

Rotary Club of Greer



**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**



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January Theme

JANUARY IS VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH

Let's honor and promote
professional ethics and skills
within our communities.



What You Missed in December

Our December meetings proved that "Service Above Self" happens right here in our meeting room!



At our **December 2 meeting**, we took care of some important business. We were inspired by **Tiffany Ervin's** presentation on the **CART Fund** and were proud to make a donation toward Alzheimer's research.



We also welcomed **Chief Matt Hamby** to the podium to officially accept our club's **Cops for Tots** toy donations. Finally, we set the stage for our recent service project by making a club donation to the Greer American Legion to purchase 102 wreaths for Wreaths Across America.

Club Meeting

Greer
1st & 3rd
Tuesdays
05:30 PM

Club Officers



Anna
Ryan
President



Lance
Pittman
President-
Elect



Amy
Sherrill
McBurnie
Secretary



Deanna
Austin
Treasurer

We closed out our **December 16 meeting** with our favorite tradition: the **Annual Christmas Party**. It was a great opportunity for fellowship and a chance to enjoy the holiday spirit together as a club.



New Member Spotlight

New Faces Around the Club Let's hear it for our latest additions! We are so excited to grow our community with:



Rick & Cindy St. Peter, Rob & Karen Hansen



Todd Welch, Aaron Bruner

Make sure to say hello and introduce yourself when you see them at our next event!

January Speaker Schedule

We are kicking off 2026 with a compelling program! Please join us at **Southern Growl** for our 1st Tuesday meeting of the new year.

- **January 6 | Allison Elder, Executive Director of Time Served**

We are honored to welcome Allison Elder to our first meeting of the year. Allison will share the mission of Time Served, a South Carolina-based legal aid organization. They provide vital, free legal services and advocacy for currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, helping them navigate barriers to reentry and achieve family reunification. You won't want to miss this insightful look into criminal justice reform and community restoration right here in our state.



Please note the venue change for Jan 6! We will be trying a few different locations, so be sure you stay tuned and follow us on Facebook to stay updated on where we will be meeting!

January 20 | To Be Announced We are finalizing an exciting program for our second meeting of the month. Check the website calendar or our Facebook page to stay updated!

Honoring Our Heroes: Wreaths Across America



On December 13, members of the **Rotary Club of Greer** gathered at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens to participate in a powerful tradition: Wreaths Across America. Our volunteers joined a massive national effort where over 2 million wreaths were placed at cemeteries and memorials across the country.

As we placed each live balsam wreath, we took a moment to say the name of the service member aloud—a small but profound gesture to ensure their memory and sacrifice are never forgotten. This annual "living memorial" is a beautiful way for our club to show that we remain grateful to our veterans and their families.

Rotary on the Move: Greer & Beyond

Our members have been busy bringing the Rotary spirit to the community this month!



Greer Christmas Parade We had a wonderful turnout for the Greer Christmas Parade! It was a joy to walk the route and see so many friendly faces.

A huge **"Thank You"** goes out to the team at **Moody Blue Design**. They provided a beautiful DAG display sign and stunning decorative car wraps for our two club vehicles, making sure Greer Rotary looked its best for the crowds!



Spreading Holiday Cheer The spirit of our Christmas party didn't end when the music stopped. Following the festivities, **Rachel and Frank** took the leftover holiday cookies and festive headbands to **Greer Community Ministries**. They were delivered to local seniors, who were touched by the thoughtful (and delicious!) gesture.



Art with a Purpose In an incredible show of personal initiative, **Rachel** was so moved by Tiffany Ervin's presentation on the **CART Fund** that she put her talents to work. She painted a beautiful holiday scene and auctioned it off online, raising **over \$600** specifically for Alzheimer's research! This is a perfect example of how our guest speakers can inspire us to take individual action.

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Volunteers

Our club had an incredibly busy and meaningful December, and none of it would have been possible without the dedicated members who stepped up to lead the way. Please join us in thanking:

The Christmas Parade Team A huge thank you to everyone who organized and walked in the Greer Christmas Parade to represent our club! A special shout-out goes to **Moody Blue Design** for providing our fantastic DAG display sign and the decorative car wraps. Your talent helped us shine on the parade route!

