



## Birthdays

Worth McLendel Helms III  
December 2nd  
James Houston Barnes Jr.  
December 5th

## Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries  
Found

## Years of Service

Brian E Wysong  
12-07-2023  
1 Year

## 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](#)

## President's Message - December 2, 2024

Monday, December 2, 2024



Greetings!

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who participated in the food distribution event at H.H. Beam last week. The overwhelming turnout not only underscored the food challenges faced by many in our community but also temporarily brought traffic to a standstill on 321—a testament to the impact of our efforts. I hope to continue this momentum through the holiday season with Operation Christmas.

I'm deeply thankful and incredibly proud of our Club's unwavering commitment to service. Not that anyone's keeping track (??), but I'm thrilled to share that our Club currently leads the district in recorded service hours for projects—a true reflection of your dedication.

I look forward to seeing all of you this Thursday!

YIRS,

Luke

## This Week's Program - December 5th: Teraseta Ellerbe - North Carolina Department of Insurance

### This Week's Program - December 5th: Teraseta Ellerbe - North Carolina Department of Insurance

Join us this week, as we welcome Teraseta Ellerbe, our Regional Director for the North Carolina Department of Insurance, to discuss the department and what they do for our state's citizens.



Elliott  
Club Director



Sharon Heinrich  
Public Relations/Image Chair



Nancy Anne Kuney  
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



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=SUJpSGpWUnQyOHp6VTJzclIBOUYvdz09>**

Meeting ID: 859 2162 1955  
Passcode: 522413

## This Week's Birthdays: December 2 - December 8



*Trey Helms - December 2nd*  
*Jay Barnes - December 5th*



[Read More](#)

## This Week's Years of Service Anniversaries: December 2 - December 8

**Rotary**  **Thank you for your Rotary Service!**

*Brian Wysong - December 7 (1 Year)*



[Read More](#)

## Next Week's Program - December 12th: Scott Fowler - Update on Charlotte Sports

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Our friend Scott Fowler joins us again, this time giving us his annual update of sports in the Charlotte Area.



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.**

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**You can join the meeting here:**

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## Operation Christmas at H.H. Beam: Calendar of Events and Sign Up Sheets

### Operation Christmas at H.H. Beam: Calendar of Events and Sign Up Sheets

For those unable to attend the events but want to help out, you can donate to the cause! Visit the link below to donate today or scan the QR Code: [Donate to Operation Christmas!](#)



Stay tuned for the upcoming dates to assist with Operation Christmas:

**Tuesday, December 10, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** - Wrapping party for Operation Christmas - please volunteer and assist with wrapping presents. This will be at the United Way Building on Franklin. Sign up here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1w1G-szmXKegmpH8na03wMT72BQLaSrKCy2P8QNAOKrk/edit?usp=sharing>

**Thursday, December 12, 2024 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** - Bag stuffing for all HH Beam Elementary children after our regular Thursday Meeting! Sign up here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1hMdblt3fcv354dAvAoCNbKy2NUepx17FzMA7yGg3gsg/edit?usp=sharing>

**Saturday, December 14, 2024** - Operation Christmas Event @ HH Beam Elementary school. Event set up begins at **9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** The families start arriving at 11:30 a.m.

There are two options for volunteers:

1) Help with event setup:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NIJlsmkPOZOxe5BKNOr8Jkbn2fPpnCLALgixV8yrEY/edit?usp=sharing>

2) Help with the hot dog lunch:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/15Wv77zS2GRIleXvcuD9bj2pRyZkigTjmInOmQyfgSTk/edit?usp=sharing>

For each of these, just add your name to the spreadsheet if you would like to volunteer!

