

The Piedmont Rotarian

Rotary District 7690

March 2024



WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

In this edition...

- Messages from DG Van Lankford, Foundation Chair James Gouty and Membership Chair Jon Spillman
- People of Action – Your Club Stories
- Upcoming Events

Do the “Rules” Rule?



Van Lankford
District
Governor
2023-2024

Did you know that in the state of Arkansas it is illegal to mispronounce “Arkansas?” In Chino, California, it is illegal to build, maintain, or use a nuclear weapon within the city limits. (I’m sure the residents are happy about that law.). In Connecticut, a pickle fit for human consumption should bounce if dropped from a height of one foot. In Gainesville, Georgia, it is against the law to eat fried chicken with a knife and fork. (I definitely agree with this one.) In Marion, Oregon, ministers can’t eat garlic or onions before delivering a sermon. (They might be onto something.) If you live in Western Australia, you may not own more than 110 pounds of potatoes. According to the website *Legal Zoom*, if you ever find yourself driving at night through rural parts of Pennsylvania, state law requires that you stop every mile to send up a rocket signal. It’s true! And if you see a skittish team of horses coming toward you, be sure to take your car apart, piece by piece, and hide it under the nearest bushes—unless, of course, you want to be in violation of state law. In North Carolina, it is illegal to play bingo and drink alcohol at the same time. (Obviously, some Rotary fundraisers might be in jeopardy.)



When I first ran across these laws, I thought they were both humorous and concerning. While it is vital to have laws that govern and set boundaries for our behavior, is it possible that some of our laws are outdated and no longer apply to our society? Now, let’s apply this idea to the way we do Rotary in our clubs. Is it possible that some of the ways we do Rotary are “outdated” and could use a “new” rule? Do you know “why” your club meets the day and time it meets? Do you know why it meets in its current location? What was the economic climate like in your community when your club formed?

During my visits last fall, I had a great visit to Furnitureland Rotary in High Point. The club, which experienced a great turnaround a couple of years ago, is a very active, vibrant, and growing club. They meet on Monday at noon. To me, Monday is not exactly the best time for a club meeting due to businesses and employees “recovering” from the weekend, but for Furnitureland Rotary it works, and they are having great success. I questioned them about why they meet on Monday at noon. I was told that many years ago, when the club was formed and when the furniture business was booming in High Point, the furniture salespeople would go to their offices on Monday morning, get their travel schedule for the week, go to Rotary, then hit the road Monday afternoon for a week of travel. Interesting! This day and time is still working for this club. What about yours?

Another club in our district wanted to grow but didn’t know how. They were a supper club and met every other week at 6:00 in the evening. This was the rule. They wanted to reach people with young families, but, in the evenings at 6:00, young families are watching their children’s athletic events, or they are at home eating dinner, doing homework, and getting ready for school the next day. The club decided to, one week per month, offer an alternative meeting time at lunchtime. They rewrote the rules. As a result, the club has added three new members, all with young families, and this small club has grown 20%. Well done!

What are the “rules” in your club that might be outdated? I challenge you to take an honest look at your club to see if the current rules still apply. Is the time you meet, the place you meet, and the way you meet a help or a hindrance for growth?



Our Rotary
Foundation
By James Gouty
District Rotary
Foundation
Chair
2022-2025



FOUNDATION NEWS

James Gouty DRFC
March 2024

FOUNDATION BANQUET FOR NOVEMBER 2024



Rotary International President Elect Stephanie Urchick

I know this is 8 months away; however, I want to make you aware that our speaker for that evening will be Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick. The last time District 7690 had a RI President speak at our Foundation Banquet was in 2011, fourteen years ago. The banquet is scheduled for November 7, 2024, and will be held at the Koury Center in Greensboro.

The District Leadership would like to see 850 Rotarians in attendance that evening, so plan on being there.

GRANTS IN OUR DISTRICT

As promised, I will continue highlighting grants, both District and Global in our district. I believe it is “beneficial to all” for everyone to know where your funds are going.

DISTRICT GRANT

- Greensboro Airport Club’s grant is “**Red Cross Home Fire Comfort Kits**” and is as follows.

