

NOVEMBER 2023 | WWW.ROTARY7750.ORG



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

7750

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

NOVEMBER

Rotary Foundation Month

DECEMBER

Disease Prevention and
Treatment Month

BECAUSE OF HIS ROTARY WORK IN THE COUNTRY

Aiken Sunrise Rotarian Johnny Walker named Honorary Consul for Guatemala

Johnny Walker, a long-time member of the Rotary Club of Aiken Sunrise, has been appointed as Honorary Consul by the government of Guatemala, and his house is now an official consulate!

There are only seven Honorary Guatemalan Consuls in the United States and the honor recognizes Johnny's years of Rotary work in Guatemala.

In addition to continued Rotary work in the country, Johnny will address migrant issues in South Carolina on behalf of Guatemala. He hopes to set up a university exchange program between South Carolina and Guatemala.

He works with the Consul General, based in Raleigh, NC, serving both North and South Carolina.

Because of his Rotary work and Consular duties, Johnny was invited to a listening session for migrants in Asheville, NC. The conference was organized by the Deputy Director for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for North Carolina.



Johnny Walker
Rotary Club of Aiken Sunrise
Honorary Consul for Guatemala

This is right in line with Rotary International's commitment to **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**: At Rotary, we understand that cultivating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive culture is essential to realizing our vision of a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change.



"The approval process took a year and honors my Rotary work in Guatemala. The President of Guatemala appointed me and the U.S. Department of State accepted my credentials. I serve a working role for Guatemala in South Carolina as a volunteer with consular duties and responsibilities. My home is actually a Consulate. As Head of a Consular post, I am required to have a physical location to serve as the Consulate. Create Hope in the World.

—JOHNNY WALKER
Rotary Club of Aiken Sunrise,
District 7750
(803) 293-8782 | johnny.walker7750@gmail.com

Celebrate our Rotary Foundation in November!



YOU ARE INVITED
TO CELEBRATE

The Rotary Foundation

December 1, 2023 | 7:00 PM

The Greenville Marriott
One Parkway East
Greenville, SC

**Foundation Dinner
Club Foundation Awards
PHF and Major Donor Recognitions**



Patrick Eakes

Keynote speaker Patrick Eakes
Rotary International Director 2024-26

\$65.00

Hotel rooms available for \$129

Register now in DaCdb-Calendar

Celebrate YOUR Rotary Foundation!

HERE'S WHAT WILL HAPPEN DECEMBER 1 IN GREENVILLE

BY PDG BETH PADGETT

7750 Foundation Chair

Our District 7750 Foundation Celebration will inspire and educate Rotarians about the great work that's made possible through our contributions to The Rotary Foundation.

We also will recognize a number of Rotary Clubs for their dedicated support of the Foundation. Many individual Rotarians will be recognized for their achievements. The Foundation Celebration will allow us to show our appreciation to our Rotarians who have become Major Donors, Bequest Society Members, and Paul Harris Society members.

The Foundation Celebration will be Friday, December 1, at the Greenville Marriott at 1 Parkway East. Our keynote speaker will be Patrick Eakes, 2024-26 Rotary International Director for Zones 33-34. Many club leaders know Patrick through his years-long work with Carolinas' PETS, and his recent involvement with helping clubs grow membership.

The afternoon of December 1 will feature Foundation and Grant training. The Grant training is mandatory for any Rotary Club that wants to qualify for a District Grant in 2024-25.

Twenty Rotary Clubs still do not have a representative registered for District Grant training. The representative should be a Rotarian who will be involved in the District Grant. Ideal representatives are the Club President-Elect or Club Foundation Chair. The representative at the training should brief the Club Board on the upcoming District Grant process, and the person should ensure that key deadlines are met.

All the activities will take place at the Greenville Marriott. The AAA 3-Diamond hotel is easily accessible to I-85 and I-385. Registration can be found on DACdb on the date of December 1. Pmails are also being sent weekly for both the Foundation Celebration and Grant Training.

