



Rotary Club of Durham



Friday, May 2, 2025

Club Meeting

Durham
Meets at Durham Bulls Athletic Park
PNC Triangle Club -- 3rd Floor 409
Blackwell Street Durham, North
Carolina 27701
Durham Bulls Triangle PNC Club
409 Blackwell Street 3rd Floor
Durham, NC 27707
Time: Monday at 12:30 PM

Events

No Events found

Speakers

May 05, 2025

Guest Speaker: Eric Mlyn, Ph.D. & Fellow Rotarian, John Aldrich
Presentation Topic: The History of
The National Involvement In
Making Higher Education Happen
(John); and The Current Crisis
(Eric) "HISTORY OF US POLITICAL
PARTIES"

May 12, 2025

Guest Speaker: Laura Gutman
Presentation Topic: Army Bratt

May 19, 2025

Reminder: No Meeting On
5.19.2025

May 26, 2025

Reminder: No Meeting On
5.26.2025
In Observance of The Memorial
Day Holiday

Club Leaders



Robinson O. Everett Jr.
President



Sara S. Stephens
President-Elect



Susan Cranford Ross
Vice President

Robert L. Wiley III
Secretary

Weekly Rotary Meeting -- 5.5.2025 Guest Speaker Eric Mlyn & Fellow Rotarian John Aldrich

Rotary Club of Durham Weekly Meeting

Monday, 5.5.2025 -- 12:30pm -- 1:30pm

Durham Bulls PNC Triangle Club, 3rd Floor, Durham

Guest Speaker: Eric Mlyn

&

Fellow Rotarian, John Aldrich

Presentation Topic:

Higher Education: The Emergence of The Current Crisis



ERIC MLYN, PH.D.

DUKE PROFESSOR IN KENAN INSTITUTE FOR ETHICS

DUKE UNIVERSITY

KENAN DISTINGUISHED FACULTY FELLOW

LECTURER, SANFORD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

Eric Mlyn is a Distinguished Faculty Fellow at the Kenan Institute for Ethics and Lecturer at Duke's Sanford School for Public Policy. He was the founding Executive Director of DukeEngage and Assistant vice Provost for Civic Engagement. Before that, he was the founding director of the Robertson Scholars Program and served on the Political Science Faculty of UNC-Chapel Hill.

Mlyn leads a project on Democracy and the Politics of American Higher Education which gathers faculty, administrators, and members of the public to reflect on how the university should respond to ongoing threats towards democratic values and principles. He also leads the DukeEngage program Democracy at Risk, where Duke undergraduates spend a



Mark Miller
Treasurer



John Cross
Club Director



David Tulloch Durack
Club Director



Russell Haddad
Club Director



Rich Haney
Club Director



Rebecca Anne Johnson
Club Director



Cecily Kalkhof
Public Image Chair
Club Director



Matthew Patrick McDowell
Club Director



Shemecka McNeil
Club Director



Kim Shaw
Club Director



Allison O'Shea
Sergeant-at-Arms



Edward H Pikaart Jr.
Rotary Foundation Chair



Crystal Ellice Taylor
Membership Chair



Elisabeth Harper Wiener
iPast President



Newman C. Aguiar
Past District Governor



summer in Washington DC working with pro-democracy non-profits. He holds a BA in Political Science from Tufts University and PHD in Political Science from the University of Minnesota. During the fall of 2019 he was a visiting scholar at the Tisch College for Civic Life at Tufts and in 2012 was a Senior Fellow of the at the John D Gerhart Center for Philanthropy and Civic Engagement at the American University in Cairo.

AND



FELLOW ROTARIAN, JOHN ALDRICH
RETIRED POLITICAL PROFESSOR -- DUKE

JOHN H. ALDRICH. (Ph.D., Rochester, 1975), Pfizer-Pratt University Professor of Political Science Emeritus, Duke University. He specializes in American and Comparative Politics and Behavior, Formal Theory, and Methodology. He is Past-President of The Southern Political Science Association, The Midwest Political Science Association, and The American Political Science Association. He has been a Guggenheim Fellow, Rockefeller Fellow at Bellagio, Italy, and is a Fellow of The National Academy of Sciences and of The American Academy of Arts and Sciences Books. He has authored or co-authored including Why Parties, Before the Convention, The Fundamental Voter, and a Series that began in 1980 and is most recently Change and Continuity in the 2020 and 2022 Elections. <https://sites.duke.edu/aldrich/>

**Weekly Rotary Meeting -- 4.28.2025 Presentation Topic --
Transportation Panel**

Thanks To Our Panel Speakers
For Their Informative Presentation
At Our Monday Meeting On 4.28.2025
Presentation Topic: Transportation Panel
Speakers: Fellow Rotarian, Nick Tennyson
Fellow Rotarian, Doug Plachcinski
& Guest Speaker, Becca Gallas
Moderator: President Rob Everett

President Rob Welcomes Rotarians & Guests



Piano Prelude: Andy Esser



Invocation & Pledge: Led By: Ellen Cassilly



***Today's Presentation -- A Panel Transportation Discussion
Led By: Becca Gallas, Doug Plachcinski & Nick Tennyson***



***New Member Inductions
Led By: Andrew Borrensen***



Welcome New Member -- RYAN GRAY!



