



Rotary
District 7670



March 2024 Newsletter
District Governor Sean Gibson

DG Sean's Stuff



DG Sean's Stuff



Rotary is moving into March like a lion as we continue to do great work in the world. We are also working on preparing for the upcoming year. Last week our amazing organization celebrated its 119th birthday and I must say I'm very proud of what we continue to accomplish worldwide and right here in our communities, from helping traumatized kindergartners in Buncombe County to traumatized students in Europe. We can make a difference in so many different ways, and it's all because of you!

If you haven't done so yet, please consider making a contribution to the Rotary Foundation. It makes such a difference in our world! We must also continue that fight against Polio even though we are closer than ever, and please keep up efforts with giving to CART. Speaking of which, I'm inviting all of you to attend our district conference next month in Greenville. PDG Tiffany has some amazing speakers lined up, and some fun planned as well. It'll be a great way to celebrate our work in 2023-24. Please get your Rotary Baseball jersey from Tiffany today with all proceeds to benefit CART!

We also want to remember the passing of Diane Brogden, wife of PDG Harry Brogden from Lincolnton-Sunrise. We have lost several great ones this year, and she will be missed. Keep up your amazing work in the greatest district in the world in the greatest organization in the world.

Talk to you soon
Sean

March is Water, Sanitation & Hygiene Month



Clean water and sanitation is a human right, but not everyone is afforded that right. Rotary members are providing communities with sustainable access to safe water, improved sanitation, hygiene management training. When people, especially children, have access to clean water, improved sanitation facilities, and better hygiene habits, they lead healthier and more successful lives.

During March, Rotary Water and Sanitation Month, we encourage members to work towards Rotary's goal of providing everyone with safe water, sanitation, and hygiene by 2030. Let's all work together to protect and improve our environment.

SPEAKER ANNOUNCEMENT - All Star Weekend District Conference

By Tiffany Ervin

We are excited to announce a VERY SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER who will be joining us at the All-Star Weekend in Greenville, SC!!



Stephanie Stuckey is the granddaughter of the founder of [Stuckey's Corporation](#), the home of the original pecan log roll! She is now the Chair of the family-owned business, responsible for revitalizing the products, expanding distribution, and reconnecting with loyal customers.

She has a JD, Cum Laude, from the University of Georgia School of Law, and served in various public sector roles, such as State Representative, Chief Resilience Officer, and Director of Sustainability. She is passionate about restoring this iconic brand and celebrating the nostalgia and charm of Stuckey's, and will share her "comeback" story.

Stephanie is also a member of the Rotary Club of Decatur (GA) in District 6900! And if you attend the conference, you may get a few surprises to snack on over the weekend!

Full Conference Registration Package \$199 - Price Includes Friday Tailgate Dinner, Saturday Lunch & Dinner, as well as all conference programming and activities. Individual tickets for Friday and Saturday night's dinners will be available soon for anyone who wants to bring a guest or can only attend one session.

[To see more details and register, click here!](#)

HOST HOTEL: Hyatt Regency Greenville (220 N Main St) - Reduced Rate of \$169 per night for King or Double Queen. Reservations must be made separately from event registration. Last date to book is April 4th and rooms are filling up quickly!

[To reserve your room, click here!](#)

Let's Play Ball!!



Let's Play Ball!!!

What an amazing 23-24 year of Rotary in District 7670...and we're not done yet!!

As you have already heard, our "**All-Star Weekend**" Rotary District 7670 Conference will be held April 19-20th in Greenville, South Carolina. It is going to be fantastic and I, for one, CAN NOT wait!!

There will be some awesome speakers, loads of fun and much, much more. Also, we will be giving out winning medals for some of your great work with Public Image and showing all the events and service to others you've been doing this year. I know you all have some great media highlighting what your clubs are doing because I get to see it all!!

PI Awards will be given in the following club sizes:

Small (up to 20 members)
Medium (21-44 members)
Large (45-70 members)
Extra Large (71+ members)

PI categories:

Video - 1.5-minute video highlighting a project, this year's focus on mental health or a culmination of the entire year

Newsletter - Submit a digital version of your newsletter to DPIC Julie West

Social Media - Submit the social media platform your club utilizes and the name of your social media site to DPIC Julie West

Please have all submissions in by Saturday, March 17th.

