



Upcoming Events

*Speaker schedule and upcoming events can also be found on
Charlotte Rotary's website under "Events / News".*

***Tues., Nov. 12 - Weekly Meeting:** *Jack Claiborne, Historical Author*

**Remember to bring a coat, sweater, or any warm clothing for donation to Western NC.*

Tues., Nov. 12 - Volunteer Opportunity: The Salvation Army Bell Ringing Sign-ups. Sign-ups to ring the bell for The Salvation Army will be available at the weekly meeting. See full details below.

Wed., Nov. 20 - Leadership Impact Group Monthly Meeting 5:30–7 p.m., Lost Worlds Brewing, 1100 Metropolitan Ave., Suite 165, Charlotte.

Thurs., Nov. 21 - Club Social: Rhino Market & Deli 4:30–7:30 p.m., See below for more details. [Click here](#) to let us know you are coming.

Sun., Dec. 1 - Excellence in Leadership, Nominations due. See details below.

Wed., Dec. 4 - Volunteer Opportunity: Big Brothers Big Sisters Book Drive Book assembly and social. Details to come.

Tues., Dec. 17 - Volunteer Opportunity: Blood Drive! Join Charlotte Rotary and the American Red Cross Blood Drive, 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code Charlotterotary or call 1-800-redcross to make your appointment.

This Week's Meeting



Michael Bitzer, Politics Dept Chair/Professor of Politics and History, Catawba College

by **Paul Bartholomy**

Dr. Michael Bitzer was welcomed to the stage of Charlotte Rotary with a room full of open eyes and ears ready to become better informed on the political landscape of our nation as well as our home state of North Carolina. With his wealth of knowledge and notable expertise accumulated from years of research and teaching, we were privileged to learn the unique political facts and insights that he had to share.

Dr. Bitzer explained how North Carolina is a battleground state and furthermore a “stuck and bipolar” state. It was noted that the key factor driving a lot of North Carolina politics these days is regionalism. “If

you drive from any point in the state 45 minutes in any direction, you will feel as if you are in a very different state". He explained that this regionalism has a huge component in helping us understand our state's politics. Party identification is so evenly divided in our state, but when you split our state into the four varying regions of central cities, urban suburbs, surrounding suburban counties, and rural counties, you can see how party identification differs in these areas. The resulting combination though is a highly polarized and competitive state. He does not see this changing any time soon for North Carolina. [Click here to read more.](#)

A recording of the meeting can be found here:

With slides: <https://vimeo.com/1027986438>

Without slides: <https://vimeo.com/1026701315>

The presenter's introduction begins at approximately 22 minutes and 25 seconds.





Club News



Honoring Veterans at our Nov. 12 Meeting

At our Nov. 12 meeting, we will be honoring our Rotary veterans. If you have served in the military, please email Christine Cipriano at christine@charlotterotary.org so we can recognize you and celebrate your service. We look forward to this opportunity to express our gratitude to all who have served.

Current Charlotte Rotary Board of Directors

A huge thank you to the 2024-2025 Board of Directors for the work they are currently doing to serve the Rotary Club of Charlotte:

- President **Kim Brattain**
- President-Elect **Patrick Baker**
- Immediate Past President **Edwin Peacock**
- Secretary **Bill Gill**
- Treasurer **Craig Field**
- Sergeant at Arms **Mike Wollinger**

Current Directors: **Linwood Bolles**, **Woodson Bradley**, **Benton S. Bragg**, **John F. Cantrell**, **Tish Atkins Charles**, **Terri DeBoo**, **Andrew "Andy" B. Dinkin**, **Dena R. Diorio**, **Donna Y. Dunlap**, **Joel D. Ford**, **Stuart P. Hair**, **David Head**, **Jesse G. Hite**, **Virginia Owen**

Newly Elected Charlotte Rotary Board of Directors

At the Tues., Nov. 5 weekly meeting, elections were held for the 2025-2026 Board of Directors. *Congratulations* to the following members who will begin their terms on July 1, 2025, to serve with President **Patrick Baker**:

- **Karen Calder**
- **J Hill**
- **Lori Keeton**
- **Michael Orzech**



Congratulations to President-Nominee, [Bill Bartee](#)

At our Tuesday, Nov. 5 weekly meeting, Charlotte Rotary elected Mr. [Bill Bartee](#) as the President-Nominee for the 2026-2027 Rotary Fiscal Year. Bill, owner of Jesse Brown's Outdoors, will bring his leadership and dedication to serve as President beginning in July 2026. Please join us in congratulating Bill on this exciting new role!

