



### **Birthdays**

Greg Dills  
September 18th

### **Wedding Anniversaries**

Kenneth Pruitt III  
September 20th

### **Years of Service**

Donna Colvin Lockett  
09-17-2009  
15 Years

Patricia Lane Black  
09-17-2009  
15 Years

Mark Alan Lamphiear  
09-20-2018  
6 Years

James Harris McConnell  
09-20-2018  
6 Years

Luke Upchurch  
09-20-2018  
6 Years

### **Club Leaders**



Luke Upchurch  
President



Sharon Jenkins  
Padgett  
President-Elect  
Club Service Chair



Patrick Larkin  
Secretary



Pamela Peacock  
Overcash  
Secretary-Elect



Robin McDonald  
Loupus  
Club Director  
Treasurer



D. Scott  
Scarborough  
Assistant Treasurer



Scott Thomas  
Attaway  
Club Director



Martha Adams Burris  
Club Director



Charles Calloway  
Elliott  
Club Director

### **President's Message**

Monday, September 16, 2024



Greetings Gastonia Rotary Club,

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who stepped up to the plate (pun intended!) and volunteered for the First Responder Luncheon. Your dedication and support truly made a difference.

In addition to our service opportunities, our social gatherings are a fantastic way to connect and get to know one another better. The recent Pop-Up Social at Keepsake Brewery was a huge success, and it's exciting to see that the Gastonia-East Rotary Club is joining in on the fun!

Thank you all for your continued commitment and participation. It's your involvement that makes our club meaningful and engaging!

YIRS,  
Luke

### **This Week's Program - September 19: Public Safety Panel Discussion**

#### **This Week's Program - September 19: Public Safety Panel Discussion**

This week, President Luke will host a Public Safety Panel Discussion to learn about fire services and emergency dispatch (911).

The meeting begins at 12:40pm and is offered in-person and by Zoom.

**If you are attending in-person, join us at noon for the lunch service.**

**The Zoom link will open at 12:15pm.**

**You can join the meeting here:**

**[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85921621955?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85921621955?pwd=SUJpSGpWUUnQyOHp6VTJzcUJBOUYvdz09)**  
**[pwd=SUJpSGpWUUnQyOHp6VTJzcUJBOUYvdz09](#)**

Meeting ID: 859 2162 1955  
Passcode: 522413



Sharon Heinrich  
Public  
Relations/Image  
Chair

## This Week's Birthdays: September 16 - September 22



Nancy Anne Kune  
Club Director  
Membership Chair



Andrew Charles  
Pierce  
President-Nominee  
Bulletin Editor



Daniel Alexander  
Poole  
Club Director



James Copeland  
Smith  
Club Director



Phillip Bryson Welch  
Jr.  
Club Director



Laura Fellows  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Karen Walker  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair



Steven D. Long  
Club Learning  
Facilitator



Donald Benton  
Parrott  
Club Director



Les Davis  
iPast President

*Greg Dills - September 18*



[Read More](#)

**This Week's Years of Service Anniversaries: September 16 - September 22**



*Patti Black - September 17 (15 Years)*  
*Donna Lockett - September 17 (15 Years)*  
*Mark Lamphiear - September 20 (6 Years)*  
*Jamie McConnell - September 20 (6 Years)*  
*Luke Upchurch - September 20 (6 Years)*



[Read More](#)

## Next Week's Program - September 26: Gaston County Boy Scout Anniversary

### Next Week's Program - September 26: Gaston County Boy Scout Anniversary

Our own Mark Skillestad will discuss a big anniversary for Boy Scouts in Gaston County.



The meeting begins at 12:40pm and is offered in-person and by Zoom.

**If you are attending in-person, join us at noon for the lunch service.**

**The Zoom link will open at 12:15pm.**

**You can join the meeting here:**

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85921621955?pwd=SUJpSGpWUnQyOHp6VTJzcUJBOUYvdz09>**

Meeting ID: 859 2162 1955  
Passcode: 522413

## Service Project Opportunity - Bountiful Blessings Food Pantry

### Service Project Opportunity - Bountiful Blessings Food Pantry



The Service Projects Committee is happy to announce a wonderful new service project opportunity! Last year, our club had the pleasure of inviting Dr. Rodney B. Freeman to talk about the amazing work that he and his congregation, along with an army of community volunteers, do through the Bountiful Blessings Food Pantry. Anyone in need of a meal can stop by each Thursday, no ID required. Dr. Freeman has built an incredible ministry that serves so many people in Gaston County in need. The Rotary Club of Gastonia is committed to volunteering the first Thursday of every other month through the spring to support Dr. Freeman's mission. The dates are:

September 26th  
October 24th  
November 21st  
December 26th

To sign up visit the link below: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080944A8A923A0F58-50552545-bountiful#/>

