



## Birthdays

Sharon Heinrich  
December 11th  
Michael Craig Peoples  
December 13th  
Donna Colvin Lockett  
December 14th

## Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries  
Found

## Years of Service

Matt Gibbons  
12-14-2006  
18 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

## President's Message - December 9, 2024

Monday, December 9, 2024



Greetings!

### 'Tis the season of giving!

As we embrace the hustle and bustle of the holidays, let's also take time to give back through our Service Projects. I encourage each of you to lend a hand in whatever way you can over the next few weeks.

**Operation Christmas** is finally here, and we need your support! Please consider signing up to help with this Saturday's event. Additionally, we'll be gathering on **Tuesday to wrap presents** and on **Thursday (right after our meeting) to stuff treat bags for students**.

On **Thursday, December 19**, following our meeting, we'll be spreading holiday cheer by caroling to fellow Rotarians who are unable to attend our meetings regularly. It's a wonderful way to brighten their season and connect with our Rotary family. For more details or to sign up, please see **Laural Morris**.

Your participation is invaluable and will make a real difference this holiday season. I appreciate your commitment to making time during the holiday season.

YIRS,

Luke

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

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

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



Charles Calloway 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 9 - December 15



*Sharon Heinrich - December 11th*  
*Michael Peoples - December 13th*  
*Donna Lockett - December 14th*



[Read More](#)

## This Week's Years of Service Anniversaries: December 9 - December 15

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

*Matt Gibbons - December 14 (18 Years)*



[Read More](#)

## Next Week's Program - December 19th: Annual Club Meeting

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Join us for our annual club meeting as we close out 2024! We will vote on the slate of officers, and much more!



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.**

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pwd=SUJpSGpWUnQyOHp6VTJzclIBOUYvdz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85921621955?pwd=SUJpSGpWUnQyOHp6VTJzclIBOUYvdz09)

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## Club Leadership Nominations: First Reading

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Below are the Board-approved nominations from the Nominating Committee for leadership in the upcoming Rotary years.

This is the first reading.

#### **Directors, Class of 2028**

Andrea Stephens  
Henderson Wise  
Jim Morris

#### **President-Nominee 2027–2028**

Joe Ramey

#### **President-Elect (2026-2027)**

Andrew Pierce

#### **President (2025-2026)**

Sharon Padgett

# 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-szmXKeqmpH8na03wMT72BQLaSrKCy2P8QNAQKrk/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/1hMdbIt3fcv354dAvAoCNbKy2NUepx17FzMA7yGq3gsg/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/1NIJlsmSkpOZOxe5BKNOr8Jkbn2fPpnCLALgJxV8yrEY/edit?usp=sharing>

2) Help with the hot dog lunch:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/15Wv77zS2GRIleXvcuD9bj2pRyZkigTjmlnOmQyfgSTk/edit?usp=sharing>

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



## Annual Christmas Caroling

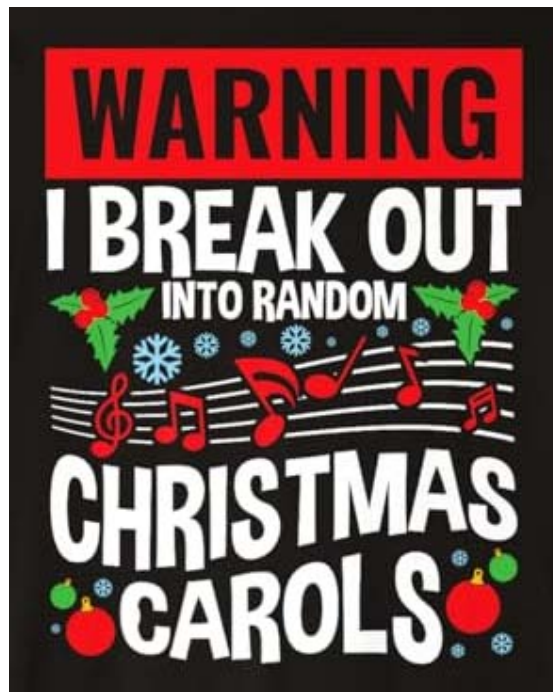
### Annual Christmas Caroling

Join us as we continue one of our favorite traditions of singing Christmas carols to some of our home-bound club members!

**Date: Thursday, December 19th**

**Time: 2:00 p.m.**

If you are interested, please contact Laurel Morris at 704-214-0264.



## Upcoming RLI Training: January 11, 2025

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Check out the graphic below for the upcoming RLI Training, all three parts! It is one of the few in-person opportunities near us that is offered, so it's a great time to take advantage of this opportunity.

