



THE QUACKER

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of the Reedy River Greenville

January 12, 2025

Events

January 14th
[The Reedy River Greenville Weekly Club Meeting](#)

January 28th
[The Reedy River Greenville Weekly Club Meeting at Kouzina](#)

February 7th
[A Night To Shine](#)

February 8th
[The Reedy River Greenville: Adopt-A-Road trash pickup](#)

Years of Service

No Years of Service Found

Birthdays

Elizabeth Foster Clarke
January 31st

Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

Club Meeting Location



Socializing begins at 6:00pm with the meeting at 6:30pm

Club Meetings are held at Holly Tree Country Club in Simpsonville. Come join us at 6:00pm for socializing, followed by the meeting at 6:30pm. The address is 500 Golf Club Drive, Simpsonville, SC. **Some GPS apps do**

not map correctly if you select "Holly Tree Country Club." Be sure to use the address to get to the correct location.

The Value of Literature - Rev. Dr. Michelle McLendon

Rev. Dr. Michelle McLendon lives in Greenville, SC, and has since 1990. She served First Baptist Greenville between 1990 and 2013 as Minister of Christian Education. She commuted to Providence Baptist in Hendersonville, NC, as Associate Pastor between 2014 and 2017, as well as serving as Associate Pastor of Greenville Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in 2014-2015.

After leaving Providence in 2017, she transitioned to what she calls a pre-retirement job with United Ministries—a local non-profit that has as its mission to be “a direct services organization that serves individuals and families experiencing scarcity by providing basic needs for stability and supportive services to achieve self-sufficiency” and whose vision is “a Greenville Community working together to ensure that everyone has access to the resources and the opportunities to thrive.” United Ministries affords her the opportunity to connect people of all ages, ethnicities, gender identities, and socio-economic realities to needed services that focus on emergency assistance, housing stability, and economic mobility.

Her part-time role at United Ministries allows time for things she loves: teaching, activism, and serving as spiritual mentor and coach for people who are seeking to discover and invest their gifts, to grow in relationship to God and the world, or who are facing life transitions and changes.

She’s an avid reader, drives too fast, always has plans to exercise more, enjoys travel, and loves being with her family: husband (Rod), and adult children (Madison and Bryce). She cares for her aging father, R.B, as well.



Meeting Program/Speaker

By Ann H. Golden

This schedule is subject to change. Please check each newsletter for the most current information.
1-14-25 - Regular Meeting - *The Value of Literature*, Dr. Michelle McLendon, UM GED program
1-28-25 - at Kouzina - *Companion Clubs*, Eric Krichbaum, Club Member, ADG, and DG-Elect
2-11-25 - Club Assembly - *The Rotary Foundation*, Bobby Brown, Club Foundation Chair
3-11-25 - Regular Meeting - *Lake Jocassee Tours*, Tony and Cam McDade

This month is . . .

Vocational Service Month

Rotarians work to:

- Connect our professions and our professional networks with our Club's activities
 - Use our expertise to address community problems and help others discover new vocational opportunities and interests
 - Promote Rotary's commitment to integrity in our professional and personal lives
 - Recognize and advance the worthiness of all professions
-

Sponsorship Deadline is Jan 15



And here it is, the week that sponsorships are due. Many thanks to those who have brought in sponsors, especially the new sponsors for the 21st Annual Reedy River Duck Derby. Have you brought in a sponsor or finished following up with the organizations you have worked with in previous years?

Ann Golden, Sponsorship Chair for the Duck Derby, sent an email this past week asking for everyone to finish up this important task that funds the Derby.

Have someone/some company ready to sponsor? Send them to our [ReedyRiverDuckDerby](#) website where a paper version (fill out and turn in) and a GoogleForm version exist. Better

yet, if you're not familiar with the Duck Derby website, head on over there yourself and click around, see what's going on.

Duck Adoptions Start at the Home & Garden Show



EVERY MEMBER IS NEEDED FOR A SHIFT

A sign-up sheet for the February 21-23 Home & Garden Show at the Greenville Convention Center will be circulated at the next meeting. Please sign up for one or more of the available shifts.

We are kicking off our 21st Annual Reedy River Duck Derby duck adoptions at the Home & Garden Show.

