



# THE QUACKER

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of the Reedy River Greenville

July 21, 2024

## Events

July 23rd

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

**Speaker:** Dr. Robin LaCroix

August 7th

[The Reedy River Greenville: Community Service - GLA Book Sale](#)

August 8th

[The Reedy River Greenville Club Board Meeting](#)

August 13th

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

## Years of Service

Sandy Wright  
07-01-2010  
14 Years

Elizabeth Clarke  
07-11-2023  
1 Year

Kevin J. Guptill  
07-25-2023  
1 Year in RRR; 9 years in another club

Haley S Jordan  
07-25-2023  
1 Year

## Birthdays

Brian R. Miller  
July 2nd

Meg Coffey  
July 22nd

Sandy Wright  
July 30th

## Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

## We Want to See YOU!



- Basic education and literacy
- Community economic development
- Supporting the environment

For years, Ann Golden has worked tirelessly to get quality speakers on Rotary focus areas. Perhaps you're a TED-talker or YouTuber, and you enjoy getting information from a screen, but these in-person opportunities are truly beneficial for the Club. Everyone is **encouraged to attend meetings** so that we provide a robust audience seeking to learn about our community and how it fits into the Rotary mission. Rotary has seven areas of focus:

- Peace-building and conflict prevention
- Disease prevention and treatment
- Water, sanitation, and hygiene
- Maternal and child health

**At Tuesday's meeting**, where the focus is maternal and child health, Prisma Health Medical Director, Dr. Robin LeCroix, is a high-level staff member of the Prisma Health System. Some other outstanding speakers Ann has lined up for us include Greenville County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Burke Royster, that fills the basic education and literacy focus, while hosting Rotary District 7750 Membership Chair, Albert Blackman will help us grow our Club.

As is customary, on November 12, our new District Governor, Rysheeka Bush, will make her official club visit, a very important meeting to attend, if possible.

Let's all work to "fill the room" every chance we can to show the speakers that we appreciate their time and effort since they are not monetarily compensated.

## Meeting Time Change

**DON'T FORGET: MEETING TIME CHANGE** - The meeting starts at 6:30pm, with socializing beginning at 6pm. Come join us for an informal gathering prior to the meeting program.

6:30

## Club Meeting Location



**DON'T FORGET: MEETING TIME CHANGE** - 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.

**REMINDER:** Beginning January 1, 2024, Club dues no longer cover the cost of your meal at meetings. Any items ordered at Holly Tree Country Club, whether food or drink, are the responsibility of the ordering Club Member.

## Meeting Program/Speaker

By Ann H. Golden

*This schedule is subject to change. Please check each newsletter for the most current information.*

7-23-24 - Regular Meeting - Children's Health - **Dr. Robin LaCroix, Chair of Pediatrics and Medical Director of Prisma Health Children's Hospital**

8-13-24 - Regular Meeting - Duck Derby Grant Awards at Willy Taco

8-27-24 - Regular Meeting - The Magic of Membership - **Al Blackmon, District Membership Chair**

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## This month is . . .

### Maternal and Child Health

Rotary makes high-quality health care available to vulnerable mothers and children so they can live longer and grow stronger.

We expand access to quality care, so mothers and children everywhere can have the same opportunities for a healthy future. An estimated 5.9 million children under the age of five die each year because of malnutrition, inadequate health care, and poor sanitation – all of which can be prevented.

Rotary provides education, immunizations, birth kits, and mobile health clinics. Women are taught how to prevent mother-to-infant HIV transmission, how to breast-feed, and how to protect themselves and their children from disease.

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## Maternal and Child Health - Robin LaCroix, Pediatrics Chair & Medical Director, Prisma Health

Dr. Robin LaCroix earned her bachelor's degree from Clemson University and her M.D. from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. She completed her pediatric internship at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, NC, and her residency at Greenville Memorial Hospital in 1989. After 3 years in private pediatric practice, she did a fellowship in Pediatric Infectious Disease at Emory University. After fellowship she returned to work with the Greenville Pediatric residency program and established the first Pediatric Infectious disease practice in the Upstate of SC. She has been a part of medical education and training programs and established the Greenville combined Internal Medicine/Pediatric residency as co-Program director with a medicine counterpart. She was Medical Director for Pediatric Infectious Disease division and continues to be the Pediatric Hospital Epidemiologist for Prisma Health. She is currently a Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at University of South Carolina School of Medicine Greenville and is the Chair of Pediatrics and Medical Director of the Prisma Health Children's Hospital. She is the immediate past President of the Prisma Health Upstate medical staff.

