



April 6, 2025

Events

April 8th
[The Reedy River Greenville Weekly Club Meeting](#)

April 12th
[DAT STRIDES Tutoring @ Stax Original 4-12-25; 10am-Noon](#)

April 19th
[Shed Party #2](#)

April 22nd
[The Reedy River Greenville Weekly Club Meeting](#)

April 23rd
[The Reedy River Greenville: DD25 - VID Party](#)

Years of Service

Laurie M. Rapp
 09-01-2003
 22 Years

Alan Stewart
 Calloway
 09-22-2009
 16 Years

Meghan A. Coffey
 09-22-2015
 10 Years

Birthdays

Melissa S. Miller
 April 5th
 Rachel Rutkowski
 April 21st

Wedding Anniversaries

Didn't Get a Newsletter?

The Quacker is put together on the Sunday before the Tuesday meeting. If you do not receive an email with *The Quacker* by Monday morning, it's time to check Meg's pulse; something has happened. Speak up and say something, please!

2nd Tuesday Meeting Location for March

President, Rachel Rutkowski, is shaking things up in 2025. The second meeting of the month will be held at a different location each month. Be sure to tune in for the most up-to-date details at the time of publishing *The Quacker*.

Tuesday, March 25, 2025, there will be a meeting/service project at Willy Taco, located at 217 Laurens Road, Greenville, SC 29607. Prudence Taylor is our host, and we'll be meeting on the covered patio adjacent to the parking lot to pack items for The Period Project. Socializing will begin at 6pm with the service project starting around 6:30pm.

We hope to see you there!

Meeting Program/Speaker

This schedule is subject to change. Please check each newsletter for the most current information.

3-25-25 - 2nd meeting of month - *The Period Project Supply Assembly* - Willy Taco patio - Host: Prudence Taylor
 4-8-25 - TBD
 4-22-25 - TBD
 5-13-25 - TBD
 5-27-25 - TBD
 6-10-25 - TBD
 6-24-25 - TBD

Rami Michael's Presidency begins July 1, 2025

This month is . . .

Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

Clean water, sanitation, and hygiene education are necessities for a healthy environment and a productive life

When people have access to clean water and sanitation, waterborne diseases decrease, children stay healthier and attend school more regularly, and mothers can spend less time carrying water and more time helping their families.

How Rotary makes help happen

Through water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) programs, Rotary's people of action mobilize resources, form partnerships, and invest in infrastructure and training that yield long-term change.

St. Patrick's Day Parade & Festival



It was perfect parade weather, not too hot, and no precipitation in the forecast. Alan Calloway skillfully negotiated Quacky from his perch at the construction company down to Main Street. He was joined by Prudence Taylor, Rachel Rutkowski and Garrett, Bhuvnesh Sharma, Meg Coffey, Shades, and a host of additional friends to make for a great group. The Swamp Rabbit's Rabbettes and Stomper walked in front of our entry, and Shades was the life of the party. He crisscrossed from one side of the street to the other to high five as many young onlookers as possible.



After the parade, Meg met up with DATs at our booth along NOMA Square and had a productive day with STRIDES Tutoring and Mauldin Miracle League. Assisting the DATs with adoptions and merchandise sales were Laurie Rappl and Sandy Wright.

Thanks to everyone who came out! It was a wonderful way to get nearly 225 ducks adopted and another \$1,700+ in sales capital for our eventual awarding to the charities we support. And thanks to Susan Newton, friend of Meg Coffey, for loaning her Nissan Pathfinder to tow Quacky. Much appreciated, Susan!



Winding Up Sponsorships

Our focus is now on **in-kind** and **prize** sponsorships. **In-kind** sponsor, The Frosting Fairy, makes the cutest duck-shaped cookies for our VID party and has a booth at the Derby. Additional **prizes** such as a gift certificate to a local restaurant or store would be considered a **prize** sponsorship. The prizes given in past years have been wonderful, and we are especially appreciative of the gift card type of prize sponsorships.

