

THE BEAUFORT ROTARY CLUB

PO Box 395 • Beaufort, SC 29901-0395

Club Website: www.beaufortrotaryclub.org

www.facebook.com/Beaufortrotaryclub/ • www.directory-online.com/Rotary/

District Website: www.rotary7770.org • Rotary International Website: www.rotary.org

PARTNERS

**2024
GOLD**

Anonymous

Greg W. Dyson

SILVER

ABC Storage & Rental
AlphaGraphics
Robert G. Bussa
First Federal Bank
Frank E. Gibson, III

Garrett Cleaners
Hand & Tanner Financial Group
Holiday Inn & Suites
Springhill Suites by Marriott

BRONZE

Robert F. Allen
Mary Ann Capria
Charter One Realty
John McCardell, Jr.
William D. Moss, Jr.

Pender Brothers, Inc.
Schiller & Hamilton
George B. Forsythe
Long Term Care
Planning Consultants

Contact Ron Garrett at t.rongarrett@gmail.com
about partnering with the Rotary.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT Bob Allen, 252-430-9211, robertfallen@gmail.com

PAST PRESIDENT Barry R. Wilson, 704-453-9399, barry.wilson@alphagraphics.com

TREASURER Whitney McDaniel, 843-263-1902

SECRETARY Nancy Dykeman, nancy@lte-planning-consultants.com

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS Howard Heckrotte, 843-310-9467

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS Jay C. Patel, 843-252-2745

Graham Holcombe – *Club Administration* – 843-597-3200

Ethan James – *Rotary Foundation* – 843-812-0060

Ron Garrett – *Fundraising Director* – t.rongarrett@gmail.com

Peter Murphy – *Community Services* – 843-263-3234

Rosemary Hunt – *International Services* – 843-812-6470

Brenda Litchfield – *Membership* – 251-622-1930

Owen Hand – *Membership* – 843-812-6097

Jim Weiskopf – *Public Image* – 202-607-1067

Nick Hunt – *Club Programs* – 843-986-2726

Barry Wilson – *Publisher, The Wheel* – barry.wilson@alphagraphics.com

Need a Meeting Makeup?

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 12:15 pm: Sea Island Club Rotary Club

Fridays, 7:30 am: Rotary Club of the Lowcountry

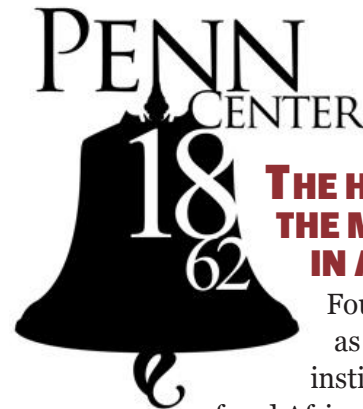
All clubs meet at Sea Island Presbyterian Church



THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

THE WHEEL

12/11/2024



**THE HISTORIC PENN CENTER IS ONE OF
THE MOST SIGNIFICANT LANDMARKS
IN AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY.**

Founded in 1862 during the Civil War, it began as the Penn School, one of the first academic institutions in the South established to educate freed African Americans. This groundbreaking initiative emerged during the Port Royal Experiment, where Union forces seized the Sea Islands, freeing thousands of enslaved people.

Quakers and abolitionists, including Laura Towne and Ellen Murray, spearheaded the school's founding, emphasizing education, vocational training, and self-reliance. The school offered a rare opportunity for newly freed African Americans to learn reading, writing, and arithmetic, along with practical skills such as carpentry and farming.

As the years passed, the Penn School evolved beyond education. By the early 20th century, as public schools for African Americans expanded, Penn shifted its focus to preserving and promoting the Gullah culture—a unique blend of African traditions and local influences preserved by the Sea Islands' isolated communities.

(continued inside)

Program Lineup Today

Dr. Robert L. Adams Jr
Executive Director of The Historic Penn Center

Club Calendar

Dec. 18: Christmas Special:
Marlena Smalls and the Halleluiah Singers

Jan. 8: Ron Tucker
President & CEO Beaufort Film Society

PLEASE NOTE: no meeting December 25 or January 1; we return January 8

TODAY'S SUPER DOOR PRIZE \$320 45 CARDS REMAINING

Congratulations to door prize winner **Barney Forsythe** for winning a gift card donated by **Robert Bussa**.

Today's door prize winner has a chance to win the SUPER DOOR PRIZE by pulling the winning playing card. If the Ace of Spades is not picked, the drawn card will be retired, and 20% of the door will be added to the pot for next week's raffle. Tickets are \$2.00 for one and \$5.00 for three. Contact Robert Bussa (312-927-5860) or Jay Patel (843-252-2745) regarding your donation.

DONORS FOR DOOR PRIZES

Dec 11 – Paul Sommerville
Dec 18 – Cris Steele
Jan 18 – Carter Swenson
Jan 15 – Jay Taylor

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP

MARK YOUR CALENDAR DEC 14 – Last names starting with A-F, and anyone with a last name! Meet at 7:30am in the parking lot of the St. Peter's Lowcountry Outreach Center, 80 Lady's Island Drive (Highway 802) across from Sea Island Presbyterian Church. If you can't make, please send a substitute. Also counts as a meeting make-up. Doughnuts and coffee provided to start the day. For more info, contact David Youmans 843-321-0508



Penn Center

(continued from front)

During the Civil Rights Movement, the Penn Center became a crucial gathering place for activists. It hosted Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and members of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, providing a safe space for strategic planning. Its isolation and historical significance made it an ideal retreat for leaders aiming to transform the nation.

Today, the Penn Center continues as a cultural and historical treasure. Its 50-acre campus includes the York W. Bailey Museum, which preserves artifacts and stories of Gullah history and the struggle for civil rights. The center remains a beacon for education, cultural preservation, and social justice.

Through its long history, the Penn Center has stood as a symbol of resilience, empowerment, and the enduring legacy of African American communities. It bridges the past and the future, ensuring that the lessons and achievements of its founders inspire generations to come.

Our club has proudly provided grants to the following organizations during the 2024/2025 club year:

South Carolina Nurse Retention Initiative
Lowcountry Legal Volunteers • Savannah Honor Flight
United Way of the Lowcountry Early Grade Reading Program
Rotary Youth Exchange: One inbound and one outbound
Military Service Members of the Year Recognition 2024

WELCOME VISITORS & GUESTS: The Rotary Club of Beaufort extends a warm welcome to all our visitors and guests. We hope to see you again in the very near future.

TODAY'S AGENDA

Lunch is Served • Call to Order • Pledge
Introduction of Visitors and Guests
Business and Announcements • Program
Club Response • Final Remarks & Drawing
Meeting Adjourned

REMEMBER MEETING ETIQUETTE
Nametags and Rotary pins on, phones off. Please refrain from holding conversations when someone is addressing the club. Thanks for exercising proper courtesy.

PURCHASE A MEAL TO GO
Because our club guarantees a specific number of meals for each meeting, we often have additional meals available to-go for \$5 each. Place your order with Robert Bussa, Ron Garrett or Jay Patel prior to the start of the meeting.

THANK YOU FROM THE SGT-AT-ARMS COMMITTEE
Howard Heckrotte, Jay Patel and Robert Bussa, would like to thank those Rotarians who come early to set up and those who stay after to close up.

MEMBER MILESTONES

MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES
Owen Hand, 12/17/70, 54 years

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES
Shelby Robert, 12/16, 24 years

MEMBERSHIP BIRTHDAYS
Gary Pennington, 15 December