



DISTRICT GOVERNOR RYSHEEKA BUSH  
Rotary Club of Aiken Sunrise | rysheeka@yahoo.com  
SEPTEMBER 2024 | WWW.ROTARY7750.ORG

SEPTEMBER

Basic Education and Literacy

OCTOBER

Economic and Community Development

# 7750

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



## Basic education and literacy in D7750:

**ENSURING THAT OUR CHILDREN HAVE THE TOOLS THEY NEED (INCLUDING FOOD) TO SUCCEED ACADEMICALLY AND REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL**

◀ This photo is from the Greenwood club's getting 150 backpacks of food ready for the kids who might not have enough to eat on the weekend. This is just one example of what clubs all over our district are doing to ensure that when children get to school, they are ready to learn and have the tools they need.

Throughout this newsletter you can see examples of what Rotarians in 7750 are doing/have done to support our children's education: the backpacks, adaptive bicycles, supplementary books, snack bags for college students and breakfast or lunch for teachers who were getting their classrooms ready, and so much more.



**S**eptember is Basic Education and Literacy Month in Rotary. I am very passionate about education as I know it to be the avenue to change. I encourage each of you to engage in a literacy project this Rotary year. Many of you have dictionary projects scheduled or a Rotary Reader program. Let's keep the energy going with other innovative ideas: providing educational materials for nature trails, assisting new mothers in signing up for a monthly book program, or sponsoring a free library in your community (take a book, share a book). The options are endless!



BASIC EDUCATION  
AND LITERACY

**WE ARE PEOPLE OF ACTION. LET'S MAKE LITERACY OUR **MAGICAL** ACTION STEP FOR THE MONTH. —DG Rysheeka**

Look at how many of the district grant projects on pages 17-18 are about helping our children succeed!



Chester Club president Kathy Davis and her husband John Davis chauffeured Rysheeka in grand style.



## Rysheeka starts her club visits in a Model T

Greetings Rotary family.

It is my hope that you are having a Magical start to your Rotary year. Club visits have begun and I'm having an amazing time on this venture.

I am bursting with excitement to meet each of you and learn about the good you are doing in your

respective communities, as well as around the world.

I have to say, when you start your club visits with a ride in a Model T Ford, it's a sign that the remaining visits are going to be just as Magical. A heart-felt thank you to the Rotary Club of Chester and its president, Kathy Davis.—Rysheeka



## Anderson club supports teachers Whoopee!

The Rotary Club of Anderson provided a Whoop Whoop Wagon for the teachers and staff at Homeland Park Primary while they were getting their classrooms ready for another year.

PS: Why is it called a Whoop Whoop Wagon?



BASIC EDUCATION  
AND LITERACY





## Lancaster collects 948 books to help local elementary school

**BY MELANIE OUTLAW**  
*Rotary Club of Lancaster*

The Rotary Club of Lancaster held a book drive to ensure every student at Brooklyn Springs Elementary started school with a new book.

Our goal was 400 books. The community & our club members responded graciously to our call for action and we delivered 948 books to the school.

Pictured above are:

Bobby Collins, Lancaster Rotary Club Member  
Siberio Francis, Lancaster Rotary Club Member  
Mary Collins, spouse of Lancaster Rotary Member Bobby Collins  
Charlene McGriff, Lancaster Rotary Club Member  
Brittany McManus, Brooklyn Springs Principal  
Jodie Plyler, Lancaster Rotary Club Member  
Branten Blair, Assistant principal at the school



**BASIC EDUCATION  
AND LITERACY**



## ROTARY CLUB OF LANCASTER



The members of the Lancaster Rotary Club didn't want to forget the college students who will be starting or returning to classes this fall. The club assembled 175 snack bags for the students at USC-Lancaster as the fall semester began.

From Left to Right Above:  
Priscilla Bufford  
Faynette Waldrop  
John Rutledge  
Kayla Vaughn  
Melanie Outlaw  
Joyce Morin  
Jodie Plyler  
David Sims  
Chris Gordon



**BASIC EDUCATION  
AND LITERACY**



The mind is like the stomach. It is not how much you put into it that counts, but how much it digests.

## Walhalla collects school supplies

Susie Graves, left, dropped off school supplies that the Rotary Club of Walhalla (with some help from Westminster) collected for James M. Brown Elementary School.







## GOLDEN STRIP SUNRISE

The Rotary Club of Golden Strip Sunrise packed and distributed backpacks in conjunction with the Little White House, an organization that was founded in 2013 to meet the growing needs of children diagnosed with autism in the Upstate.

Left to right: Steve Epps, Shelly Savage, Sam Stamps, Becky Miller, Trip Gilreath, Melinda Gilreath, Dee Vaughan



BASIC EDUCATION  
AND LITERACY



## Breakfast for teachers and staff

On August 5 Golden Strip Sunrise Rotary provided breakfast for the teachers and staff of Fountain Inn High School.

