



Upcoming Events

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

Tues., Oct. 7 - Weekly Meeting: Exit Planning Exchange (XPX) Panel Discussion



During October, Charlotte Rotary's will focus on breakfast — bring oatmeal or grits to every Tuesday meeting!

Sat., Nov. 1 - Club Volunteer Event: Nourish Up Service Event, 9–11 a.m., 901 Carrier Dr., Charlotte. [Sign up here.](#)

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

Tues., Dec. 16 - Club Event: American Red Cross Blood Drive

This Week's Meeting



CHEF JIM NOBLE, Founder & CEO, Noble Food & Pursuits and Co-Founder, Charlotte Mecklenburg Dream Center
by Elly Clary

"I love fried chicken," Chef Jim Noble was quick to admit. He even shared his recipe.

Not surprisingly, since he owns fowl purveyor Bossy Buelah's, he added that his favorite meal might supplement chicken with field peas and, if it's summer, tomatoes.

But Rotarians were assembled at his Noble Smoke barbecue spot to hear the affable restaurateur deliver 30 minutes of rapid-fire responses to interviewer [Edwin Peacock](#). He also answered questions from the audience.

He assured the assemblage in an extremely high-ceilinged meeting room that barbecue is a noun, not a verb, as they devoured his smoked pork and chicken along with sides such as succotash, brussels sprouts, and two varieties of slaw.

An outside patio was bordered with stacks of wood for the cooking fires. It's mostly hickory, with a smattering of oak. [Click here to read more.](#)

**Due to the special location, this week's meeting was not streamed or recorded.*

Club News

Welcome New Member: Tchernavia Montgomery
We are delighted to welcome Tchernavia Montgomery, CEO of



Care Ring, to Charlotte Rotary. Care Ring provides health care for more than 8,000 uninsured and underserved people in Mecklenburg County each year and has grown in reach and national recognition under her leadership. A double graduate of UNC-Charlotte and a master’s-level clinical social worker, Tchernavia has dedicated her career to addressing poverty and health equity. She currently serves on the Boards of the North Carolina Healthcare Foundation and the Institute for Philanthropic Leadership, and has received numerous honors, including the Heart of Gold Award from the American Heart Association and the Hornets’ Wellness Hero Award. A Charlotte resident for 25 years, Tchernavia is active in Women Executives and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. She and her husband William share three sons. *Welcome Tchernavia!*

Member Health Update – Rory Wall: Rory recently had a serious health scare, but we’re happy to report he is doing well! After experiencing unexpected afib (thankfully spotted by Mary Ann, his wife), a quick trip to Atrium Pineville revealed a dangerous blockage, often referred to as a “Widowmaker.” A successful cardiac catheterization and stent placement resolved the issue, and Rory is now back on track. He also credits his Kardia Mobile device, which he’s used for years, as a valuable tool for monitoring heart health.



Congratulations to Sarah Martin Yost!

We’re thrilled to share the joyful news that **Sarah Martin Yost** has become a grandmother! Her first grandchild, Ranger Ryder Tant, was born on September 21 at 3:48 p.m., weighing 6 lbs. 6 oz. and measuring 20.5 inches long. Mom, Dad, and baby are all happy and healthy - and Sarah is over the moon! Congratulations to the entire family on this wonderful new arrival!



Congratulations to Donna Dunlap!

Charlotte Rotarian, **Donna Dunlap**, President & CEO, Big Brother, Big Sisters, has been named one of **The Mecklenburg Times Top 50 Most Influential Women of 2025**. The event to celebrate her accomplishment will be held on Tues., Oct. 28th at The Union at Station West. Her leadership, vision, and dedication continue to make a lasting impact both within Rotary and across our community.

Congratulations, Donna, on this well-deserved recognition!



Let’s Nourish Charlotte Together!

Nourish Up is the leading force in our community that gives people access to healthy, nutritious meals and groceries. Currently, they have a shortfall of breakfast items in their warehouse. Our club will partner with them during the month of October to collect oatmeal and grits in an effort to restock their shelves. **Please consider bringing your donations of oatmeal and/or grits to any of the October meetings.** Donations can be instant, steel cut, or old-fashioned oatmeal OR instant, stone ground, speckled, white or yellow grits.

Sign Up Now! Our club will culminate our October partnership with Nourish Up with a Nov 1 packing/sorting project on Sat/. Nov 1, 9-11 a.m., 901 Carrier Dr., Charlotte. The crew is limited to 20 individuals. Spouses and adult children are welcomed. **Sign up here.**

Apply Now for the 2026 CLT Aviation Academy!



Ever wonder what goes on behind the scenes at Charlotte Douglas International Airport? The CLT Aviation Academy offers a unique, insider look at CLT's operations, its impact on our economy, and its role in our community. Open to community members and leaders across the Charlotte region, this competitive program accepts only 27 participants.