Red Cross makes comfort kits for when there is a house fire. The money we request will go towards putting together these comfort kits. The kits will have household cleaning items, towels, wash cloths and other household items. We are asking for \$480 from District Grants.

GLOBAL GRANT

- **Bluefields, Jamaica—Clean Water**

The objective of this project is to bring reliable access to clean water to the Westmoreland’s Parish (18 homes) within the Bluefields region of Jamaica that was identified by a local organization as being in need. We will install water catchment systems (a preferred method in Jamaica) and train local volunteers for sustainable upkeep post-project.

SUPPORTING THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

The 2 grants detailed above are tangible examples of the good in the world Rotary does. We as Rotarians continue to make a difference in the world and in the communities, we live in and serve. We focus on the 7 Areas of Service as mentioned above and do provide life-changing solutions to myriad of issues facing our communities and the world.

I would ask you to remember the work our Foundation does, from large multi club global grants to smaller single club district grants, disaster relief grants, global scholarships, Peace Centers, and the eradication of Polio.

The bottom line is, our Foundation touches the lives of millions of people around the world and in our district, and I hope you will join me in supporting this life-changing organization.

HOPE GRANTS

- Just a reminder that these projects are to be completed and the final report filed by April 30, 2024

DISTRICT GRANTS

Just a few reminders about the requirements and deadlines around District Grants

- All clubs must have at least (1) member to attend Grants Management Training, that was held on February 3rd. The district does have the ability to provide a make-up if your club did not have anyone there.

Please contact James Gouty the DRFC for more information.

- Clubs must complete and submit the final reports for their 2024-2024 district grants prior to applying for grants for the 2024-2025 Rotary year.
- Clubs must submit a completed MOU to be signed by the President Elect and President Elect Nominee by April 30, 2024.

FOUNDATION PROGRAMS

- A reminder that I am available to come to your clubs and speak about the Rotary Foundation. My presentation is normally 20 to 25 minutes long and I can tailor it to whatever you believe your club needs to hear.

Just contact me at jggouty@gmail.com to set up a time and date.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 30, 2024—Final reports for the Hope Grants are due to Tom Kobrin @ tomkobrin@gmail.com
- April 30, 2024—MOUs from the clubs are due to your respective AG
- May 15, 2024—Final reports for District Grants are due to Karen Morris.
- May 18, 2024—District Leadership Training at Randolph Community College (Details to follow)
- May 31, 2024—Applications for district grants for the 2024-2025 Rotary year are due.
- September 14, 2024—(Tentative Date) Fall Foundation Training at Randolph Community College, Asheboro NC
- November 7, 2024—District 7690 Foundation Banquet and Paul Harris Society Event at the Koury Center in Greensboro NC. RIPE Stephanie Urchick will be our featured speaker.



Membership Focus
By PDG Jon Spillman
District Membership Chair
2022-2025



On August 19, 2016, Usain Bolt crossed the finish line for the final time as Olympic to claim his eighth gold medal and cemented his legacy as one of the best sprinters of all time. When asked the key to success, he said "it is not how you start that matters, it's how you finish!"

I mention this because with little more than 3 months left in the rotary year, we want to make sure every club finishes strong and lays a solid foundation for the upcoming year. Three ways to do this.



- 1) Discovery Rotary Meeting – Discovery Rotary is the # 1 attraction tool, across 1900 clubs in Zone 33 and 34, to bring in new members. A 30-to-45-minute session before or after a meeting, to describe who Rotary is, what we do, and the benefits of being a Rotarian is the best way to tell your club's rotary story as well as its impact on the community. Check out the District Website, under membership resources, or call a membership team member who will help your club get started.



- 2) Year-end Membership Drive – Consider doing a fun filled membership drive to wrap up the Rotary year. One club breaks up their club into 4 ACC Teams. Each team captain drafts club members onto their team to help recruit new members. The winning team gets breakfast prepared by the losing teams. Also, prizes are awarded to top recruiters.

