



Upcoming Events

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

Tues., April 29 - Weekly Meeting: *Dr. Rhett Brown, President, Wingate University*

May 2-3 - District 7680 Conference. Statesville Civic Center, 300 S. Center St., Statesville. [Click here for the agenda.](#)

May 13 - Weekly Meeting will be held at SMS Catering, 1764 Norland Road, Charlotte.

June 7 - Club Event: *Nourish Up Service Project*, 9–11 a.m., 901 Carrier Drive. Limited to 20 volunteers. See details below. [Click here to sign up.](#)

July 17–20 - District Event: *Seminar for Tomorrow's Leaders (SFTL)* Gardner-Webb University. Volunteer and Scholarship Opportunities and open to High School rising Juniors and Seniors. See below for details.

Save the date! Tues., Dec. 16 - Club Event: *American Red Cross Blood Drive.*

This Week's Meeting



Dr. Matthew Martin, Regional Executive, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

by Elly Clary

Unknowns muddy the US economic outlook, a Charlotte-based Fed executive said, adding "uncertainty is the word for the day."

A rosy year-end economic picture has faded as government policy has taken center stage, said Matthew Martin, regional executive for the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.

"The pace of change has created a sense of instability, business optimism has dropped, and consumer sentiment has fallen considerably," Martin said.

Martin's job is to travel North Carolina and South Carolina, speaking with business leaders and others, soliciting their views on the economy and how they plan to react. The shoulder-shrug emoji sums up current sentiment, he said. "It's too soon to know."

He's seeing only modest impact on consumer spending, almost 70 percent of Gross Domestic Product. The Charlotte Metropolitan Area added 27,000 jobs in the last 12 months for a healthy 2 percent growth rate. Martin said he hasn't observed a spending slowdown here. [Click here to read more.](#)

A recording of the meeting can be found here:

With Slides: **Matthew Martin, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond with slides on Vimeo**

Without Slides: **Matthew Martin, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond without slides on Vimeo**

The program begins at 25 minutes and 45 seconds.



Club News



Dena Diorio Honored with 2025 Vision Award

Congratulations to Charlotte Rotarian and Mecklenburg County Manager Dena Diorio, who was recognized as the 2025 Vision Award Honoree at the Charlotte Center City Partners Vision Awards. The evening celebrated individuals driving progress and shaping the future of our city. Dena's award is a testament to her outstanding leadership and lasting impact on Mecklenburg County and Charlotte's vibrant center city. Bravo, Dena!

Rotary Club of Charlotte Members Get 20% Off Lovin' Life Music Fest Tickets!

Club member **Colleen Brannan** is handling sponsorships for this three-day music fest coming to the Center City May 2-4. She has arranged for a special discount for Rotary members—**20% off** any ticket type (GA, VIP, or SUPERVIP). This deal applies to **one, two, and three-day passes**—so grab yours now!

How to Redeem:

Visit lovinlifemusicfest.com/tickets and enter code **ROTARY20** at checkout. **Heads up:** E-tix fees apply.



Practicing the Four-Way Test in Paradise: [Shelley Dean](#) shared this snapshot from a weekend trip to Bermuda, where the beauty of the island was matched by meaningful moments living out Rotary's guiding principles.



Invite a Guest, Grow Our Impact

(Bring a friend—just maybe not the furry kind!)

There's something special about the energy in the room when new faces join us at Rotary. Whether it's a colleague, neighbor, friend, or family member, each guest adds a fresh perspective—and often leaves inspired by the service and fellowship they experience.

As Rotarians, we know the power of our mission: to create lasting change in our communities and around the world. But many people outside our circle still don't know what Rotary really is. Inviting someone to a meeting is one of the simplest ways to change that. There's no pressure for them to join—just an opportunity to share a meal, meet great people, and get a glimpse of what makes our club so meaningful.

So consider this your official nudge: who's someone in your life that might enjoy learning more about Rotary? Bring them along! We have some fantastic programs coming up, and there's no better time to extend an invitation.

Bring a friend, just not your furry friends—no matter how charming they are in a bow tie.

Let's fill our tables with guests who could become future members, partners in service, or just great friends of Rotary.

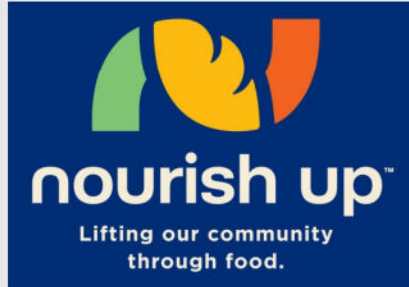
Together, we grow stronger.



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 \(jotform.com\)](https://jotform.com)



Nourish Up Service Event - Mark your calendars for a meaningful Saturday morning!

