



Birthdays

Mark Alan Lamphiear
September 4th

Wedding Anniversaries

Sandi McCarter
September 2nd

Years of Service

Frederick S. Cloninger
09-02-1965
59 Years

Alexandrea Pizza
09-03-2024
0 Years

Patricia Rudisill
09-03-2024
0 Years

Matthew Titchiner
09-03-2024
0 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



[Sharon Heinrich](#)
Public
Relations/Image
Chair

President's Message

Monday, September 2, 2024



Greetings Gastonia Rotary Club,

Summer has officially come to a close with Labor Day behind us. As we transition into Fall, our club and district offer a range of exciting opportunities to get involved. I encourage each of you to sign up for a fall service opportunity and to motivate one another to do the same.

This week's program will feature updates on the latest developments in our community, including new advancements in transportation and the arrival of new businesses. I'm excited to see you all there!

YIRS,
Luke



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

This Week's Program - September 5: Kristy Crisp - What's Going on in Gastonia, and What's Next?

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Kristy Ratchford Crisp is currently the Director of Economic Development for the City of Gastonia where she has been employed for 20 years. Kristy is a native of Gastonia and loves using her diverse experience in municipal government to serve her community. She is a graduate of the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill for her undergraduate degree and completed her masters at Western Kentucky University. She is also a graduate of the University of Virginia Leading, Educating and Developing Program and UNC School of Government Basic Economic Development course.

Kristy lives in Gastonia with her husband Robert, son Lucas, dog and three cats.

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

This Week's Birthdays: September 2 - September 8



Mark Lamphiear - September 4



[Read More](#)

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



Fred Cloninger - September 2 (59 Years)



[Read More](#)

Next Week's Program - September 12: Sleep in Heavenly Peace

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Next week, come here more about the Sleep in Heavenly Peace project that our club participated in earlier this year, and plans to do so in the future!



From a press release from May 1, 2024:

"Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP), a non-profit dedicated to building beds for children in need, celebrates a major milestone: their 200,000th bed delivered.

This achievement reflects the dedication of SHP's 350+ chapters, volunteers, sponsors, and donors who share the mission of ensuring "NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!"

"It is humbling to think of the thousands of volunteers, donors and sponsors who have made this accomplishment possible. I still remember the smile on the face of the little girl who received the first SHP bed—a smile that has been duplicated 200,000 times!", said Jordan Allen, executive director. "Though we have a long way to go to end child bedlessness, this accomplishment tells me it is possible."

The milestone bed, delivered by Sleep in Heavenly Peace to Buffalo, NY, provided five beds for one family. More importantly, it offered a safe and secure place for these children to sleep, promoting better physical and mental health, and fostering a sense of security and stability.

"Our Buffalo community understands the importance of a good night's sleep for children," said Jerry Sheldon, president of the NY-Buffalo chapter of SHP. "Together, through Sleep in Heavenly Peace, we're addressing child bedlessness and giving kids the foundation they need to thrive."

Every child deserves a bed of their own. Children aged 3-17 without a bed in an SHP service area are eligible. Learn more and apply at shpbeds.org/apply.

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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=SUJpSGpWUnQyOHp6VTJzcllBOUYvdz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85921621955?pwd=SUJpSGpWUnQyOHp6VTJzcllBOUYvdz09)**

Meeting ID: 859 2162 1955
Passcode: 522413

2024 First Responder Lunch with Gastonia East

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See the graphic below to mark your calendars for this year's First Responder Lunch! [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up



Pop-Up Social: September 12th - Keepsake Brewery

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Join us on Thursday, September 12th, for our next Pop-Up Social! Enjoy fun fellowship and a good drink with your fellow Rotarians.



Keepsake Brewery
211 Columbia St
Gastonia, NC 28054

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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

As part of our club's adoption of the wonderful folks at H.H. Beam Elementary, we have a new service project opportunity! See the blurb from the Gaston Literacy Council, with contact information for the contact included! More information soon.



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. For more information, please contact Annie Anthony by phone at 704-860-3179 or by email at annieanthony@carolina.rr.com. Thanks in advance for your consideration!

“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

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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

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**





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 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!



District 7680 Service Project Opportunity - Diaper Bank of North Carolina

District 7680 Service Project Opportunity - Diaper Bank of North Carolina

See the information below about an upcoming District-wide Service Project Opportunity to help the Diaper Bank of North Carolina



WRAP WITH US!
DIAPER WRAPPING, HOSTED BY ROTARY DISTRICT 7680

Join Us
September 14th, 2024
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Diaper Bank of NC - Greater Charlotte Branch
3418 Vane Ct. Unit D, Charlotte

REGISTER NOW

at link below!

Rotary District 7680 and Diaper Bank of NC invite you to join us for diaper wrapping!

Can't join us? You can still help by making a monetary donation or donating from our wish list. See links below.

All volunteers must sign our waiver at the link below!

Questions? Contact Avery@ncdiaperbank.org



- 1 in 3 families struggle to afford diapers for their children
- Many families also have adults who need the diapers, but cannot afford to purchase them
- When families hit this reality, something else has to give, like the food they would have purchased

In September we get to do something about this. We're thrilled to announce one of our district-wide service projects, and we want you to be the first to know! On **September 14th 9-11a**, Rotary is teaming up with The Diaper Bank, Harris Teeter, and Microsoft employees for an exciting wrapping party at the **Diaper Bank** in Charlotte-one of the non-profits Rotarians did service at for the District Conference in Charlotte a few years ago.

In January, with just 20 volunteers, we packed over 15,000 products, making a huge difference for families in North Carolina. This time, we have **50 spots** available, and it's first come, first served! ??

Here's how you can get involved:

- Sign up here: [Registration Link](#)
- [Waiver Needed for Diaper Bank](#)
- **Spread the word** within your Rotary Club and encourage members to sign up.
- **Invite non-Rotarians** who have a heart for the community to join us. The more, the merrier!
- [If you want to donate \\$ to the Diaper Bank](#)
- [If you want to purchase product on Amazon for the Diaper Bank](#)
- Take pictures of your event to share in future newsletters and District Meetings.

For those clubs far from Charlotte or already committed to other service partners, we encourage you to organize a local service project during the same timeframe. Let's make a difference together, no matter where we are!

Capture the Moment at your Club, In Your Community:

- Take pictures of your event to share in future newsletters and District Meetings.
- Make it a community event by inviting local businesses and individuals to join as full partners (like Microsoft and Harris Teeter above). What better way to showcase Rotary than by working side by side in service? I've heard that people below the age of 40 prioritize service. **Invite them to partner with you.**

A few hours of your time can:

- **Improve our communities**
- **Bring our core principle, Service Above Self, to life**
- **Showcase who we are by inviting others to join us in action**

Events

September 12th
Gastonia First Responder Lunch