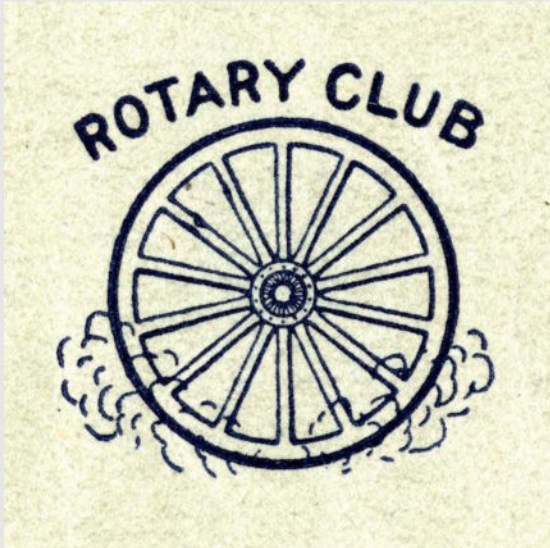
Applications are due November 7 at 5 p.m. — don't miss your chance to take part in this one-of-a-kind experience! [Apply here](#)

Questions? Contact Shanta Watkins at swatkins@centralina.org.

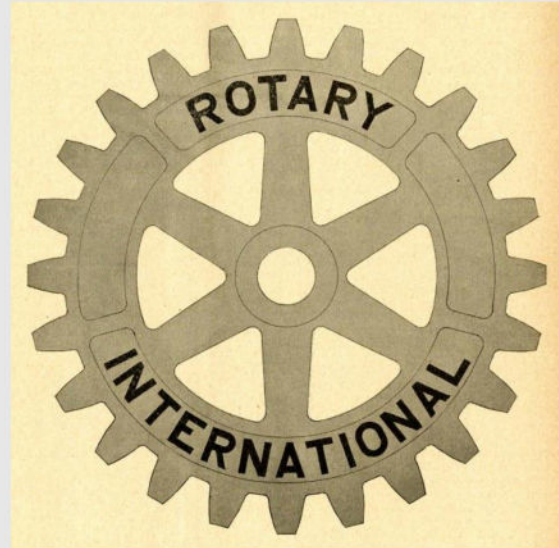
Learn more: [CLT Aviation Academy](#)

(Thank you to Charlotte Rotarian [Chad Lloyd](#) for sharing this opportunity!)

Rotary Insider Tips



Rotary Club of Chicago emblem, circa 1906.



Oscar Bjorge's design for the Rotary emblem, as published in the January 1920 issue of *The Rotarian*.

Rotary Basics: The Meaning Behind the Rotary Wheel

The Rotary wheel — with its distinctive gear-like design — is more than just a logo. It's a symbol of service, unity, and progress that has represented Rotary since 1923.

A brief history:

- The original wheel design was created in 1905 when Rotary was founded. It featured 24 cogs and a keyway. Over time, it evolved into the modern version, with 24 cogs and six spokes.
- The wheel was adopted as Rotary's official emblem in 1923, symbolizing movement and action — reflecting Rotary's dedication to active service.

Symbolic meaning:

- Spokes: Represent the ideals of fellowship, integrity, diversity, service, leadership, and friendship — the pillars of Rotary.
- Cogs: Represent work and service — a reminder that service requires effort, cooperation, and commitment.
- Keyway: Originally added, so the wheel could be "keyed" into motion, symbolizing the need for alignment and unity in purpose.
- Circle: Represents unity, wholeness, and the global connection of Rotarians.

Why it matters:

The Rotary wheel reminds members that Rotary is a global community turning together toward positive change — every cog, every spoke, and every turn representing the collective impact of service above self.

Fun fact: Rotary's wheel is one of the most recognized service organization symbols in the world, representing over 1.4 million members across more than 200 countries and territories.

Beyond the Club



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
09/30/2025 217 (Resignations: Glenn Bouley, Charles Robson)

Meeting Attendance - Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2025: 82

Guests in attendance: Cuyler Allen ([Craig Field](#)) and Page Kizer ([Ed Kizer](#))

Milestones (Week of Oct. 7 - 13)

Birthdays

9 – Mike Wollinger
10 - Pete Brunnick

Wedding Anniversaries

11 – Jane & Chris Thomas
11 – Susan & Kevin Utsey

Rotary Anniversaries
15 years: Colleen Brannan
12 years: Larry Hyatt

12 – Tammy & Gray Langley
12 – Amy & Edwin Peacock
13 – Betsey & Ken Samuelson
13 – Martha & James Woodward

2025 - 2026 Board Members

- President Patrick Baker
- President-Elect Bill Barte
- 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](mailto:christine@charlotterotary.org), 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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