Dec. 1 Foundation Celebration Agenda

2:30	Registration
3:00-4:15	Foundation 101
4:30-5:45	Grants Training (AT LEAST ONE MEMBER FROM A CLUB MUST ATTEND GRANTS TRAINING TO BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A DISTRICT GRANT)
6:00 - 7:00	Reception with cash bar
7:00	Dinner and Recognitions
Speaker - Patrick Eakes, Rotary International Director 2024-26	

Hotel Info: Greenville Marriott nightly rate: \$129 per night. Book your group rate for Rotary District 7750. Last day to reserve a room is November 10. Pmails are being sent weekly with details.

CELEBRATE OUR ROTARY FOUNDATION



D-7750 Foundation Chair
PDG BETH PADGETT
bpadgettrotary@outlook.com





←PDG Carol Burdette, Sally Hagood, Tina Brown, Lee Hancock, Sally Hancock.

Anderson and Greater Anderson raise money for polio

↓Anderson President Liz Brock, Health and Happiness Chair Tina Brown and Fundraising Chair Cara Hamilton.



↑Liz Brock, the president of the Rotary Club of Anderson, and Sylvia McLeod, president of Greater Anderson.



←PDG Terry and Pam Weaver from the Rotary Club of Greenville spoke about their trip to India where they administered polio vaccines.



Union member Buddy Smith recognized as Major Donor

Buddy Smith
and PDG Beth Padgett

Buddy Smith was recognized as a Major Donor to The Rotary Foundation at a recent meeting of the Rotary Club of Union. Buddy is the first Major Donor in the Union Rotary Club. Buddy also is a member of the Paul Harris Society where members pledge to give at least \$1,000 a year to The Rotary Foundation.

“Through your donations to The Rotary Foundation, you have provided clean drinking water to children in Honduran villages and made it possible for children in Haiti to get an education,” said PDG Beth Padgett, District Rotary Foundation Chair. “You have prevented hundreds of children from having the crippling disease of polio because of your contributions to the Rotary Foundation.” She presented Smith with a Major Donor pin and crystal and a pendant for his wife, Norma Gene.

Buddy said he joined the rotary club on September 11, 2001, the day of the terrorist attacks on the United States. “It has been a pleasure to have been a Rotarian and particularly to associate with folks like you,” he said. “It has been a blessing to my life to have been part of Rotary and participate in the many things that we do to assist the community and Polio Plus and other efforts. I really want to say thank you to all of you for being my friend and part of the community. It has been a delight and I hope to keep on keeping on.”



PDG Lance Young has new District Foundation position

Past District Governor Lance Young, a member of the E-Club of the Carolinas, has a new Rotary Foundation position in our District. Lance has been appointed to a newly created, multi-year position of District Endowment and Major Gifts Advisor.



In this new role, Lance will be a resource for major gifts and endowment fundraising matters. He is tasked with helping the District Rotary Foundation Chair and District Governor identify, cultivate, solicit, and steward major Foundation gifts in District 7750.

Prior to joining the E-Club, Lance was a member

of the Greenville Evening Rotary Club (now the Reedy River Greenville Rotary Club). He served as District Governor in 2016-17, and he is currently an Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator for Rotary Zone 33. Lance also has served as District Membership Chair.

“Lance is perfect for his new position helping our Rotary Foundation team,” said Beth Padgett, District Rotary Foundation Chair. “Lance is great at telling the Rotary story and inspiring Rotarians to support their Rotary Foundation. In fact, Lance was the one who persuaded me to join the Bequest Society.”

Lance is a Multiple Paul Harris Fellow, Major Donor, and Benefactor, and he is a member of the Bequest Society and Paul Harris Society.

District Grants

PARK BENCH IN TRAVELERS REST

Harvey Choplin, president of the Rotary Club of Travelers Rest, presented Brandy Amidon, the Mayor of Travelers Rest, with a check for \$1,500 to construct a bench for people to use in Trailblazer Park.

A plaque commemorating the Rotary contribution was placed on the bench. This was made possible by a District Grant.



CELEBRATE OUR ROTARY FOUNDATION

FORT MILL HELPS NEEDY FAMILIES

Members of the Rotary Club of Fort Mill presented \$5,000 to The Community Cafe and prepared sandwiches for delivery to needy Fort Mill families. Pictured holding the check are club President Kristy Spears, left, and Project chair James Warren, right, as club members pause from food preparation for the presentation of these needed funds. This project is supported by a district grant.



↑ That's Alberto Meloncelli on the left presenting a check to Mary and Martha Ministries to help fund the needs of refugees in the Spartanburg area.