Can't wait to see all you've done this year!!

Where does The CART Fund get it's administrative funds?



Founded in 1995 by Roger Ackerman, a Rotarian in Sumter, SC, The CART Fund (Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust) is a non-profit grassroots organization that provides "seed" money for cutting edge, high impact research grants to help find a treatment or cure for Alzheimer's Disease.

Roger passed away in 2018, yet to this day, we still adhere to our founder's initial mission "that 100% of every dollar donated goes directly to research! So where do we get the funds for administrative work?

Trac Support is a separate 501(c)3 organization created in 2018 to allow CART to continue the original mission of designating 100% of all donations directly to research. It is funded primarily from returns on investments, as well as some planned gifts and specific fundraisers coordinated by volunteers.

All funds donated to TRAC are used for operational and administrative programs to support our large volunteer base and part-time Executive Director. The CART Fund relies heavily on volunteers to share our message, promote our brand and increase our annual contributions.

TRAC is also supported by several Rotary Districts who believe in our mission and want to help us maintain our original intent of 100% of all CART contributions going directly to research. Some Rotary Clubs and Districts even host fundraisers designated for this purpose, including the annual CARS for CART Raffle in Eastern North

Carolina.

To learn more about how you can support specific administrative programs through a donation to TRAC, please contact Executive Director [Tiffany Ervin](#)

source: www.cartfund.org

The Action for Earth Award



Clean water and sanitation are valuable parts of our everyday lives and this month we are focusing on improving our environment. The Action for Earth Award is an award given to the club in District 7670 for the best environmental project. This could be a new project for some or an established annual service project.

Send a detailed report and action pictures of your project to Guy Gooder, District Service Project Chair, gooderfranklin@gmail.com.

This year's deadline for entries is April 1st, 2024.

Resources for clubs:

- esrag.org
- vimeo.com/showcase/10043726
- sciencemoms.com

Now Taking 2024 Tennent Scholarship Applications!

By Carol L Birkner on Tuesday, February 13, 2024

A promotional poster for the Buzz Tennent Scholarship. It features the Rotary Club of Asheville logo at the top left. The text reads: "BUZZ TENNENT SCHOLARSHIP". Below this, it states: "The Rotary Club of Asheville decided in 1998 that there was a need for a scholarship program that was based upon academic merit as well as financial need. The funds for these scholarships are derived from fundraising and donations. The amount available varies from year to year as does the number of qualified students." A photo of a young man with curly hair, wearing a brown shirt and a backpack, is on the left. To his right, it says "Applications Due April 14, 2024". Below that, under "CRITERIA", are several bullet points: "Be a high school senior", "Have an un-weighted GPA of 3.0 if planning to attend a 2 year program at technical school, community college or junior college and 3.0 if planning for 4 year college", "Be enrolled in a college, university, community college or technical school", "Have three letters of reference", and "Be a Buncombe County resident". At the bottom, there is a QR code with the text "Apply Here" and "QUESTIONS? CONTACT SKLEVIC@PRODIGY.NET CALLEDIAV5253@GMAIL.COM TENNURL.COM/TENNENTSCHOLARSHIP".

Rotary Club of Asheville has a commitment to helping our community and one of the ways we do this is through our annual needs-based Tennent Scholarship.

The Buzz Tennent Scholarship was established by the Rotary Club of Asheville to support post high school students to achieve knowledge and skills essential for life and careers. Buzz Tennent was a Past President of the Rotary Club of Asheville (1939-1940) who went on to serve as District Governor in 1943-1944 and President of Rotary International in 1957-1958. The funds for the scholarship are donated by club members or raised through various fundraisers held throughout the year.

Those graduating from high school in 2024 are eligible [to apply](#). Application deadline is April 14, 2024.

Additional requirements and guidelines are:

- They must be a Buncombe County student (city, county, or private school)
- They must provide a transcript of their grades
- They must have successful out of school activities, e.g. work, volunteer, study, intern.
- They must [attach 3 letters of recommendation](#): at least 1 from teacher, other 2 from non-family sources
- They must provide Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) documentation
- They must answer each question and provide all requested information on the application
- They must provide a photo

For questions or help with the application, email rotarytennent@gmail.com.