Welcome New Member -- ROBERT BIRNBACH!

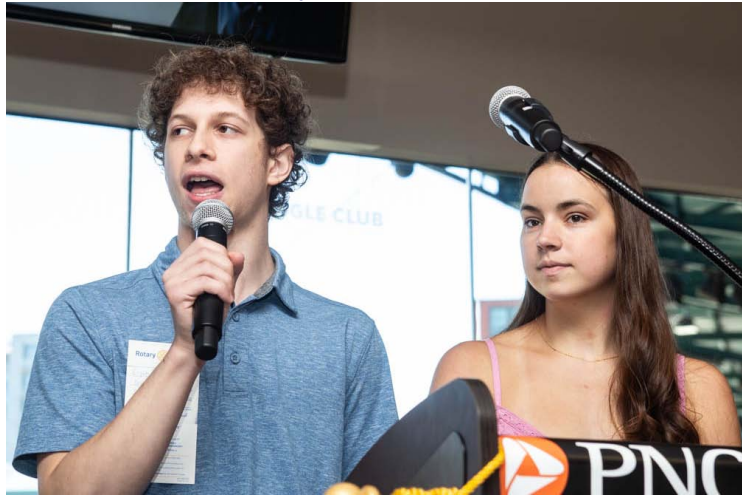


***Durham Rotary Welcomes Our Newest Club Members
Pictured Below From Left To Right:
Membership Team Member, Andrew Borrensens;
New Member Ryan Gray, Sponsored By: President Rob
New Member, Robert Birnbach, Co-Sponsored By:
President Rob & Jane Frances Brown***



***We Were Honored To Have
A Few Special Guests Join Us At Our Monday Meeting!
INTERACT STUDENTS FROM
RIVERSIDE HIGH SCHOOL***

***Pictured Below:
Co-Presidents, Elijah Foster & Kate Bakelaar***



***William Guzmán, Assistant Vice-Chancellor
International Programs & Community Engagement***



FLAGS FOR HEROES GOAL-- ALMOST THERE!

2025 FUNDRAISING - FLAGS FOR HEROES

**CLUB GOAL \$32,500
ACTUAL \$29,500**

20000



15000

\$3,000 AWAY!

10000

5000



RIVERSIDE INTERACT

*Co-Presidents, Elijah Foster & Kate Bakelaar
Receiving The Rotary International Club Excellence Award
From District Governor Jeff Blass*



*DG Jeff Blass, President Rob Everett, President-Elect Sara Stephens,
Interact Advisor Daniel Kempt and &PDG Newman Aguiar
And Graduating Seniors From The Riverside High School Interact Club
Wearing Their Interact Senior Graduating Sashes*



President-Elect Sara Stephens



Fellow Rotarian, Shemecka McNeil, Shares DR Trip Photos

DR TRIP PHOTOS FROM FELLOW ROTARIAN SHEMECKA MCNEIL

Santiago, Dominican Republic March 21st-29th 2025

They say it takes a village...but we brought 36! In just one week, our mighty Rotary crew built *four new homes* for some incredible families in Santiago, Dominican Republic. These weren't just houses; they were fresh starts filled with hope, gratitude, and even a few surprise household items we left behind to help them settle in.

We were welcomed by the most wonderful host families who made sure we were well-fed, well-rested, and just a little bit spoiled. Our week wasn't *all* nails and tool belts, we also got to visit CISAMA School (a long-time club partner), and those kids threw us a farewell party that could've made Beyoncé jealous!

Whether it was cutting boards or mixing on the dance floor at the Sweet 15-themed send-off, this trip was the perfect example of *service above self*. It wasn't just about what we built, it was about the bonds, the belly laughs, and the belief that together, we can make a difference.







JOIN THE GREEN TEAM!

JOIN THE GREEN TEAM!!



Join the Green Team at one or every second-Saturday (10 am to noon) work day at The Museum of Life and Science! We will remove invasive plant species and work under the direction of Museum Staff to expand its pollinator garden and MORE!

Sign up [here](#).

KIWANIS PROJECT KICKOFF

KIWANIS PROJECT KICKOFF!



Rotary District 7710 and Kiwanis 12 is excited to sponsor a very unique service opportunity, joining the global movement to end hunger with Rise Against Hunger. Join us in packaging over 10,000 meals to support nutrition, education and health for children and families facing hunger right now around the world. Register on the page below for this fun, high-impact event and consider a donation towards our event goal!

On May 10, we're teaming up for a Rise Against Hunger meal-packing challenge at their Raleigh facility.

- * Needed: 50 volunteers
- * Goal: 10,000 meals
- * Commitment: 2 hours



Let's see who brings the most hands, the most energy, and the most funds to fuel the fight against food insecurity!

Please share this information with your club members. The link for registration is below. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

<http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/Rotary7710>

Happy Rotary-ing!