HOLIDAY BOOK DRIVE!

EVERY TUESDAY DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER!



**GOAL: 100+ BOOKS TO PROVIDE WINTER
BREAK READING FOR YOUNG SCHOLARS!**

PLEASE BRING NEW BOOKS!

ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, OR HIGH
SCHOOL READING LEVELS!



GREAT SPOTS TO SHOP!

WALMART, TARGET, BOB'S, COSTCO, SAM'S CLUB, OR AMAZON!



Throughout November, Charlotte Rotary is collecting books for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Carolinas Holiday Book Drive! Help bring joy and inspire young readers by bringing a new book each Tuesday. Your donations will make a wonderful impact this holiday season. Let's come together to make a difference—one book at a time!



Rotary Third Thursday at Rhino Market & Deli

Thurs., Nov. 21, 4:30–7:30 p.m. - Our Third Thursday November fellowship social event will be held on Nov. 21 at the SouthPark Rhino Deli. Join members of our club and bring a friend (or two or three). There is no cost to attend, but we do need to let them

know how many to expect so please use the **SignUpGenius link** to RSVP.

- **Date:** Thurs., Nov. 21
- **Time:** 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- **Where:** Rhino Market & Deli, 4300 Congress St., Charlotte, NC
- **Questions?** Contact Harriett Porter at harriettporter@gmail.com

Be sure to sign up early for dinner—Click [here](#) to sign-up.

PAST RECIPIENTS

- 2024 Johnny Harris
Lincoln Harris
- 2023 Erskine Bowles
Bowles Hollowell Conner
- 2022 Harvey Gantt
Gantt Huberman Architects
- 2021 Pat Rogers
Rogers
- 2020 Tony Marciano
Charlotte Rescue Mission
- 2019 John Lassiter
Carolina Legal Staffing
- 2018 David Furman
Architect
- 2017 Patrick L. McCrory
Governor
- 2016 Dr. Pamela Davies
Queens University
- 2015 Michael C. Tanwater
Carolinas HealthCare
- 2014 Jane McIntyre
United Way of Central Carolinas
- 2013 Wayland N. Cato, Jr.
Cato Corporation
- 2011 Frank Harrison
Coca-Cola Bottling
- 2009 Thomas M. Belk, Jr.
Belk Stores Services Inc.
- 2008 Peter S. Gilchrist
Mecklenburg County DA
- 2007 Allen Tate, Jr.
Allen Tate Company
- 2006 Luther L. Fincher, Jr.
Charlotte Fire Department
- 2005 Tom Nelson
National Gypsum
- 2004 Krista Tillman
BellSouth
- 2003 Michael Marsicano
Foundation for the Carolinas
- 2002 Dr. Tony Zeiss
CPOC
- 2001 Jerry Orr
Charlotte Douglas International Airport
- 2000 Dr. Billy Wireman
Queens College
- 1999 Harry Brace
YMCA
- 1998 John Belk
Belk Stores Services Inc.
- 1997 Hugh McColl
Bank of America
- 1996 Freda Nicholson
Discovery Place
- 1995 James Woodward
UNC Charlotte
- 1994 Johnnie Jones
J. A. Jones Construction
- 1993 Edward E. Crutchfield
First Union Corporation
- 1992 F. Kenneth Iverson
Nucor Corporation
- 1991 Byron L. Bullard
Presbyterian Hospital
- 1990 Bill Lee
Duke Power Company
- 1989 Leroy Robinson
Belk Stores Services Inc.
- 1988 A. F. "Pete" Sloan
Lance Inc.



Rotary

EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP

Each year, the Rotary Club of Charlotte and the Charlotte Business Journal join to recognize the accomplishments of a regional leader through the Excellence in Leadership Award. This year's winner will be presented at a club luncheon in February.



NOMINATION PROCESS

Review the qualities of excellence listed below and consider nominating a regional leader who exhibits those qualities. Explain why the nominee meets the criteria and why you feel he/she should receive this recognition by providing your comments on one 8 1/2" X 11" sheet. Please attach a brief biographical sketch of your nominee as well. Your nominee does not need to be aware of your submission. Note that politicians are typically not considered unless their non-political activities warrant consideration.