CLUB MEMBERS ON THE WORK TEAMS

President Candace Wyman
President-elect Julia Larson
Past president Lenna Young
PDG Lance Young
PDG Kenneth Hirsch
Shirley Hirsch
Franca Meloncelli
Alberto Meloncelli

E-CLUB COMPLETES DISTRICT GRANT PROJECTS IN MCCORMICK AND SPARTANBURG

BY CANDACE WYMAN, PRESIDENT

Rotary E-Club of the Carolinas

The Rotary E-Club of the Carolinas meets virtually but we also look for ways to be together. Our district grant projects gave us that opportunity during October.

Through a combination of club funds, member generosity and a district grant, the club donated \$2,000 in critically needed supplies to refugees supported by Mary and Martha Services in Spartanburg, and \$2,000 in school supplies to McCormick Elementary School (located in an underserved area of South Carolina). And of course we ensured all supplies were clearly Rotary-branded!!!

Along the way we also used these projects as opportunities for fun, fellowship, and making new friends,. A special shout-out to Franca and Alberto Meloncelli for coordinating the Mary and Martha Services project, and to president-elect Julia Larson for coordinating the McCormick project--- Except for the top left photo, these pictures are from the McCormick project. Club members (who are scattered around the state) gathered to pack and deliver the supplies.



District Grants



BRANDED!



CELEBRATE OUR ROTARY FOUNDATION



Doug and Sally Kauffman Polio Plus Challenge Match

Doug and Sally Kauffmann are once again offering a PolioPlus Match to District 7750 Rotarians. Doug and Sally are members of the Rotary Club of Greenwood, and Doug is our District PolioPlus Chair. They are repeating their PolioPlus Challenge Match that was so successful in the last three years.

Between October 1, 2023, and December 31, 2023, Doug and Sally Kauffman will match every gift of \$100 or more given to PolioPlus by individual Rotarians, up to \$40,000 for the District.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will match that money two more times.

That way for every Rotarian that gives \$100 or more, each gift will generate another \$500. (For example, a Rotarian contributes \$100 for PolioPlus, Doug and Sally will contribute \$100 to PolioPlus, and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will contribute \$400 to PolioPlus to match that \$200 for total impact of \$600.)

You can make your PolioPlus contribution through your Rotary Club as long as the donations arrive at Rotary International by December 31, 2023. Or

you can go online to [Donate to End Polio](#) or over the phone with the Rotary Support Center 866-976-8279. Please make sure your Rotary Membership ID Number is associated with your donation so you and your club get credit.

Every Rotarian who gives \$100 or more will also receive that many Rotary Foundation Recognition Points up to a maximum of 500 points. PolioPlus giving does count toward a Paul Harris Fellow.

Note: Anyone with a PHF+8 or a Major Donor will not be awarded points, but your contributions will be greatly appreciated! Recognition Points are of no value to these donors.



CELEBRATE OUR ROTARY FOUNDATION



Consider joining POLIOPLUS SOCIETY

District 7750 created a PolioPlus Society two years ago year, and it's easy to be a member. All you have to do is donate at least \$100 to PolioPlus and pledge to do this each year (as long as you are able) until the world has been certified as free of the poliovirus.

Send an email to District Rotary Foundation Chair Beth Padgett (bpadgettr Rotary@outlook.com) that you've made this commitment and that your donation has gone to Rotary International.

We ask that this special donation be in addition to your normal Foundation contribution to

Annual Fund – SHARE. You will get an annual reminder about your PolioPlus Society Pledge.

Rotarians who join the PolioPlus Society will be honored with a special pin and printable certificate noting their contribution and commitment to ending polio.

Eradicating polio has been the top priority for Rotarians since 1985 when Rotary International launched PolioPlus with an initial fundraising goal of \$120 million. Rotary's first involvement with polio was in 1979 with a project to eliminate polio in the Philippines.

A GOAL OF THE GLOBAL POLIO ERADICATION INITIATIVE IS TO DECLARE A POLIO-FREE WORLD BY 2027. WHEN WE HAVE THIS HISTORIC CELEBRATION, YOU CERTAINLY WILL WANT TO WEAR YOUR POLIOPLUS SOCIETY PIN.