### Seated

Steve Epps  
Melinda Gilreath  
Dee Vaughan  
Sam Stamps  
Becky Miller

### Standing:

Lindsey Beam  
Shelly Savage  
Jim Caprell





PDG Rod Funderburk, standing at left beside 7750 DG Rysheeka Bush, is an RLI facilitator from the Lake Murray-Irmo Club in D7770. Julia Larson, kneeling left, is our D7750 RLI chair and member of the Rotary E-Club of the Carolinas. The rest are the Rotarians who completed Part III and graduated from RLI.

## Twelve Rotarians completed RLI Part 3 at most recent event

**BY JULIA LARSON**  
7750 RLI Chair

We had a very successful RLI Event in Duncan on August 17, with 20 participants in Part 1 and 20 participants in Part 2.

We had 12 graduates finishing Part 3. Our district has many engaging facilitators and we had several new faculty that are bringing fresh energy to our district!

Congratulations to Greer for having the highest number of participants with 7 Rotarians!

There was a 3-way tie for second place, Anderson, Clemson and Emerald City all had 5 Rotarians!

Anderson gets a Gold Star for also bringing 3 Rotaractors for Part 1!

RLI is such a great way to learn more about Rotary and share our Rotary Passion!

| GRADUATES FROM D7750   |                                    |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Brock, Liz             | Anderson                           |
| Brown, Laura Carole    | Greater Anderson                   |
| Gilmer, Sam            | Anderson Satellite - Electric City |
| Lieberg, Gerald        | Pleasantburg                       |
| Maiberger, Philip A.   | Clemson                            |
| McBurnie, Amy Sherrill | Greer                              |
| Moreno, Mark           | Greer                              |
| Peace, Marie           | Anderson                           |
| Smyth, Rick A          | Anderson                           |
| Tessler, Courtney E    | Greenville City Center             |
| GRADUATES FROM D7770   |                                    |
| Gleason, Ruthe D       | Sea Island (Beaufort)              |
| Lee, Tracey Delaney    | Lake Murray-Irmo                   |

**Next in-person event will be PART 1 ONLY, on October 5 in Aiken.**  
**Next full event with Parts 1,2 and 3 will be on February 15, 2025 in Anderson.**

# Energized by expanding our reach

The excitement is unmistakable as we welcome new Rotarians into our community!

The 2024 Membership Summit was a resounding success, equipping attendees with innovative strategies to enhance their club's reach. Thank you to everyone who participated in this exciting summit.

Your district team is filled with excitement as we anticipate each club's progress toward your membership expansion goal of 5% growth or a net increase of 2 members (whichever is greater), along with a retention rate of less than 15%.

Your survey feedback revealed the top three insights gained from the summit were:

1. So many tools, ideas, concepts, fun activities, and meeting formats.
2. Many ideas were shared among clubs/peers during the Think Tank sessions.
3. The district team is there to truly HELP set us up for success.

As we strive to elevate membership growth and reduce retention, the challenge is maintaining this momentum and energy throughout the year. How do we continue to amplify our community contributions both locally and globally?

Your District Membership Team is dedicated to supporting you and your club in implementing your Membership Plan and Strategies.

**D-7750 Membership Chair**  
**ALBERT BLACKMON**  
[albert.blackmon@sc.edu](mailto:albert.blackmon@sc.edu)



## TWO SIMPLE MEMBERSHIP GOALS FOR 2024-25

- 1** Achieve 5% membership growth from your July 1 membership base OR a net increase of 2 members, whichever is greater.
- 2** Maintain an attrition rate of less than 15% by the year's end.

To view the most recent membership results, access DACdb, Membership Success Center (MAP), YTD Goal Progress, and sort by Net Gain/Loss.

## NEED HELP WITH TARGETED STRATEGIES?

A **trained Task Force** is available to support you with targeted strategies for membership growth and reduced attrition. The Task Force represents the diversity of our district from club size, Rotary experience, leadership roles, and areas of expertise.

I encourage you to reach out to Ben Hagood at [benhagood3@gmail.com](mailto:benhagood3@gmail.com) to connect with the Task Force.