APPLICATION

Racing For Rotary Championship Series Kicks-off in March



The Rotary Club of Newton Conover has partnered with Little Mountain Kart Club to offer Racing For Rotary. The event will be held on Saturday, March 30, at the Hickory American Legion Fairgrounds (off of Hwy. 70, 1 American Legion Ave, Newton, NC 28658).

The Rotary Club of Newton Conover has been in partnership with Little Mountain Kart Club since 2021. This year Racing For



Rotary will offer a Championship Kart Series presented by Dale Earnhardt Chevrolet. Four races are planned with points earned going toward the Championship Series; all classes are included. A new location for the 2024 kart races, Hickory American Legion Fairgrounds, will offer more parking, improved spectator space, and areas for onsite food trucks and concessions.

Racing For Rotary is a family-friendly event that offers kart races for all series of drivers while raising money for local non-profits in Catawba County. These funds support organizations' continued good work in our county. More than \$18,000 has been distributed from previous Racing For Rotary events.

We are excited about our new location at the Hickory American Legion Fairgrounds, shared Rotarian Corky Upchurch. The new location will prove to be a win for all of us racers, sponsors, and community. The track has been upgraded, prepped and is ready for the first race on March 30. The Championship Series presented by Dale Earnhardt Chevrolet will bring new excitement to the races.

The March 30th Racing for Rotary kart races include Clone, Briggs L0206, Champ Buggies (Clone or L0206), Kids Gutsy Gussy Racers, Stock Appearing, RWAYB, Yamaha 450 Outlaws, Yamaha 450 Outlaws Young Guns, and Predator classes. Kart registration fees are \$25 per class entry.

Join the Rotary Club of Newton-Conover for Racing For Rotary on March 30, the first of four kart races in the 2024 Championship Series. The other 2024 series dates are May 25, July 20, and October 12. Everyone is invited for good family-fun with proceeds from the kart races to help local organizations in Catawba County, shared Rotarian President Siobhan Loendorf.

General admission is \$15, 10 years and under are free. Kart registration fees are \$25 per class entry. Gates open at 9am and practice/qualifying begins at approximately 12 noon followed by races. Concessions will be available. In case of heavy rain, the race will be canceled.

A special thank you to Racing For Rotary sponsors: Dale Earnhardt Chevrolet, Timmerman Manufacturing, The Untouchables, YMCA of Catawba Valley, SM1, and JLS Machine, Inc. Consider joining these sponsors in supporting Racing For Rotary. Elevate your company's visibility on race day and across social media platforms, opportunities start at \$250, contact jdline@bolickfoundation.org.

The Rotary Club of Newton Conover was chartered in 1949 and is celebrating 75 years of service in 2024. The club's mission is "Be recognized as a Vibrant Club Working Together to Make a Lasting Impact on the Lives of Others."

Currently, the Rotary Club of Newton Conover has approximately forty active members. For additional information on sponsorship or general race information, please contact Joy Cline at jdline@bolickfoundation.org.

Rotarians Packing Backpacks in Macon County



Service Above Self!!

The Rotary Club of Franklin and the Rotary Club of Franklin Daybreak, along with Franklin High School Interact club, volunteered on Feb. 8th to pack food at Macon County Care Network. Bags of food are placed in students' backpacks and more than 400 backpacks are distributed each week. The Rotary Clubs volunteer for this project on the second Thursday of each month.

First Annual Fat Tuesday Fiesta Fundraiser - Big Success

Sunday, February 18, 2024

On Tuesday, February 13 Asheville Breakfast Rotary Club hosted a fundraiser at the Grey Eagle in Asheville called Fat Tuesday Fiesta. Music was provided by Tuxedo Junction and there was a lot of dancing going on. The club had 2 goals: raise money for our foundation to support scholarships, grants, our environmental project, and gain additional items for our Health and Hygiene Program.

Both goals were met! The community filled 4 bins of hygiene items that were delivered to the Buncombe County Schools Family Resource Center, and added a nice sum to the foundation. None of the efforts could have succeeded without all the support of club members, sponsors, and donations from some great businesses in Asheville.

Great fun, food, and fellowship. Mark your calendar for next year!