On Saturday, June 7, 2025, we're teaming up with Nourish Up for a hands-on service project at their brand-new facility (901 Carrier Drive) from 9 to 11 a.m.

Whether we're sorting food donations or packing meals for distribution, it'll be two hours of impact and connection—plus, it's always more fun together!

Space is limited to 20 volunteers, so grab your spot early: **Click here to sign up**. Spouses and significant others are welcome to join the fun, too!

Share Your Voice—Help Improve Charlotte City Services

The Smart Charlotte team is asking for our help! They've launched a City Services Resident Survey to better understand how people access and experience services in Charlotte—and how those services can be improved. They want to hear:

- What services you use
- How you access them
- What's working—and what's not
- Any tech challenges you face

Your feedback will help make city services more accessible, equitable, and user-friendly.

- Take the survey: <https://forms.office.com/r/hr3aUhdCCe>
- Deadline: Thursday, May 15

Please share the link and help spread the word!

Minds Matter! CART Event

A Night to Remember: "Minds Matter!" Benefit for Alzheimer's Research

A fantastic time was had by all at Minds Matter!, the Rotary Club of Charlotte's special benefit event supporting the **CART (Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust) Fund**. From heartfelt tributes to lively conversations and a dance lesson that sparked plenty of laughter, the evening was filled with purpose, community, and joy.

One of the biggest sources of funds came from our raffle, which drew plenty of excitement—and support—for the cause. Winners will be announced at next Tuesday's Rotary meeting, so stay tuned! While the final amount raised is still being calculated, we hope to share the total with you very soon. Thanks to the generosity of our attendees—and a \$2,500 matching grant provided by a generous donor—we know the impact will be significant.

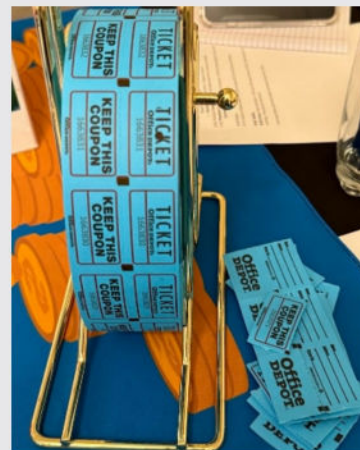
Throughout the evening, attendees reflected on the "6 Keys to a Sharper Mind"—important habits that help support long-term brain health:

1. Sleep
2. Stress Management
3. Nutrition
4. Movement
5. Lifelong Learning
6. Meaningful Connections and Community—just like the one we share through Rotary.

Thank you to LIG member **Margaret Donovan**, Charlotte Rotarians **Tish Atkins Charles**, **Carol Ransone**, and **Mike Wollinger** and Past President **Katie Tyler** and her partner, Pasha from Ballroom 5 for leading an incredible evening.

All proceeds from Minds Matter! will go directly to the **Rotary CART Fund**, advancing the search for a cure for Alzheimer's disease. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended, supported, and helped make this event such a meaningful success.





Rotarians and guests share laughs and learn a few new moves during the dance lesson at Minds Matter!, a benefit for the **CART Fund** held by the Rotary Club of Charlotte.


Beyond the Club

Presented by
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Perfectly Paired Wine
tasting and auction

May 1, 2025
Olive Providence Racquet Club
5630 Sharon View Road
5:30pm to 8:00 pm
www.PerfectlyPairedWine.com


Our Beneficiaries:



Foster Village
Foster Village, in its mission to bolster foster families, has assisted over 350 families, providing essential resources and creating a supportive network for more than 450 children in the foster care system.



50th Anniversary
The Relatives, dedicated to empowering youth and young adults, has provided shelter, counseling, and educational opportunities to over 1,500 individuals facing crisis situations.




Our Bridge for Kids
Our Bridge, committed to supporting immigrant and refugee children, has facilitated educational programs for more than 300 students, fostering a sense of community integration throughout the Charlotte region.

By collaborating with these organizations, we contribute to the well-being of the Charlotte community, addressing diverse needs and making quantifiable strides in improving lives. Your participation in our upcoming wine event will directly support these valuable community organizations.

Hosted By: **Rotary** Club of Charlotte South | Creating HOPE Together

Charlotte South Rotary Charitable Foundation, Inc.

[Purchase tickets here](#) or by using the QR code below. \$75 per person.



