

Rotary Club of Crabtree: Historical Timeline

Italicized entries = Rotary International events

April 2026

- "Celebrating America's Playlist: The 250-Year Soundtrack of Freedom and Peace" is scheduled to take place in Wake County.

2025

- Dedication of the Music Garden in Moore Square on May 17.
- Over \$250,000 cumulatively donated since 1978 by club members to The Rotary Foundation.

2024

- Club becomes a 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club.
- Achieves 2023 EREY (Every Rotarian, Every Year) status.
- Awarded Rotary International Global Grant to deliver clean water and hygiene education in Kerala, India, in partnership with host club, Rotary Club of Alleppey, in District 3211.
- Leads a 9-club collaboration to create the Music Garden at Moore Square.
- Receives America 250 NC grant to produce *"Celebrating America's Playlist."*
- Holiday Express sponsorships raise a record \$41,500.
- Donations made from Crabtree Rotary Foundation totaling over \$20k support Holiday Express, City of Oaks Foundation, Music Garden at Moore Square, Toys for Tots, Meals on Wheels, and Shelter Box.
- Nearly \$14,000 contributed by the club and its Foundation to aid Hurricane Helene recovery in Western NC.
- Partners with Boys and Girls Homes of NC and others to offer a VIP Holiday Express experience.

2023

- Another successful Holiday Express event at Pullen Park.

2022

- Holiday Express resumes at Pullen Park.

2021

- Donated 2 multi-function water stations to Dorothea Dix Park with support of 2021-22 District Grant.

2020

- COVID-19 pandemic disrupts in-person meetings; Holiday Express not held.

2010s

- Ongoing support for Rise Against Hunger, with a former Crabtree member instrumental in bringing the organization to Raleigh.

- Received 2015-16 District Grant to support meal deliveries with Meals on Wheels of Wake County.
- Donated park benches to the Crabtree Creek trail section of the Greenway, with support of a 2013-14 District grant and in partnership with Crabtree Mall.
- Literacy projects grow, including book donations in honor of guest speakers.
- Holiday Express expands in scope and popularity – An annual event bringing a winter wonderland to Pullen Park for the community.

2000s

- Strong culture of service and global engagement continues.
- Chris Ratte launches successful charity yard sale project.
- In 2007, Holiday Express at Pullen Park was established as a signature event.

1990s

- Continued tradition of dynamic guest speaker programs.

1980s

- Rings bells for Salvation Army as an early public service project.
- Community partnerships with Poe Center and Salvation Army.
- Successful fundraisers include golf tournaments and casino nights.
- *In 1987, Rotary International began admitting women.*

1978

- Rotary Club of Crabtree is chartered in Raleigh, NC.
- Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Raleigh.
- Charter and early members include Rob Robinson, Jeff Hobart, Chris Ratte, Alex Avila, Alex Townsend, Mark Hill, Gary Krueger, Ed Morton, and A.P. Carlton, Mike Whalen, Wayne Moser, Vernon Harris, Martha Waters, Frank Reich

1945

- *Rotary helped establish the United Nations; 49 Rotarians assisted in drafting the UN Charter.*

1917

- *The Rotary Foundation was created with a first donation of \$26.50.*

1910

- *The first Rotary Convention is held in Chicago.*

1905

- *Paul Harris founded the first Rotary Club in Chicago.*

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