Foundation giving at 10.20.23

TOP FIVE TOTAL GIVING CLUBS TO ANNUAL FUND (AS OF 10/20/23)

1. Greenville	\$35,550
2. Fort Mill	\$11,455
3. Emerald City	\$9,010
4. Anderson	\$8,245
5. Clemson	\$5,670

TOP FIVE PER CAPITA GIVING CLUBS TO ANNUAL FUND (AS OF 10/20/23)

1. Greenville	\$221
2. Fort Mill	\$178
3. Reedy River Greenville	\$167
4. E-Club of the Carolinas	\$122
5. Emerald City	\$109

TOP FIVE TOTAL GIVING CLUBS TO POLIOPUS (AS OF 10/20/23)

1. Greenwood	\$27,066
2. Greenville	\$25,600
3. Greater Anderson	\$6,450
4. Fort Mill	\$2,033
5. Anderson	\$2,030

CELEBRATE OUR ROTARY FOUNDATION

District 7750 Foundation Team

BETH PADGETT

District Rotary Foundation Chair
bpadgettrotary@outlook.com

RENEE STUBBS

District Governor
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DOUG KAUFFMANN

PolioPlus Chair
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BILL HARLEY

District Grants Chair
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BEN FICKLEN

Global Grants Chair
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RITA YARBROUGH

Paul Harris Society Chair
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RYSHEEKA BUSH

Annual Fund Chair
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DAVE BRENNER

Endowment Chair
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LANCE YOUNG

District Endowment and Major Gifts Advisor
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LORRAINE ANGELINO

Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator &
Peace Fellowship Chair
dg2013@rotary7750.org

Reach out if you need advice or help with Foundation issues.

Upcoming

➡ **7750 Rotary Foundation Banquet: December 1, Greenville**

➡ **Pre-PETS: February 24, Newberry**

➡ **Carolinas PETS: March 15-16, Greensboro** PETS=Presidents-Elect Training Seminar

➡ **All Clubs District Conference: May 17-19, Greenville**



The Rotary Club of Union was chartered April 12, 1923.

Pictured are Anna Brown, Melodi Gault, Nancy Kennedy, Leroy Kennedy, Sammy Diamaduros, Charlie Wilson, Glenn Ivey, Edelyn Wilson, Dawn Fallaw, Helen Diamaduros, John Fallaw, Gus Diamaduros, Bill Graham, Judy Bailey, Roger Bailey, Buddy Smith, Norma Gene Smith, Lynne Burnett, Robbie Littlejohn, Spanky Burnett, Freddie Gault, William Holcombe. Not pictured are Lewis Jeter and Brandi Jeter-Brannon.



New picnic shelter marks Union's 100th anniversary

In conjunction with its 100th anniversary, the Rotary Club of Union recently worked with the City of Union to construct a new picnic shelter at Foster Park.

Rotarians and their guests had a picnic on Oct. 12 to celebrate the opening.

← Freddie Gault (right) presented a certificate of Special Congressional Recognition on behalf of Sen. Ralph Norman. The certificate was accepted by Leroy Kennedy and Charlie Wilson.

Leroy, past president, and Charlie, the current president, both were serving during the 100th anniversary celebration. Rotarian Bill Graham did a lot of work on the picnic shelter project.



Parking was at a premium for Clemson's oyster roast.

18th Annual Rotary Club of Clemson Oyster Roast raises more than \$30,000 for local charities

BY BRIAN C. BAKER

Rotary Club of Clemson Public Relations Chair

The Rotary Club of Clemson is thrilled to announce the resounding success of its 18th Annual Oyster Roast.

The event not only brought together the local community but also raised more than \$30,000 to support numerous local charities and Rotary International's mission to eradicate polio.

The club also made a special contribution to the Clemson University Rutland Institute of Ethics in honor of Harry and Ina Durham. Harry has been a long-time member of the Clemson club.

This year's Oyster Roast, held on October 6, was a momentous occasion, celebrating the

dedication and commitment of its members and the positive impact Rotary can make on the local and global community.

The event was attended by members, friends, and supporters of the Rotary Club of Clemson, creating an atmosphere of camaraderie and philanthropy that will have a lasting impact.

