

# Rotary



## Club of Asheville THE COG

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

### THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

By Sophia Stefanidis Ungert

#### Community and Regional Entertainment Facilities



This week we welcome Chris Corl, Director of the City of Asheville's Community and Regional Entertainment Facilities Department. Chris will give us an overview of the department, why it was formed, and the goals for the coming years.

Chris has lived in Asheville for 10 years after moving from Winston-Salem, NC for the position of General Manager at the Harrah's Cherokee Center. He is currently the Director of the City's department of Community & Regional Entertainment Facilities, which is comprised of the Harrah's Cherokee Center Asheville, Thomas Wolfe Auditorium, WNC Nature

Center, Aston Park Tennis Center, Asheville Municipal Golf Course, the Office of Outdoor Special Events, John B Lewis Soccer Complex and McCormick Field. Internally, they are known as the department of fun.

Prior to his time in Asheville, Chris served the City of Winston-Salem as the event services director for the Winston-Salem Entertainment Sports complex, a complex of event venues including two football stadiums, a minor league baseball stadium, two arenas, a NASCAR weekly series track and an 80 acre fairgrounds. Additionally, Chris previously worked in the tennis industry as a consultant with the United States Tennis Association for Davis Cup and Billie Jean King (formally Fed) Cup events held on U.S. soil and as an operations manager for an ATP 250 tournament. Chris lives in East Asheville with his wife Melanie, and two children, Corrine and Brantley.

### LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM\_09/DWIGHT MULLEN

By Melissa R. Drennan

Our speaker on September 22 was Dr. Dwight Mullen. Although Professor Mullen is now retired from a career at UNC Asheville, he is still an adept educator. For our meeting program, Dr. Mullen elucidated the goals and challenges for Asheville's Reparations Commission.



Asheville City Council passed a resolution supporting reparations for Black Asheville on July 14, 2020. In March 2022, members of the Reparations Commission were appointed by the City Council. Dr. Mullen is chair of the Reparations



#### Club Meeting

Asheville  
Meets at TUTION HALL,  
TRINITY EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH--Proof of Covid-  
19 vaccination or recent  
(72 hrs) negative Covid-  
19 test required to attend  
in-person. To request a  
Zoom simulcast link email  
avrotary1915@gmail.com.  
60 Church St  
Asheville, NC 28801  
Time: Thursday at 12:30  
PM

#### Speakers

**September 29, 2022**

[Chris Corl, GM](#)  
Harrah's Cherokee  
Center Asheville

**October 06, 2022**

[Chief Burnette and  
Patrick Crudup](#)  
Asheville Fire  
Department

**October 13, 2022**

[Lynne Porter](#)  
Message from our Club's  
Assistant Governor

**October 20, 2022**

[Jim Davidson](#)  
Ghost Stories

#### Coming Events

October 3rd  
[Community Service  
Monday](#)

October 4th  
[Board Meeting](#)

#### Club Leaders

[Ross Sloan](#)



President



Patrick A. Snyder  
President-Elect



Betty A. Doll  
Secretary



Janet L. Whitworth  
Past President  
Treasurer



Celeste B. Collins  
Club Admin  
Chair  
Club Director



Lisa Cutshaw  
Bulletin Editor



Albert Davis  
Club Director  
Community  
Service Chair



Tanya N. Fletcher  
Club Director  
Youth  
Protection  
Officer  
Youth Services  
Chair



David T. Kaverman  
Membership  
Chair  
Club Director



Kevin R. Montgomery  
Club Director



Linda Nelson  
Club Director  
Communication  
and Outreach



Maxine O. Parsons-Kogut  
Club Director  
Rotary  
Foundation  
Chair



Charles M. Peabody III  
Attendance  
Secretary  
Sgt-at-Arms

Kelly C. Shanafelt  
Attendance  
Secretary

Commission.

The commission has five impact areas of focus: Criminal Justice, Economic Development, Education, Healthcare and Housing. In each of these areas, the commission will try to address the disparities in outcomes from systematic racism in public policies. This effort is not solely about repentance for Asheville's history of segregation. Its goal is to restore our community as if these wrongs had never occurred, based on the current conditions of our neighbors and neighborhoods.

Dr. Mullen is clear-eyed about the difficulty of the commission's task. We are fortunate to have someone with his education, experience and dedication to lead this commission. He concluded his remarks by reminding us this is personal for everyone in our community, particularly organizations such as Rotary. If we were silent or complicit in policies of segregation, how do we make amends? Like so many great professors, Dr. Mullen's question challenges us to think and evaluate our actions.

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## CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Honor Flight

Orientation was held Saturday at First Baptist Church. The Honor Flight will be October 1. Volunteers are needed to be at Asheville Regional Airport at 7:30pm to welcome home the veterans.

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### Visit Curbie

The Sustainability Committee invites club members to tour the Curbie facility in Woodfin on Tuesday, October 11th at 9am.

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### Rotary Attire Available



Club member Lacy Hagan has Rotary attire available for purchase. With our upcoming Community Service Mondays, let's show up proudly displaying the Rotary logo! You can e-mail Lacy at [lacyh@lantanaemb.com](mailto:lacyh@lantanaemb.com).

