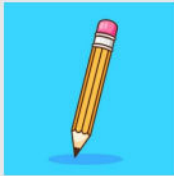




Upcoming Events

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

Tues., Sept. 16 - Weekly Meeting: Dr. Cheryl Richards, CEO, Catapult Employers Association



*Push for Pencils Drive! - Each Tuesday in September:
Bring a pack of pencils to each meeting in September to help support local classrooms.
Let's make a difference, one pencil at a time!*

Don't forget about the Volunteer Event on Sept. 27th below!

Tues., Sept. 23 - District Event: Rotary 101, 6:30–7:45 p.m., Virtual Meeting. Register here. Details below.

Sat., Sept. 27 - Club Event: Classroom Central, 9 a.m. –12 p.m., 2116 Wilkinson Blvd, Charlotte. Sign up here. Details below.

IMPORTANT! *Tues., Sept. 30 - Weekly Meeting: Meeting location change - September 30 only!*
Noble Smoke, 2216 Freedom Drive. The speaker is **Chef Jim Nobles**, Restaurant Owner, Minister,
Nonprofit Leader of **Charlotte Mecklenburg Dream Center**.

Tues., Oct. 7 - Club Event: Rotary Club of Charlotte Garden Ribbon Cutting. Details to come.

Save the date! Sat., Nov. 1 - Club Event: Nourish Up Service Event, 9–11 a.m., 901 Carrier Dr., Charlotte. Sign up here. Details to follow.

Save the date! Sat., Nov. 8 - District Event: The Rotary Foundation Celebration. Details to follow.

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

This Week's Meeting



Cyber Crime & Tech Trends: Joel Sosebee, Director of Client Success, AT-NET Services
by **Susie Masotti**

The Charlotte Rotary Club was pleased to have **Joel Sosebee, Director of Sales for AT-NET Services**, serve as our speaker this week.

Dena Diorio, Retired Mecklenburg County Manager, introduced Joel. She shared that Joe has 25 years of experience building managed technology solutions with a focus on Cyber Security. His programs provide proactive models with more efficiency. His speaking partner, **Michael Sylvester**, Chief Strategy Officer at AT-NET Services, focuses on growth, innovation, and success while staying within industry compliance standards.

Joel began by asking how confident you are that you are protected from a cyber attack scam. He advised that there are more opportunities every day for bad actors to try to work their way into your business or your personal information. In Charlotte, AT-NET Managed IT Services focuses primarily on efficiency and protecting companies from cybercrime. **Click here to read more.**

A recording of the meeting can be found here:

Club News

Prayers for Past President Marilyn Bowler

We are deeply saddened by the sudden passing of the husband of Past President and dear friend **Marilynn Bowler**. A Celebration of Life will be held:

- Friday, September 19, 2025,
- at St. Gabriel's Catholic Church (3016 Providence Rd, Charlotte, NC 28211).
- Visitation: 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
- Service: 11:00 a.m.

Marilynn has shared that she and her family feel surrounded by love and prayers from the Rotary family and beyond. While their home is full of food and family support, she welcomes your notes and messages of comfort. Please keep Marilyn and the Bowler family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. **Bob's full obituary can be found here.**

Our Deepest Sympathy to Dr. Tara Terry

Our prayers and condolences go out to Charlotte Rotarian **Dr. Tara Terry** on the loss of her mother, Linda Terry, of Columbia, S.C., on August 27, 2025. To read her full obituary, please visit: **Linda Terry Obituary.**



Welcome New Member - Leigh Altman:

Leigh Altman is an At-Large Commissioner who serves as Vice Chair of the County Commission. She was first elected in 2020 and is now in her third term. Before moving to Charlotte, Altman served as lead attorney for the Georgia Governor's Office of Consumer Affairs and the Commission on Equal Opportunity. She was recognized as one of Georgia's top lawyers under 40. Upon moving to Charlotte in 2009, Altman continued her legal advocacy as a guardian ad litem for seniors and adults with disabilities and later as a staff attorney at Charlotte's Council for Children's Rights. Through the years, Altman has volunteered her time to assist domestic abuse victims, women seeking reproductive healthcare, and those facing the death penalty. She is admitted to practice law in Georgia and North Carolina. Altman currently serves on the Mecklenburg County Economic Development Committee, the Mecklenburg County Health & Human Services Committee, the Metropolitan Transit Commission, and Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization. She is a lead voice in support of the transit

initiative that Mecklenburg County residents will decide in the fall referendum. Altman is a wife, mother to three sons, and a member of the Jewish community.



Special Meeting Location – September 30

Our Tuesday, September 30 meeting will be held at Noble Smoke, 2216 Freedom Drive, for this date only.