A remarkable highlight of this year's event was the significant contribution of more than **\$30,000**, which will be allocated towards supporting various local charities through grants. These funds will help make a positive change in our community, addressing essential needs and

providing assistance to those in need.

Additionally, the Rotary Club of Clemson is proud to continue its support of Rotary International's mission to eradicate polio. A portion of the funds raised at the Oyster Roast will be dedicated to this vital global effort, contributing to the ongoing fight against this crippling disease.

In a touching tribute to long-standing member Harry Durham, who is about to celebrate his 55th year in the Rotary Club of Clemson, a special contribution will be made to the Clemson University Rutland Institute

[More, next page](#)



← Harry Durham has been in Rotary for 55 years!

Clemson honors long-standing member—

continued from page 1

of Ethics' Ida B. Durham High School Ethics Competition. This heartfelt gesture honors Harry and Ina Durham for their unwavering commitment to ethics and their significant contributions to the community.

Club President Phil Maiberger expressed his gratitude for the success of the 18th Annual Oyster Roast and the ongoing dedication of club members. He stated, "The members of the Rotary Club of Clemson are people of action, dedicated to improving the lives of those in our community and around the world. The 18th edition of our club's Oyster Roast exemplifies our unwavering commitment to these ideals. By organizing and conducting this great event, we provide the opportunity for those who attend and support it to help eradicate polio around the world, serve the needs of our local community and honor Harry and Ina Durham for their incredible contribution to our community."

The Rotary Club of Clemson extends its sincere appreciation to all attendees, sponsors, and volunteers who made this event possible. This year's Oyster Roast is a testament to the Rotary Club's commitment to "Service Above Self."



LENNA YOUNG ELECTED CHAIR OF NEWBERRY COLLEGE TRUSTEES

← This is Lenna Young, immediate past two-term president of the Rotary E-Club of the Carolinas helping with the club's district grant project in McCormick.

She not only works hard for Rotary but also for her alma mater, Newberry College, where **SHE IS THE NEWLY ELECTED CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.**

Lenna lives on Lake Murray near Columbia. She and her spouse, PDG Lance Young, enjoy traveling in their RV but that doesn't stop them from serving their broader community.

NEWS FROM SENECA GOLDEN CORNER



Leslie Hagerty, director of the Oconee County Museum, updated the Golden Corner Rotary Club about the museum's work with other area museums, community festivals and ancestry research for residents and visitors. Pictured from left are Golden Corner Rotary Club president Cammie Kaiser, Hagerty and Rotarian Patrick Lee.



Rotarian Hugh Pearson gave an in-depth membership program to the Golden Corner Rotary Club. The club plans to recognize 30 area community groups in honor of its 30th anniversary. Pictured with Hugh is club president Cammie Kaiser.



Taylor Reed, center, owner of First Chapter Bookshop in Seneca updated the Golden Corner club about the shop reopening after a car crashed into the building. The shop offers a variety of authors and hosts community activities. Pictured from left are Rotarian Teddy Martin, Reed and club president Cammie Kaiser.



Pictured are Rotarians Hal Howington and David Roark.

ICE CREAM SALE BOOSTS BLACKSBURG'S PUBLIC IMAGE!

The Rotary Club of Blacksburg boosted the community's awareness of Rotary and raised funds by holding an Old Fashioned Ice Cream Sale at the Iron City Festival in downtown Blacksburg. The peach ice cream was churned on-site using a John Deere hit-and-miss engine that drew people's attention with the engine's nostalgic "whoosh-whoosh-whoosh-PUTT-whoosh" sound.

Pleasantburg Rotarians help with literacy project at Rudolph Gordon School

THEY READ TO THE STUDENTS AND GAVE EACH OF THEM A BOOK



This school is named for Rudolph Gordon, a longtime member of Pleasantburg Rotary and a former superintendent of Greenville County Schools.



Pleasantburg Rotarians and friends participated in the club's literacy project at Rudolph Gordon School on October 19.

Top: Club members read books to kindergartners and first-graders and gave books to each of these children. The club also gave the school \$1,000 to buy books for the school's library.

Middle: Pleasantburg Rotarian Susan Spencer with students at Rudolph Gordon School.

Left: Youth Exchange student Kristof Jacob from Hungary (sponsored by Pleasantburg) and his counselor Bill McCann enjoyed reading to and spending time with the students.

