

MAY

Youth Service

JUNE

Rotary Fellowships

JULY

Maternal and Child Health

DISTRICT GOVERNOR DAVID J. BRENNER
Rotary Club of Greenville Breakfast

7750

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



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MAJOR RECOGNITIONS AT DISTRICT CONFERENCE

More information and photos from the conference inside this newsletter.

PDG Beth Padgett received the Rotary International Service Above Self Award

Beth is a long-time member of the Rotary Club of Greenville, is a past club president, and has held multiple district leadership roles. She served as District Governor in 2020-21.



PDG Lance Young received the Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service

Lance is a member of the Rotary E-Club of the Carolinas. He served as District Governor in 2016-17 when he was a member and past president of the Rotary Club of Clemson.

PDG Beth receives RI's Service Above Self

BY DG DAVE BRENNER

At the All Club Conference on Saturday, April 25th District Governor Dave Brenner presented PDG Beth Padgett with Rotary International's Service Above Self Award.

The Service Above Self Award is the highest honor presented by Rotary International. It recognizes the Rotarians who embody Rotary's core principle of Service Above Self through outstanding humanitarian service and dedication. Only 150 Rotarians throughout Rotary International are presented this award annually.

PDG Beth has served Rotary in many ways. She was the first female President of the Rotary Club of Greenville. She served district 7750 as an Assistant Governor and was the District Governor in 2020-2021. She

has been the District Rotary Foundation Chair for the past five years. During her tenure our district completed a very successful Million Dollar Campaign raising more than two million dollars in support of the Rotary Foundation.

Beth is an RLI facilitator and a facilitator at the Carolinas PETS. In her RI service she has made trips to Honduras where our district supports providing clean water to remote villages, and most recently an Inoculation Trip to India where she inoculated children against Polio.

PDG Beth serves her community outside of Rotary as well. She has served on numerous committees at her church, and currently is serving on the finance committee.

But one of the most impressive

things to me is her continued hands-on support of her Rotary Club. If you attend a meeting or participate in a service project with the Rotary Club of Greenville you will find PDG Beth there. She serves as the Foundation Chair for her club. She also conducts Discover Rotary Meetings and New Member Orientation Meetings.

PDG Beth Padgett is a dedicated humanitarian both with her work in Rotary and outside of Rotary. She is a well deserved recipient of Rotary's most prestigious recognition, the "Service Above Self Award."

Join me in congratulating PDG Beth and thanking her for her service to Rotary, her community, and the world.

PDG Lance receives Foundation Service Award

BY PDG BETH PADGETT

Congratulations to Past District Governor Lance Young for receiving The Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service for his longtime commitment of service to Rotary. This prestigious recognition is bestowed upon individuals who have demonstrated service to The Rotary Foundation over many years.

The Citation for Meritorious Service is a celebration of those who exemplify Rotary's core values and mission. It does not take into account a person's contributions of money to The Foundation. Instead, it recognizes deep commitment to the Foundation through consistent service on Foundation Committees, participation in Foundation Grants or Programs, and direct volunteer work at the Club, District, Zone or International Level.

PDG Lance Young has been a strong advocate for

The Rotary Foundation during his entire time in Rotary and especially as District Governor in 2016-17. He has promoted Global Grants and especially our District's water and sanitation projects in Honduras. Lance served a three-year term as Zone 33 Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator where he developed a reputation for working closely with Rotary Districts to help them achieve their Foundation goals.

Lance especially distinguished himself over the past two years in serving as Co-Chair of District 7750's Million Dollar Campaign. He was a vital part of the management of this campaign while he also personally met with potential donors and coordinated outreach efforts.

Thanks to these two Rotarians who have done outstanding work through many years to foster Rotary's ideals and do what we all strive for: making the world better.

District Conference: What an Inspiring Rotary Weekend

BY DG DAVE BREENRER

As I write this article it is Monday after our 2026 All Club Conference, Rotary in Motion....Unite, Lead, Serve. And it did just that!

