

# Rotary



## Club of Asheville THE COG

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

### CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Susan Harper on Monday, September 18, 2023

The club welcomed our youth exchange student Amelie Gros from Normandy, France. Amelie will be attending Asheville High. Members are encouraged to connect with her and are reminded that they need to take the youth protection course if they wish to take Amelie to activities in the community.

Jim Davidson introduced Leah Craig, the Executive Director of Brother Wolf and **presented a check to her for \$2,000.**

David McCartney announced that the community grant application was now open and asked us to help spread the word about these grants to nonprofits.

Alex Pence shared a community service opportunity to help rebuild the Ira B Jones playground. Work will be done on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 – 5 and on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> from 8-noon.

Mary Michaels invited club member to send program ideas to her for future programs. There is a link on the website to facilitate submitting ideas.

Chris Werte announced that the DEI Committee is sponsoring a booth at the Blue Ridge Pride Festival and would be walking in the procession and invited club members to join us on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Dave Kaverman announced the next Rotary Hike (always the first Wednesday of the month) on October 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00, leaving from New Belgium.

Betty Doll reminded the club that the third Wednesday of the month, club members gather at Highland Brewing at 5-ish for fellowship and beer.

### THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

By Linda Nelson

District Governor Sean Gibson

DG Sean Gibson will host a lively discussion with our club and offer updates on the district's work this year. He'll also share updates and initiatives from Rotary International including presenting information from RI President Gordon R. McNally and his focus on mental health. This is a program not to be missed!



### Club Meeting

Asheville  
Meets at TUTON HALL,  
TRINITY EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH. To request a  
Zoom simulcast link email  
avlrotary1915@gmail.com.  
60 Church St  
Asheville, NC 28801  
Time: Thursday at 12:30  
PM

### Speakers

**September 21, 2023**  
[DG Sean Gibson](#)  
District Governor Updates

**September 21, 2023**  
[Sean Gibson](#)  
DG Official Visit

**September 28, 2023**  
[Patricia Waters](#)  
New Member Talks

### Coming Events

September 20th  
**[Third Wednesday at the Watering HOle](#)**

October 3rd  
**[Board Meeting](#)**

October 12th  
**[Discover Rotary](#)**

October 18th  
**[Third Wednesday at the Watering HOle](#)**

### Club Leaders



[Patrick A. Snyder](#)  
President

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

### SERVICE PROJECT OPPORTUNITY



[David Andrew Mans](#)  
President-Nominee  
Club Director  
International Service Chair



[Janet L. Whitworth](#)  
Past President  
Treasurer



[Betty A. Doll](#)  
Secretary



[Frankie L. Adkins](#)  
Club Director  
Youth Protection Officer  
Youth Services Chair



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



[Michelle Daniels](#)  
Attendance Secretary  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Catherine Jo Early](#)  
Club Director  
Vocational Service Chair



[Anthony D. Lynch](#)  
Attendance Secretary  
Sergeant-at-Arms



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



[Alvin Ward Peacock Jr.](#)  
Club Director  
Membership Chair



[Richard T. Devereaux](#)  
Diversity Equity & Inclusion Webmaster



[Linda Nelson](#)  
CCO-Club Comm. Offcr  
Club Director  
Club Public Image Chair

[Alexander P. Pence](#)  
Club Director

By Alexander P. Pence



#### Schedule

October 4 - October 8
8:00 am - 12 Noon
12:30 pm - 5:00 pm
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Help rebuild the former Jones Park - now Candace Pickens Memorial Park! This is a total community funded and built neighborhood park. We need your help! Skilled and unskilled participants are needed. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up individually or as groups. We have three shifts each day: [Read More](#)

## HARRY R. MORRILL COMMUNITY GRANT

By David R. McCartney



The Rotary Club of Asheville's is accepting applications for the Harry R. Morrill Community Grant opportunity.

Please forward the [Application Form](#) to organizations that you feel may benefit from, not only the \$1,250 grant, but also the chance to share their organization's mission with club members at one of our 2024 meetings.

As a reminder of how these grants began: in 1981 Harry R. Morrill donated to funds our Rotary Club with the intent to use the spendable income "for educational or local charitable donations that conform to Rotary ideals."  
[Read More](#)

## Blue Ridge Pride - September 30th

By Chris Werte



**DIVERSITY  
EQUITY  
INCLUSION**

### Rotary Participates at Blue Ridge Pride 2023

We are excited to participate at this year's Blue Ridge Pride on September 30<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is "Advocate".