All volunteers arrive around 7:30 a.m. After a prayer, Dr. Freeman's team will assign volunteer positions. They usually finish around 10:30. a.m. The project takes place at Dr. Freeman's church, Mt. Zion Restoration Church. For parking, it is best to park in the lot at the front of the church, located at:

2310 Crescent Lane  
Gastonia, NC 28052

Contact Information: 704-864-8616 or [bbfoodpantry@yahoo.com](mailto:bbfoodpantry@yahoo.com)

## Service Project Opportunity - Rotary Garden Harvesting

### Service Project Opportunity - Rotary Garden Harvesting

The Rotary Club of Gastonia, as one of the leading sponsors and supporters of the Rotary Garden, is excited to offer a service project opportunity to members of our club! For the following dates listed below, help is needed to harvest the bounty from the Garden. More details about specific times are coming soon!

September 24th  
September 26th  
October 29th  
October 31st

## 2024 District 7680 Rotary Foundation Celebration

### 2024 District 7680 Rotary Foundation Celebration

This year, the Conference Center is hosting the Annual District 7680 Rotary Foundation Celebration! This is a huge honor for the Gastonia Rotary Clubs, and an even bigger honor considering that we will be hosting Rotary International President Stephanie A. Urchick! See the three graphics below for the formal invitation, the link to register (also you can click [HERE](#)), and the form for those interested in sponsoring the event.



## 2024 District 7680 Foundation Celebration

Featuring Rotary International President

**STEPHANIE URCHICK**



November 8, 2024 --- 6:00- 9:00 pm

Gastonia Conference Center

245 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Way Gastonia, NC

Join us for an exciting evening celebrating The Rotary Foundation and its work in our District and the world. Featured guest speaker is 2024-25 Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick! Register now as seating is limited. **DEADLINE 10/21/2024**

Tickets are \$75.00 / Sponsorships are available.

Free parking

Attire: Cocktail / Dressy

Chicken, Beef, or Vegetarian/Gluten Free entrees



## Rotary District 7680 Foundation Celebration

Friday November 08, 2024

**\*Scan me to register  
for this Event**

FOR THIS EVENT



Alternative method - Enter this address in your mobile browser:

<https://Registrations.DACdb.com/Register/index.cfm?EventID=77781204&NoCaptcha>



**DISTRICT 7680**  
**2024 FOUNDATION CELEBRATION**  
**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**



Celebrate the work of The Rotary Foundation and the Rotarians who generously donate.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8**  
**GASTONIA CONFERENCE CENTER, 145 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING WAY, GASTONIA, NC**



We are excited to welcome Rotary International President, Stephanie Urchick as keynote speaker.

A packed house of 300 Rotarians and their guests is expected.  
Event tickets: \$75 each. Tables of 8.

● **Bronze - \$250**

- Recognition in the 2024 Foundation Celebration event program
- Recognition on the event screen
- Includes **TWO** event tickets
- Recognition in the District Newsletter

● **Silver - \$500**

- Larger recognition in the 2024 Foundation Celebration event program
- Recognition on the event screen
- Recognition in the District Newsletter
- Includes **FOUR** event tickets
- Mention from the stage

● **Gold - \$1,000**

- Prominent recognition in the 2024 Foundation Celebration event program
- Recognition on the event screen
- Recognition in the District Newsletter
- Includes **EIGHT** event tickets
- Mention from the stage

● **Platinum - \$1,500**

- Highest recognition in the 2024 Foundation Celebration event program
- Recognition on the event screen as the event begins
- Recognition in the District Newsletter
- Includes **EIGHT** event tickets
- Mention from the stage, signage at the main event
- **Table** in main reception lobby **PLUS:** Swag bag product placement opportunities

Contact Foundation Celebration Sponsorship Chair, PDG Mike Walker at [mwalker@stephens.com](mailto:mwalker@stephens.com) or 704-589-2754 for more information on sponsoring this important event. If you are unable to attend, please let us know and we will be happy to donate your tickets on your behalf.

Suggestions on making the most of your sponsorship welcomed!





## Rotary District 7680 Catawba River Sweep Initiative

### Rotary District 7680: Catawba River Sweep Initiative

On Saturday, October 5th, our district is participating in the Catawba River Sweep Initiative. This cleanup effort will take place at several locations. If you are interested in helping, follow the link below, and please select the site you would like to volunteer. Also, please feel free to bring family members, 12 years and older, as well!

[Sign Up Link!](#)



The closest location is

Kevin Loftin Riverfront Park  
1400 E Catawba St.  
Belmont, NC 28012

## Events

September 19th

**Gastonia Weekly Club Meeting: Public Safety Panel Discussion**