Cripple Creek Stream Restoration Project

By William Lawrence Shillito on Thursday, February 22, 2024



The Cripple Creek Stream Restoration Project was created through a partnership between the YMCA of Catawba Valley and the Catawba County Soil and Water Conservation District. The goal of this \$93,000 project was to restore approximately 500 linear feet of degraded stream and 0.6 acres of buffer along Cripple Creek, running beside the Hickory Foundation YMCA in Catawba County. With virtually all the funding expended for the required major excavation work, it was apparent that volunteers would be needed to complete the final hands-on portion of the project. In September 2023, the Rotary Club of Catawba Valley was approached about volunteering to help with this last important step by Randy Willis, Catawba Soil and Water Conservation District Administrator.

The completion of the restoration project was required before the YMCA could begin construction of other important initiatives of the YMCA. Hickory Foundation YMCA President Paxton Tallent was quoted in a Hickory Daily Record article published September 2023, "Our YMCA has a history of serving the community when they need us most. At times, we have dealt with rising waters, and through our capital initiative, we are taking steps to relocate our power/mechanical room which currently sits below ground level. This project is another step to ensure our YMCA is protected while trying our best to flood proof our facilities through various design strategies."

The request for volunteers included assistance with planting grasses, shrubs, and trees to provide stability to the creek banks. Upon receiving the invitation to assist, we quickly began recruiting volunteers within our club. As usual, a number of Rotarians immediately stepped up and agreed to help with this important project. There were two phases to the plantings, one in the September and one in February.

The professional staff of the Catawba Soil and Water Conservation District provided the materials and expertise and worked beside our Rotary Club volunteers. Phase one consisted of planting 462 ornamental grasses and wildflower plugs along the creek bank. Phase two consisted of planting hydrangeas, azaleas and other colorful shrubs as well as Red Bud trees. The Rotary volunteers were immensely grateful to the Catawba County Soil and Water staff for pre-drilling the holes with an auger to reduce the amount of labor and time required for planting the 65 shrubs and trees. In all, there were 8 volunteers from the Rotary Club of Catawba Valley that donated a total of 22.5-man hours to complete both phases.

The Rotary Club of Catawba Valley is a very hands-on and active club. Volunteering is part of our DNA. The project designed and ably supervised by the two Catawba County Soil and Water District staff members, fit our project profile like a "glove". We were honored to be invited to participate and excited to see the gifts of our labor come to life this spring.



From left to Right: Randy Willis (Catawba County Soil & Conservation District Administrator); Rotarians: Zach Speagle, Stephen Sims, Scott Hildebrand, Dr. David Peltzer, Blake Henley (Catawba County Soil Conservation Technician), Dianne Shillito and PDG Bill Shillito





Dianne Shillito pointing out our motto “Service Above Self” as displayed by Rotarians Stephen Sims, PDG Bill Shillito, and Dr. David Peltzer



Rotarian Stephen Sims receiving guidance from Randy Willis (Catawba County Soil & Conservation District Administrator





From Left to Right: Randy Willis (Catawba County Soil & Conservation District Administrator); Rotarians: Scott Hildebrand, PDG Bill Shillito, PDG Hamp Shuford



PDG Hamp Shuford planting a Red Bud tree.

In Loving Memory



Diane Baxter Brogden
(March 10, 1944 - February 22, 2024)

Diane Baxter Brogden, of Lincolnton, passed away on Thursday, February 22, 2024.

She was born March 10, 1944, and grew up in Shelby. She was preceded in death by her father, Thomas Quay Baxter, who was killed in WWII; Wilma Wright Baxter Grigg; step-father, Carl Grigg; and brothers Tommy Baxter and Carl Grigg, Jr.

Diane is survived by Harry Brogden, her BEST FRIEND and loving husband of 58 years. Also survived by two sons, Lee Brogden and wife Mary of Greensboro and Chris Brogden and wife Jenny of Lincolnton; five wonderful grandchildren, Harrison (Jenn), Mary Claire and Elizabeth Brogden, and Luke (Elizabeth) and Miller Brogden; sister-in-law Julia Baxter; special nieces and nephews; numerous cousins; and Faithful companion, Lily!