- 3) Innovative Clubs – Approximately one-third of our new members come from alternative club types and new satellite/companion clubs. Over the next two months, we have four new clubs launching. First the Alamance club, who created the Hispanic Satellite club of Alamance, which focuses on service in the Latino community. High Point club is launching a retirement community satellite club. Finally, Downtown Greensboro club and High Point Club are launching the first

Impact clubs in District 7690. Impact clubs are service only clubs, with over one hundred worldwide, which are a low cost, member driven service club, which are powered by an app on either iPhone or Android phone.

To help you finish year strong we have two fantastic upcoming webinars.

- 1) Tuesday, March 19th (8:00am to 8:30am) – District 7690 Zoom Call featuring Assistant Regional Coordinator Charles Allen. Charles will present Discover Rotary. Specifically, the presentation that he gives, which is customizable to your club, has brought many members into the Randolph club this year.
- 2) Monday, April 15th (6:00pm to 6:45pm) - Zone 33-34 Membership Action Plan, focused on helping your Finish Strong. Learn three key strategies that you can put into place today to help your club run through the tape this year in membership.

CELEBRATING 108 YEARS

Winston Salem
Rotary Club



WINSTON-SALEM 108 YEARS

ON FEBRUARY 1, THE ROTARY CLUB OF WINSTON-SALEM CELEBRATED ITS CHARTER DAY HAVING COMPLETED 108 YEARS OF SERVICE. THE ROTARY CLUB OF WINSTON-SALEM IS THE OLDEST ROTARY CLUB IN WINSTON-SALEM, THE OLDEST IN DISTRICT 7690 AND THE SECOND OLDEST IN THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

AT THE FEBRUARY 6 MEETING, THE CLUB HONORED 17 MEMBERS WHO HAVE 40 OR MORE YEARS OF SERVICE. COMBINED, THIS REPRESENTS 824 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THIS ROTARY CLUB.

"THERE HAVE BEEN MANY PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN IMPORTANT TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF WINSTON-SALEM, BUT AT THIS TIME IN OUR HISTORY, THESE 17 MEMBERS ARE THE FOUNDATION OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF WINSTON-SALEM. WE HONOR THEM, WE GIVE THANKS FOR THEM, AND WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THEIR SERVICE ABOVE SELF." LISA PARRISH, PRESIDENT.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE 17 MEMBERS (SEE LIST BELOW) AND THE FIVE MEMBERS PICTURED

Richard Stockton	58	Honorary	1955
C. Edward Pleasants, Jr.	57	Honorary	1966
W. Pendleton Sandridge	56	Active	1967
David L. Kelly Jr.	56	Active	1967
Henry Roemer, Jr.	52	Active	1971
Edwin E. Bouldin, Jr.	52	Active	1971
Linwood L. Davis	48	Active	1975
Nick Daves	48	Active	1975
William F. Womble, Jr.	48	Active	1975
Eldridge C Hanes	46	Active	1978
David L. Cotterill	45	Active	1979
William Kearns Davis	45	Active	1979
John W. Davis, III	42	Active	1981
Thomas D. Calloway, Jr.	41	Active	1982
James D. Branch	40	Active	1984
F. Hudnall Christopher, Jr.	40	Active	1983
James G. Hanes, III	40	Active	1983

The Jim Armstrong 4-Way Test



On Saturday, February 24, 2024 Rotary District 7690 held the Jim Armstrong Four Way Test Speech Contest for high school students at Randolph Community College in Asheboro. Students presented speeches aimed at their fellow students using Rotary's Four Way Test as a guideline for a lifetime of ethical behavior. The first place winner has been invited to present his speech at District Conference in April. Thanks to our judges: Van Lankford, Ron Pierce, Karen Pollard, Mark Brandon, Anant Venkataraman, and Lenise Lynch. Thanks also to our timekeeper, Brent Holmes, and to Regina Rush, Matt Higgs, Chris Yow, and Mini Singh for their help with registration and setup. Finally, a special thank you to all of the clubs that sent a participant to the competition for their support.