As an ex-officio member of the Task Force, I'm eagerly anticipating the direct and intentional hands-on interaction with clubs

Each month, I'll provide a progress chart showcasing our district's collective performance and highlight the Top Club Leaders based on Net Gains. Though it's early for comprehensive results, here's our current standing in DACdb as we enter September:

**Net changes**  
**July 1-Aug. 1→**

*These figures are from DaDdb and lag behind where the club actually is. The +/- column is net after terminations/additions.*

| CLUB                    | 7-1-24 | 8-1-24 | +/- |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|-----|
| PICKENS                 | 30     | 35     | 5   |
| LAKE WYLIE              | 34     | 38     | 4   |
| E-CLUB OF THE CAROLINAS | 23     | 25     | 2   |
| GREENVILLE CITY CENTER  | 45     | 46     | 1   |
| INDIAN LAND LUNCH       | 53     | 54     | 1   |
| LANCASTER BREAKFAST     | 53     | 54     | 1   |
| DISTRICT TOTAL          | 2,396  | 2,391  | -5  |



➡ Ray Phillips, president of the Seneca Club; Steve Graves, president of Walhalla; and Daby Snipes, President-Elect of Westminster.

## Membership Summit

# Western corner of district well-represented at Membership Summit



At the August membership summit: Amber Crain, Foundation Chair at Walhalla; District Membership Chair Albert Blackmon, Indian Land Lunch; AG Kylie Herbert, Anderson; Josh Thomas, Westminster.



**I**nformational sessions come in many forms.

How are YOU and your club spreading the awesomeness of Rotary to prospective members?

Here are 4 ways to conduct an informational session:

- 1) One-on-one communications
- 2) Coffee with two or more folks
- 3) Lunch with a group of prospects
- 4) A focused hour with a group of folks

## HERE'S A CHALLENGE —

This week, conduct **TWO** one-on-one communication sessions.

## Recording of Membership Summit

If you were not at the Membership Seminar OR if you were there and want to review some or all of it, it is posted online at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tx1QM5gXK3o>





### Adaptive bike will help 100 Fort Mill kids

The Rotary Club of Fort Mill presented an adaptive bike to Riverview Elementary School. It is the first adaptive bike given to Fort Mill Schools. Representatives from Riverview included the principal and physical therapist. The bike will be used by the more than 100 special needs kids at Riverview, and will allow more freedom at recess and help with physical therapy. The bike has a lot of cool features that make it safe and fun.



### Greenville Breakfast is not just for breakfast!

The Rotary Club of Greenville Breakfast had more than bacon and eggs when members went out on the town for a night of socializing and having fun at Cafe and Then Some. Having fun together outside the traditional meeting place is one way to build closer relationships and a stronger club.

## Pleasantburg welcomes youth exchange student from France

rotary  
youth  
exchange

The Rotary Club of Pleasantburg welcomes incoming International Youth Exchange Student Lou Borrás from Lens, France. Lou attends Wade Hampton High School in Greenville; her club advisor is Kathy Sharp.



**Pleasantburg Rotarians meet Lou at the airport**—Jerry Lieber, Travis Seward, Lou Borrás, Clay Brown, Lale Dogan, Adelaide Brown, Wade Cleveland.



### Lou's Rotary Host Family

The family of Jennifer and Emmanuel Reyes welcome Lou Brasso to Greenville.



### France D1520

Lou Borrás in her district jacket.



## Pleasantburg picks up trash then enjoys a Saturday social

Pleasantburg Rotary's Adopt-A-Highway project is always a fun Saturday outing! Members clear trash from a stretch of Stone Avenue in Greenville, then convene for refreshments and fellowship at Universal Joint.



**Safety First:** Following the safety briefing for Adopt-A-Highway volunteers, Pleasantburg members Kathy Sharp and Lale Dogan (right to left) and club friend Ryan Leyrer with his dog, Maddie, patiently wait for traffic to stop before crossing Stone Avenue. At left above, Kathy never knows what she'll pick up.



### Ready for Lunch and Refreshments

After a good morning's work, Pleasantburg Rotarians are ready for the next phase of their Saturday Morning Social. From left are Lale Dogan, Kathy Sharp, Linda Lee, "Maddie," Henry Dupre, Ryan Leyrer, Bill McCann, Eric Baker, Karen Baker, Kristina Hammock, and Larry Lee





**SERVING UP BARBECUE:** The Rotary Club of Greenville kicked off the school year with its annual Teacher Appreciation Day at Alexander Elementary School. Rotarians served a BBQ lunch to 80+ teachers, including the new principal, Dawn Hooker. And, students from Greenville Technical Charter High School donated a ton of backpacks to the kids at AES. Pictured: Roger Heitzeg, Lucy Henry, Beth Padgett, Pam Alexander-Powell, Principal Dawn Hooker, Terry Weaver, Kristine Amin, Pam Weaver, Bryan Little and Amy Randall

## Jain: Greenville Rotarian receives Order of the Palmetto

Long-time Greenville club member Surendra Jain received The Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor. Former SC Governor & US Secretary of Education Dick Riley, Mayor Knox White, and State Senator-elect Jason Elliott presented the award.