We are excited to welcome **Chef Jim Noble** as our guest speaker. Chef Noble is a well-known Charlotte restaurant owner, minister, and nonprofit leader with the **Charlotte Mecklenburg Dream Center**. Don't miss this special program and venue!

Rotary Leadership Training

District Governor Donna Moffett, Charlotte Rotary's Past President and District Governor Elect **Jerry Coughter**, and District Governor Nominee Sharon Heinrich attended Zone 33/34 Conference in Jacksonville, FL.

Training for his future role as District Governor, Jerry joined Rotary leaders as they provide opportunities to learn about innovative projects, discover new tools, and bring back strategies to strengthen our clubs.



We thank Jerry, and all District leaders, for their dedication and service, often given at the expense of time with family and friends.



Welcome Baby Casey!

Congratulations to **Lee and John Tabor** on the arrival of their second grandchild! Casey Kitchen was born on September 8 at 4:57 p.m., weighing 8 pounds 5 ounces and measuring 21 inches long.

In a sweet “small world” moment, Allie was even visited by a Rotary Therapy Dog named Libbie during her stay.



JD DuPuy Walks Hadrian's Wall for a Cause

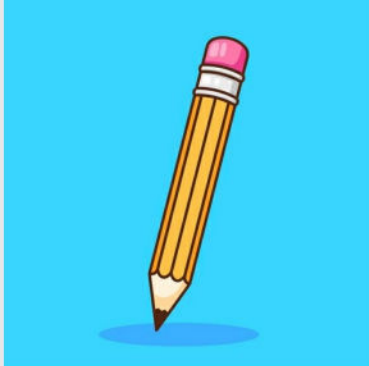
Charlotte Rotarian JD DuPuy is in England tackling the Hadrian's Wall Path with five friends. While checking this adventure off his bucket list, he's also raising money for Nourish Up. On Thursday, JD logged 43,297 steps—19.18 miles! His journey combines personal challenge with community impact, turning every mile into support for families in need.

Push for Pencils: Keep Them Coming!

Charlotte Rotary members are doing an outstanding job supporting our Push for Pencils Campaign. The response has been strong, and we're well on our way to making a big impact for local students.

Let's keep the momentum going - every pencil counts! We are working together to make sure classrooms are stocked and ready for success. Bring in your pencils and help us keep pushing forward! Each Tuesday, September 2–30, bring new pencils and

essential supplies to our meetings to help fill the backpacks.



Volunteer with Rotary at Classroom Central!

On Sat., Sept. 27, we'll roll up our sleeves and team up at **Classroom Central** to help pack bags for the Mobile Free Store. This is a wonderful hands-on way to make a difference for local students, and we need you there!

Volunteer Shift Details

- Sat., Sept. 27, 2025
- 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- Classroom Central, 2116 Wilkinson Blvd, Charlotte, NC
- 25 volunteer spots available

Important: All volunteers, whether new or returning, must register individually through Classroom Central's new platform, which includes a waiver. **Registration will close one week before the event, and walk-ins cannot be accommodated.**

Let's fill the bins, pack the bags, and show students that Rotary cares: one pencil, one backpack, and one possibility at a time.

Rotary Insider Tips



Be Ready to Share Rotary!

Membership growth is everyone's responsibility. Each of us plays a role in ensuring that Charlotte Rotary continues to thrive, expand its impact, and develop new leaders for service. One of the simplest ways to do this is by being prepared with a short "elevator speech" about Rotary.

An elevator speech is a quick, clear way to explain Rotary when someone asks, "What is Rotary?" or "Why are you involved?" Having one ready makes it easy to spark interest and invite potential members to a meeting.

Here are a few examples you can tailor to your own style:

- **Community Impact Focus:** "Charlotte Rotary is a group of leaders who come together to make a difference in our community and around the world. We combine fellowship with service, and we're always looking for people who want to use their skills to create positive change."
- **Personal Story Focus:** "I joined Charlotte Rotary because it connects me with other professionals

who care about service and leadership. I've met incredible people and had opportunities to give back in ways I couldn't on my own."

- **Global Connection Focus:** "Rotary is the largest service organization in the world, with clubs in almost every country. Being part of Charlotte Rotary means I can make an impact locally and be part of something global."
- **Invitation Focus:** "Our Rotary Club brings together people who care about community, service, and leadership. I'd love for you to join me at a meeting to see what it's all about."

Think about which approach feels most natural to you. A short, genuine explanation, plus a simple invitation, can be the first step in helping someone **discover Rotary**.

Together, let's keep Charlotte Rotary strong by being ready to share who we are and why it matters!