If you were not in attendance, you missed an extraordinary conference. From a 60s/70s party on Friday night, to the youth programs on Saturday morning with Gregor Baum's message on mental health, to Marshall Butler's message on PI, to the awards for PDGs Lance Young and Beth Padgett, and concluding Sunday morning's Jazz Brunch with an heartwarming and inspiring story from Sarah and Geoff Hart about the impact of Alzheimer's on their lives.

I am overwhelmed by the wonderful work by conference chair Travis Seward and the conference committee to organize such a fun, informative, and inspiring conference. I am so proud of you all, you are a tribute to Rotary. Thank you for a fabulous weekend.

I could go on and on about the conference, but I am going to focus on the message from Director-elect Marshall. His Rotary story began 25 years before he was born when his father contracted polio. His first hand knowledge of the impact of polio and the drive his father taught him about overcoming obstacles brought Marshall to Rotary.

Marshall then brought home the message of how important PI is to growing Rotary. He held two breakout sessions discussing the use of AI in telling your personal and club Rotary stories. How can your club attract new members if people do not know about the fun and work that your club does. Getting our message out is not only vital to attracting new members, it is vital to retaining our current members. We all want to be proud of our clubs, so let's make sure we are spreading that message.

Why does a company like Ford or Coke advertise and sponsor major events? Certainly part of it is to attract new customers, but the other reason is to remind their current customers that they made the right purchase decision. The same is true of a Rotary club. Your Rotary Club does great work (I know because I have visited each club in our district and have seen the work you are doing.), so let's make sure we tell everybody in your community about it. PI is not a secondary role in the club. PI is vitally important to the growth of your club. In order to **Grow Rotary** the PI team and the Membership team must lock arms and work together.

So let's work to increase the visibility of Rotary and your club in our communities. As Marshall said in his keynote address to us, there are plenty of Rotarians out there, they just don't know it yet. Use the PI tools to tell your club's Rotary story.

District Membership Chair Jamison Tinsley has challenged each club to end the year with at least a net +1 in membership. Share your Rotary story and I am confident that each club in our district can meet that challenge.



Director-Elect Marshall Butler, Jacksonville, Florida, is leading a revolution to tell our Rotary story in different ways so that everyone has a chance to know what we are about.

Governor's Challenge runs through May

This year's Governor's Challenge that started March 1 runs through May 31. DG Dave encourages Rotarians in District 7750 to contribute to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund during this challenge match. It was previously announced that the Challenge Match would end May 15. The deadline has been extended to May 31 to allow more Rotarians to participate in this opportunity.

Donations can be made online at My Rotary – <https://my.rotary.org/en/donate> or by calling the Rotary Support Center at 866-976-8279 and contributing over the phone. You also may send a donation by mail (The Rotary Foundation, 14280 Collections Center Drive, Chicago, IL 60693, USA) but if so, you must ensure the donation reaches Rotary International by the end of this challenge match.

Contributions of \$100 or more will be matched with the same number of Recognition Points (for example, if you donate \$100 you will get a match of 100 points). A maximum number of 500 points will

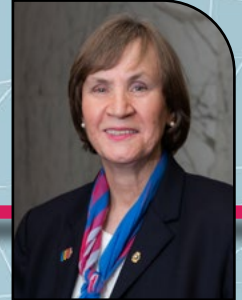
If you need help making a contribution, contact District Rotary Foundation Chair Beth Padgett at bpadgettrotary@outlook.com. Thank you for all you do for The Rotary Foundation. Together, we are "Doing Good in the World!"

be awarded per person.

Rotarians who are Major Donors or PHF+8 level donors are encouraged to participate but will not receive points.

(Donors at this level of giving can no longer receive Recognition Points but their gifts certainly are appreciated. Thank you for your leadership giving!)

Rotarians also are encouraged to give less than \$100 if a smaller gift better fits their budget but they cannot receive points based on RI rules.



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

THANKS TO DG DAVE, DRFC BETH PADGETT, AND ASSISTANT GOVERNOR JULIA LARSON FOR DONATING FOUNDATION RECOGNITION POINTS TO MAKE THIS CHALLENGE MATCH SUCCESSFUL.