On the same day Surendra was recognized, SC Attorney General Alan Wilson was the guest speaker, sharing insights on the state's battles and successes with fentanyl, human trafficking, and more.



Left to Right: State Senator-elect Jason Elliott, Greenville Mayor Knox White, Rotarian Surendra Jain, former SC Governor & US Secretary of Education Dick Riley.

## Key Committee Contacts for 2024-25

|              |                  |                         |  |
|--------------|------------------|-------------------------|--|
| MEMBERSHIP   | Albert Blackmon  | Indian Land Lunch       | <a href="mailto:albert.blackmon@sc.edu">albert.blackmon@sc.edu</a>         |
| PUBLIC IMAGE | Maggie MacMahan  | E-Club of the Carolinas | <a href="mailto:maggiemcmahan@gmail.com">maggiemcmahan@gmail.com</a>       |
| FOUNDATION   | PDG Beth Padgett | Greenville              | <a href="mailto:bpadgettrotary@outlook.com">bpadgettrotary@outlook.com</a> |



➔ Greenville Rotary After Hours: Jeni Townsend, Amy Randall, Roger Heitzeg.

## Greenville After Hours will help launch Betty's Book Buddies

The Greenville After Hours Club has announced a partnership with A Child's Haven. The club is gearing up to build 5-6 reading nooks for their campus, and help launch their new program, *Betty's Book Buddies*.

A Child's Haven is a non-profit that treats children with developmental delays as a result of limited resources, abuse, or neglect, and provides support & education for their families.



**GREENVILLE AFTER HOURS IS A SATELLITE OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF GREENVILLE. IT MEETS ON THE 4TH THURSDAY AT 5:30 P.M. AT VARIOUS PLACES.**



The Rotary Club of Greenville teamed up with Rebuild Upstate to build an access ramp for a local homeowner. The project made the evening news on WYFF. This marks the second joint project between the club and Rebuild Upstate, A third joint build is planned for the fall.

## Greenville Club helps build ramp for local homeowner

◀ These club members are smiling and fresh as they get ready to start their day of building.

Roger Heitzeg  
Jeremy Ackles  
DGN Eric Krichbaum  
(Reedy River)

Jeremy Hart  
Carla Cadet  
Natalie Buck  
(Rebuild Upstate)

Jenifer Watson  
Lorraine Holeman  
Beth Kelly

➔ **YES, THAT'S SANTA:** On July 30 the Rotary Club of Greenville held a press conference to announce a new partnership for its flagship fundraiser, Kringle Holiday Village. The club is joining forces with the Greenville Convention Center's Holiday Fair for an epic Holiday Fair and Kringle Village on December 5-7. Santa even arrived in style on Sky4 to add to the thrill of the announcement.



**ANOTHER INTERACT CLUB: The Rotary Club of Greenville has just chartered a new Interact club at Greenville Tech Charter High School!**



## ROTARY CLUB OF GREER

# A heartfelt farewell and an exciting future

BY CARRIE KRAUSE

Rotary Club of Greer

The August 20 meeting was a memorable one for the Greer Rotary Club, filled with both joy and a touch of bittersweet emotion.

We celebrated and bid farewell to founding member Jim Mitchell as he prepares to move closer to his family. While we hate to say goodbye, we are grateful for the legacy Jim leaves behind.

To honor Jim's legacy, we named our newly established "Rotarian of the Year" award after him.

Then we named Jim as the first recipient of the **Jim Mitchell Rotarian of the Year**.

Moving forward, this recognition will be given annually to one exceptional Rotarian from our club. Jim's name will forever be linked with the spirit of service and leadership that he brought to our group.

### JIM GIVES SOMETHING TOO

In a heartwarming gesture, Jim donated his Paul Harris points to two of our club's first members, Anna Ryan and Jason Schoettekotte, making them both Paul Harris Fellows. What a remarkable way to leave a lasting impact on our club!

Though farewells can be difficult, we made sure the meeting was as fun as it was meaningful. We lightened the mood with a Kahoot! Quiz, engaging our members in a review of our member feedback survey results, which led to a lively brainstorming session. We came away with fresh ideas for service projects, social activities, and fundraising. The energy and enthusiasm in the room were a direct reflection of the foundation Jim helped to build.



↑ President Jim Nichols presents founding member Jim Mitchell with the Jim Mitchell Rotarian of the year award.

➡ The beautiful award for Jim.

↓ Jason Schoettekotte and Anna Ryan became Paul Harris Fellows because of Jim's donated points.



