



August 11, 2024

## Events

August 7th  
[The Reedy River Greenville: Community Service - GLA Book Sale](#)

August 12th  
[The Reedy River Greenville Hosts Health & Happiness at BridgeWay Brewing](#)

August 13th  
[The Reedy River Greenville Weekly Club Meeting](#)

August 17th  
[The Reedy River Greenville: Community Service - Adopt-A-Road](#)

August 21st  
[The Reedy River Greenville LIFE Membership Event](#)

August 27th  
[The Reedy River Greenville Weekly Club Meeting](#)

**Speaker:** Al Blackmon, District Membership Chair  
**Subject:** The Magic of Membership  
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## Years of Service

Robert L Brown Jr.  
08-07-2019  
5 Years  
???????

## Birthdays

Mark William Bacon  
August 4th  
Robert L Brown Jr.  
August 10th  
Cynthia Fryer  
August 16th  
???????

## Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

## 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.



## Meeting Program/Speaker

By Ann H. Golden

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

- 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
- 9-10-24 - Regular Meeting - **State of the Schools** - Dr. Burke Royster, Superintendent, Greenville County Schools

## Grant Allocation Ceremony at Willy Taco!

By Rachel Rutkowski

Our Tuesday night meeting will be held at Willy Taco (217 Laurens Rd) to celebrate and award grants to organizations with the funds raised from the 20th Annual Duck Derby.



Many of our grant winners will be in attendance. WSPA will also be there to receive the Kevin Dill Business of the Year Award and provide media coverage. During the meeting, these organizations will receive their checks for the grants, and we will be playing a trivia game - with prizes!

For dinner, there will be a taco bar. We will be located in the back of the restaurant, in a private room. I would love if ALL of our members could be in attendance for what should be a really fun and exciting meeting.

## We Want to See YOU!



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:

- Water, sanitation, and hygiene
- Maternal and child health
- Basic education and literacy
- Community economic development
- Supporting the environment
- Peace-building and conflict prevention
- Disease prevention and treatment

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.

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## This month is . . .

### Membership & Extension

It's the perfect time to be sure our Club has its membership growth and retention plan in place so that this time next year, we'll have bragging rights to a membership increase.

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## Health & Happiness - August 12

**Monday, August 12th, our Club is hosting** Health & Happiness being held by our friends and Duck Derby sponsor, BridgeWay Brewing. Please come and join us at the newly opened BridgeWay Station off of I-385 in the Mauldin/Simpsonville area near Spectrum.

Health & Happiness events take place from 5pm to 7pm. **Please come and support Rotary, our Club, and BridgeWay Brewing** as you mingle with Rotarians from other clubs in the area.

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.



## 20th Annual Duck Derby Grant Winners

By Rachel Rutkowski

The Rotary Club of the Reedy River's Duck Derby Grant Committee reviewed applications from organizations in order to distribute \$80,000 raised from the Duck Derby to non-profits in Greenville. After careful consideration, the committee allocated the funds to the following organizations:

- Augustine Literacy Program
- Carolina Youth Symphony
- Harmony Assembly #57, The Rainbow Girls
- Mauldin Miracle League
- STRIDES Tutoring
- Girls on the Run
- Girl Up
- LEAD Collective
- Jasmine Road
- Meals on Wheels
- RIZE Prevention
- Safe Harbor
- Trees Upstate
- The Nature Conservancy (matching grant)
- Greenville County Parks and Recreation - Brooks Playground (Applied for matching funds for District Grant)

Money was also allocated for other Rotary specific projects and service projects. This includes the Rotary Foundation for the Honduras Water Project, The Dictionary Project, First Steps Today (our wonderful Duck Derby workforce), and United Way's School Tools 2024.

All organizations have been notified, and these grants will be awarded to organizations on Tuesday, August 13th at a special meeting held at Willy Taco.

## Membership Social

By Rachel Rutkowski



As a part of our new "Rotary LIFE" meetings, The Rotary Club of the Reedy River Greenville will host a Membership Social at Double Stamp Brewing on August 21st (819 Laurens Rd, Greenville, SC 29607). **We are asking for ALL members to be in attendance at this membership social in order to really take advantage of this opportunity.**

WEAR YOUR ROTARY T-SHIRTS!

At this event, we will provide information to potential new members in a casual, yet focused atmosphere. Laurie and Rami worked hard to create pamphlets to distribute alongside fliers with general information about the Rotary Foundation. Alan is working on putting a few words together so we can have a consistent message to give about why to join OUR club. Please take a chance to review our types membership described on the website [here](#).

This event will be posted across social media sites to hopefully reach a bigger audience! Although, don't hold back from inviting friends, coworkers, the guy you met at the bank last week, the woman that sits in front of you at church, etc. It really is time to put in some work and grow our club!

## Backpacks Dropped Off - School Tools Success

Many thanks to Club Members Elizabeth Clarke, Alan Calloway, Prudence Taylor, and Laurie Rappl who shopped for school supplies using Duck Derby proceeds for the Club's participation in United Way's School Tools 2024. The program aims to provide as many disadvantaged students with backpacks and school supplies for the start of the school year. Spearheaded by Elizabeth Clarke, the Club delivered 15 fully stuffed elementary-aged backpacks for distribution.



According to United Way President & CEO, Meghan Barp, "Our biggest School Tools yet is in the books, and we couldn't have done it without you! Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of United Way donors, sponsors, and hundreds of volunteers, **5,000 Greenville County students received backpacks, school supplies and community resources.** The event was more than a day for new backpacks—it was a celebration of the new school year with Greenville County families and all of the possibilities our future holds. It was also a glimpse of our mission in action: Building a Greenville County where all people have access to the opportunities to achieve their full potential.



From Carolina High to Greer to Simpsonville, this community came together to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors. We saw the powerful impact of your support in the countless smiles and thank-yous from local students and their families. On behalf of all of them, we thank you. Meghan Barp, President & CEO of United Way."



## 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](#).

**8-17-24 - Adopt-A-Road - 9am to Noon** - 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. For planning purposes, the event is expected to start at 9am and end by noon. Plan to meet at the parking lot at **202 Conestee Road** (in front of Bosco Baby's Restaurant and Catering). Wear clothes appropriate for picking up trash, and bring a hat if it is sunny. All other supplies will be provided. Sign up for this service project on [DACdb](#).

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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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## 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. Rappl](#)  
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  
iPast President  
Membership Chair

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

[Prudence Ann Taylor](#)  
Secretary

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

[Kevin J. Guptill](#)  
Club Director