Million Dollar Campaign final announced

District 7750's Million Dollar Campaign for The Rotary Foundation ended January 31 with amazing results. District Rotary Foundation Chair Beth Padgett announced that **\$2,165,280** of qualifying gifts were made or pledged during the campaign that ran from July 1, 2023 – January 31, 2026.

This campaign was about bringing in new money for The Rotary Foundation. A gift had to be at least \$10,000 donated or pledged during the campaign period, or it could be a Bequest of at least \$10,000 made during this time period. Donors for the Million Dollar Campaign were recognized during the Foundation Celebration on October 24 where the special guest speaker was Immediate Past Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick. **New donors will be recognized during the 2026 Foundation Celebration on Friday, Nov. 6 at the Greenville Marriott at One Parkway East.**



\$2,165,280



We're coming down the stretch so finish strong in membership growth

It is fitting with the Kentucky Derby coming up on the first Saturday in May that we are also coming down the stretch. It is hard to believe that this Rotary year only has two months left!

Thanks to all of your hard work, we are well positioned for the stretch run. June is always a tough month for membership as clubs clear the rolls of members who are no longer really participating before the RI invoice comes out to start the new Rotary year.

If clubs have questions or need assistance, please reach out. We have a district membership team in place to help with your efforts and to work through any challenges. I look forward to all clubs in our district finishing the year strong. Keep up the good work and we will end the year in the winner circle just like the champion thoroughbred at the Kentucky Derby.

D-7750 Membership Chair
JAMISON TINSLEY
 tinslerj@gmail.com



How do we overcome/prevent the June losses? Steps to avoid a June membership disaster:

- 1 Visit the Membership Success Center so you know where you stand when it comes to membership. Look at how many members your club has brought in this year, how many the club has lost, and how many more the club is expected to lose based off of the club's historical trends. That way you can see how many new Rotarians your club needs to hit your membership goal.
- 2 If you are way behind the goal, your club set at the beginning of the year, don't fret. Remember our challenge to finish Net +1 from where your club was on March 1. That goal is still very much in reach.
- 3 May is not too late to have a Discover Rotary event so have a Discover Rotary event this month. As I've said repeatedly, Discover Rotary is the most effective way to bring in new Rotarians, but it does not have to be one size fits all so make it fit your club culture and effectively spread the word about your Rotary Club to prospects.
- 4 If club members, seem checked out, go ahead and reach out to them now to get them re-engaged. If we wait until June, to reach out to these people it's probably too late.
- 5 Keep your clubs focused on giving the gift of Rotary by bringing in new members so that we spread the good we do in our communities, our district, and our world.

Emphasize our service to young people during YOUTH SERVICES MONTH

7750 SERVICE TO YOUTH

BY DG DAVE BRENNER

May is Youth Services month in the Rotary world. The work that our Rotary District does to support the youth in our district is a very important part of what we do and arguably one of the least known services of Rotary.

I am very proud and excited about all the great support our Rotary clubs provide to the youth in their communities. Many clubs support schools, Interact clubs, and Scout units. As I was visiting clubs this year, I often had the opportunity to meet many of the interactors and their school advisors. The Interact Clubs often partner with the host club on service projects and fundraisers.

At our recent All Clubs Conference we highlighted our youth on Saturday morning. For the first time, Interact students attended the conference. They participated in breakout sessions specifically designed for them. And what an interactive group of young men and women. These young people are the leaders of tomorrow.

If you did not have the opportunity to hear and see the kickoff presentation by Emerson Fletcher, you missed a very impressive young lady. Emerson was recommended to us by Mark Peeler, RYLA Director,

when we were looking for a RYLA counselor to start our morning session.

Following Emerson we heard from Gregor Baum, a Rotoractor from Germany. He talked to us about mental illness. He openly discussed his mental recovery when he hurt his back and lost his lifelong dream of playing college tennis.

We were also honored to welcome the Youth Exchange Students at our Saturday morning session. We have three inbound students this year and five outbound students for next year. As I have heard many times, what better peace ambassadors do we have than these young men and women?