Here is the registration link: [Register for 1/11/25 RLI](#)

**MARLI  
Learning  
Event  
Sponsored  
by  
District  
7680  
Parts I, II,  
and III**



Saturday, January 11, 2025  
Rowan-Cabarrus Community College  
399 Biotechnology Lane  
Kannapolis, NC 28081

Register at:  
[https://Registrations.DACdb.com/  
Register/index.cfm?  
EventID=77781961&NoCaptcha](https://Registrations.DACdb.com/Register/index.cfm?EventID=77781961&NoCaptcha)

Tuition: \$95 (Includes Lunch)  
(Courses must be completed in sequence)  
Registration Opens at 8:15am  
Classes Begin at: 9:00am - 4:00pm  
For Additional information: Lorena Prince,  
[garzalster@gmail.com](mailto:garzalster@gmail.com)  
For Assistance: Lin Kelly, [lin@linkelly.com](mailto:lin@linkelly.com)

## 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#/>

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:

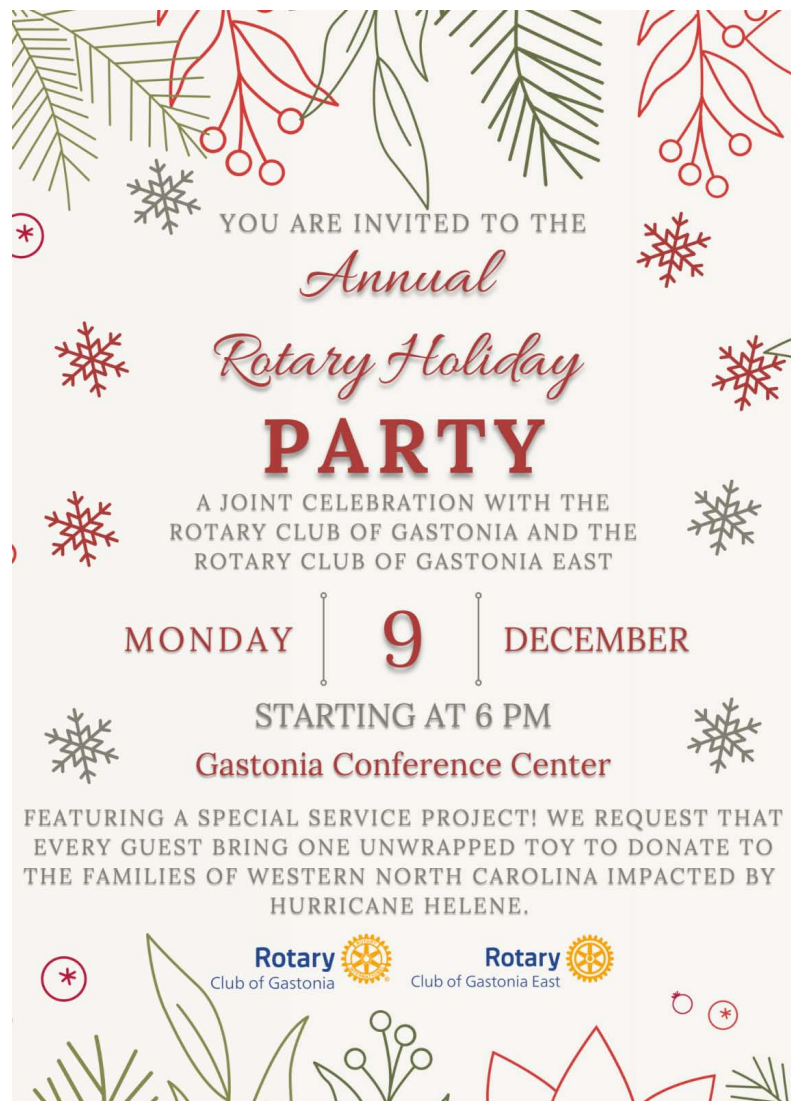
2310 Crescent Lane  
Gastonia, NC 28052

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

## Rotary Christmas Social with Gastonia East

### Rotary Holiday Social with Gastonia East

\*\*\*ALL ATTENDEES REMINDER FOR TONIGHT! - 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!\*\*\*



## Events

December 12th

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

December 19th

**Gastonia Weekly Club Meeting: TBA**

December 26th

**NO REGULAR CLUB MEETING! HOLIDAY**

January 2nd

**NO REGULAR CLUB MEETING! HOLIDAY**