Debra

Debra DeCamillis
District 7710 Community Engagement Chair
919-417-0660

BOOKS ON BREAK



Books on Break is Back!

Join us from May 12th to May 14th at YE Smith for a special event that brings the magic of books to kids in our community! Help them pick out the perfect summer reads and fuel their imaginations all season long.

Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A48A4AE2BA13-56014913-books#/>

If you're planning to volunteer, don't forget to complete the DPS Background Check – let's make sure every page turned is safe! https://ec.samaritan.com/custom/1343/volunteer_registration

If you have any questions, please contact Sasha Zarzour, executive_director@caringhouse.org

Do You Know Someone Interested In Joining Our Durham Rotary Club?

By Sharon Kay Lassiter on Tuesday, November 26, 2024



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE INTERESTED
IN JOINING DURHAM ROTARY?



Contact Sharon at slassiter38@nc.rr.com

OR

919.868.0212

Contact Sharon For A Copy Of
The Club's Membership Application
[Or pick up an Application at a Monday Meeting]

Durham Rotary Club -- SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES

By Sharon Kay Lassiter on Tuesday, November 26, 2024



SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES





Durhamrotaryclub.org



Durham Rotary Club



Durham Rotary Club



Downtowndurhamrotary



@durhamrotary

Weekly Rotary Meeting -- 5.12.2025 Guest Speaker Laura Thurston Gutman

Rotary Club of Durham

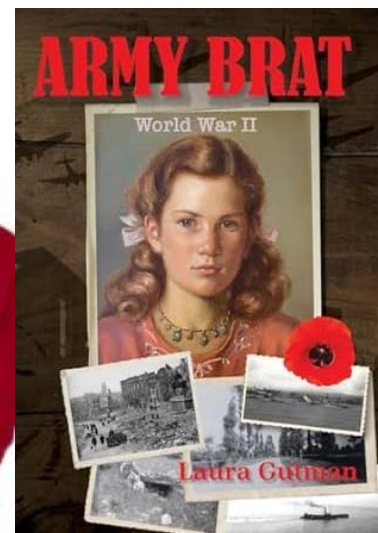
Weekly Rotary Meeting

Monday, 5.12.2025 --- 12:30pm -- 1:30pm

Durham Bulls PNC Triangle Club, 3rd Floor, Durham, North Carolina

Guest Speaker: Laura Thurston Gutman

Presentation Topic: Army Brat



Author Laura Thurston Gutman lived deeply embedded within the US Armed Forces from before the United States' earliest entry into World War II through the Vietnam era. Chronicling pivotal events during those years, this historical autobiography describes a life inextricably intertwined with the military. From her birth at West Point's hospital, to her cobbled-together education, and witnessing her father's many military honors, Laura's childhood was one of intense awareness of the danger her father faced and the courage her mother displayed. As she grew older, she lurked in the background during long evenings of intense discussions of policy. Through the constant upheaval and disruption so familiar to military families, Laura developed a radical independence, a determination to gain control over her life, and a fearless approach to her own education.

Chronicling the experiences of a strong military family as they witness and participate in the unfolding of history in a dangerous and challenging world, *Army Brat* identifies consequential insights into the critical importance of a strong religious foundation; an educational system dedicated to core concepts of nation and loyalty; and leadership that prioritizes sovereignty, national defense, and military support.

Laura Thurston Gutman is a retired pediatrician now living in Durham North Carolina. She lived her childhood as an Army Brat from birth and saw the onset of World War II. Her family remained at the core of the US Army through the Vietnam era and was often stationed in postings that included events of deep historical consequence.

She is happily married, also to a physician, and has two daughters with whom she is on close terms. Both daughters emerged into adulthood having escaped the calamities that now so common waylay the young. She looks back at her early life as an Army Brat with intense gratitude.

REMINDER -- No Meeting 5.19.2025 -- FLAG RAISING EVENT ON 5.18.2025 INSTEAD

REMINDER

NO REGULAR MONDAY MEETING ON 5.19.2025

FLAG RAISING ON 5.18.2025 INSTEAD!

REMINDER -- No Meeting 5.26.2025 In Observance of The Memorial Day Holiday

REMINDER

NO MEETING ON MONDAY, 5.26.2025
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

HAPPY

Memorial
Day

Birthdays



[Sherry DeVries](#)
May 3rd



[L. L. Hank Hankla](#)
May 4th



[Darlene Fiscus](#)
May 6th



[Karrie Dixon](#)
May 6th



[Kimberly Martin Rehberg](#)
May 10th



[John H. Taylor](#)
May 11th



[Robert T. Cadwallader Jr.](#)
May 14th



[Mark Simpson](#)
May 17th

[Forrest Perry](#)
May 19th



[Keygan Mayfield](#)
May 20th

[Jeremiah O'Keeffe](#)
May 21st

[Willis P. Whichard](#)
May 24th



Christopher Hyland
May 27th



Tabitha Blackwell
June 1st



William M. LeFevre
June 1st