Jim, thank you for your leadership, generosity, and the legacy you've created for us all. We will miss you dearly, but we know that the next Rotary Club to welcome you will be incredibly fortunate. Best of luck in your new chapter!  
—Your fellow Rotarians



## SENECA GOLDEN CORNER



↑ Lt. Lisa Williams, center, with the Seneca Police Department updated the Golden Corner Rotary Club on programs she coordinates including senior citizens visitation and community block parties. Lisa thanked the numerous officers who volunteer their time with the programs. Pictured with Lisa are Rotarian Gene Williams and the club's co-President Beth Brown.

➔ CJ Cleaton and Michelle Robinson, the director and administration assistant at Seneca Recreation updated the Golden Corner Rotary Club about City of Seneca recreation growth and possible development of the former Seneca Middle School adjacent to the city's Shaver Recreation Center. Pictured from left are club co-President Patrick Lee, Michelle, CJ, and Rotarian George Bakogiannis.



➔ Riley Johnson, right, an Atlantic Coast Conference referee, updated the Golden Corner Club about the upcoming football season. Riley is also the City of Seneca Events Coordinator. Pictured with Riley are the club's co-presidents Patrick Lee and Beth Brown.



↑ Susie and ADG Steve Graves from the Rotary Club of Walhalla, spoke to Golden Corner about their experience at the 2024 RI Convention in Singapore.



◀ The Golden Corner Rotary Club is being led by Co-Presidents for the first time since its founding over 30 years ago. Patrick Lee and Beth Brown are sharing leadership duties as they guide the Seneca breakfast club into the future.



↑ D.J. Laws, center, presidential coordinator for community relations at Clemson University updated the Golden Corner Club on the growth of the university and working with the surrounding community. Pictured with D.J. are Golden Corner Rotary Club co-presidents Beth Brown and Patrick Lee.



# Meredith Oh is a third-generation Rotarian at Pickens

**BY MELANIE JOHNSON**

*President, Rotary Club of Pickens*

The Rotary Club of Pickens is proud to welcome Meredith Oh as a new member, marking a significant milestone in the club's rich history. Meredith is no ordinary addition to the club; she is the third generation in her family to join Rotary, following in the footsteps of her grandfather, Ed Hutton Sr., and her father, Ed Hutton Jr.

## A LEGACY OF SERVICE

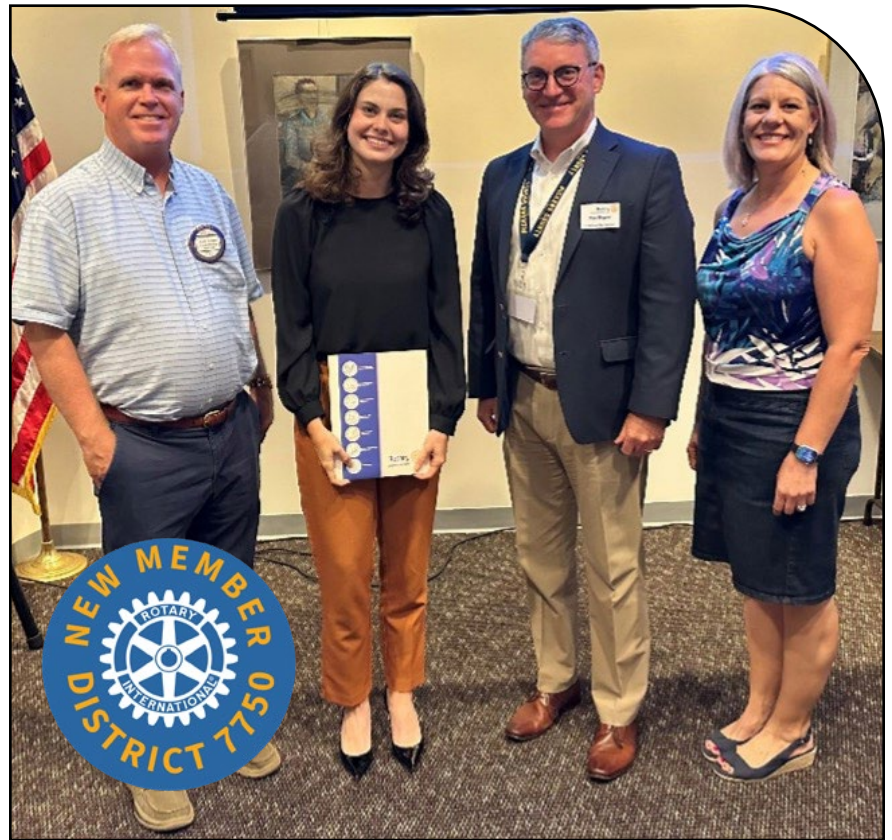
Meredith's grandfather, Ed Hutton Sr., was a respected member of the Pickens Rotary Club for over 20 years. Representing his business, General Insurance Agency, Ed Sr. was known for his dedication to Rotary's mission and his commitment to the local community. His long tenure in the club left a lasting impact, both within the organization and throughout Pickens.

