

Rotary



Club of Asheville THE COG

Monday, April 29, 2024



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

May 02, 2024

Maggie Fehrman
Asheville City School
Superintendent

May 09, 2024

Jennifer Bennett
Duke Energy

May 16, 2024

Maggie Fehrman
Asheville City Schools
Superintendent

May 23, 2024

Amelie Gros
Rotary Youth Exchange Student

Coming Events

May 7th

Board Meeting

May 9th

Discover Rotary

May 15th

Third Wednesday at the
Watering HOle

May 16th

Heroes Hurrah!

Club Leaders



Patrick A. Snyder
President



Eva-Michelle G. Spicer
President-Elect



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



Alvin Ward Peacock Jr.
Club Director
Membership Chair



Timothy L Owings
Club Director
Rotary Foundation
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
Community Service
Chair
Club Service Chair



Andrew Mercurio
Club Fund Raising
Chair



Chris Werte
Diversity Equity &
Inclusion



Marcia Whitney
Diversity Equity &
Inclusion



Skyler Duncan
Environmental Service
Chair



Daniel M. Crupi
RYLA Point of Contact



Mary J. Michael
Club Programs Chair



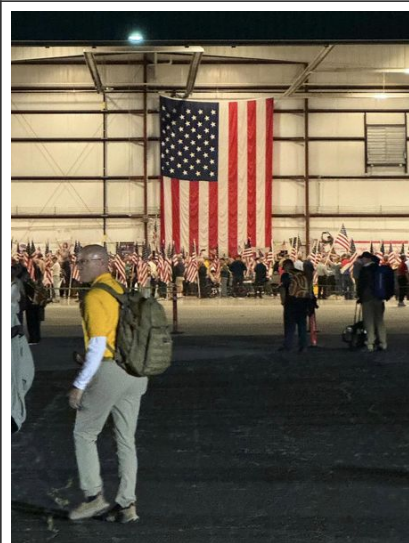
Ross Sloan
iPast President

Birthdays

APRIL 2024 HONOR FLIGHT

By Linda Nelson

Thanks to Everyone Involved Who Helped to Support the April 27 Honor Flight



Lisa Cutshaw
May 4th

Matthew Walter
May 4th

James Davidson
May 10th

Joseph Benjamin Burrell
May 11th

Carol E Bornstein
May 14th

David Andrew Mans
May 15th

Albert Davis
May 15th

Kirk Borland
May 18th

Timothy L Owings
May 19th

Paul David Hatfield
May 20th

William C. Bass
May 24th

James T. Deuel
May 26th

Herman S. Turk
May 26th

Melissa R. Drennan
May 27th

Paula J Kelley
May 28th

Michael S Trayford
May 29th

Wedding Anniversaries

Carolyn Cronin
April 29th

Laresa M. Griffin
May 1st

Scott E. Raines
May 13th

Edward L Bleynat Jr.
May 19th

Joseph Benjamin Burrell
May 21st

Bradley A. Arnold
May 22nd

David T. Kaverman
May 24th

Tate Warden
May 25th

Ross Sloan
May 26th

LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

By Kristy Wilson



We heard today from **Helena Fierle** sharing her **Global Scholarship** experience. Helena started her path in Rotary at the age of fifteen when she was part of the Rotary Youth Exchange. She was also a Global Grant scholar at Peace Building. Helena is finishing up her Masters in Barcelona with her thesis focus as an expressive arts therapist. She is determined to help younger people who have suffered trauma, so they may heal internally. People who connect and find peace within themselves can only then shift their focus to connect and help direct peace outwardly to others around them and around the world.

We recognized four **Asheville Police Department** police officers for our quarterly service awards as Rotary promotes peace and



conflict resolution. Detective Brad Beddow was honored for his work through community engagement to reduce drug activity in the Pisgah View Apartments. Debbie Lecroy for community engagement for befriending a known person experiencing homelessness and providing hope through coffee. Officers Vincent Garetto and Ryan Osborne for their skilled negotiations in de-escalating a domestic disturbance.



Rebecca Ann

Robertson, and our very own club member, talked about the Mayan Melipona Bee Project in the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico. It's also a project that our club has granted \$11,500 to construct two new hives.

The Mayan Melipona Honey Bees are the pollinators of the Rainforest. These bees provide one of the highest medicinal honey's on the planet. These bees don't have a stinger and their hive is in the shape of a pyramid! And, their eyes are blue. Who knew?!

The Melipona Bee Project mission is about helping these bees from becoming extinct while assisting women and their communities to become bee-tenders. So far, they have helped to build three bee-yards while providing three apprenticeships for the beekeepers. They are helping to keep the traditions that were established 3,200 years ago of bee tending for the Mayan Melipona honey bee to survive

today and for future generations. Remember-biodiversity is our biosecurity.

For further information check out their website:
<https://ashevillesistercities.org/mayan-melipona-bee/>



HEROES HOORAH FUNDRAISING EVENT: MAY 16, 2024

By Linda Nelson

Our club will be celebrating our local community heroes with a Gala Event on May 16th at the Embassy Suites Downtown Asheville. As Rotarians, we believe we have a shared responsibility to take action on our world's most persistent issues. Our local heroes have been chosen and recognized for their work and dedication within the Rotary International seven areas of focus (see below for details)

Please consider becoming a **Table Sponsor** or purchasing an **individual ticket** - Don't Delay:
<https://rotaryasheville.betterworld.org/events/heroes-hoorah>
[Read More](#)



THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

By Sophia Stefanidis Ungert

This week's program will be presented by Dr. Maggie Fehrman, Asheville City School Superintendent.



Dr. Maggie Fehrman is an exceptional and visionary servant leader, known for her strategic thinking and innovative approach. She has a proven track record of building strong relationships with all stakeholders, fostering trust and support through transparency, engagement, and open two-way communication. Driven by a deep commitment to equity, she works to ensure that ALL students, families, and staff feel welcome, included, and valued. After initial listening sessions with staff, students, and families, Dr. Fehrman shared her promise to the Asheville City Schools community to build a sense of belonging that honors the equal worth and inherent dignity of each person; to engage each student in challenging, meaningful, and relevant learning experiences; and to make every second Asheville City Schools have with our students and staff count.

Dr. Fehrman joined Asheville City Schools in July 2023 from City Schools of Decatur, a top-rated school district in Georgia, where she served as superintendent since May 2021. Her leadership has propelled the district to remarkable success, ranking first in the state of Georgia for student performance in crucial categories such as 3rd-grade reading, 5th-grade reading, and English language arts. Furthermore, the district

achieved an outstanding high school graduation rate of 96.73% and secured the top spot in the state for SAT and ACT performance in 2021 and 2022.

[Read More](#)