Twenty-five students participated in the District Competition. The winners of the 2024 District Contest were:

- 1st Place – Nathanael Burns of Oak Grove High School, sponsored by the Thomasville Rotary Club
- 2nd Place – Izzy Cline of East Surry High School, sponsored by the Surry Sunrise Rotary Club
- 3rd Place – Griffin Hobbs of Northwood High School, sponsored by the Pittsboro Rotary Club
- 4th Place – Ava Moore of Pinecrest High School, sponsored by the Southern Pines Rotary Club
- 5th Place – Ashlyn Spolyar of West Forsyth High School, sponsored by the Clemmons Rotary Club

Other participants were:

- Dorothea Ayers of Seaforth High School, sponsored by the Jonesboro Rotary Club
- Travis Ball of Uwharrie Ridge 6-12, sponsored by the Liberty Rotary Club
- Aidyn Eli Brown of Uwharrie Ridge 6-12, sponsored by the Midstate Rotary Club
- Raymond Byars of Uwharrie Ridge 6-12, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Asheboro
- Casey Cao of Davie County High School, sponsored by the Mocksviller Rotary Club
- Brantley Deal of Lee Early College, sponsored by the Guilford Rotary Club
- Kaylee DiJohn of Stokes Early College, sponsored by the Rotary Club of King
- Sam Funchess of Northwest Guilford School, sponsored by the Greensboro Rotary Club
- Daisy Gaither of Gaither Arts & Science Academy (homeschool), sponsored by the Eden Rotary Club
- Gabriel Grant of Piedmont Classical High School, sponsored by the Greensboro Airport Rotary Club
- Trinity Griffin of Mount Airy High School, sponsored by the Mount Airy Rotary Club
- Bryson Helton of Yadkin Early College, sponsored by the Yadkin Valley Rotary Club
- Avary Herman of Westchester County Day School, sponsored by the Kernersville Rotary Club
- Emilia Hermenegildo Perez – West Stokes High School, sponsored by the Reynolda Rotary Club
- Emily Mabe of West Stokes High School, sponsored by the Western Forsyth Rotary Club

- Brandt Meske of Yadkin Early College, sponsored by the Greensboro Downtown Rotary Club
- Kaylee Rudd of Southwestern Randolph High School, sponsored by the Randolph Rotary Club
- Justin Sommerville of West Forsyth High School, sponsored by the Winston Salem Rotary Club
- Carolina Venegas Soriano of Lee Early College, sponsored by the Sanford Rotary Club
- Sawyer Williams of Wesleyan Christian Academy, sponsored by the High Point Rotary Club



Nathanael Burns, Izzy Cline, Griffin Hobbs, Ava Moore, and Ashlyn Spolyar





Nathanael Burns, First Place Winner



Izzy Cline, Second Place Winner



Griffin Hobbs, Third Place Winner



Ava Moore, Fourth Place Winner



Ashlyn Spolyer, Fifth Place Winner



Judges Anant Venkataraman, Van Lankford, Lenise Lynce, Karen Pollard, Mark Brandon, and Ron Pierce

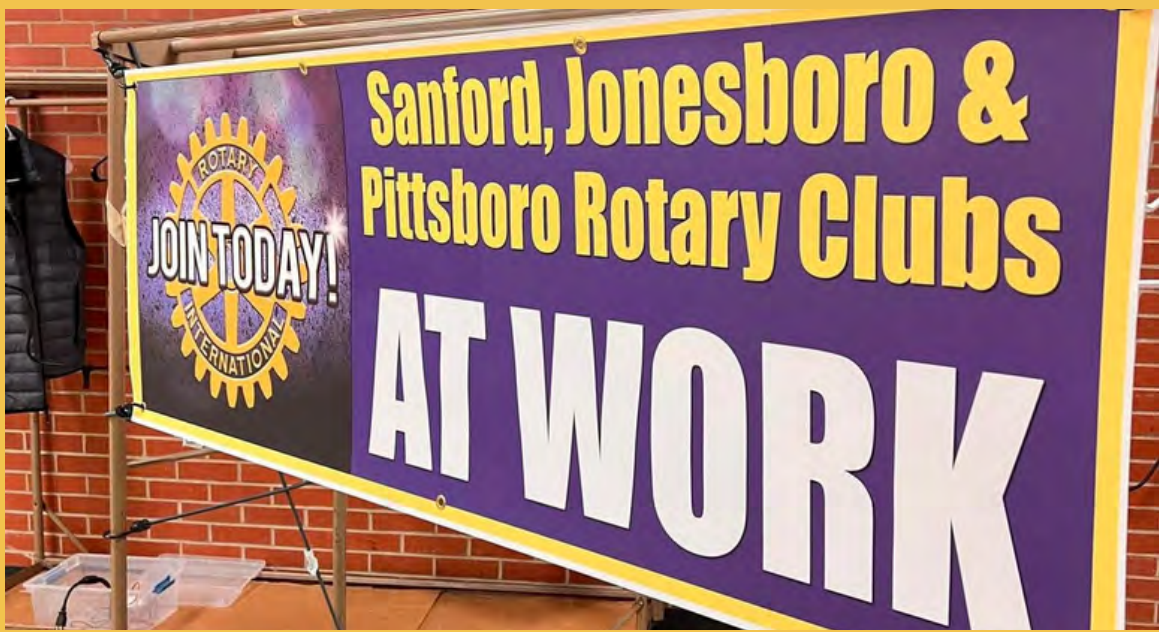
2nd Annual Jonesboro Rotary Bourbon Auction