Following closely in his father's footsteps, Ed Hutton Jr. continued the family legacy of service by becoming an active member of the Pickens Rotary Club. During his time, Ed Jr. not only represented his construction and real estate company, JR Builders, but he also took on the role of club president in 2009-2010. His leadership and contributions further solidified the Hutton family's enduring commitment to Rotary and the values it upholds.

## CONTINUING THE TRADITION

Now, Meredith Oh carries on the family tradition. Meredith represents JR Consolidated, a real estate investment company, and is eager to contribute to the community through Rotary's various initiatives. Her induction into the club is a testament to the strong family values of service and leadership that have been passed down through generations.

Meredith's involvement is expected to bring fresh perspectives and energy to the club, as she continues



## New member Meredith Oh

Membership chair Nath Briley, new member Meredith Oh, Meredith's sponsor Ken Roper and club president Melanie Johnson.

the legacy established by her grandfather and father. Her commitment to community service and professional excellence makes her a valuable addition to the Pickens Rotary Club.

## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

As Meredith embarks on her Rotary journey, the Pickens Club looks forward to the contributions she will make, both in honoring her family's legacy and in forging her own path within our organization. The club is excited to see how she will further the mission of Rotary and make a positive impact on the community, just as her family members have done before her.

**Meredith's induction as a third-generation member of the Pickens Club is not only a proud moment for her family but also a significant chapter in our club's ongoing story of service, leadership, and community engagement.**

**—Club President Melanie Johnson**



## Beth's September challenges to presidents

We are going to have a great Rotary Foundation year in 2024-25. To ensure that we do, I'm challenging all Club Presidents and Club Foundation Chairs to do the following:

1. Make sure your club sends in its first quarter donations to The Rotary Foundation before mid-September. Also, **make sure the funds are transmitted correctly so that individual Rotarians get the credit they deserve for their donations.** Unless a special donation has been made to PolioPlus, all club donations will go to Annual Fund – SHARE. Club Presidents and Club Foundation Chairs are responsible for making sure donations are sent on a timely basis to The Rotary Foundation.
2. If you did not make a Foundation donation in July, please make a gift (even a small one) before the end of September. It's such a powerful way of saying, "Please join me in donating to our Rotary Foundation!"
3. Ensure your club members know the importance of our Rotary Foundation. Make sure some topic related to The Rotary Foundation is on the agenda at least every month so your Rotarians know about the great work that we accomplish through our collective giving to The Rotary Foundation.
4. Tell your club members what you are doing with your District Grant. In doing so, make sure they know that their Foundation donations are funding half of the project.
5. Start planning for [World Polio Day](#) that is October 24. Check out the great information that is just [one click away](#).

**D-7750 Foundation Chair**  
**PDG BETH PADGETT**  
[bpadgettrotary@outlook.com](mailto:bpadgettrotary@outlook.com)



## Doing Good In The World



Basic  
Education  
& Literacy



Maternal &  
Child  
Health



Peace &  
Conflict  
Prevention/  
Resolution



Disease  
Prevention  
&  
Treatment



Water,  
Sanitation  
& Hygiene



Community &  
Economic  
Development



Support the  
Environment



## District Grant projects for 2024-25

# Clubs make a difference in their communities

### ABBEVILLE

#### Reading with Rotary \$1,450

The Rotary Club of Abbeville will work with the Abbeville County Library System to determine what furniture needs to be purchased for the children's and teens' areas and will assist in assembling furniture and setting up the spaces. The Rotary Club will purchase books and furniture, and Rotarians will also take part in special programs at the library such as Story Hour when the new spaces are created and opened for use.

### ABBEVILLE

#### Bags of Blessings \$1,050

The Abbeville Rotary Club will help alleviate food insecurity for students attending Calhoun Falls Charter School. This is in an economically disadvantaged community that was described by DHEC in 2019 as a food desert. The club will pack food items and supply them to the school.

### AIKEN

#### One for the Books \$2,240

The Rotary Club of Aiken will put a book in the hands of the students at the East Aiken School of Arts.

## FEATURED DISTRICT GRANTS THIS MONTH

| Club .....               | Project .....                 | Grant      |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Abbeville .....          | Reading with Rotary .....     | \$1,450.00 |
| Abbeville .....          | Bags of Blessings.....        | \$1,050.00 |
| Aiken .....              | One for Books .....           | \$2,240.00 |
| Aiken Sunrise.....       | Dictionaries.....             | \$4,675.00 |
| Anderson.....            | Homeland Park.....            | \$2,500.00 |
| Batesburg Leesville..... | Sole Stepping .....           | \$2,500.00 |
| Blacksburg .....         | Backpack Buddies.....         | \$1,000.00 |
| Chester .....            | Pedals Possible.....          | \$1,000.00 |
| Clemson .....            | Operation School Supply ..... | \$3,500.00 |
| Clemson .....            | Pedals Possible.....          | \$1,500.00 |
| Clemson Sunrise.....     | Green Crescent.....           | \$2,500.00 |
| Clemson Sunrise.....     | Path to Hope .....            | \$2,500.00 |
| Clinton .....            | Musical Kids.....             | \$2,500.00 |

This is beyond the selected classes participating in Rotary Readers.