PLEASANTBURG AT THE HAMPTON PINCKNEY PORCHFEST

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE CHANGES LIVES. Sarah Fletcher, a former host mom and spouse of PDG George Fletcher, connected with Francoise of Normandy, France (RYE student to Greenville 1984), and Lale Dogan of Pleasantburg (former RYE student to Japan) at the Hampton Pinckney Porchfest on October 23.



GOOD PUBLIC IMAGE AMBASSADORS. Tracy Tiddy and Lale Dogan provided information on Rotary and interacted with potential Rotarians at Hampton Pinckney Porchfest on October 23 in Greenville.



DRESS A CHILD. Lale Dogan, Regina Coulomb, and Kathy Sharpe promote Pleasantburg's Dress A Child program at Hampton Pinckney's Porchfest.

Governor's Message: Growing membership matters

BY DG RENÉE STUBBS

In the heart of Rotary, there's a simple yet profound question that we often overlook: Why do we want to grow membership in our Rotary organization? The answers lie within our own Rotary journey, shaped by a passion for service, a commitment to our core values, and a desire to make a meaningful difference in the world.

WHY DID I JOIN ROTARY? The reasons we initially joined Rotary can be as diverse as the communities we serve. Some of us were drawn by the call to give back to society, to contribute our skills and resources for the greater good. Others sought a sense of belonging, a community of like-minded individuals with a shared vision of a better world.

WHY DO I STAY IN ROTARY? Here's where it gets intriguing. The reasons we stay in Rotary often evolve, transcending the motives that brought us in. We stay for the friendships that have blossomed, for the transformative impact we've witnessed, and for the personal growth we've experienced. We stay because Rotary has become not just an organization but a way of life, a platform for making lasting change in our communities and the world.

SHARING THE GIFT OF ROTARY. If, like many of us, you cherish Rotary as one of the most profound and fulfilling experiences in your life, have you considered sharing this gift with others? Growing membership isn't just about increasing numbers; it's about spreading the light of Rotary to new corners of our communities.

The purpose of growing membership is to share the Object of Rotary, our Core Values, and the Four-Way Test with others. It's about empowering more individuals with these guiding principles so they, too, can contribute to 'doing more good' in the world. As they say, "The World Needs More

Rotarians!"

When we hear the call to grow membership, it's crucial to remember that it's not merely about achieving numerical goals. The focus should be on inviting individuals who resonate with our values and can genuinely contribute to our mission. It's about nurturing a community of like-minded souls dedicated to ethical service.

BECOMING A DESIRABLE CLUB. To attract new members, we must offer a well-balanced mix of engaging programs, impactful service projects, and warm fellowship. A vibrant Rotary club should be one that the community eagerly seeks to join. By proudly wearing your Rotary Masterbrand pins and readily explaining "What's Rotary?" when asked, you become a beacon of inspiration inviting others to inquire and participate. Wearing your Rotary pin is like 2500 mini-Rotary billboards walking around our district!



DG IN FORT MILL

The Rotary Club of Fort Mill enjoyed having DG Renée with them at an October meeting.

A TIME FOR THANKS

As November ushers in a season of gratitude, we extend our heartfelt thanks. Each member is a gift to their community and the world. Your time, talent, and treasure contribute to creating hope, both locally and globally.

Moreover, the role of a District Governor is not possible without the dedication of committee chairs, assistant governors, and the invaluable work of our District Administrator, Faith, the ever-reliable glue that keeps us together.

In closing, the desire to grow membership in Rotary isn't just about numbers; it's about expanding our capacity to serve, extending the reach of our values, and nurturing a community of individuals committed to ethical service. It's about making the world a better place, one Rotary member at a time.

Thank you very much for your service and dedication to creating hope for people in your community and the world and sharing the gift of Rotary with your friends.

FIND OUT WHAT YOUR MEMBERS WANT

STOP THE LEAKAGE

When I became president-elect of my club in 2016, I quickly learned membership growth was a key priority during my year as club president.

The Rotary Club of Anderson had as many as 170 members in the past. I was taking over the club with 62 members. Where did 108 members go? More importantly, why did 108 members go?

Before I could begin to grow the club, I needed to stop the leakage of existing members.

We needed a steady base of strong, excited members to advocate for and sell the advantages of joining the Rotary Club of Anderson to future membership prospects.