What do you do? You support a Duck Adoption Team (like Gail and Anastasia from STRIDES Tutoring shown in picture) and help with cash and credit/debit card sales. You help answer questions about duck adoptions (experienced DATs need less support than newbie DATs), sell souvenirs, talk about the charities supported by the Reedy River Duck Derby (use this [document](#) to get a start on groups we supported from the 2023 Duck Derby), talk about Rotary and what our Club does, as well as Rotary in our area and around the globe.

If you miss the January 14th meeting, please email megcoffey@yahoo.com to sign up for a shift. *Every member is expected to support the Duck Derby with a shift at the Home & Garden Show.* Meg is the contact person for all things Duck Adoption Teams (DATs) with regard to the Duck Derby, so feel free to reach out with any questions.

CYS Provides Free Christmas Concert with Duck Derby Proceeds

Our Club had the pleasure of handing out programs and then listening to the talented Carolina Youth Symphony Christmas concert on December 8, 2024. Three different orchestral groups performed fantastic music as a great way to kick off the holiday season.



District Grants Spread Rotary Support

Reprinted from the District 7750 January 2025 Newsletter

Individual Rotary Clubs make a difference in their communities, and here is how some Rotary Clubs are using their District Grants to make a difference in their local communities. The number in bold print is the amount of the District Grant.

MAULDIN - Rise Against Hunger - \$3,500

The Mauldin Rotary Club will conduct a Rise Against Hunger food packing event with 50 Rotarians participating. There will be approximately 20,000 meals packed and an equal number of beneficiaries.

MAULDIN - Casa Colibra - \$1,000

The Rotary Club of Mauldin will join Eye Care Mission to purchase and dispense prescription glasses and safety glasses to the Mayan people in Guatemala. About 1,000 people will benefit from the entire project.

NEWBERRY - Therapeutic Space - \$1,875

The Newberry Club will help provide an outdoor therapy option at the local Substance Abuse Center. The outdoor therapy space will be used by clinicians and President Becky Miller made the presentation.

NEWBERRY - Third Grade Literacy - \$2,000

The Newberry Club will give a book to every 3rd grader in Newberry County and personally deliver the books and read to the students. About 500 students will benefit, and 60 Rotarians are involved.

NORTH SPARTANBURG - Teaching Garden - \$2,500

The North Spartanburg Club will install six raised beds for growing "super foods" for sharing. Patients at St. Lukes are involved and are learning about healthy diets and how to grow healthy foods when they return to their homes. About 1,700 people will potentially benefit, and 10 Rotarians are involved.

PICKENS - Dacusville Difference - \$2,500

The Pickens Club will establish a weight room at Dacusville Middle School that will be open to all students and not just athletes. This weight room will help all students who want to work on not just their physical strength but also their mental resilience. Eight Rotarians are involved, and 400 students could benefit.

PLEASANTBURG - Dress A Child - \$5,000

About 20 Pleasantburg Rotarians will work in partnership with Cherrydale Elementary School to provide clothing to 120 impoverished students.

REEDY RIVER - Brooks' Playground - \$7,000 [and \$8,000 Duck Derby proceeds for a total of \$15,000]

The Reedy River Greenville Rotary Club will support the construction of an all-inclusive playground for ages 6 months to 13+ years which will enable disabled children to play with children without

disabilities. Twenty-three Rotarians are involved and anyone in Greenville County can benefit. The county's population is 559,000.

SENECA - Pedals Possible - **\$2,500**

The Seneca Club will provide an adaptive bike for students at Seneca area schools in Oconee County. This will allow disabled students to experience the feeling of riding and get exercise. Twenty five Rotarians are involved, and the total budget is \$5,000.

SENECA - NOLA Heart - **\$2,500**

The Seneca Club will participate in NOLA Heart Screenings for students attending middle school. These screenings will be offered to all students, not just athletes. NOLA also offers heart screenings for families. These screenings will often detect hidden heart issues that can be addressed and possibly save the life of the person receiving the screening.

Service/Rotary Opportunities

Take advantage of these service, learning, or meet-up opportunities coming up. More information and the opportunity to sign up are available on [DACdb](#).