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### Update on In-Person Meeting Policy

All members attending in person are encouraged to get vaccinated and to follow all CDC guidelines.

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### Donations and Scholarships

Donations to our **Club Foundation** can now be made 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).

Please bring raffle items for our weekly drawing that benefits the **Tennent Scholarships**. Promote your business, your passion, or your creativity.

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### Cart Fund





Sergeant-at-Arms



Eva-Michelle G. Spicer  
President-Nominee



Kristy Wilson  
Club Director  
Vocational 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



Cassidy Harbison  
Club Public Image Chair



Katherine Morosani  
Past President



Lynne Porter  
Assistant Governor

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. Consider contributing \$1 a week per quarter; \$13.

**For Birthday/Anniversary/Happy Dollars/CART Funds**  
please mail your check to  
**Rotary Club of Asheville Foundation**  
**P.O. Box 1954**  
**Asheville, NC 28801**

**Additional Volunteer Opportunities :**

\*Please submit any volunteer opportunities you feel your fellow Rotarians would enjoy being a part of.



If you would like to add an announcement in an upcoming COG, please email [Lisa Cutshaw](mailto:Lisa.Cutshaw) no later than Saturday, prior to Tuesday publishing.

**HOOD HUGGERS TOUR ANNOUNCEMENT**

By Marcia Whitney

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee of the Rotary Club of Asheville is excited to announce a unique cultural event showcasing the powerful stories of resilience and ingenuity of African Americans in Asheville.

We have booked a tour trolley with Hood Huggers International, a recipient of Trip Advisor's 2022 Travelers' Choice Award. The tour is on Friday, October 14th, from noon to 2:00PM. We will meet at 51 S. Market St., Asheville. Please bring a mask.

With the support of our club's Board of Directors, we are pleased to bring this opportunity for appreciation and understanding of the history of our community to you at a special price of \$35.00, normally a \$55.00 value.

For more information about Hood Huggers International and their multi-faceted mission, please visit [hoodhuggers.com](http://hoodhuggers.com).

To register, email Steve Shechter at [stevenb4260@gmail.com](mailto:stevenb4260@gmail.com) or bring a check for \$35.00 payable to the Rotary Club of Asheville to the meeting. You can also

**Birthdays**

- Donald P. Cameron  
September 29th
- Frank Harwell Rutland  
September 30th
- Thomas A. Cannon  
October 3rd
- Frankie L Adkins  
October 8th
- David McNamee  
October 8th
- William Robert Goacher  
October 9th
- Joe L Worthington Jr.



October 9th  
Donna W. Prinz  
October 10th  
Richard T. Devereaux  
October 16th  
Bruce L. Waller Jr.  
October 18th  
Daniel J. Lepore  
October 19th  
Oscar P. Wong  
October 21st  
Ford Willis  
October 26th  
Charles M Peabody III  
October 27th

### Wedding Anniversaries

Kylie B Hicks  
September 27th  
Skyler Duncan  
September 29th  
Eric W. Michael  
September 30th  
William C. Rawlings  
September 30th  
Joseph T. Hackett  
October 3rd  
Joshua M. Abrams  
October 6th  
James T. Deuel  
October 6th  
Margaret Gormley-  
Chapman  
October 9th  
Paul Hyler  
October 10th  
George G. Lycan  
October 11th  
Robert Steve Frellick  
October 20th  
Barbara J. Bowers  
October 21st

mail a check to Steve at:

Steve Shechter  
115 Orvis Stone Circle  
Biltmore Lake, NC 28715

Maximum capacity is 35, so register soon.

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## THE GREEN CORNER

By Christena Southwick

### THE PLASTIC FREE WNC INITIATIVE AND YOU

Many of you had the privilege of hearing Anna Alsobrook of Mountain True speak to the Rotary Club in August. As a watershed expert, she spoke of the tremendous impact of single-use plastics in our streams and waterways.



She also spoke of an initiative before the City Council that Mountain True, The Sierra Club of WNC and Southern Environmental Law Group have joined together in implementing an ordinance against single-use plastic bags at the point of purchase in grocery stores.

The group, "Plastic Free WNC," has, after two years of painstaking studies, now been through two of the three loops required by City Council to have their initiative come to a full vote by the council. All know the over-use of plastic products has gotten out of control in WNC, and to our detriment. This is a single step toward solving a grand-scale problem.

Sounds like it is imminent? Sadly, this isn't happening as fast as Plastic Free WNC would like, it appears. The City of Asheville wants to do its own investigation into the feasibility and possibility, not to mention the legality, of mandating this ordinance citywide.

The timeline now looks more like two years than a few weeks. This is a hard pill to swallow for the Plastic Free WNC proponents who have worked tirelessly and faithfully to bring the necessary data forward to make a case for change. Plastic Free WNC would like to persuade the city to build on what they started, circumventing the need for a two-year delay before implementation.

Therefore, Plastic Free WNC needs the help of those who have already listened and agree to come forward and let their voices be heard as well. Won't you join them in October for their meeting with the City Council, wear a green shirt and show solidarity for putting an end to this obvious abuse of plastics?