DEADLINE December 1, 2024

SUBMITTAL

Submit nominations to Committee Chair David Zimmerman at dzimmerman@southernshows.com or mailed to Southern Shows PO Box 36859, Charlotte NC 28236

QUALITIES OF EXCELLENCE

When nominating your choice, list extraordinary achievements citing examples of leadership and how they reflect credit to the leader and his/her organization. Consider the following:

- Success in the nominee's profession and business or organization
- Visionary leadership and execution
- Significant contributions for the good of the Charlotte region
- Civic mindedness and community involvement
- Humble in their success
- A reputation for character in keeping with the values of the Four-Way Test



Rotary
Club of Charlotte

**CHARLOTTE
BUSINESS JOURNAL**

1850 E. 3rd St., Ste 220 | Charlotte, NC 28204 USA | 704.375.6816 | charlotterotary.org

Excellence in Leadership

The Excellence in Leadership Award Committee is now accepting nominations for this year's award. Established in 1988 by the Rotary Club of Charlotte, Charlotte Business Journal, and the Charlotte Chamber, the Management Excellence Award celebrates outstanding leadership in the Charlotte-area business community. Inspired by Rotary's commitment to "high ethical standards in business," the award highlights the role of professionals who exemplify integrity, fairness, and service. As always, we will honor someone who exemplifies visionary leadership in their profession or organization. Nominees should demonstrate remarkable professional success, visionary leadership, civic involvement, and a reputation for integrity that aligns with the Four-Way Test.

Nominations are due December 1. Contact [Christine Cipriano](#) at christine@charlotterotary.org for the details, including a list of past recipients



Charlotte Rotary Red Kettle Campaign

The Charlotte Rotary club enters its 30th year of support to The Salvation Army's annual Red Kettle Campaign. This support has included volunteer bell ringers at Uptown locations, a raffle, and a virtual red kettle (online) to help with fundraising efforts.

There are two ways in which Rotarians can participate:

1. Sign up to ring the bell.
2. Purchase raffle tickets (at upcoming meetings or online)

Sign-ups for bell ringing will take place at the Nov. 12 and 19 Rotary meetings or you can email mark.norman@jwu.edu.

Volunteer slots are one hour each and the schedule is as follows:

Dec. 4, 6, 11, and 18 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at The Square uptown

Dec. 7 from 2 p.m. – 7 p.m. at Truist Field

Raffle tickets will be sold at Rotary meetings on Dec. 3, 10, and 17 with raffle prizes drawn each week. You can also purchase raffle tickets online by contributing to our Virtual Red Kettle. Just click on the QR code below to make your contribution directly. You will receive one raffle ticket for each \$20 contribution. (i.e. \$100 gift = 5 raffle tickets)

The efforts of Charlotte Rotary will contribute to serving thousands of youth this holiday season and in the coming year.



Get involved in our impactful year of service!

Charlotte Rotary's 2024-2025 Monthly Service Focus schedule highlights a range of opportunities to make a difference, from supporting Classroom Central last August to the Goodwill Christmas in July drive next summer. Each month offers a chance to contribute to meaningful initiatives led by our dedicated committee chairs.

If you are interested in the Service Committee, contact Service Chair, [Donna Dunlap](#) at donna.dunlap@bbbscentralcarolinas.org or Executive Secretary [Christine Cipriano](#) at christine@charlotterotary.org to find out how you can

help.

Let's come together to make a positive impact throughout the year!

*Note: Western, NC Support is underway separately - See below.

- **August** was Classroom Central Supply Drive (Karen Calder, Chair)
- **September** was the First Responders Scholarship Luncheon (Rex Reynolds, Chair)
- **October** was the Polio Proclamation and Polio fundraiser for Polio (led by Laura Meier and Tish Atkins)
- **November** =
 - The Rotary Foundation Awareness (Chair, Joe Morris)
 - Big Brothers Big Sisters Book Drive with a book assembly and social on Dec. 4 (Donna Dunlap, Chair)
- **December** =
 - The Salvation Army Bell Ringing and Red Kettle Campaign (Chaired by Mark Norman and Maggie Mitchem-Flanigan)
 - American Red Cross Blood Drive, Tues., Dec. 17 (Terri DeBoo, Chair)
 - Charlotte Rescue Mission Breakfast (Tracey Reading, Chair)
- **January** = Crisis Assistance Ministry Hat, Glove & Scarf Drive (Chair needed)
- **February** =
 - Scouting for Food/Scout's Food Drive (Jonathan Russell, Chair)
 - Coins For Alzheimer's Research Trust (CART) Even on Feb. 20 (Tish Atkins, Margaret Donovan, and Virginia Owen, Co-Chairs)
- **March** = Tree Planting Project (Phil Volponi, Chair)
- **April** = Ronald McDonald House Project (Denise Cubbedge, Chair)
- **May** = Samaritan's Feet Project (Carol Hardison, Chair)
- **June** = Nourish Up Project (Catherine Bracey, Chair)
- **July** = Goodwill - Christmas in July Drive (Jennifer De La Jara, Chair)