I believe retention is king. If you can't keep what you have, how are you to grow on a number that keeps declining (attrition)?

These were the strategies I used:

- I met with every member to ask them what needed to be changed to make our club **IRRESISTIBLE**. Members wanted more time to eat and fellowship; they wanted better food; they wanted better programs; and they wanted better service projects that needed their participation instead of being asked to write a check in support of a project.
- Club leadership embraced the **FOUR F's** (Fun, Food, Fellowship, and Fruitful Service Projects).
- Club leadership unanimously made membership growth our biggest priority.
- Club members developed a 50-name key target prospect list to invite those to a future club meeting and Discover Rotary overview (attraction).
- Club leadership developed a 45-minute Discover Rotary overview meeting prior to the



first club meeting in the even months of the year.

- Club leadership worked diligently to have a strong President-Elect and President Nominee in place to help with focus and continuity.

What happened in that year? We stopped the leakage of members. We moved club meetings to a new location. We had much better food. We were intentional in planning programs of interest to the membership. We grew in service projects with almost all member participation. And membership grew from 62 to 79. Rotary Club of Anderson continues to use these strategies and have continually grown to 104 members today.

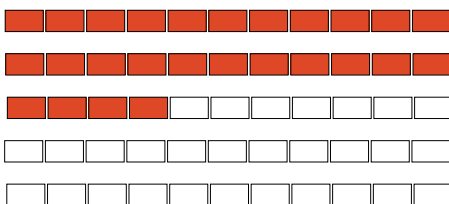
Every club in District 7750 should ask what ways we can slow attrition so our efforts to attract new members is not just trying to outpace the number of existing members leaving.



7750 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
Butch Hughes
bhughes864@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP PROGRESS BAR

Net Gain of 50 Needed by June 30



Each of these boxes represents one of the 50 net-gain members we need this year to reach our membership goal. When every box is colored in, we will have reached our goal of 2,400. As of Oct. 24, we had a **net** gain of 24 (unofficially).

FAST AND FURIOUS

FOR 24

2,400 MEMBERS IN 2024

Here's how you stop the leakage! GET YOUR MEMBERS INVOLVED.



WEEKEND SNACKPACK PROGRAM ENSURES CHILDREN HAVE FOOD

Rotarians from the Rotary clubs of Greater Anderson and Anderson worked at Second Harvest Food Bank to pack bags of food for the snackpack program. This program helps ensure all children have food for the weekends.



Is it more fun for the kids or the Rotarians?

Rotarians from Anderson got together at Varennes Elementary School for early morning Friday fun! The Rotarians volunteer to spend time with the children before school starts.



New Interact Club

Belton Honea Path High School has just launched its Interact Club. This photo is from their first meeting. The club is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Anderson.



ANDERSON HEARS FROM HOUSING PANEL AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Left: The Rotary Club of Anderson heard from a panel on homeless and housing that included Alison Youngblood, Michael Cunningham, John Mark Bell, Jenni Creamer, Josh Hunt, Kylie Herbert, and Zoe Hale.

Right: South Carolina Lieutenant Governor Pamela Evette, in the white shirt, spoke to the Rotary Club of Anderson during October. The others are legislative staff who joined her.



Good public image for Rotary, Clemson U., Boy Scouts at Oktoberfest.



**SENECA, SENECA GOLDEN CORNER,
WESTMINSTER, WALHALLA**

Oconee County Rotary clubs have fun at OKTOBERFEST 2023

The Rotary Clubs in Oconee County sponsored the 5K Fun Run at Oktoberfest in Walhalla on Oct. 21. The event supports education programs in Oconee County.



Family fun at Oktober Fun Run

↑Two 7750 Rotarians turned the 5K fun run into a family affair. Vanette Wilson (pink shirt), Rotary Club of Anderson, and Ron Matthews, Rotary Club of Spartanburg, along with family members Celia, Derrick, Emmie and PDG Paula Matthews (Rotary Club of Spring Valley, Columbia) walked/ran the race.





More from Oktoberfest 5K

Pictured from left are Rotarians Teddy Martin, Don Estep, Sandy Pierson, Seneca Golden Corner Rotary Club president Cammie Kaiser, special guest Tiger Cub from Clemson University and Rotarian Gene Williams. Martin competed and finished third in his age group. The event supports education programs in Oconee County.