Your Jonesboro Rotary, held its second annual Bourbon Auction on February 6th. District Governor Van Lankford was our special guest. A very special thanks to the satellite members who led this fundraiser (especially Jaime Kulaw, David Miller, and Robby Westbrook). AND a special thanks to District Governor Van Lankford who attended and addressed the members. This event was held at Camelback Brewing Company in Sanford (owned by Jonesboro Rotarian, Mike Stec). Over 20 bottles of bourbons were donated by Rotarians and a one hour silent auction awarded the items to the highest bidders. The event was publicized to the public and there was a great turnout. Over \$5,000 was raised. All of these funds will support local nonprofits and Rotary International projects. Plans are underway for a bigger and better auction next year.

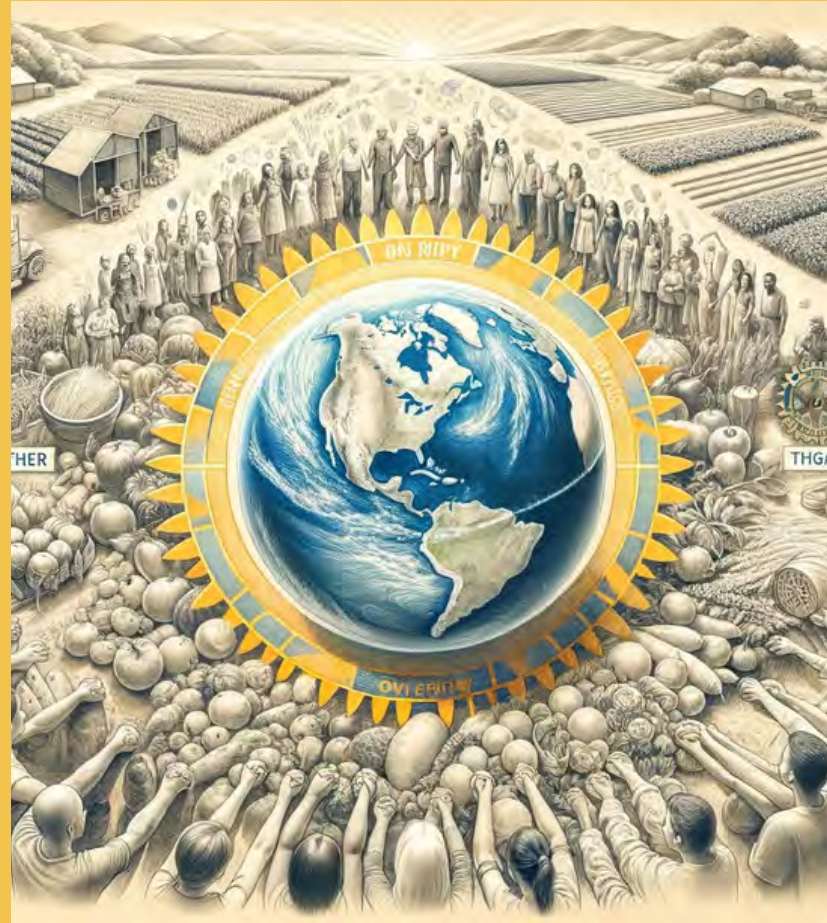
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Sanford and Jonesboro Rotary Clubs have joined together for the 14th consecutive year to help end world hunger.