### AIKEN SUNRISE

#### Dictionaries

#### \$4,675

The Rotary Club of Aiken Sunrise, along with two other Rotary Clubs, will provide dictionaries to all third graders in Aiken County. These go beyond traditional dictionaries by providing information regarding chemistry, geography, and much more as a general knowledge base for young learners.

### ANDERSON

#### Adopt Schools

#### \$2,500

The Rotary Club of Anderson will adopt Homeland Park and Varennes Elementary Schools and will provide T-shirts for field day and field trips, first day of school breakfast for teachers, donation of candy for Halloween, Teacher appreciation week and installation

of a Little Free Library. Both of these schools are in low-income areas where these extra benefits would otherwise not be possible.

### BATESBURG-LEESVILLE

#### Sole Stepping

#### \$2,500

The Batesburg-Leesville Rotary Club will provide shoes for all children who are qualified for free lunch according to the Federal guidelines. Nearly 100% of the student population for Saluda Elementary School falls in this category.

### BLACKSBURG

#### Backpack Buddies

#### \$1,000

The Blacksburg Rotary Club plans to both help pack and provide food to help feed school-age children in Blacksburg. Food will be sent home with the children for long weekends and holidays when they are unable to receive free or reduced breakfast/lunches

More, next page



## 2024-25 District Grants—

continued from previous page

normally provided by the school. The Rotary Club will hold two food drives associated with this project.

### CHESTER

#### Pedals Possible

**\$1,000**

The Chester Rotary Club will help purchase adaptive bicycles that allow children normally bound to wheelchairs or with limited mobility the chance to increase physical activity to a level of fitness and simply enjoy an activity that others enjoy as children.

### CLEMSON

#### Operation School Supply

**\$3,500**

The Rotary Club of Clemson will provide dictionaries and backpacks to all of the 3rd grade students at Clemson Elementary and Central Elementary Schools.

### CLEMSON

#### Pedals Possible

**\$1,500**

The Clemson Rotary Club will work with two other area Rotary Clubs to purchase adaptive bicycles that allow children normally bound to wheelchairs or with limited mobility the chance to increase physical activity to a level of fitness and simply enjoy an activity that we all enjoyed as a kid, riding a bike.

# Celebrate Our Foundation!

Evening dinner with awards and

Afternoon Foundation and Grant Application Training

**November 8**

Marriott Parkway  
Greenville

Details and Registration to follow in September

### CLEMSON SUNRISE

#### Path to Hope - Students

**\$2,500**

The Clemson Sunrise Rotary Club will assist students by providing dictionaries and companion books to elementary students in their area. They also be purchasing age-appropriate books for Camp iRock, a summer reading-recovery program put on by a collaboration of the school district, United Way, and the YMCA.

### CLEMSON SUNRISE

#### Green Crescent Trail

**\$2,500**

The Clemson Sunrise Rotary Club will provide funding for directional

signage and horticulture along the Green Crescent Trail which is a running/walking/biking trail in Clemson/Central.

### CLINTON

#### Musical Kids

**\$2,500**

The Clinton Rotary Club will provide 334 music lessons for underprivileged children at local Clinton schools.

### PHF+3 at Aiken➡

Jerry Hughson, left, reached Foundation giving level Paul Harris +3. Club President Forest Mahan presented his pin. Gifts like Jerry's make these District Grants possible.





**How can you participate?** We'll help you answer that question. Our campaign team and Jon Teich are ready to help you.

## Join our Million Dollar Campaign

**BY PDG BETH PADGETT**

*7750 Foundation Chair*

In May we announced the District 7750 Million Dollar Campaign for our Rotary Foundation. We want you to join us if possible. This campaign is designed to allow our Rotarians to make a greater impact across the globe and in our own communities through a robust campaign to strengthen our Foundation giving now and in the future.

You can become part of our Million Dollar Campaign with a gift of at least \$10,000 in new money. This could be through an outright gift to our Annual Fund or PolioPlus.

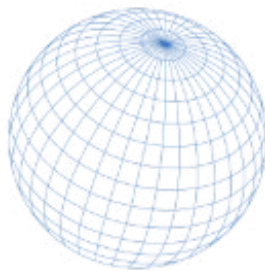
It could be through a three-year pledge. It could be through cumulative giving over our defined period for this campaign.