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## Rachel Rutkowski Assumes Presidency



Every July means a new Club President is installed and officially brings their committee chairs and other positions on board at the first meeting in July.

Rachel was installed by Past-President Alan Calloway at our most recent meeting. Proudly displaying the final Rotary Theme flag of *The Magic of Rotary*, Rachel watched Alan step aside with the Rotary flag that symbolized his year.



## Deserving Winners!

After a year of successful work by members of the Reedy River Rotary Club it's time to honor our own.

Congratulations to Elizabeth Clarke who was named Rotarian of the Year for her stellar work in organizing and deploying the many volunteers needed at the Duck Derby, along with jumping in on service projects and bringing along family members to help.

Prudence Taylor received the Service Above Self award for her outstanding work as the Club Secretary and for attending meetings of the Club, the Board, and other associated meetings that need minutes taken. She sends greeting cards to members to recognize birthdays and anniversaries, and is devoted to being present at almost all of our Rotary service projects.

Both women are excellent examples of Rotarians. Congratulations!



## CART Update

By Laurie M. Rappl



Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust, or CART is Rotary's way of raising money for necessary research to find a cure for Alzheimer's.

*From Cara Hamilton, District CART Chair:* I want to thank the CART chairs who served so well last year and helped our district achieve the amazing results

we did! Our district raised **\$97,700** to fund Alzheimer's Research! In comparison, our district raised \$87,390 in FY22-23. **An 11.8% increase year-over-year!! Truly amazing!**

*From Laurie Rappl, Club Treasurer:* From our nickels, dimes and quarters we raised \$217.16 as our donation. As a one time bonus, Eric donated the entire \$84 proceeds from his Rotary club shirt sale to CART, making our entire contribution \$301.16 for the 2023-24 fiscal year. In comparison, our nickels/dimes/quarters from 2022-23 fiscal year sent in a total of \$217.43.

So: in terms of nickels/dimes/quarters, we beat 2022-23 by \$0.34, with fewer members and lower meeting attendance. I think **THAT is Truly Amazing!**

## 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](#).

**7-27-24 - Recycling Sorting at Altered States Music Fest** - various shifts. This opportunity ***is not*** available on DACdb because it was brought to our attention by the DAT, Make GVL Greener. Volunteers for this position will have several perks available and various shifts to choose from. Reach out directly to Sheryl at Make GVL Greener at [Sheryl@makegvlgreener.com](mailto:Sheryl@makegvlgreener.com). Available shifts include: 1:30-4:30pm, 4:30-7:30pm, 7:30-10:30pm. Depending on your shift, it may include a meal, but definitely includes air-conditioned bathrooms and access to all musical performances.

**8/7 - 8/11/24 - Really Good, Really Big, Really Cheap Book Sale** - times vary - The Greenville Literacy Association will be having their annual book sale from August 7th to the 11th. Club members may volunteer to assist with various tasks from set-up, helping on the days of the sale, and cleaning up. The sale will be at McAllister Square, 225 Pleasantburg Drive, Greenville.

You can register for the position and time you would like by going to the [Volunteer Sign-up](#) link. **Positions are filling up fast, so don't wait too long to register.** Let Eric know how many volunteer hours you complete on this project so it can be recorded in the Club's service hours.

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## 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, youâ€™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** - Spread creativity and empower children as a volunteer. [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.**

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## Health & Happiness - August 12



We want everyone to join us at Health & Happiness on Monday, August 12th, hosted by our friends and Duck Derby sponsor, BridgeWay Brewing. They are located at the newly opened BridgeWay Station off of I-385 in the Mauldin/Simsponville area near Spectrum. Health & Happiness events take place from 5pm to 7pm.

Each person attending pays \$5, entering them in a 50-50 raffle. During the gathering, tickets will be drawn, and often prizes from the host space are contributed as well. The highlight of the event is half of the collected money for the Rotarian and the other half to the host

Rotary Club's (that's us on August 12th!) charity projects.