Rotary members can participate in the effort to no longer have to watch plastic bags tumble across the road, getting caught in the landscape. Sadly, that is just the tip of the iceberg of problems caused by plastic bags. Look for future updates about the meeting in the COG, and please think about attending.

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## THE GREEN CORNER--TIPS

By Christena Southwick

## WEBSITES FOR SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS

The Climate and Environment Committee wish to offer the membership a little tip every other week on what they consider to be an easy fix when it comes to getting rid of plastics in your home.

The first item of choice is to eliminate the plastic bags that we throw our garbage and recycling into for curbside pickup simply by switching to a compostable product line.

Although this is only one site, it is certainly a good one, and the product has been tested. It is good enough to recommend to members.

HERE'S THE TIP:

ecosoulhome.com has 100% compostable kitchen trash bags at a reasonable cost. They will also set up repeat delivery system and have other eco friendly products as well.



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## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By David T. Kaverman

Starting with the August 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the COG, we have added a membership update at the request of several members. This will list both the new members to the Club as well as any who are exiting. This both helps all members know who has joined the Club as well as allowing them to let anyone leaving know that they will be missed and welcome to rejoin when the time is right for them.

We will update this list after each month during the Rotary year by adding the activity for the previous month. After the Rotary year ends, we will start with a fresh list. Any feedback or suggestions are welcome. Send those to the Membership Chair, Dave Kaverman, at [dave@acuityma.com](mailto:dave@acuityma.com).

### Membership at a Glance: 150 Active & 6 Honorary

#### New Active Members:

**Margot Baron (July)**—Google Cloud Certifications & Certifications Lead, Google, Sponsored by Barbara Bowers & Eva-Michelle Spicer

**David McNamee (July)**-- Professor of Leadership in the MS in Leadership program at the University of Arkansas Grantham, Sponsored by Keith Bell

**Donald Cameron (August)**—Retired High School Teacher, The Brooks School Andover, Massachusetts, Sponsored by Dave Kaverman

**Jennifer Soster (August)**—Higher Education, Warren Wilson College, Sponsored by Dave Kaverman

#### Resignations:

**Dena Whalen**—Family Obligations

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## ROTARY MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

By Rachel Rion Moran

Members who joined in the month of September	Total Years	Notes
Adams, Frank L.	3	Frankie is a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones. In our club, he serves as the Chair of the Youth Exchange Committee and on these 3 committees: Friendship Exchange, New Member Orientation and Rotarians against Hunger.
Teisley, Donna Rogers	19	Donna is the Past President from 2015-2016, Past Asst. Gov., a Pa and she has sponsored 3 members. Currently, Donna is on the Field Committee and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion one. Donna also Strategic Planning Committee.
Hackett, Joseph T.	2	J is the founder of Black Wall Street Axi. He serves our club on the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion committee, and as Chair of the Program Committee.
King, Dennis	4	Dennis is an Honorary Member of our club. He is a Paul Harris Fellow and Sustaining Member.
Levinisky, Thomas G.	17	Tom was first a member of the Rotary Club of Houston, Texas. He joined our club in 2010 and serves as the Chair of the Veteran Support Committee.
Palmer, John C.	44	John is the Principal Partner of his own real estate appraisal company-The Palmer Company. John is a Past Club President and past Club Foundation President. Currently, he serves on these committees: ABCCM Women and Children's Home, Community Grants, Honor Flight and Veteran Support. He is a Paul Harris Fellow and a Sustaining Member of the Paul Harris Society.
Whitney, Marcia	17	Marcia is the President and CEO of the Verner Center for Early Learning. She transferred to our club after 3 years in the Rotary Club of Brattleboro, VT. Currently, she is the Chair of the DEI Committee.
Wills, Ford	3	Ford is an agent with Town & Mountain Realty. He just ended two years as the Sergeant-at-Arms for our club.
Wong, Oscar P.	23	Oscar is the founder of Highland Brewing. In our club, he is a member of the Honorary Medical-Dental Brigade, the Member Care Committee, and the Chair of the Share the Wealth Committee. Oscar is a Paul Harris Fellow, Sustaining Member and has sponsored 2 members in our club.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### Rotary Hiking Group

The Downtown Rotary Club has a monthly hike on short routes in and around the city. It goes on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 5pm. We have a fun hike and then have a fun social-home for dinner.

If you are interested, please contact George Lycan at [glycan@kw.com](mailto:glycan@kw.com)

### Thirsty Third Thursday

Join us on the third Thursday of each month around 5 pm at Highland Brewery for Thirsty Third Thursday. Join with fellow Rotarians, spouses and partners, friends, guests and anyone else who is interested, sip a libation, and get to know each other a little better. Weather permitting, we'll be out on the Meadow at Highland--if not, we'll be inside.

## FOUR WAY TEST



Rotary

## THE FOUR-WAY TEST

*Of the things we think, say or do:*

*first*

Is it the **TRUTH**?

*second*

Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

*third*

Will it build **GOODWILL** and  
**BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?

*fourth*

Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to  
all concerned?