



Upcoming Events

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

Important - Location Change this week!

*The Tues., Sept. 30 weekly meeting will be held at Noble Smoke, 2216 Freedom Drive
This week's speaker is Chef Jim Noble, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Noble Food & Pursuits,
and Co-Founder, Charlotte Mecklenburg Dream Center*



Push for Pencils: Last collection day - Tuesday, Sept. 30th
*Charlotte Rotary is collecting pencils every Tuesday in September to help support
local classrooms.*

Wed., Oct. 1 - Leadership Impact Group Meeting: 5:30 - 7 p.m. Lost World Brewery 1100 Metropolitan Ave., Suite 165. Details Below.

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

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

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



WILL PITTS - SPORTS DUDE
by ***Marilynn Bowler***

Our speaker on Tuesday stood tall behind the MIC, not only in physical stature but because he walks in the shoes of some of Charlotte's most influential and important business organizers and community leaders ~ like Danny Morrison, Steve Luquire, Pat Rogers, Johnny Harris and Will Webb among others ~ who have made our Queen City a hub for sporting events ranging from the men's and women's Final Fours to the Continental Tire Bowl (now known as the Duke's Mayo bowl) to the ACC Football Championships to the MLS All-Star Game to Meck Mile and the amazing Savannah Bananas games. You get the picture.

In its twenty-year history, what began as the Charlotte Regional Sports Commission, dedicated to driving economic impact by attracting a variety of sporting events to our city (i.e., college and amateur events such as golfing, football, boxing, and running), has evolved into a major influencer and has been renamed as the Charlotte Sports Foundation. Our speaker today - Will Pitts - is the CEO of that incredible team made up of both staff, Board members, and volunteers. **Click here to read more.**



Club News



Special 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!

In Memory of Casey Edward Habich

We are deeply saddened to share that one of our own, **Casey Edward Habich**, a member of our club from Central Piedmont Community College, was tragically killed in a car accident on September 16, 2025. Casey was devoted to his family, leaving behind his wife and two very young sons. His kindness, energy, and commitment to service were felt by all who knew him.

Our thoughts are with his family during this difficult time. You can read his full obituary [here](#).



Celebrating J Hill – A 2025 Emerging Leader

Charlotte Rotary is proud to celebrate one of our own! **J Hill** has been named a 2025 Emerging Leader in the 10th Anniversary Edition of Who's Who in Black Charlotte. J shared his gratitude for his family, his city, and the community that continues to pour into him as he gives back in return—especially thanking his wife and son for their constant support.

Join J and the Charlotte community in celebrating this honor on Thurs., Nov. 7, 2025, from 6–8 p.m. at The Westin Charlotte.



Celebrating CLT's Terminal Expansion

Congratulations to Charlotte Rotarians **Stuart Hair** and **Ben Goebel** on the successful completion of the Terminal Lobby Expansion Project at Charlotte Douglas International Airport! This impressive transformation is a milestone for our community and travelers alike. Check out this video to see the impact of their work: **Watch Here**



Elly Clary Dances for a Cause

On September 12, Dancing with The Sharon lit up SouthPark Church with performances from residents and professional dancers of CT Dance Studio. The annual fundraiser supports the Residents' Assistance Fund at The Sharon at SouthPark. Special guest emcee Barbara McKay kept the evening lively, while guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and spirited entertainment. Rotary's own **Elly Clary** - aka the Dandy Dancer - took the stage with his dance partner, dazzling the crowd and helping raise support for a meaningful cause. (Photo: Elly Clary and partner performing at Dancing with The Sharon)



Important LIG Planning Meeting – October 1st

The Leadership Impact Group (LIG) invites all members to a planning meeting on Wed., Oct. 1st, from 5:30–7 p.m. at Lost Worlds Brewing (1100 Metropolitan Ave, Suite 165, Charlotte).

We'll discuss plans for the year ahead, explore potential leadership opportunities, and share strategies for navigating change. Your ideas and participation are vital as we chart the course forward.

Join us for an engaging evening of conversation and collaboration!



Push for Pencils:

Last Donation Day - Tues., Sept. 30!

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.

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!

Rotary Insider Tips



OBJECT OF ROTARY

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- **FIRST:** The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- **SECOND:** High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- **THIRD:** The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- **FOURTH:** The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

The Guiding Principles - Living the Object of Rotary

At the heart of Rotary is a simple but powerful idea: Service is the foundation of a meaningful life.

The Object of Rotary challenges us to bring that spirit into everything we do - whether it's building friendships, leading with integrity in our work, serving our community, or promoting peace across borders.

Each time we gather, we are reminded that Rotary is more than meetings or projects - it is a call to live out these values daily.

Together, we turn service into action, action into impact, and impact into lasting goodwill.

Beyond the Club

Have You Seen This?

Here's something a little different - and definitely fun!

Our Rotary Zones 33/34 shared a playful video on LinkedIn that brings Rotary founder Paul Harris into the 21st century.

The post says: "Curious about Rotary

International? Instead of me trying to explain, let's hand the mic to our founder. Take it away, Paul Harris—drop that beat! ”

Check it out for a fresh take on Rotary spirit: [\[LinkedIn Video Link\]](#)

#RotaryRevolution2026 #RotaryAllstars



The first four Rotarians: Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele, Hiram Shorey, and Paul P. Harris.



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
09/23/2025 218

Guests in attendance: Chuck Bludsworth ([Kim Brattain](#)), Bo Coggins ([Boyd Coggins](#)), Katelyn Donnelly, Louisa Glenn, Laura Little, Shawn Lynch ([Marilynn Bowler](#)), William McKee, Thomas Poe ([Ken Poe](#)), Jeff Taylor (Meda)

Milestones (Week of Sept. 30 - Oct. 6)

Birthdays

1 – Brian Moor
3 – Jason Otte
4 – Mike Hawley
6 – Jacob Cantrell

Wedding Anniversaries

1 – Joan & Jim Kelley
2 – Colleen & Scott Brannan
3 – Betsy & Matt Joyner
6 – Beth & Rick Handford

Rotary Anniversaries

11 years: Chuck Howard
3 years: Tish Atkins Charles
2 years: Lori Keeton

Volunteer Opportunites

- 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 \(jotform.com\)](#)

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

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