GOLDEN STRIP SUNRISE HELPS BOYS HOME REPLACE EQUIPMENT

The Golden Strip Sunrise Club donated a foosball table to the Generations Boys Home in Fountain Inn. Their old one was broken and beyond repair.

This is just one way the club seeks to help those most vulnerable young people by providing fun activities for them to enjoy.





STUDENTS FROM 10 SCHOOLS SING IN GOLDEN STRIP SUNRISE'S ANNUAL NIGHT OF SINGING

The 26th Annual Rotary Night of Singing was held at Brookwood Church on October 24. Ten schools participated, presenting their very best musically to an audience of over two thousand people.

Tickets to the event are sold by participating schools, each of which receives \$1,000 for their music budget. Rotarians sell sponsorships to businesses, community agencies and individuals to fund college scholarships to students in the two participating high schools.

Over 80 scholarships have been awarded to date.

Rotary also uses some of these funds to help with other local projects and international causes such as Polio eradication, clean water, basic education and literacy, maternal and child health, just to name a few.

← These are four of the Golden Strip Sunrise Rotarians who helped at the Night of Singing: Standing: Dale Yarbrough, Sam Stamps, Randy Gordon. Seated: Mike McCourry.

"STORY TIME IN THE SQUARE" LITERACY AWARENESS EVENT

Members of the Greater Clemson Innovation Rotaract Club and of the Clemson Sunrise Rotary Club either read to children or were read to by children.



↑ Sherece Smith from the Greater Clemson Innovation Rotaract Club reading to a group of local children

↓ PDG Frank Cox & Sagar Kanhere, both from the Clemson Sunrise Rotary Club, reading to local children.



Girls from the community reading to Sagar Kanhere, member of the Clemson Sunrise Rotary Club.



**Greater Clemson
Innovation**

Save the Date

PRESIDENTS-ELECT TRAINING SEMINAR

PrePETS

February 24, 2024

**Piedmont Technical College
Newberry Campus**

PETS

March 15 - 16, 2024

**Sheraton Hotel
Greensboro, NC**

All Presidents Elect are Required to Attend!

Registration info coming soon!

Who to call for

- **Public Image**
- **Membership**
- **The Rotary Foundation**

PUBLIC IMAGE

MAGGIE McMAHON, Spartan West
maggieamcmahon@gmail.com | 864-941-6490

MEMBERSHIP

BUTCH HUGHES, Anderson
bhughes864@yahoo.com | 864-276-4440

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

PDG BETH PADGETT, Greenville
bpadgettrotary@outlook.com | 864-982-0211

New Members in September

36 new members in September

Ferguson, Angie	Abbeville	Hamilton, Joel	Greenville
Martin, Hope	Abbeville	Lomonaco, Stacy	Greenville
Altman, William David II	Aiken	Parker, Keisha	Greenwood
Boyett, Stephanie	Aiken	Wicker, Jeffrey	Newberry
Williams, Laura	Anderson	Snow, John	Newberry
Singleton, Curtis M	Chester	Richard, Kevin	North Augusta
Mannis, Tassy	Clemson	Ralston, Susan	Pickens
Smith, Brody	Clemson	Mulkey, Amber	Seneca
O'Shields, David	Clinton	Smith, Christopher	Simpsonville
Barron, Benjamin	Clinton	Canup, Karen	Spartanburg
Scheirer, Sarah Jane	Emerald City	Jordan, Marshall	Spartanburg
Hall, Sam	Greenville	Watson, Karen Leigh	Spartanburg
Giddings, Paul	Greenville	Newsome, Julia	Union
Miller, Teresa	Greenville	Bolin, Jennifer	York
Garrett, Brice	Greenville	Mayo, Travis	Fort Mill

SEPTEMBER 2023: 36 NEW MEMBERS — 18 TERMINATED MEMBERS (3 DECEASED)

NEW MEMBERS IN ANDERSON

The Rotary Club of Anderson inducted three new members at one of its October meetings:
Daphne Wiles
Steven Duncan
Vic Aviles



Deadline for December newsletter is November 25.

Send items to newsletter editor Sue Poss, pdgsueposs@gmail.com.