As I mentioned Emerson Fletcher is a RYLA graduate and will be a counselor at RYLA at Erskine College in June. She could not be a better example of the benefit that the young people in your community will get by attending RYLA, This year RYLA will be from June 13-17. I encourage every club in district 7750 to send at least one rising high school Junior or Senior to RYLA.

Thank you District 7750 Rotarians for your support of the youth in your community.

Interact
PEOPLE OF ACTION



rotary
youth
exchange

RYLA

Rotaract
PEOPLE OF ACTION



As you look through this newsletter (and all of our others past and future), you will see just a few of the youth services projects our clubs are doing—the value of which we cannot measure!

Aiken Sunrise celebrates 40 years of service

Installs new Blessing Box to help those in need

BY KANDACE CAVE

President, Rotary Club of Aiken Sunrise

The **Rotary Club of Aiken Sunrise** is celebrating an incredible milestone: **40 years of service above self**. To honor the occasion, club members decided to celebrate the way Rotarians know best, by serving our community.

Immediately following one of our recent meetings, several Sunrisers rolled up their sleeves and installed the newest **Blessing Box in Aiken County**, putting Rotary's call to **Unite for Good** into action through meaningful **service and community impact**.

Blessing Boxes Aiken is an anti-poverty network with more than 100 boxes located across Aiken County. Often placed at churches and community locations, the boxes operate on a simple but powerful idea: **"Take what you need, leave what you can."** They typically hold donations such as non-perishable food, toiletries, pet food, and reusable grocery bags to support neighbors facing difficult times.

While the Blessing Box concept exists nationwide, the local effort began in late 2017, on December 26, known around the world as **Boxing Day**. In Aiken County, early champions of the initiative included Melanie Carver Inabinet and Jane Page Thompson, whose leadership helped grow the network that now supports residents throughout the community.

The Rotary Club of Aiken Sunrise proudly led the construction and design of this newest Blessing Box, thanks to the craftsmanship and initiative of new Rotarian Charles McCray, who was the project lead, designer and carpenter. Sunrise Board Member Mary Allen helped coordinate the effort and generously provided a location for the box on her business property. Several club members assisted with the installation, and Sunrisers immediately stocked the box with food and other essential items.

This project is not a one-time effort. The Blessing Box will become an ongoing service project for the club, with members committed to keeping it supplied

so that neighbors in need can find support when they need it most.

But the Blessing Box is about more than providing food or basic necessities. It represents community, compassion, and connection. It creates a space where people can quietly help one another and strengthens the spirit of unity within our community.

The Blessing Box quietly supports neighbors from all walks of life. Seniors living on fixed incomes, working families facing unexpected expenses, college students managing tight budgets, and individuals



BLESSING BOX INSTALLED TO CELEBRATE 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

Aiken Sunrise members with their new Blessing Box: Jon Fagan, ADG King Laurence, PDG Rysheeka Bush, Clayton Clarkson, Mary Allen, Charles McCray and Dean Cheatham

experiencing homelessness may all find help inside. Because the boxes are used anonymously, the full reach of their impact is never fully known. What is certain, however, is that each item placed inside has

the potential to ease a burden and remind someone that their community cares.

The Blessing Box project demonstrates that through Rotary service, unity, and impact, small acts of kindness can make a big difference.

As the Rotary Club of Aiken Sunrise celebrates 40 years, we remain committed to our mission of service above self and creating lasting impact through service.



MORE PHOTOS, NEXT PAGE

Greenville Rotary's Career Day helped students think about/plan for their future

BY PAM WEAVER

Rotary Club of Greenville

Ninety high school sophomores and juniors joined the Rotary Club of Greenville for Career Day 2026. At noon they enjoyed a delicious lunch and meeting with club members.

The program consisted of three panelists, interviewed by Channel 7 Anchor, Amy Wood. Each told the story of their career path.

Students also learned of other opportunities Greenville Rotary offers: Rotary Youth Exchange, RYLA and

Service Above Self Scholarships. Greenville County Technical College sponsored the event, including the cost of lunch and parking for the students and their chaperones.

