup> 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



Michelle Daniels  
Attendance Secretary  
Secretary  
Sergeant-at-Arms



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



Jacqueline Boone  
Club Public Image Chair



Katherine Morosani  
iPast President

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 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 Ashely 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.

## Welcome Sarah Cockman



Welcome to **Sarah Cockman** next week (3-16) as the Corporate Delegate for Hotel Arras. David McCartney will be the Club Member for Hotel Arras.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



Rotary International is sub-divided into Countries, then Districts--not by states. **Our club is in District 7670**. Learn more about it [here](#). The District hosts a District Conference each spring.

For the upcoming **April District Conference**, our **Club Director for Communication and Outreach Linda Nelson** is collecting SWAG for the conference Welcome Bags.

This is a great opportunity for you to promote **your** business! This type of business networking is one of the advantages of being a Rotary member!

Deadline: March 31st to Linda Nelson. Quantity required 150

### Rotary International

Rotary International is the association of Rotary Clubs worldwide. The administration of RI is managed by officers, directors and committees from throughout the world. Yearly, RI holds a convention in various countries to stimulate, inspire and inform all Rotarians at an international level, to motivate them to develop Rotary at the Club and District levels.

### Districts

Rotary International groups clubs into districts to make local administration easier. There are over 500 districts throughout the world, with a range of between 45-60 clubs each. Each **district is led by a Governor, who is assisted by other officers**. The annual District Conference emphasizes fellowship and a chance to share ideas, as well as a place to conduct District business. Our Rotary Club is part of District 7670.

### Clubs

There are over 33,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds.

## LOOKING AHEAD - INVITE GUESTS

### Overview of Rotary for Potential Members

On the **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month** this year, we will be offering an exciting new way for





**Lynne Porter**  
Assistant  
Governor

potential new members to learn about Rotary and whether it's a good fit for them. **The next session will be April 13<sup>th</sup> 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: May 11, June 8**



### Birthdays

- Ross Sloan  
March 15th
- Jessica Z Hendrix  
March 15th
- Allison C. Krivatch  
March 20th
- Kristy Wilson  
March 28th
- Patrick A. Snyder  
April 3rd
- Linda Nelson  
April 8th
- Richard Travis Hall  
April 8th
- Joshua M. Abrams  
April 9th
- Edward J. Snyder III  
April 12th
- Tanya N. Fletcher  
April 12th

### Wedding Anniversaries

- Kirk Borland  
March 22nd
- Rachel Rion Moran  
March 23rd
- Kyle R. Boyd  
April 8th
- Edward J. Sullivan  
April 9th
- Patricia M. Puckridge  
April 10th

## Blank or "Thank You" Note Cards



**SUSAN**

## Requested

**Betty**



### 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

Please donate raffle items for our weekly drawing.

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.



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](mailto:Shannon.Paris@ABCCM.org)



The District recognized **Nancy Brooks** by awarding her a **District Service Award**.

She was recently awarded her Paul Harris Fellow +3.

*(Member Spotlight*

*Reprinted from Sunday, March 31, 2019  
By **Thomas V. Fehsenfeld***

#### **District Service Award to Nancy Brooks**

You can sense that Nancy Brooks likes to stay out of the spotlight, yet her quiet competence has been recognized again and again in her career and volunteer work. Over her career, she held a series of responsible jobs directing the finances of counties and planning organizations and served terms as treasurer and president of Asheville Rotary. In retirement, she audits Rotary grants for our district clubs and serves as treasurer of Trinity Episcopal Church, where she is a member.

Nancy's story begins in Waynesville, where she grew up and returned to after earning a degree in geography and urban studies at the University of North Carolina – Greensboro. Back home in Waynesville, she started working for regional planning commissions. They are behind-the-scenes organizations that coordinate land use planning, economic and workforce development, and elderly services for local units of government.

When the State of NC quit directly employing the staff of these agencies, they had to start doing their own accounting. Since Nancy had taken some accounting classes, everyone turned to her to handle it. She found that she enjoyed that work and took additional classes so she could get her CPA certification.

As people recognized Nancy's competence, she was able to move up to the positions of Finance Director of Haywood County in 1986 and then Finance Director of Buncombe County in 1994. The job she retired from in 2013 involved oversight of employee benefit programs for the members of NTCA, an industry association representing almost 850 independent rural telecommunications companies.

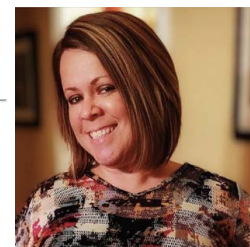
When I asked Nancy about favorite parts of her jobs, it sounded like the common theme was solving puzzles. She enjoyed putting together budgets, which always includes balancing limited resources against constantly expanding needs, and she enjoyed putting together financing packages, which for municipalities involves bonding, credit markets, regulations, and contracts with multiple parties. Nancy says she worked out financing packages for practically everything a county needs - jails, buildings, high-tech lined landfills and heavy landfill equipment, and more.

It was during her time with Haywood County that Nancy had her first experience with Rotary - which was also the first time Waynesville Rotary had its first experience with a woman member. This was quite controversial in 1991. After complaints that proper procedures for proposing new members had not been followed and the resignation of a couple of members in anticipation of the changing camaraderie of the club, she was well accepted.

With her move to Buncombe County, she also moved her membership to Asheville Rotary and was soon involved in board work. Naturally, with her background, she served as treasurer for a few years and then served as president in 2010. Nancy recommends board work because it opens your eyes to all the things that Rotary does. She enjoys being part of an organization whose main purpose is doing good in the world and appreciates the fellowship it brings.

Outside of work and volunteer activities, Nancy has always enjoyed travelling. She regularly visited Europe with her husband of many years, Edward Thornhill III, until he passed away last year. She renewed her interest in travel when she toured Israel and Jordan with her 28-year-old granddaughter in January. Having seen the Holy Lands made images of the Lenten journey more personal and meaningful for both of them and their bond grew stronger.

A self-described "introvert," Nancy has made a positive contribution to every organization she joined, without calling a lot of attention to herself. We expect Rotary will benefit from her quiet competence for many years to come.



#### **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](mailto: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](#)

## Club Donations Each Week



### FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR CLUB PROJECTS

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](http://RotaryAsheville.org).

Or mail your check to  
**Rotary Club of Asheville Foundation**  
P.O. Box 1954  
Asheville, NC 28801



### 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. Thank you to **Mary Michaels** for "making the match" on March 9.

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](mailto:michelle4rca@gmail.com)



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

## LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

# Last Week's Program

## Betty



It was a great day to be a Rotarian as we heard from five of our Morrill grant recipients AND from Grace, the Rotarian Peace Fellow we are sponsoring. You can listen to the recording of the meeting [here](#).

We hope to see you next week when we will be hearing from five additional Morrill grant recipients.

From Club Secretary Betty Doll