The festivities start off with the 2023 Procession. This short walk up Patton Avenue into Pack Square is a great, casual way to kick off the Pride Festival. We will gather by 10 am and begin the Procession at 10:30. If you want to join the Procession, [click this link and sign-up today!](#) Full details to follow.

This year's Festival takes place in Pack Square from 11am – 7 pm. Rotary will have a booth at the festival and you are welcome to join us.

This is a great time to share with Festival attendees Rotary's commitment to all members of the community. We are still looking for people to help with the booth. All you have to commit to is 1 hour on the day of the Festival. [Sign-up here](#)

## THE SHORT TERM STEP PROGRAM



Community Service Chair  
Club Service Chair



Andrew Mercurio  
Club Fund Raising Chair



Chris Werte  
Diversity Equity & Inclusion



Marcia Whitney  
Diversity Equity & Inclusion



Christena Southwick  
Bulletin Editor



Skyler Duncan  
Environmental Service Chair



Daniel M. Crupi  
RYLA Point of Contact



Timothy L. Owings  
Club PolioPlus Chair



Mary J. Michael  
Club Programs Chair



Ross Sloan  
iPast President



Lynne Porter  
Assistant Governor

## Birthdays

Evan Justin Rosenberg  
September 19th

Eric C. Bryant  
September 20th

Rachel Rion Moran  
September 20th

Joseph T. Hackett  
September 24th

Robert Steve Frellick  
September 25th

Frank Harwell Rutland  
September 30th

Thomas A. Cannon  
October 3rd

By Jenny Bunn



Short Term Exchange Program (STEP)  
SUMMER FAMILY-TO-FAMILY EXCHANGE 2024

### What is STEP?

The Short Term Exchange Program (STEP) is a summer exchange between families. Your Outbound student lives with a foreign (Inbound) student's family for approximately one month and then both students return to USA or Canada where the Inbound student lives with your family for another month. STEP allows students to experience another culture, country, and language. It offers a fun learning opportunity while building lifelong friendships and broadening their horizons by increasing awareness, knowledge, and confidence.

Rotary International has sponsored youth foreign exchange programs for more than 50 years with the goal of building international goodwill and understanding. Exchanges generally occur from June through August. Some southern hemisphere countries have split-season exchanges with American students traveling in July-August and your foreign brother/sister visiting in December-February.

Would you be comfortable traveling away from home for 4 weeks or more?

Do you make friends easily with both adults and people your age?

Do you have a sense of humor and a positive and enthusiastic outlook?

APPLY ONLINE TODAY!  
<https://yehub.net/OER-stapp>

Questions - Contact your District STEP Chair:  
Jenny Bunn  
928-551-1265  
[jennybunn@gmail.com](mailto:jennybunn@gmail.com)

Or Contact the O-E Multi-District Chair:  
Ron Jantzen  
407-616-9098  
[roj22836@gmail.com](mailto:roj22836@gmail.com)



## Rotary Youth Exchange

Do you know a student who's ready for a summer adventure overseas? The Short Term Exchange Program (STEP) is a family to family exchange and it is an easy and affordable way to participate in a Rotary Youth Exchange program. Through STEP, young people ages 15 to 18 from many different countries get the opportunity to spend a summer together, learning about different countries and cultures. This past summer, our family hosted Pauline, a wonderful student from Josse, France, for 3 weeks; then, our daughter travelled to Josse to spend a few weeks with Pauline and her family. It was a great experience for both girls - and for the families!

If you know of a student who might be interested, please share the [attached flyer](#), or have them contact Rotary District 7670 STEP Coordinator Jenny Bunn at [jennybunn@gmail.com](mailto:jennybunn@gmail.com) / 828-551-1265.

## MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

By Christena Southwick on Monday, September 18, 2023

### MEET BETTY DOLL, CLUB SECRETARY

Betty Doll lives life with honesty, humor, and heart. She is clear-sighted and one-pointed in her goals and dives in to all that she does with incredible energy.

You will recognize her name because she is currently serving her second year as club secretary and sends out a fair number of informational emails, the weekly meeting evites and follow-ups--her idea—as well as special communications to get Rotarians out of the cubicle and into a social hour with like-minded people at the Thirsty Third Wednesday. If you see the slide show before the meetings, that's Betty in action.

Since 2009, that's 14 years if you're counting, Betty has served on an impressive number of committees: Program, Fellowship, Member Care, Literacy, Public Image, Internal Communications, Board of Directors, Rotarians Against Hunger, International Service Committee and has been on seven Honor Flights and visited both the Guatemalan school and helped with the Honduras Medical Brigade. In fact, if Betty hasn't been on your committee, it's probably because you haven't ask.