Following the regular meeting, students met with Rotarians for round-table discussions about the career cluster of their choice. Some groups stayed

at the Westin Poinsett, while others walked to nearby businesses for a discussion and shadowing opportunity. Those experiences included the Channel

7 Newsroom, an architecture firm, a law firm, a theatre and the Greenville Symphony board room.

Probably the biggest take-away for the students was that they don't have to decide what career they want for the rest of their lives. Career paths take many



GREENVILLE'S SERVICE TO YOUTH

different twists and turns.

Following the event, one member said, "**That reminded me of why I'm a Rotarian.**" They meant that they—as a Rotarian—knew they made a huge difference in a high school student's life by hosting a round-table on Career Day



GREENVILLE'S SERVICE TO YOUTH



◀Wade Kolb, Geoff Petis, Laura Nicholas and Amy Wood, Channel 7 News Anchor as the moderator.



GREENVILLE'S CAREER DAY





Donated Eight Hams to Generation Boys Group Home

➔ The Greenville Breakfast Rotary Club presented a \$500 check to Harvest Hope Food Bank to help fuel their mission of ending hunger across the Upstate. This donation isn't just a number—it represents meals on the tables of our neighbors, seniors, and veterans. Pictured: Rotarian Tammy Rhoades with Jennifer Gulledge from the Harvest Hope Food Bank.



"We believe that no one in our community should go hungry."

"We are proud to support an organization that ensures no one in our community has to wonder where their next meal is coming from."

Rotary Club of Greenville Breakfast:

A SIZZLING SUCCESS: The 2026 Easter smoked ham sale

BY MARY KEDROWSKI

Rotary Club of Greenville Breakfast

There is nothing quite like the smell of a smoker at dawn to bring a community together! For the Easter Holiday, the Greenville Breakfast Rotary Club turned up the heat for our annual Easter Smoked Ham Sale, and we are thrilled to announce it was a resounding success.

Our dedicated "pitmasters" started the process late Friday night, tending to the hickory smoke to ensure every ham was perfect for Saturday's pickup. By the time 10:00 am rolled around on Saturday, April 4, the air at our pickup site was filled with the delicious aroma of tradition and service.

This year, we sold 21 hams, raising vital funds for our club's service projects. But the real heart of this fundraiser was eight hams generously donated by our supporters to give to our community partner, Generation Boys Group Home.

Being able to provide these high-quality, smoked

meals to the young men at the group home allows us to spread the holiday spirit exactly where it's needed most. It's a delicious way to live out our motto of Service Above Self.

The event is more than just a fundraiser, as the pickup location transformed into a hub of fun and fellowship. We didn't just hand out hams; we carved one up right on the spot! Members and their guests enjoyed fresh ham sandwiches, cold beverages, chips, and cookies while catching up and enjoying the beautiful spring weather.

It was the perfect "Rotary Done Differently" moment—combining hard work, community giving, and genuine social connection.

A huge thank you to everyone who reserved a ham for their own table or chose to donate one. At \$50 per ham, every single purchase helps fuel our mission to support Greenville.

NEWS FROM PLEASANTBURG

Pleasantburg's Annual Spring Sing

Pleasantburg Rotary's forty-fourth Spring Sing, held at the Peace Center Concert Hall in Greenville, featured stellar performances by an elementary honor choir and a middle school honor choir.

The honor choirs are composed of students from every elementary and middle school in the Greenville County School system.



Elementary School Honor Choir



Middle School Honor Choir



PLEASANTBURG'S SPRING SING HELPERS

Left to right back row: Linda Lee, Bill McCann, John McAfee, Bobby Elrod, Sam Doyle, Susan Spencer, Karoline Ziegler.

Front row: Susan Hughes, Alessio Tosini, Wade Cleveland, Travis Seward, Larry Lee, Melissa Hester.

PLEASANTBURG'S NEWS SUBMITTED BY LINDA LEE.



District grant helps Pleasantburg Dress a Child. Well, dress a lot of children!

With a district grant and matching club funds, Pleasantburg Rotary partnered again with Old Navy at Cherrydale Point in Greenville to provide clothing for **95** children from Cherrydale Elementary School during early morning shopping trips coordinated by the Cherrydale social work staff. Pleasantburg Rotarian Larry Lee (center) assists a Cherrydale parent and child.