On February 24, 2024 at the Lee County Fairgrounds, both clubs, along with Pittsboro Rotary Club, and over 130 community volunteers packaged over 20,000 meals. In the 14 years of teaming up with Rise Against Hunger, Sanford and Jonesboro Rotary clubs have packaged over 360K+ meals in the fight to end world hunger.





Sanford and Jonesboro Rotary Clubs have joined together for the 14th consecutive year to help end world hunger.



»»» ROTARY CLUB OF MOUNT AIRY «««

SERVICE ABOVE SELF



PICTURED ABOVE (LEFT TO RIGHT): CATHY, LEE, LEAH, LENISE, & DOUG

SHOPPING WITH A PURPOSE



This winter our club's service committee had the opportunity to "shop with a purpose" by working with the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Project. Led by our fearless Service Project Committee Chair, Lenise, a group of five Rotarians (pictured above) were able to shop for 10 angels! The angels received everything from new backpacks, makeup kits, clothing, car seats - even a bike! This simple project was a favorite of everyone on the service committee; such a simple project brought an abundance of joy to our holiday season.

For college basketball fanatics, it's the most wonderful time of the year! March is the season for intense rivalries, thrilling buzzer beaters, and wearing your team's colors with pride - it's Madness! Each year our club hosts a Selection Party. With the purchase of a ticket, you are given a team at random to follow through the Men's NCAA Basketball Tournament. If your team makes a surprising win or becomes the new champion, you win big! We can't wait for the Madness to begin!



BASKETBALL FUNDRAISER SET FOR MARCH 18, 2024



Rotary

E-Club of Global Trekkers (D7690)



DISTRICT 7690 HOPE GRANT

To Inspire Veterans Through Life-Changing Canine Partnerships.

Global Trekker Kathy Trost donates our Club check (US\$500) to Canines for Service.

CFS provides service dogs at no cost or fundraising requirement to Veterans from all conflicts with service-connect PTSD, traumatic brain injuries, mobility challenges, and/or military sexual trauma.

www.caninesforservice.org



Photo: CFS Director of Development Alyssa Kardatzke (Left) with Rotarian Kathy Trost (Right)

We Meet Online - Monday 6PM (UTC- 5)

Zoom Room: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82191334091>

Meeting ID: 821 9133 4091

WWW.ROTARYGLOBALTREKKERS.ORG

Here is a new project from Summit Rotary!

The Rotary theme for March is Water and Sanitation, which focuses on life-changing improvements made by increased access to resources. In Guilford County, we are fortunate to have access to these particular resources. However, there are many in our community who lack access to other things that markedly improve lives. One example is literacy education and availability of reading opportunities to children ages 5 and below.

Our Thrive by Five committee has been working tirelessly to address this issue. They quickly realized that one of the key barriers is easy access to books. Rather than try to bring people to books, they decided to bring books to people, via a book trailer.

The book trailer was officially launched and we got the chance to see it in person after our meeting on February 16th! I am so pleased to share that the trailer is already scheduled for events through October with local partners such as Out of the Garden, Backpack Beginnings, the City of Greensboro Parks & Recreation Department, and Ready for School Ready for Life. These partners have deep knowledge of populations and parts of town most in need of the services of the book trailer. We are grateful to partner with these organizations and bring the trailer to those in need.

In addition, all of the Greensboro Rotary clubs are supporting our efforts through DDF, book donations, and volunteering.