What businesses do you have relationships with that might be willing to donate a gift card to their establishment? Again, if you don't ask, nothing happens. That first ask can be a challenge. Push through the challenge to increase Duck Derby proceeds, enabling our Club to bless our community even more. We continue to encourage you to reach out for **in-kind** and **prize sponsors**, and don't hesitate to hit up a seasoned Club Member for advice and support. If you give it a shot - no matter how hard that is to do - you increase your chances of success.

Don't forget to keep passing out our business cards with the QR code to adopt a duck. Cards are available at each meeting, and we value the time you take to distribute them. Be sure to talk about the chance to "Win a million dollars!" Wondering how this works? Here are the deets. About an hour before the race, we can push a button to generate 3 duck adoption numbers. Those numbers are concealed until the end of the race. If the first duck to finish the race bears one of those 3 numbers on their bottom-side, that is a million dollar duck! Be sure to talk that up, along with first prize of groceries for a year from Publix (good in any Publix market), \$2,500 cash as 2nd prize, a golf weekend for two from Embassy Suites, along with many additional prizes in the form of gift cards, gift baskets, and so much more.

Adoption papers and posters are typically available at meetings or through Eric Krichbaum. Let's



get these out in the community, and we would love every Club Member to help get these items distributed.

Any questions about sponsorship should be directed to Ann Golden. For prizes, contact Laurie Rapp.

Service/Rotary Opportunities



Take advantage of these service, learning, or meet-up opportunities coming up. More information and the opportunity to sign up are available on [DACdb](#).

3-29-25 - ReCraft Creative Reuse Center - 10:30am-1:30pm - 2439 Laurens Road, Greenville, SC 29607

Help organize craft supplies and donations at the ReCraft Store. They're helping keep hobbies alive and keeping items out of the landfills! You can come for all or just part of the time. Sign up on DACdb.

4-5-25 - Shed Party #1 - 9am-Noon - 1868 Woodruff Road, Greenville, SC

Come to the Club's storage shed at The Space Shop storage facility, H6, 1868 Woodruff Road, Greenville, SC. Read entry instructions for code 1052. Club members will inventory and organize souvenirs and sales booth gear in preparation for Derby Day.

4-12-25 - Duck Adoption event with STRIDES Tutoring at Stax Original - 10am-Noon - 1704 Poinsett Hwy, Greenville, SC

A Rotarian and a Shades are needed to help with a Duck Adoption event at Stax Original with STRIDES Tutoring. If you haven't witnessed the excellent salespersonship of Anastasia of STRIDES, you must! We need a Rotarian to take care of the money, merchandise, and booth set-up/break-down. Another person is needed as Shades (Gary has been asked but has not committed).

4-19-25 - Shed Party #2 - 9am-Noon - 1868 Woodruff Road, Greenville, SC

Final organizing at the Club's storage shed at The Space Shop storage facility, H6, 1868 Woodruff Road, Greenville, SC. Read entry instructions for code 1052.

4-23-25 - VID Party - 4:30-8:00pm - Embassy Suites - 670 Verdae Blvd. Greenville, SC
All Club Members are needed at the Very Important Duck party to celebrate our sponsors. Come help set up, chat up, and support our efforts for the Reedy River Duck Derby.

4-29-25 - Stripping & Tagging Party - 5-9:00pm - Bonitz Floring in Merovan Center, 1200 Woodruff Rd., Bldg D, Greenville, SC
All Club Members are needed at the Stripping & Tagging party to handle each duck twice as we pull off the past race numbers (strip) and replace (tag) them with our race numbers. Food and drink provided. Invite friends and family as this is a job that needs to be completed on this date.

5-3-25 - 21st Annual Reedy River Duck Derby
If you don't have your position for Derby Day assigned, please contact Head Duck, Eric Krichbaum.

Remember to register for the above opportunities at DACdb and follow instructions within each volunteer opportunity that may require a second sign-up on the organizing group's website.