Always one to want to communicate and have fun, Betty helped start the online Zoom Talent Show during COVID. She and her sister from Portland OR joined together to sing a song that they have sung to each other since childhood, "Sweet Violets." If you missed that performance, it was incredible, and she won hands-down among a talented cast of participants. Not only does she have a good voice, but she also surprised us all with the song. The lyrics were hysterical. But then again, to know Betty, is to have a person to have a good laugh with—no matter what the venue.

Growing up in Michigan with three brothers and one sister, she had a sense of helping others. After graduating with a BA in Occupational Therapy from Western Michigan University, she moved to Orlando to setup an OT department in a newly built rehabilitation and outpatient clinic.



Frankie L Adkins  
October 8th  
William Robert Goacher  
October 9th  
Donna W. Prinz  
October 10th  
Mason Gibbons  
October 10th  
Louise C Bijesse  
October 12th  
Richard T. Devereaux  
October 16th  
Bruce L Waller Jr.  
October 18th  
Victor T Anderson  
October 19th

## Wedding Anniversaries

Rae Geoffrey  
September 20th  
Evan Justin Rosenberg  
September 21st  
Ken Nelson  
September 23rd  
Jessica Z Hendrix  
September 24th  
Sarah A Cockman  
September 24th  
Margot Baron  
September 25th  
Skyler Duncan  
September 29th  
William C. Rawlings  
September 30th  
Eric W. Michael  
September 30th  
Joseph T. Hackett  
October 3rd  
James T. Deuel  
October 6th  
Margaret Gormley-  
Chapman  
October 9th  
Paul Hyler  
October 10th  
George G. Lycan  
October 11th  
Kevin R McRae  
October 13th  
Victor T Anderson  
October 14th  
Beverly Jurenko  
October 15th

From there, she moved to Jacksonville to manage an outpatient rehab center. She received her MBA there and eventually landed in Asheville. Medicare threw a wrench in reimbursement about this time, so going with the flow, Betty left OT and opened a specialty insurance agency where she worked until her retirement--right before COVID.

Her love of helping others is central to her role as a very active Rotarian, in the community and internationally. "My first meeting I was drawn in by the Honduras Medical Brigade. I signed up for the club immediately. I love the opportunities that Rotary provides to visit our service projects and help people. I saw the level of poverty in Honduras, and it was sobering. In Tanzania, Africa, where I visited three weeks after Honduras, I discovered far fewer poverty conditions in Africa than in Honduras. I always want to do more."

Spoken like a true Rotarian. Thank you, Betty, past, present, and future, for all that you do. You are inspiring in your life of service.

## LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

By Susan Harper



Last week's program was powerful and inspiring. Tina White, former Executive Director of the Blue Ridge Pride Center shared her journey with us. After a successful career in consulting and working for global corporations helping them reshape organizations to pursue new strategies and improve performance, Tina undertook her most ambitious transformation project. With the support of her wife, family, and colleagues, she finally acknowledged the gender identity she had spent 50 years trying to hide and eliminate.

Her reflections on her work at Blue Ridge Pride gave us insight into how Tina approaches the world. Arriving in Asheville in 2013, Tina was struck by how disconnected the various communities were in Asheville. Her goal was to integrate Pride into other community gatherings through partnership with other organizations. She felt while it was important for a group to keep its identity, it was also important to show up for each other.

She powerfully shared insight into the fear experienced by marginalized groups in settings that we feel comfortable in and challenged us to think about how we become intentionally welcoming in the face of that reluctance or fear. She encouraged us to look beyond labels to the quality of something. Labels are sources of comfort to us but are limiting. Trans may be a label for Tina but a more meaningful description is that she is a powerful leader and advocate for others, she is

courageous, kind, and willing to live her truth.

Tina is the author of [Between Shadow and Sun: A Husband's Journey Through Gender, A Wife's Labor of Love](#). I am proud to be in Rotary Club that acknowledges Tina's contributions and celebrates her.

## LAST WEEK'S PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

By Linda Nelson

## PICTURE HIGHLIGHTS

President Pat presents a check for \$2,000 to Leah Craig at Brother Wolf



Carol Bornstein Wins the Jackpot!



[Read More](#)

## CART GIVING

By Linda Nelson



### COINS FOR ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH TRUST (CART)

Thank you Mark Chase for being our matching CART donor last week.

CART has a 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.

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](#).

To sign up, email our club CART chair,  
**Michelle Daniels** at  
[michelle4rca@gmail.com](mailto:michelle4rca@gmail.com)