New Members From: **Feb-01-2024 To: Mar-17-2024**

45 Members Listed

Member Name	Club	Sponsor
Dawkins, Randal C Jr. (CARSON)	Crescent	Lisa Hazlet Ed Widman
Burridge, Joseph Vincent (JOEY)	Furnitureland	Joseph Hellinger
Hoekstra, James W. (JIM)	Greensboro	Teresa W. Class
Allgood, Sharon B. (SHARON)	Greensboro	
Bass, Stephen (STEPHEN)	Mount Airy	Long PollyD-7690 (Mount Airy) Phillip Wayne Brown II
Meitl, Michael J (MIKE)	Reidsville	
Carter, David Dwayne (DAVID)	Thomasville	Beth Hibbitts
McLeod, Melanie (MELANIE)	Troy	Will Carpenter
Wells, Everett (EVERETT)	Winston-Salem	
Warner, Kathleen (KATHLEEN)	Winston-Salem	
McCann, Brandon (BRANDON)	Winston-Salem	
MartÃ, Denise (DENISE)	Alamance	Rosemary Allegretta
Rudsinski, Kylie (KYLIE)	Alamance	Richard J. O'Donnell
Pittman, JuJuan J (JUJUAN)	Guilford (Greensboro)	William Ingold
Borrell, Derek (DEREK)	Jonesboro	Jeremy R Thomas

Member Name	Club	Sponsor
Thompson, Greg (GREG)	Jonesboro	Robert M Westbrook
LaBounty, Michael Cary (MICHAEL)	Jonesboro	Jason S Howard
Thomas, Casey (CASEY)	Jonesboro	David Grayson Spivey
Hamilton, Alison (ALI)	Jonesboro	David Grayson Spivey
Person, Elvis (ELVIS)	Jonesboro	David Grayson Spivey
Cardwell, Adam (ADAM)	Kernersville	Donna V Rodgers
Booker, Robert A (ROBERT)	Gate City	Chip Vail
McDade, John E (JOHN)	Gate City	Dwayne Church
Dimock, Nate (NATE)	Clemmons	Charles J. Rowe
Testerman, Tommy (TOMMY)	Yadkin Valley (Elkin-Jonesville)	Katee Hettleman
Smith , Leslie Reno (LESLIE)	Yadkin Valley (Elkin-Jonesville)	Bear Ray Bear Ray
Wilkins, Quinn (QUINN)	Yadkin Valley (Elkin-Jonesville)	Yadkin Valley Chamber of Commerce
Hensley , Kristina (KRISSY)	Yadkin Valley (Elkin-Jonesville)	Warren Bates Katee Hettleman
Alexander, Marion S. B. (MARION)	Yadkin Valley (Elkin-Jonesville)	Holly Lamm Stephen Erlandson
Antolin, Stanislav (STAN ANTONLIN)	Greensboro Airport	Peggy Barorn-Antolin David Feagins
Smitherman, Jennifer (JENNIFER)	Yadkin County	
Pinder, Jamilla (JAMILLA)	East Greensboro	Mac Sims
Smith-Key, Erica E (ERICA)	Surry Sunrise	Anita Bullin
Fullington, William R (BILL)	Southern Guilford	Lisa Fullington
Garner, Warren (WARREN)	Western Forsyth	David Hanein
Miller, Will (WILL)	Downtown Greensboro	Arthur Hirschfeld
Staff, IMPACT Triad (IMPACT TRIAD)	Triad Impact	
Avelino Leal, Luz Maria (LUZ)	Rotario Hispano de Alamance	
Murcia Escobar, Cindy Julissa (CINDY)	Rotario Hispano de Alamance	
Hernández Mendoza, Eduriges (EDURIGES)	Rotario Hispano de Alamance	
Martín, Juan Carlos (JUAN)	Rotario Hispano de Alamance	
García, Juan (JUAN)	Rotario Hispano de Alamance	
Luna, Anamonica (ANAMONICA)	Rotario Hispano de Alamance	
Auiliás Hernández, Brenda (BRENDA)	Rotario Hispano de Alamance	

IN LOVING MEMORY



JOHN WARREN STEEN III

JULY 1, 1953 - FEBRUARY 27, 2024

JOHN WARREN STEEN, LLL, WHO HAD A DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN PHILANTHROPY AND PUBLIC SERVICE, DIED UNEXPECTEDLY ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2024 IN WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA.

HE JOINED THE ROTARY CLUB OF REYNOLDA IN 1987, SERVED AS PRESIDENT 2002-2003, CHAIRED NUMEROUS COMMITTEES OVER THE YEARS AND WAS A PAUL HARRIS FELLOW.