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities



Feed & Seed - 701 Easley Bridge Road, Suite 6010, Greenville, SC - The fresh food box programs provide individuals facing food insecurity with a healthy variety of fresh produce, including items sourced from local farmers. Feed & Sees relies on the generous support of volunteers to help us pack boxes in a warehouse which will be delivered to sites in Pickens, Oconee and Abbeville counties.

What to expect on packing day: Arrive at Feed & Seed prior to 10:00am so that you have time to sign in, wash your hands, and put on hairnets and gloves. We will circle up to discuss our Fresh Food Box programs and go over food safety guidelines. We are a GMP (Good Manufacturing Practices) facility and do require all volunteers to comply with the following expectations:

- Closed-toed shoes required.
- No shorts or dresses.

- Hairnets are required. PPE will be provided.
- Beard Nets are required for the bearded folk. PPE will be provided.
- Gloves are required. PPE will be provided. Hand-washing will be required prior to putting on gloves.
- No Jewelry Allowed. (exception plain, solid bands).
- No Food or Drinks in the warehouse area.
- No Personal Bags in the warehouse area.

Work takes place until about 1:30pm. New volunteers must complete a waiver prior to their first volunteer experience! Click [here](#) for Feed & Seed website for more information and sign waiver.

Notify Elizabeth Clarke of your service hours for the Club's record-keeping.

Meals on Wheels - Deliver hope, friendship, independence and more. When you get involved with Meals on Wheels, you are delivering so much more than daily nourishment. You deliver friendship to those who spend their days alone. You deliver independence, allowing people to age in their homes with dignity. You deliver hope to those often forgotten. Volunteer your time, refer someone who needs help, or make a donation. No matter how you get involved, you'll deliver more than meals. [Volunteer Application | Meals On Wheels Greenville](#). Prudence Taylor regularly volunteers with Meals on Wheels and would be a source of information if you have questions.

Notify Elizabeth Clarke of your service hours for the Club's record-keeping.

The Children's Museum of the Upstate - [Volunteer - TCMU Upstate \(tcmupstate.org\)](#). **Notify Elizabeth Clarke of your service hours for the Club's record-keeping.**

Trees Upstate - is a nonprofit organization founded in 2005. Their mission is to **plant**, **promote**, and **protect** trees in the Upstate. They **plant** trees in parks, schools, and neighborhoods, **promote** the benefits of trees, and **protect** by providing education and technical support to help inform policies and systems change. Though they are dormant in the summer months, they will have volunteer opportunities at this link: [Volunteer - Trees Upstate](#). **Notify Elizabeth Clarke of your service hours for the Club's record-keeping.**

Library Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer at the Greenville County Public Library

The Library offers several different opportunities to volunteer. Prudence Taylor volunteers at the Friends Shop at the Hughes Library, headquarters for the library system. The shop is open Wednesday - Friday, 10 am - 3 pm. The store sells used books and some retail items, including greeting cards, puzzles, etc. All funds raised go to support programs for children, teens, and adults. The Library also holds book sales at its Five Forks Branch Library. All funds raised from the book sales go to support the library system's programs for children, teens, and adults.

Other ways to volunteer include:

- Assisting children's librarians with preparation for various programs for youngsters.
- Sorting books for book sales.
- Processing new items to be shelved for the first time.
- Looking over the shelves to make sure all items are in proper order.
- Shelving books.
- Serving in some capacity at special events, including keeping track of door counts or assisting attendees at a table.
- Helping patrons who are using public computers.

You do not have to be a member of the Friends of the Library to volunteer. The volunteer coordinator is Amy Pecht. Contact her at volunteer@greenvillelibrary.org or call 864-527-9286. A volunteer application is available online <https://www.greenvillelibrary.org/volunteer>. Be sure to let Elizabeth Clarke know if you volunteer and how many hours you contribute to an event/organization so the Club can keep track of our service.