Beyond the Club

7680 ROTARY101 7680 *Rotary 101* Tuesday, September 23, 6:30 p.m.

New to Rotary? Or want to know more? – This is for you!
You are part of a group whose impact reaches around the world through local community service from our 1.4 million members in 200+ countries.

Join us for "Rotary 101", a virtual tour of Rotary and Rotarians that will inspire you to engage even more in the Rotary community. It will start you on an incredible learning journey. **Click here to register.**

HOW ROTARY REMAINS FOCUSED ON PEACE BUILDING

**JOIN THE WEBINAR
21 SEPTEMBER 2025
5:00 PM EDT (GMT-4)**

**HOSTED BY
STEPHANIE URCHICK**

**REGISTER NOW
TINYURL.COM/ROTARY-PEACE-BUILDING**

Rotary Remains Focused on Peace-Building

On Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025, join **Past Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick** and special guests for a powerful online program celebrating the International Day of Peace.

Hear from Rotary leaders including PDG Robert Friend, Rebecca Crall, Larry Strober, and RI Director Patrick Eakes as they share inspiring insights on peacebuilding initiatives. From the Opus for Peace and the Peace Activator Program to Peace Poles plus how Zones 33/34 are leading the way.

September 21, 2025, Online. Register here.

All are welcome! Invite friends, colleagues, and family to celebrate peace with Rotary!



World Polio Day: 40 Years of Rotary's Promise

Why should Rotary members continue to care about polio eradication and World Polio Day?

The answer is simple: Rotary made a promise to the children of the world that no child should suffer from this vaccine-preventable disease.

On October 24, Rotary marks **World Polio Day**, a global call to action reminding us of our promise: no child should suffer from polio. Clubs worldwide host events, raise awareness, and support the **End Polio Now** campaign because a polio-free world is within reach.

This year is especially meaningful as Rotary celebrates 40 years of leadership in polio eradication.

We're asking every Rotarian to give \$40 for 40 years. As of August 31, District giving totals \$9,874 toward our \$100,000 goal. Leading clubs include Charlotte Dilworth, Charlotte, Cabarrus County, and North Wilkesboro.

Polio remains endemic only in Afghanistan and Pakistan, but outbreaks still occur in under-immunized areas. Your participation and support will help Rotary keep its promise to the world's children.

Membership Update

07/01/2025 224
08/31/2025 221
09/09/2025 220 (Resignations: Anne Cullip and Robert Cullip)

Meeting Attendance - Tuesday, Sept. 9, 2025: 79

Guests in attendance: Tanner Natzke ([Edwin Peacock](#)), Ana Rey ([Rob Thomas](#)), Anthony Trotman ([Phil Volponi](#)), Fernando Ycaza ([Rob Thomas](#))

Milestones (Week of September 16 - 22)

Birthdays

16 – Gray Langley
17 – Tim Flanagan
17 – Larry Hyatt
17 – Mark Norman
20 – Linwood Bolles

Rotary Anniversaries

16 years: David Tobin
1 year: Layne McGuire
1 year: Isabella Warner

Wedding Anniversaries

- 16 – Dena Diorio & Phil Volponi
- 16 – Kaye & Lamar Thomas
- 17 – Sylvia & Larry Hyatt
- 18 – Ann & Floyd Davis
- 20 – Lucy & David Anderson
- 21 – Courtney & Bryan Zeiss

Volunteer Opportunites

- Tuesday, Sept. 16 - NC MedAssist Strategic Plan Year Three Reveal in person event. 8 a.m., 4428 Taggart Creek Rd, Suite 101, Charlotte, 28208. **(Virtually on Sept. 23 at 9 a.m.) Click here to RSVP to the in person event.**
- Saturday, Oct. 4 - The Catawba Riversweep. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., **Click here to learn more and to register for Riversweep**
- Saturday, Oct. 4 - Headstone Cleaning at Historic Matthews Cemetery. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., 291 Pleasant Hill Drive, Matthews, **Register here.** Question? Contact HL@MeckNC.gov

2025 - 2026 Board Members

- President Patrick Baker
- President-Elect Bill Bartee
- Immediate Past President Kim Brattain
- Secretary Bill Gill
- Treasurer Craig Field

Current Directors: Benton S. Bragg, Byrd Bergeron, John F. Cantrell, Karen N. Calder, Tish Atkins Charles, Dena R. Diorio, Stuart P. Hair, J Hill, Jesse G. Hite, Ayo M. Johnson, Lori Keeton, Michael B. Orzech, Elizabeth Teagarden, Virginia Owen, Michael Wollinger

Contact Us

For more information about how to get involved, volunteer opportunities and meeting topics, contact **Christine Cipriano**, Executive Director, 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)**



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