PLEASANTBURG'S SERVICE TO YOUTH



PLEASANTBURG ROTARIANS AT THE CHERRYDALE SCHOOL FESTIVAL

Top: Co-President Travis Seward is wowed by the pizza served at the Cherrydale Elementary School's spring festival. Bottom: Regina Coulomb (right), the club's liaison with Cherrydale Elementary School, assists volunteers at the school's annual spring festival.



ST JOSEPH INTERACTORS IN ST. PATRICK DAYS PARADE

Members of the St. Joseph's School Interact Club, sponsored by Pleasantburg, participated in Greenville's annual St. Patrick's Day parade.



PLEASANTBURG'S BIRDS AND BREWS SOCIAL

Pleasantburg club's annual Birds and Brews Social, led by intrepid Pleasantburg resident expert birder AG Eric Baker (fifth from right), enabled club members and friends to enjoy the sights and sounds of Conestee Nature Preserve.



WADE AS CARNAK

Rick Evans, with Pleasantburg Co-President Wade Cleveland's assistance, demonstrates his ventriloquial and puppeteering skills at a club lunch meeting.



PLEASANTBURG'S AUTOMATIC TACO SOCIAL

Pleasantburg Rotarians, spouses, and friends enjoyed good food and fellowship at Automatic Taco in Greenville. Left to right, back row: Alecia and Bobby Elrod, Margaret Marcum, Linda Lee, Teresa Lee, Jack Hagopian, Susan Spencer, Larry Lee, Kathy Sharp. Left to right, front: Wade Cleveland, Tammy Harrison, Susan Hughes, George Hughes.



AIKEN'S STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Pictured with some club members

Caden Jenkins, Aiken High School
 Angel Patel, South Aiken High School
 Sam Terlizzi, South Aiken Baptist Christian School
 Tavion Woodley, Aiken Scholars Academy
 Kylie Babb, USC Aiken

ROTARY CLUB OF AIKEN

NEW MEMBERS AT AIKEN

The Rotary Club of Aiken has added two new members: Megan Pruitt, sponsored by Buzz Rich, and Andy Kistner, sponsored by Mark Heaton. Mary Tilton and Jimmy Foley are the club's membership co-chairs. Pictured, left to right, are Jimmy Foley, Mark Heaton, Andy Kistner, Megan Pruitt, Buzz Rich, Mary Tilton, and Club President Keyatta Priester.





FEED AND SEED APRIL 21

Golden Strip Sunrise Rotarians completed another food packing project at Feed and Seed in Greenville. In less than one hour, 168 boxes were packed and ready for distribution. Feed and Seed is a non-profit food innovation hub that supports local farmers and increases community access to fresh local food. Pictured from left: Becky Miller, Melinda Gilreath, Trip Gilreath, Angie Gruenemeir, Jim Caprell, Kat Arnold, Randy Gordon, Mike Watson, Steve Epps, Sam Stamps.



MIKE WATSON PHF

Congratulations to Mike Watson, the newest Paul Harris Fellow at Golden Strip Sunrise! With him in the photo is Co-President Dee Vaughan.