Newsletter Editor Needed

In Rotary year 2025-2026 that begins July 1, 2025, we are seeking a newsletter editor to put together *The Quacker* before each meeting, or two times per month. Training is available using DACdb's bulletin creation feature, and this is a great way to serve the Club. Let Rami Michael, President-Elect, know if you are interested in this important communication piece for the Club.

Rotary & Friends Day Trip to Warm Springs, GA



The Rotary Clubs of Anderson and Pleasantburg have partnered to provide an excellent trip to FDR's southern White House in Warm Springs, Georgia.

A day trip, led by Rotarian Kathryn Smith (author of *The Gatekeeper: Missy Lehand, FDR, and the Untold Story of the Partnership That Defined a Presidency*), to the Little White House in Warm Springs, Georgia, can be yours.

This is where President Roosevelt began recovering from polio and where he died on April 12, 1945. They need to fill up a bus with 50 people to make the trip happen. Please share with all Rotarians and history buffs so the trip will have enough people to succeed.

The event takes place on Saturday, April 26, 2025. It involves a one-day luxury bus trip to Warm Spring, Georgia, where FDR launched his fight for personal recovery from polio and the effort to find a vaccine. Your guide is none other than Missy LeHand (a/k/a Rotarian Kathryn Smith), FDR's private secretary and partner in the international fight against polio.

- Depart from Anderson's Liberty Highway Walmart at 6:30am
- Arrive Warm Springs for buffet lunch at the famous Bulloch House
- Little White House and Museum tour
- Historic pools where FDR "swam his way back to health"
- Polio Wall of Fame at Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute
- Dowdell's Knob, FDR's favorite picnic spot (time permitting)
- Drinks and snacks on the bus as we return, arriving at 8pm

Cost: \$110 per person

Deadline: March 30, 2025

Please pay by check to Rotary Club of Greater Anderson and mail with [completed form](#) to:

Kathryn Smith
400 Heyward Road
Anderson, SC 29621

Your check will be held until they are certain to fill 50 seats. Full refund up until March 30. No refunds after March 30. If you have questions, please reach out to Kathrynsmith16@yahoo.com or 864-202-7093.

Monthly Report

By Rami Elmarkiz-Sami Michael



Contribute to The Quacker

The Quacker is produced using DACdb on a **computer** and texted information takes additional manipulation from phone to computer. If your phone takes high-resolution pictures (HEIC), they are not compatible with DACdb and, therefore, an additional step to convert those files to JPEG, JPG, or PNG has to take place. If you use EzStory in DACdb, please send an email stating the name of your article. If you are unable to use EzStory, submit something for *The Quacker* by **emailing** the copy and pictures in the above format to megcoffey@yahoo.com. Newsletters are put together on Sunday afternoon prior to the Tuesday meeting.

Club Mailing Address

Please use this address for all club correspondence, remitting dues (unless you pay online), and Duck Derby business.

Rotary Club of Reedy River Greenville
Box # 500
325 Rocky Slope Rd, Suite 104
Greenville, SC 29607

Club Meeting

The Reedy River Greenville
Meets at Holly Tree Country Club (2nd & 4th Tuesdays Only)
500 Golf Club Dr. Holly Tree Country Club
Simpsonville, SC 29681

Club Leaders

[Rachel Rutkowski](#)

President

[Prudence Ann Taylor](#)

Secretary

[Alan Stewart Calloway](#)

Club Director

iPast President

Membership Chair

[Robert L Brown Jr.](#)

Rotary Foundation Chair

[Rami Elmarkiz-Sami Michael](#)

President - Elect

[Laurie M. Rappl](#)

Treasurer

[Meghan A. Coffey](#)

Club Director

RYLA Chair

Bulletin Editor

[Elizabeth Foster Clarke](#)

President - Nominee

[Mark William Bacon](#)

Charities Committee Chair

[Ann H. Golden](#)

Program Chair

Club Director