Health & Happiness events are great ways to meet Rotarians from other Clubs and find out what other Clubs are working on. Potential members might enjoy this casual setting as a way to find out about our Club and what others are doing, so don't hesitate to bring a guest along. If you pay their \$5 50-50 fee and they win, that might be a great introduction to a potential new Rotarian. It's also a good way to drum up support for events Clubs are sponsoring or are putting on like the Reedy River Duck Derby. **Bring \$5 to join in** on this fun-filled event, and you could win some excellent prizes or half the 50-50 pot.

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## Rachel Introduces Rotary LIFE

By Rachel Rutkowski

Hello Everyone! With the start of a new Rotary year, I wanted to draw everyone's attention to our newly established "Rotary Life" meetings that will be happening during the third week of every month. In August, we will be gathering at 6pm on Wednesday, August 21, at Double Stamp Brewery located at 819 Laurens Road.



## Grant Recipients to be Awarded



Our August 13 meeting will be held at Willy Taco at 217 Laurens Road. This is our regular meeting time, so fellowship begins at 6pm, with the formal presentation of grant awards beginning at 6:30pm. ***We will be meeting in Willy Taco's private meeting room at the back of the building.*** Be sure to ask for that room when you come to the restaurant or enter the room at the back of the parking lot.

Twenty-five local organizations filled out grant applications looking for Duck Derby proceeds. Additionally, several DATs that applied for grants were able to take advantage of two charitable streams of money: Duck Adoption Team proceeds and Duck Derby grant money. Club

President Rachel took advantage of a matching District Grant to provide work and funds (\$15,000) for Brooks Playground, the city's first inclusive playground to be installed in Cleveland Park.

Obviously, it would be wonderful to award every deserving organization some money, but the Board spent a great deal of time reviewing all the applications and causes requesting funds. Come to the August 13 meeting at Willy Taco and see who the big winners are. We need you there cheering and clapping for these deserving organizations!

- Academy of the Arts (Logos Theatre)
- A Child's Haven
- Augustine Literacy Project
- Big Brothers, Big Sisters of the Upstate.
- Carolina Youth Symphony
- Compass of the Carolinas
- Girls on the Run
- Girl Up
- Habitat for Humanity
- Happy Hooves
- Harmony Rainbow Girls
- International Ballet
- Jasmine Road
- LEAD Collective
- Loaves and Fishes.
- Meals on Wheels
- Mauldin Miracle League
- Nightlight Christian Adoptions
- Project HOST
- RIZE Prevention
- Safe Harbor
- STRIDES Tutoring
- The Children's Museum of the Upstate
- Trees Upstate
- United Ministries.
- YMCA Judson Community

And remember the hard-working group of gentlemen from Next Steps Today? The volunteers that met us at the park at 5:30am, helped unload trucks, deliver items from trucks to spots in the park, helped get ducks from the finish line to the truck, and banded up all derby items until they were competed? The Grant committee awarded them an unsolicited \$1,000 to show our thanks for their outstanding manpower on Derby Day and to advance the mission of Next Steps Today.

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## Donations Still Accepted for Ed Irick's Bench



A memorial bench for founding Club Member Ed Irick has a lovely view of Reedy River Falls where the annual Reedy River Duck Derby race is held in Falls Park each year. The Club purchased the bench and dedicated it to Ed just before the 20th Derby this year. Donations are still being taken by the Club. Contact Alan Calloway for more information or make a check payable to the Club with "Ed Irick's Bench" in the memo line and turn it in to Laurie Rappl.

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## Contribute to The Quacker

If you are unable to use EzStory in DACdb, submit something for *The Quacker* by emailing the information to [megcoffey@yahoo.com](mailto:megcoffey@yahoo.com). Submissions must be received by the Wednesday prior to the next meeting.

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## 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

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## Club Meeting

The Reedy River Greenville  
Meets at Holly Tree Country Club (2nd & 4th Tuesdays Only)  
500 Golf Club Dr.  
Simpsonville, SC 29681  
Time: Not Defined at 06:30 PM

## Club Leaders

[Rachel Rutkowski](#)  
President

[Laurie M. Rapp](#)  
Treasurer

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

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

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

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

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

[Prudence Ann Taylor](#)  
Secretary

[Elizabeth Foster Clarke](#)  
Club Director  
Service Projects Chair

[Kevin J. Guphill](#)  
Club Director