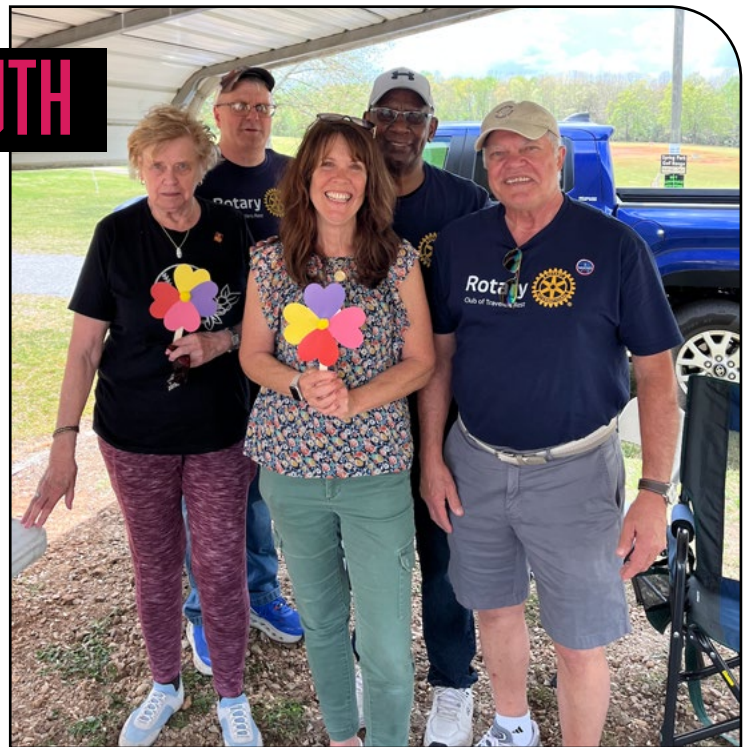
ASSEMBLING BAGS FOR TRI MY BEST

Golden Strip Sunrise is one of the sponsors in the sixth annual Tri My Best Race at the Salvation Army Kroc Center. This is a swim/bike/run event for children with developmental disabilities. Rotarians in the photo are assembling swag bags for the participants. From left are Sam Stamps, Patrick Cox, Mike McCourry, Angie Gruenemeir, Trip Gilreath, Vince Petrell, Mike Watson, Jim Cashion.

TRAVELERS REST SERVICE TO YOUTH

TRAVELERS REST HOSTED CHILDREN'S EVENT AT EASTER; PROMOTED CLUB TO THEIR PARENTS!

Members of the Rotary Club of Travelers Rest hosted a Bunny Hop event in downtown Travelers Rest. The booth encouraged children to make Easter crafts for their families, while Rotarians promoted the club to their parents. Featured in the photograph are Rotary Club members Helena Travis, Allen McClellan, Harvey Choplin, and Ron Donkers. Jodie Gilbert is a prospective member for the club.—Les Hicken



DISTRICT 7750'S SERVICE TO YOUTH

BUILDING BEDS FOR CHILDREN

Prior to the official start of the District Conference, Rotarians had a chance to assemble beds for children in our district who previously had no bed in which to sleep. Because of space limitations, the Sleep in Heavenly Peace bed build focused on productivity instead of completion, so there were a dozen headboards and a dozen slat-rolls completed. To complete these dozen beds, two long boards and a footboard will be added later. There were 30 volunteers made up of Rotarians, RYE students and family members of Rotarians, and they all were involved and engaged.

CART JAZZ BRUNCH AFTER CONFERENCE: A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

Rotarians who attended the after-conference CART brunch heard directly from former Greenville newscaster/ anchor Geoff Hart—with help from his wife Sarah—about his journey with Alzheimer's. The first sign for him that something was wrong was that he could not say the word *canoe* when he saw it on a teleprompter.



Linking Rotarians Across the Upstate

Rotary CONNECTS



Build Friendships Beyond Your Club



Share & Learn from Each Other



Discuss Challenges & Ideas



Expand Your Rotary Network

Organized by the Rotary Club of Greenville for all Rotarians and prospects:

Introducing Rotary Connects

BY SUZY TUMBLIN

Rotary Club of Greenville

We're excited to share an evolution of a familiar and valued tradition.

What was previously known as Health & Happiness Hour is now becoming Rotary Connects: a refreshed and expanded initiative designed to bring all Upstate Rotary clubs together in a more flexible, inclusive, and collaborative way.

What is Rotary Connects?

Rotary Connects is a shared conduit for connection, idea-sharing and fellowship across clubs. It's an open invitation for Rotarians throughout the Upstate to:

- Build relationships beyond their home club
- Share what's working and learn from others
- Discuss challenges and exchange ideas
- Strengthen the overall impact of Rotary in our area
- Expand personal connection (networking) outside of your home club

How it works

Any Rotary club may participate, but Rotarians in the upstate are particularly encouraged to join in. Clubs closest to Greenville are also invited to host a Rotary Connects event.

Hosting is simple:

- Plan a social, networking, or multi-club event .
- Extend an invitation to all Upstate Rotary clubs through Rotary Connects.