Western North Carolina Relief

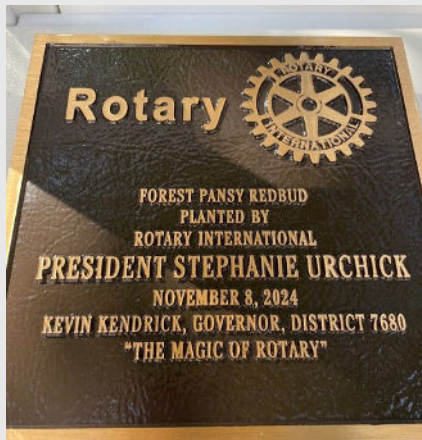
Charlotte Rotary's current efforts to help Western NC, led by Past President [David Anderson](#) and [Robert Shaw](#), are to donate to organizations already making a significant impact in Western North Carolina relief. If you'd like to contribute items, Charlotte Rotary's efforts are focused on coats, blankets and sweaters. Please bring warm clothing to donate at our next meeting. The items you bring will be distributed through Crisis Assistance Ministry. David will be collecting the items on the hotel level of the parking deck.

David and Robert are also looking for volunteers to help collect the coats. Reach out to David if you can help at dlanderson62@gmail.com.

Our meeting venue, Fairfield Inn and Suites, is also actively supporting Western NC. The hotel is focused on baby and pet supplies. We invite Rotary members to help by donating pet food at next week's meeting—small bags, a few cans, anything helps!

Rotarians Out and About

Rotarians from the club and District gathered for a tree planting in honor of Rotary



Rotarians from the club and District attended the District 7680 Foundation Celebration, featuring keynote speaker International President Stephanie Urchick. Charlotte Rotary Club President [Kim Brattain](#) was the evening's emcee. Congratulations and a huge *thank you* to club member, [Mark Markanda](#), on achieving Foundation Circle status recognition (\$1,000,000 to \$2,499,999).





Membership Update

07/01/2024 249

10/29/2024 249

11/05/2024 247 (Resigned: Joseph Eiselt, Darren Siler, Sam Winner - Leadership Impact Group)

Meeting Attendance - Tuesday, November 5, 2024: 112

Guests in attendance: Richard Adams ([William Bradley](#)), John Bauer (Milwaukee Rotary), Joseph Cartafalsa ([Jim Mannix](#)), Jeanie Cottingham ([Tom Cottingham](#)), Skeeter Davis ([Alan Simonini](#)), Page Kizer ([Ed Kizer](#)), Neil Moore ([Luther Moore](#)), Tom Nash ([Jim Mannix](#)), Dr. David Nelson (Speaker Guest)

Milestones (Week of Nov. 12 - 18)

Rotary Anniversaries

1 year: Brian Moor

Wedding Anniversaries

13 - Kasey & Michael Norton

2024 - 2025 Board Members

- President Kim Brattain
- President-Elect Patrick Baker
- Immediate Past President Edwin Peacock
- Secretary Bill Gill
- Treasurer Craig Field
- Sergeant at Arms Mike Wollinger

Current Directors: Linwood Bolles, Woodson Bradley, Benton S. Bragg, John F. Cantrell, Tish Atkins Charles, Terri DeBoo, Andrew "Andy" B. Dinkin, Dena R. Diorio, Donna Y. Dunlap, Joel D. Ford, Stuart P. Hair, David Head, Jesse G. Hite, Virginia Owen

Contact Us



For more information about how to get involved, volunteer opportunities and meeting topics, contact Christine Cipriano, Executive Secretary at christine@charlotterotary.org



Photos from our luncheons, historical photos, and other events and projects can be found on the club's Flickr site. Click here [charlotterotary6006](#) to view pictures from recent meetings.



Recordings of weekly club luncheons can be found on the club's Vimeo site. Click here <https://vimeo.com/user24733153> to watch recent videos.



Guest Check-In If you have a guest who would like to preregister for the weekly meeting, a QR code is provided for easy scanning, or the link can be found here: [Visitor Pre-Register \(jotform.com\)](#)

Rotary Club of Charlotte | 1850 E 3rd St, Ste 220 | Charlotte, NC 28204 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!