Wreaths Across America We are so grateful to Frank and Eric for coordinating our club's participation in Wreaths Across America. Because of your organization and leadership, we were able to honor 102 veterans at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in a truly moving way.

The Christmas Party Committee Our annual holiday gathering was a massive success thanks to the hard work of Deanna, Autumn, Stacey, Maria, and Anna. Thank you for your meticulous planning, the wonderful food, and for creating a space for us to enjoy such great fellowship to close out the year. And most importantly, thank you to **YOU**, the club members, who show up time and again and live the motto "Service Above Self."



Rotary Around the World



Kerry Krause spotted this plaque on a work trip to Charlotte.

Where have you seen Rotary on display lately? Send a photo and your story to newseditor@rotarygreer.org, and it will appear in the next edition of the newsletter!

Dining Around Greer: The Countdown is On!

Our signature event is fast approaching, and it's time for all hands on deck to make this year's **Dining Around Greer** our most successful yet!

Tickets will be available for purchase **online starting January 2**. The **Facebook Event** will go live that day and all links will go directly to our website for more information and ticket sales. For those who prefer the traditional route or need tickets for Platinum or Gold level sponsors, **paper tickets** will be available for pickup at our first meeting of the year on **January 6**.

How You Can Help Right Now: To reach our goals, we are currently looking for:

- **Sponsors:** If you know a local business that wants to support our community impact, please reach out to them or share their contact info with the committee. All forms and letters of introduction are available on the Google Drive!
- **Raffle Items:** We are seeking high-quality items and experiences for our raffle. No contribution is too small to help us raise vital funds!
- **Flyers:** Once we have a few more restaurant contracts, flyers will be printed and available for distribution to local establishments.

Spread the Word! One of the easiest (and most important) ways to help is to **share our social media posts far and wide**. When you see a post about DAG on our Facebook or Instagram pages, please Like, Comment, and Share it with your own network. Let's make sure everyone in Greer knows that the best afternoon of the year is coming up!

Dates to Remember!

SAVE THE DATE

Jan 6: Club Meeting @ Southern Growl

Jan 20: Club Meeting (Location TBA)

Mar 1: Dining Around Greer!!!

Apr 25: Greer Goes Global International Fest

(Stay tuned for more updates via email & website!)



Upcoming RLI Dates



Expand Your Rotary Horizon Ready to connect beyond our club? Join a **Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)** session to learn more about Rotary, share best practices, and problem-solve with fellow leaders.

- **Online Option:** Jan 13–14 (Part I), Feb 10-11 (Part II), Mar 17–18 (Part III)
- **Local Options:** Jan 24 Fountain Inn (Part I)
March 7 in Anderson (All Parts)

Ready to register? Log into **DACdb** and head to the "Calendar" or "RLI Training" tabs. If you've forgotten your login, don't sweat it—just reach out to **Amy** for a quick reset.

UNITE FOR GOOD Car Raffle: Win a 2026 Chevrolet TRAX!

Deadline for Tickets extended!

Rotary District 7750 is excited to launch the **UNITE FOR GOOD Car Raffle**, with one lucky winner driving home a **2026 Chevrolet TRAX!** Every \$100 ticket helps fund **Leadership Development** at our 2026 District Conference and supports the **Youth Exchange Program**.

Only **550 tickets** are available — get yours before they're gone! Sales run **Oct 15 – Mar 27** (or until sold out).

Drawing: Mar 27 at 3 PM on District 7750 social media.

How to enter:

Venmo @Rotary-Foundation-568 (with your contact info),
Mail a check to
Pleasantburg Rotary Foundation, 308 Hampton Ave., Greenville, SC 29601, or email District7750Raffle@gmail.com for cash arrangements.

Full details at pleasantburgrotary.org/rotary-raffle

Thank you to the **Pleasantburg Rotary Club** for hosting the raffle site!

Let's make this a sell-out success and show how Rotarians Unite for Good!
— Dave Brenner, District Governor 2025-2026

Your chance to support Rotary in District 7750 and drive away in a brand-new car.

Rotary Youth Exchange
Life-changing international experiences for high school students, building future global leaders with empathy and cultural understanding.

Club Member Leadership Development
Connecting and empowering local professionals to drive leadership, service, and meaningful community impact through Rotary.

Every ticket fuels programs that transform lives.

One lucky winner will receive a 2026 Chevrolet TRAX (MSRP \$22,300)