- Welcome fellow Rotarians to join, connect, and collaborate.
- Please be mindful not to overlap other clubs' regular meeting time.

JOIN US FOR THE KICKOFF EVENT!

- **May 18th**
- **5:00 - 7:00 PM**
- **Merrill Gardens**
90 Payne St, Greenville

Experience the beautiful rooftop space and connect with fellow Rotarians from across the Upstate. Merrill Gardens will provide food & beverages.

Why Rotary Connects?

Because we are stronger together. By opening our doors to one another, we create more opportunities for fellowship, innovation and shared success across all clubs.

This is not a separate program or a one-club deal; it's a shared experience, built by all of us.

Let's connect. Let's collaborate. Let's grow — together.

Welcome to Rotary Connects.

Questions: Suzy Tumblin 864-275-6882
suzytumblin@kw.com

Rotary
District 7750



District 7750 Awards & Installation Picnic

July 11, 2026
Greer City Park & Events Center
10:00 - 4:00 PM
1:30 PM – Awards & Installation

***Celebrate, connect & enjoy a
summer picnic!***

Food trucks, inflatables, games & more!

**Something New
Is Coming...**

**Keep an
eye on
your Inbox!**

We're putting the finishing touches on this year's District 7750 **Awards & Installation Picnic**, and registration will be opening soon. This year's event brings a new, more relaxed format with time for fellowship, family, and fun before we gather to celebrate the year and welcome new leadership. It's a great opportunity to connect across clubs in a different way.

Watch your inbox for the official registration announcement with full details—we can't wait to see you there.—DGE Eric Krichbaum

New Members in March

Adair, Gregory Bates	Spartanburg	Kistner, Andy	Aiken
Aikman, Tyler M	Golden Strip Sunrise	Lee, Stacy	York
Anderson, Savannah	Rock Hill	lloyd, Denise W	Indian Land
Bailey, Roger	Union	Lowry, Denise A	Golden Strip Sunrise
Batten, Lola M	Gaffney	Loyd, Tim G	Clemson
Baxley, Justin	Newberry	Mandeville, Irena	Greenville
Bouknight, David III	Batesburg-Leesville	Martinez, Tricia	Indian Land
Boyd, Hamilton B	Indian Land	McCollum, Saunders	Anderson
Boyles, Kyle Dean	Spartanburg	Miller, Kent	Spartanburg
Bryant, Devin	Emerald City	Moody, Brian	Indian Land
Burgett, Joseph	Clemson	Moss, Lionel	Emerald City
Creager, Stephen	Clemson	Mullins, Jimmy Dale	Greenville
Emmons, Taylor	Spartanburg	Olson, Mike	Anderson
Gaffney, Gary	Fountain Inn	Parrish, Sid	Newberry
Gebert, Ken	Greer	Pennington, Dori	Aiken
Gross, Michael	Golden Strip Sunrise	Pruitt, Megan	Aiken
Hargette, John W.	Greenwood	Ramseur, David D.	Greenville
Hickman, Linda H	Golden Strip Sunrise	Roberts, Angela C	Golden Strip Sunrise
Holiday, Matthew	Spartanburg	Salter, Patricia	Anderson
Holland, Denise R.	Greenwood	Sill, Lindsey C	Golden Strip Sunrise
Honeycutt, Nikki	Spartanburg	Smyth, Douglas	Anderson
Hungerford, Melanie	Greenville	Sullivan, Chris	Anderson
Hurt, Dennis	Greenville	Tate, Barikia N	Gaffney
Janowiak, Steven	Newberry	Timms, April	Emerald City
Johnson, Chandler	Easley	Tyler, Bobby	Fort Mill
Keller, Carlyne	Golden Strip Sunrise	Van Fleet, Susan Jo	Clemson
Kilbarger, Joe	Fort Mill	Wright, Simon A	Clemson

MARCH 2026: 46 NEW MEMBERS —22 TERMINATED MEMBERS (5 DECEASED). Data from DaCdb.

Deadline for June newsletter is **May 25.**

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

Feel free to send your news items throughout the month.