For more information, to sponsor or donate auction items contact:
Wendy Whitehurst, wendywhitehurst@gmail.com 704.898.5585
George Erdle, George@qwerde.com 704.458.3494

Create HOPE

Merlot Presencing Sponsor \$5,000
 ✓ Tickets for 4 Guests
 ✓ Signage at Event Entrance & Sponsor Poster in Event
 ✓ Mention in all Social Media Posts
 ✓ Mention in all Secured Press and Media Outlets
 ✓ Logo and Exposure in all Email Communications
 ✓ Logo on Event Website Page: Ticket Sales Page
 ✓ Logo on Save the Date Card
 ✓ Logo on Table Tops
 ✓ 5 Minute Speaking Opportunity at Event
 ✓ Thank You at Event by Rotary Club President

Cabernet Auction Sponsor \$2,500 (1)
 ✓ Tickets for 2 Guests
 ✓ Signage on Silent Auction Tables & Sponsor Poster in Event
 ✓ Mention During Live Auction
 ✓ Mention in Social Media Posts
 ✓ Mention in Press Release
 ✓ Logo on Bid Sheets
 ✓ Logo in Email Communications
 ✓ Thank You at Event by Rotary Club President

The Blind Wine Pour Station Sponsor \$1,000 (1)
 ✓ Signage at Wine Pour Station & Sponsor Poster in Event
 ✓ Mention in Social Media Posts
 ✓ Mention in Press Release
 ✓ Thank You at Event by Rotary Club President

Perfectly Paired Catering Sponsor \$1,000 (1)
 ✓ Signage on Food Tables & Sponsor Poster in Event
 ✓ Mention in Social Media Posts
 ✓ Mention in Press Release
 ✓ Thank You at Event by Rotary Club President

Check-In and Check-Out Sponsor \$500
 ✓ Signage at Check-In/Check-out & Sponsor Poster in Event
 ✓ Mention in Social Media Posts
 ✓ Thank You at Event by Rotary Club President

HOPE Sponsors (Unlimited) \$250/\$100/\$50
 ✓ Mention in Social Media Post
 ✓ Name or Company listed on Sponsor Poster at Event
 ✓ Thank you at Event by Rotary Club President

Auction or Monetary Donor
 ✓ Name or Company listed on Sponsor Poster at Event

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NEW REPUBLIC BANK

All Roads Lead to Statesville – District 7680 Conference Ahead!

And the best part?

Statesville is less than two hours away from most locations in our district—making it an easy and accessible road trip!

May 2 - 3, 2025
Statesville Civic Center, 300 S. Center Street

Reserve your spot today! Register on DACdb

Grab your keys, Rotarians, and start your engines!

It's time to hit the road—because all roads lead to the 2025 District 7680 Conference in Statesville! Whether you're cruising in from the city or coasting in from the country, this is one destination worth the drive.


Your Route to Rotary Inspiration Includes:

- 🚗 Fueling up on fresh ideas from dynamic speakers
- 🚦 Making meaningful pit stops to connect with fellow Rotarians
- 🚦 Getting green lights for fun, fellowship, and new perspectives
- 🌀 Rolling into a weekend that will energize your Rotary journey

Don't take a detour—map out your route and register today!

Let's ride into Statesville and make this a conference to remember.

See you on the road! 🚗



Magic All Around

📅 **21-25 June 2025** 🌐 **Calgary, Canada**

Be Part of Rotary's Biggest Event of the Year!

The Rotary International Convention is more than just a gathering—it's where unforgettable moments happen, ideas take flight, and friendships flourish. Join fellow people of action from around the world to explore bold solutions, celebrate service, and show the world what Rotary is all about.

From inspiring general sessions and interactive breakout discussions to the bustling House of Friendship and lively host city attractions, there's something for everyone. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to network, learn, and connect.

Let's represent Charlotte and make our mark—join us at this year's Rotary International Convention. [Click here to register.](#)

Membership Update

07/01/2024 249

03/31/2025 239

04/22/2025 236

Meeting Attendance - Tuesday, April 22, 2025: 84

Guests in attendance: Cuyler Allen ([Craig Field](#)), Eric Elizondo ([Robert Freeman](#)), Bradley Goodwin ([Trina Fullard](#)), Bill Pettus ([Bill Bartee](#)), Sophia Schell (Lake Wylie Rotary Club), Anna Sybrecht ([Mark Norman](#))

Milestones (Week of April 29 - May 5)

Wedding Anniversaries

- 1 - Tianne & Julian Hall
- 4 - Holli & Keith Nowokunski
- 4 - Ridgely & John Phillips

Birthdays

- 30 - Jessica Dupree
- 1 - Carla DuPuy

Rotary Anniversaries

- 52 years:* Bob Freeman
- 32 years:* Bill Nichols
- 30 years:* Ed Kizer
- 16 years:* Bill Bartee
- 7 years (11 total):* Linwood Bolles
- 8 years:* George Gabel
- 1 year:* Anne Cullip
- 1 year:* Robert Cullip

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: 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, Lori Keeton, Elizabeth Teagarden, 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





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

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