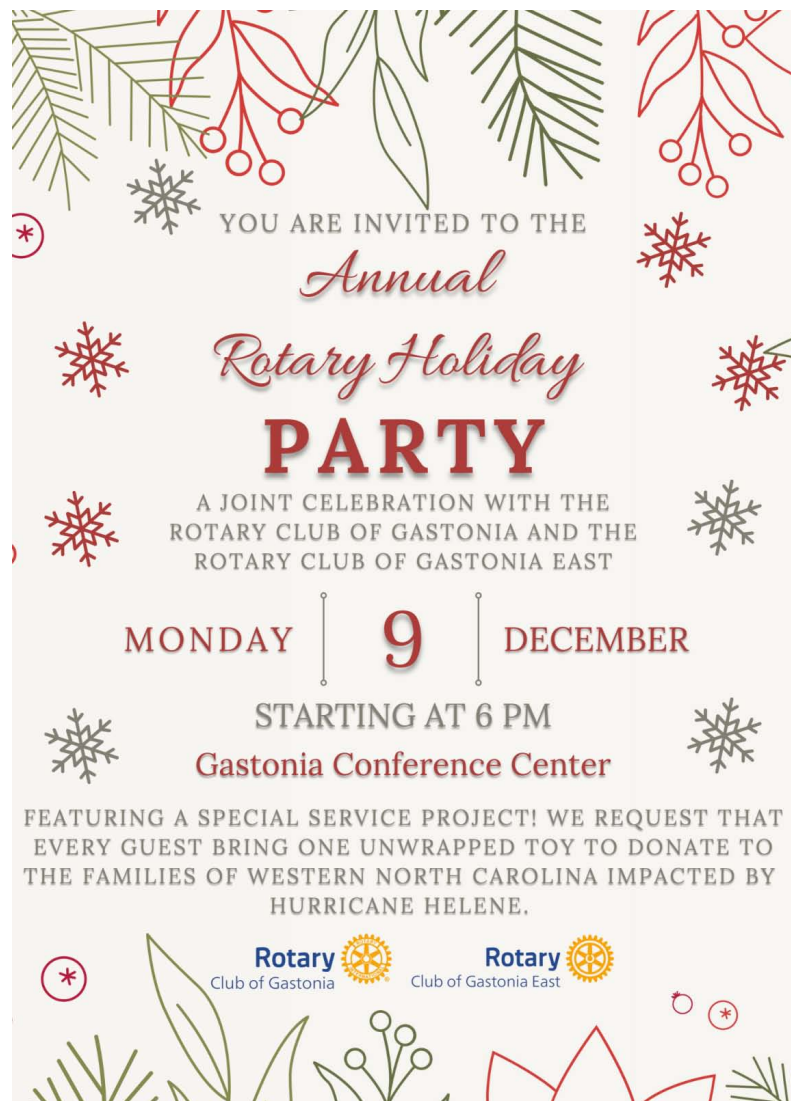


## Rotary Christmas Social with Gastonia East

### Rotary Holiday Social with Gastonia East

This year, for our holiday social, we are shaking things up! We will be having a dual social with our friends at Gastonia East on the evening of Monday, December 9th, at the Gastonia Conference Center.

\*\*\*ALL ATTENDEES! - Entrance is free this year, but in exchange, we are asking that each attendee bring an unwrapped toy to donate to families in Western NC impacted by Hurricane Helene!\*\*\*



## Service Project Opportunity: Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Delivery

### Service Project Opportunity: Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Delivery

The Rotary Club of Gastonia is partnering again with our friends from Sleep in Heavenly Peace to deliver 20 beds to kids in Gaston County! If you are interested, see the date below.

Saturday, December 7th, 8:00 am - 12:00pm

Contact Jim Morris (704-862-8633) for more details



## Service Project Opportunity - Reading Soul Mates at H.H. Beam Elementary



The Gaston Literacy Council is looking for volunteers to tutor second grade students at HH Beam Elementary School for one-half to one hour each week during the school year. If you have the time to help students on their journey towards literacy, please consider becoming a Reading Soul Mate. Your efforts will make a big difference in the life of a child and prove to be a rewarding and meaningful experience for both student and volunteer.

If you are interested in joining the program, email Sharon Padgett at [spadgett@gastonymca.org](mailto:spadgett@gastonymca.org)



"Reading should not be presented to children as a chore or duty. It should be offered to them as a precious gift."  
-Kate DiCamillo

## 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:

November 21st  
December 26th

To sign up visit the link below: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080944A8A923A0F58-50552545-bountiful#/#/](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)

## Events

December 5th

**Gastonia Weekly Club Meeting: Dept. of Insurance**

December 12th

**Gastonia Weekly Club Meeting: Scott Fowler: Charlotte Sports**

December 19th

**Gastonia Weekly Club Meeting: TBA**

December 26th