Or It could be through a gift to the Foundation endowment or a bequest.

Donors will be invited to a special celebration at the end of

our journey.

We officially launched our Million Dollar Campaign on July 1, 2023, with a “quiet phase.” The campaign was unveiled at our All Club Conference in May. Our goal is to help Rotarians learn how



**\$ 1 MILLION**  
*impact*

they can make a difference in the lives of people for generations.

Contact District Rotary Foundation Chair Beth Padgett at [bpadgettrotary@outlook.com](mailto:bpadgettrotary@outlook.com) for more information including how to work with Jon Teich, our region's Major Gifts Officer, on crafting a plan that is right for you and your family.

Here are some popular questions about our campaign:

### **Why are we doing this?**

To make a greater, sustained impact by supporting Foundation initiatives now and into the future.

### **When does this take place?**

The campaign officially runs from July 1, 2023, through January 31, 2026. All major gifts donated during this time will count.

### **What counts as**

**a Major Gift?** For the purposes of this campaign, (1) a Major Gift is an outright gift of \$10,000 or more, (2) cumulative giving of at

least \$10,000 during this period, (3) bequests or a donation to the endowment of at least \$10,000, or (4) a pledge made during this period that is fulfilled during a maximum of three years.

A three-year pledge could be made this month or even next year, and not fulfilled for three years, but it would count given the agreement required for a pledge.



### **PAUL HARRIS +3 FOR SAM**

Sam Stamps, a member of the Rotary Club of Golden Strip Sunrise, is just one of many Rotarians in our district who is a regular donor to the Foundation. He recently reached the level of Paul Harris +3. Congratulations and thanks to Sam for his continued support of our Foundation. This is just one reason he was the club's Rotarian of the Year.

**GIFTS LIKE SAM'S ALSO MAKE OUR DISTRICT GRANTS POSSIBLE.**



## New Members in July

|                      |                         |                          |                     |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Little, Ralph        | Anderson                | Gillespie, Andrew        | Indian Land Lunch   |
| McMahon, Maggie      | E-Club of the Carolinas | Dean, Jim                | Lake Wylie          |
| Bright, Julie R      | E-Club of the Carolinas | Meeks, Keron Jr.         | Lake Wylie          |
| Paul-Hill, Earcelia  | Emerald City            | Sellers, Keith           | Lake Wylie          |
| Askins, Stacie       | Emerald City            | Tomasovich, John         | Lake Wylie          |
| Bledsoe, Taryn       | Emerald City            | Singh, Samantha          | Lake Wylie          |
| Martin , Hailey Peay | Gaffney                 | Barr, Terrance D         | Lancaster           |
| Smith, Robin         | Greater Anderson        | Evans, Chiquita Nickie   | Lancaster Breakfast |
| Miller, Teresa       | Greenville              | Rogers, Floyd Earl Jr.   | Pickens             |
| Deluccia, TJ         | Greenville              | Oh, Meredith Hutton      | Pickens             |
| Park, Iris           | Greenville              | Gravely, Tanya Alexander | Pickens             |
| Shew, Jean           | Greenville              | Smith, Stephanie         | Pickens             |
| Himmelstein, Jessica | Greenville              | Ayer, Marsha             | Pickens             |
| Williams, Deborah K  | Greenville City Center  | Carr, Sherri Marie       | Seneca              |
| Christmas, Natalie   | Greenville City Center  | Clayton, Amber R.        | Spartan West        |

**JULY 2024: 30 NEW MEMBERS — 36 TERMINATED MEMBERS (1 DECEASED). Data from DaCdb.**



**THE ROTARY CLUB OF INDIAN LAND LUNCH** is on a roll with membership recruitment, having inducted three new members between July 1 and mid-August. In this photo, Rick Crane, third from left is being inducted into the evening satellite club. Also pictured are past ADG Babette Sabia, vice president Adam Cooper, and Rick's sponsor, Brian Endres. Having the advantage of being in a growing Charlotte suburb, Indian Land Lunch now has 56 members.

### What's going on at Walhalla??

One reason the Rotary Club of Walhalla is thriving is because club members are taking the time to educate themselves. For example, president Morton White and Foundation Chair Amber Crain attended Rotary Leadership Institute and Amber and president Steve Graves attended the Membership Summit.



**TWO MORE NEW MEMBERS AT WALHALLA:** Walhalla added two more new members in August: Aaron Zeller and Luke McPhail. Look for their names on the list in next month's newsletter. This club just keeps growing. Tucked up there in the corner of the state, they now have 35 members.

## Deadline for October newsletter is Sept. 25.

Send items to newsletter editor Sue Poss, [pdgsueposs@gmail.com](mailto:pdgsueposs@gmail.com).