POSTPONED UNTIL 2025 - Tree Planting with Trees Upstate

2-7-25 - A Night to Shine - 5pm-9pm - More details to come, but our job is to help guests as needed. Being held First Presbyterian Church, 200 W. Washington St., Greenville, SC 29601

2-8-25 - Adopt-A-Road Clean Up - 9am-Noon - 202 Conestee Road (in front of Bosco Baby's Restaurant and Catering) - Club members will be picking up trash along Conestee Lake Road. This event will fulfill the Club's quarterly obligation to pick up trash as participants in the Greenville County Adopt-A-Road program. Wear clothes appropriate for picking up trash, bring a hat and sunscreen/bug spray if it is sunny. All other supplies will be provided.

2-22-25 - ReCraft Creative Reuse Center - 10:30am-1:30pm - 2439 Laurens Road
Help organize craft supplies and donations at the ReCraft Store. They're helping keep hobbies alive and keeping items out of the landfills! You can come for all or just part of the time. Sign up on [DACdb](#).

3-8-25 - Trees Upstate - 8:30am-1pm
Details TBA.

Remember to register for the above opportunities at [DACdb](#) and follow instructions within each volunteer opportunity that may require a second sign-up on the organizing group's website.



Library Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer at the Greenville County Public Library

The Library offers several different opportunities to volunteer. Prudence Taylor volunteers at the Friends Shop at the Hughes Library, headquarters for the library system. The shop is open Wednesday - Friday, 10 am - 3 pm. The store sells used books and some retail items, including greeting cards, puzzles, etc. All funds raised go to support programs for children, teens, and adults. The Library also holds book sales at its Five Forks Branch Library. All funds raised from the book sales go to support the library system's programs for children, teens, and adults.

Other ways to volunteer include:

- Assisting children's librarians with preparation for various programs for youngsters.

- Sorting books for book sales.
- Processing new items to be shelved for the first time.
- Looking over the shelves to make sure all items are in proper order.
- Shelving books.
- Serving in some capacity at special events, including keeping track of door counts or assisting attendees at a table.
- Helping patrons who are using public computers.

You do not have to be a member of the Friends of the Library to volunteer. The volunteer coordinator is Amy Pecht. Contact her at volunteer@greenvillelibrary.org or call 864-527-9286. A volunteer application is available online <https://www.greenvillelibrary.org/volunteer>. Be sure to let Elizabeth Clarke know if you volunteer and how many hours you contribute to an event/organization so the Club can keep track of our service.

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities



Feed & Seed - 701 Easley Bridge Road, Suite 6010, Greenville, SC - The fresh food box programs provide individuals facing food insecurity with a healthy variety of fresh produce, including items sourced from local farmers. Feed & Sees relies on the generous support of volunteers to help us pack boxes in a warehouse which will be delivered to sites in Pickens, Oconee and Abbeville counties.

What to expect on packing day: Arrive at Feed & Seed between 10:15 and 10:30 so that you have time to sign in, wash your hands, and put on hairnets and gloves. Once all volunteers have arrived, we will circle up to discuss our Fresh Food Box programs and go over food safety guidelines. We are a GMP (Good Manufacturing Practices) facility and do require all volunteers to comply with the following expectations:

- Closed-toed shoes required.
- No shorts or dresses.
- Hairnets are required. PPE will be provided.
- Beard Nets are required for the bearded folk. PPE will be provided.
- Gloves are required. PPE will be provided. Hand-washing will be required prior to putting on gloves.
- No Jewelry Allowed. (exception plain, solid bands).
- No Food or Drinks in the warehouse area.
- No Personal Bags in the warehouse area.

New volunteers must complete a waiver prior to their first volunteer experience! Click [here](#) for Feed & Seed website for more information and sign waiver. **Notify Elizabeth Clarke of your service hours for the Club's record-keeping.**

Meals on Wheels - Deliver hope, friendship, independence and more. When you get involved with Meals on Wheels, you are delivering so much more than daily nourishment. You deliver friendship to those who spend their days alone. You deliver independence, allowing people to age in their homes with dignity. You deliver hope to those often forgotten. Volunteer your time, refer someone who needs help, or make a donation. No matter how you get involved, you'll deliver more than meals. [Volunteer Application | Meals On Wheels Greenville](#). Prudence Taylor regularly volunteers with Meals on Wheels and would be a source of information if you have questions. **Notify Elizabeth Clarke of your service hours for the Club's record-keeping.**