Diane met Harry in Pharmacy School at Chapel Hill. They operated the Drugstore in Lincolnton for nearly 25 years. After retiring, she volunteered at The Helping Hands Health Clinic. Diane was a faithful, active member of First Baptist Church where she served on The Building & Grounds and other committees, but especially enjoyed her many years as The TopAgers (Senior Adult) Leader. She was a charter member and past president of The Lincolnton Sunrise Rotary Club; member and past president of the Review Book Club; and delivered Linc Meals for some twenty years. She enjoyed taking care of people and had a gift of hospitality and always knowing the right way to reach out to folks. She was named Lincoln County Woman of the Year in 2002. She was an avid gardener and simply loved digging in the dirt while enjoying God's creation.

A service to celebrate Diane's life will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 25, 2024, at First Baptist Church with Dr. Stanley Spence and Rev. Dr. Dixon Free officiating. The family will receive friends at the church from 1:00 until 2:45 p.m. before the service. A private graveside will be at Hollybrook Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, 201 Robin Road, Lincolnton, NC 28092.

Continue to keep PDG Harry Brogden, his family and the Lincolnton Sunrise Rotary club in your thoughts and prayers.

Four Way Test

By Julie P. West on Saturday, July 1, 2023

The Four Way Test Rotary



1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

Events

March 2nd, 8:30-3:45 PM RLI-District 7750-Parts I, II and III-Anderson, SC	March 2nd, 8:30-3:45 PM RLI-District 7750-Faculty Training-Anderson, SC	March 2nd, 9:15-2:00 PM Grant Management Seminar 2024	March 4th, 12:45-2:00 PM Clone-Monthly ZOOMformation Call with RID Jeremy, Click Here for
March 5th, 5:00-6:00 PM Zone 33 Innovative Club Advocate Meeting	March 7th, 5:30-6:30 PM CART Executive Committee Meeting	March 9th, 8:15-3:15 PM RLI-District 7730-Parts I, II, III - Jacksonville NC	March 11th, 5:45-6:45 PM Zones 33-34 Membership Action Plan Webinar >>>JOIN NOW
March 12th, 2:30-3:30 PM DACdb U-NO DACdb University - See you in April!	March 14th, 5:30-6:30 PM CART Conversations - Monthly Info Meeting	March 15th, 8:00 Carolinas PETS 2024	March 16th, 8:45-3:45 PM RLI - District 7600- Parts I and III - Virginia Beach, VA
March 16th, 10:00-10:45 AM DACdb U-No DACdb U - See you in April!	March 18th, 5:00-6:00 PM Zone 33 District Membership Chair/DG Line Call	March 19th, 12:00-1:00 PM Lunch A La CART with Dr. Claudio Soto	March 21st, 8:30-3:30 PM RLI-District 7770-Parts I, II, III - Charleston, SC
March 27th, 5:30-6:30 PM PE Training on how to input Goals into Rotary Club Central	March 30th, 8:30-3:45 PM RLI - District 7610- Parts I, II and III - Warrenton, VA	March 30th, 9:00-10:00 AM PE Training on how to input Goals into Rotary Club Central	

Club Anniversaries

[Asheville-South](#)
March 17th
[Lincolnton-Sunrise](#)
March 22nd

[Catawba Valley \(Conover\)](#)
March 17th
[Cashiers Valley](#)
March 31st

Account Leaders



[Sean Gibson](#)
District Governor



[Connie M. Molland](#)
DG-Elect



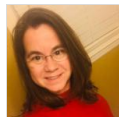
[Alex R. Portelli](#)
DG-Nominee



[Patrick Anthony Longano](#)
District Membership Chair



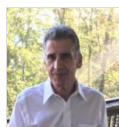
[Gary D. Dills](#)
District Rotary Foundation Chair



[Julie P. West](#)
District Public Image/PR Chair



[George Michael Vavrek](#)
Strategic Planning Chair



[Michael Lanzilotta](#)
Club Diversity Equity and Inclusion Chair



[Paige Carroll Scott](#)
District Governor - Nom. Desig.



[Paul Garner](#)
District Secretary



[Michael Stevenson](#)
Youth Services Chair



[John F. Baumrucker](#)
International Services Chair



[Tiffany Ervin](#)
District Conference Chair



[James A. Cruickshank](#)
District Finance Chair



[James O. Perry](#)
District Treasurer



[Billi J. Black](#)
DCO-District Comm. Officer