The Children's Museum of the Upstate - [Volunteer - TCMU Upstate \(tcmupstate.org\)](#). **Notify Elizabeth Clarke of your service hours for the Club's record-keeping.**

Trees Upstate - is a nonprofit organization founded in 2005. Their mission is to **plant**, **promote**, and **protect** trees in the Upstate. They **plant** trees in parks, schools, and neighborhoods, **promote** the benefits of trees, and **protect** by providing education and technical

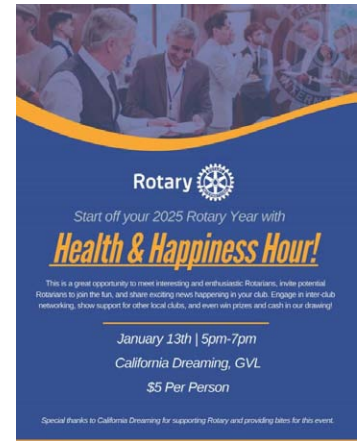
support to help inform policies and systems change. Though they are dormant in the summer months, they will have volunteer opportunities at this link: [Volunteer - Trees Upstate](#). **Notify Elizabeth Clarke of your service hours for the Club's record-keeping.**

Health & Happiness - January 13, 2025

Don't miss the January Health & Happiness event being held at California Dreaming from 5-7pm on Monday, January 13. This is a great, informal way to meet and network with a variety of Rotarians from clubs around our district.

Bring a fellow Rotarian, guest, or potential member and \$5 to get in on the 50-50 raffle. California Dreaming also chips in some nice gifts to win for food and drink at their establishment.

The 50-50 raffle will be split between the "winner" and the hosting Club's favorite charity. So, let's say that \$100 comes in to the 50-50 raffle. One lucky winner in attendance will receive a \$50 cash prize, while the hosting Club (in this case, Rotary Club of Greenville) will be able to put the other \$50 towards their Club's favorite charity. It's a win-win, for sure.



Rotary Float Wins at Rose Bowl Parade



Exciting news and congratulations are in order for Rotary. The Rotary Rose Parade Float Committee created a float titled *On the Road with Rotary* that won the Tournament Volunteer Award for the Most Outstanding Floral Presentation for a float under 35 feet in length. It speaks volumes about the creativity, dedication, and hard work of everyone involved. Well done to the entire team!

Contribute to The Quacker

The Quacker is produced using DACdb on a **computer** and texted information takes additional manipulation from phone to computer. If your phone takes high-resolution pictures (HEIC), they are not compatible with DACdb and, therefore, an additional step to convert those files to JPEG, JPG, or PNG has to take place. If you use EzStory in DACdb, please send an email stating the name of your article. If you are unable to use EzStory, submit something for *The Quacker* by **emailing** the copy and pictures in the above format to megcoffey@yahoo.com. Newsletters are put together on Sunday afternoon prior to the Tuesday meeting.

Club Mailing Address

Please use this address for all club correspondence, remitting dues (unless you pay online), and Duck Derby business.

Rotary Club of Reedy River Greenville
Box # 500
325 Rocky Slope Rd, Suite 104
Greenville, SC 29607

Club Meeting

The Reedy River Greenville
Meets at Holly Tree Country Club (2nd & 4th Tuesdays Only)
500 Golf Club Dr. Holly Tree Country Club
Simpsonville, SC 29681
Time: Tuesday at 06:30 PM

Club Leaders

[Rachel Rutkowski](#)
President

[Prudence Ann Taylor](#)
Secretary

[Alan Stewart Calloway](#)
Club Director
iPast President
Membership Chair

[Robert L Brown Jr.](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair

[Rami Elmarkiz-Sami Michael](#)
President-Elect

[Laurie M. Rapp](#)
Treasurer

[Meghan A. Coffey](#)
Club Director
RYLA Chair
Bulletin Editor

[Elizabeth Foster Clarke](#)
President-Nominee

[Mark William Bacon](#)
Charities Committee Chair

[Ann H. Golden](#)
Program Chair
Club Director