

Rotary
Club of Greer



In This Issue

November Rotary Theme

Paws, Pints & Purpose

Small Actions, Big Ripples at Lake Robinson Day

The Heart of Rotary: Our Volunteers

October Meeting Highlights: Getting to Know Our Fellow Rotarians

Coming Up at Our November Meetings

Upcoming Service Opportunities: Let's Get Involved!

Dining Around Greer: Time to Get Involved!

Good Times & Gatherings: A Social Committee Update

Rotary Sightings: Up and Down the East Coast

From the Foundation Chair

Discover More Through RLI

Dates to Remember!

Club Meeting

Greer
La Joya Bar & Grill
219 Trade St
Greer, SC 29651
1st and 3rd Tuesdays

November Rotary Theme



Paws, Pints & Purpose

Our recent Paws & Pints for Polio event was a wonderful reminder of what makes the Rotary Club of Greer and our community so special. From the excitement leading up to the event to the energy and enthusiasm throughout the day, it was inspiring to see so many people come together in the spirit of *Service Above Self* and support a shared goal: a world free of polio.

Thanks to the generosity of our host, The Southern Growl; our raffle and Halloween costume contest prize donors, Woofie's, Swampy Dog Social & Bar, and Cuddly Critters Pet Sitters; and our dedicated club volunteers, we raised **more than $900 for Rotary's PolioPlus program**, supporting the global effort to eradicate polio.





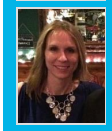


Club Officers


Lance Pittman
President


Autumn Lawhun
President-Elect


Carrie B. Krause
Secretary


Deanna Austin
Treasurer

While the funds raised are certainly worth celebrating, the true success of the event extended beyondthe dollars. It was an opportunity to strengthen community relationships, share Rotary's mission, and enjoy the fellowship that makes our club so special.

Thank you to everyone who helped make Paws & Pints for Polio a success! Together, we're making a difference, one paw and one pint at a time.

~ Bailey Shook

Small Actions, Big Ripples at Lake Robinson Day

Despite the wind and chilly morning start, club members had a great time at Lake Robinson Day on October 17! Hosted by Greer CPW, this annual free, family-friendly event brings the community together for a day of outdoor fun, water education, and environmental awareness.





Our Rotary booth gave kids a chance to learn about protecting our waterways through two hands-on challenges. In the **"Sort the Trash"** activity, children decided which items belonged in nature, which could be recycled, and which needed to stay out of our waterways. The **Water Filter Challenge** put their problem-solving skills to work as they used everyday materials to try to clean dirty water.

More than **70 children** took part in the activities, heading home with a sticker and a reminder that everyone can help keep our water clean!

A big thank-you to our Rotary volunteers who helped plan, set up, and run the activities throughout the day. Your time, energy, and enthusiasm made learning fun for the children and helped share an important environmental message with local families.

It was a fun day of fellowship, community engagement, and hands-on service. Thanks to everyone who helped make it happen!



October Meeting Highlights: Getting to Know Our Fellow Rotarians

October gave us the opportunity to learn more about two of our fellow Rotarians and the experiences that have shaped their lives.



At our October 7 meeting, **Aaron Bruner** shared his background and his commitment to service. He spoke about his desire to seek out opportunities to make a difference in our community, reflecting the Rotary spirit of *Service Above Self*.

On October 20, **Cora Newcomb** entertained us with stories of her journey from a traditional Southern upbringing in Bluffton, SC, to a life filled with adventure. After college, Cora embraced opportunities to travel, work, and explore different parts of the country, guided by a willingness to say yes to new experiences. Her journey eventually led her to teaching and a love of storytelling. Her engaging presentation left us wanting more—and there's already talk of a Part 2!

Both presentations reminded us that one of the greatest benefits of Rotary fellowship is getting to know the remarkable people who make up our club.

Coming Up at Our November Meetings



November 3 – Stuff the Duffle for Veterans
We're excited to bring back Stuff the Duffle, one of our favorite service projects from last year! During our regular meeting, we'll come together to fill duffle bags with essential items for local veterans, showing our appreciation for those who have served.

We'll also share updates on upcoming club events and service opportunities.



November 17 – Guest Speaker Pam Baldwin & Board Nominations
Join us as we welcome fellow Rotarian Pam Baldwin as our featured speaker. It's always a pleasure to hear from fellow Rotarians and enjoy the connections that make our club special.

We'll also take an important step in planning for the club's future as we present the slate of board nominees for the coming Rotary year and open the floor for additional nominations. This is an opportunity for every member to participate in shaping our club's leadership.

We look forward to seeing everyone for another month of fellowship, service, and club engagement!

Upcoming Service Opportunities: Let's Get Involved!

November brings several opportunities to put *Service Above Self* into action! Mark your calendars and join your fellow Rotarians in making a difference.



November 3 – Stuff the Duffle for Veterans
We'll be supporting our veterans with our annual Stuff the Duffle project during our regular club meeting. Members can participate right from their seats!

November 7 & 14 – Honoring Veterans at Springwood Cemetery
The Rotary Club of Pleasantburg invites area Rotarians to help place American flags on veterans' graves at Springwood Cemetery in Greenville on **Saturday, November 7, at 10 AM**. Volunteers are also needed to remove the flags on **Saturday, November 14, at 10 AM**. Each shift takes approximately 1½–2 hours. It's a meaningful opportunity to honor those who served, including veterans dating back to World War I.

November 14 – Rebuild Upstate
We still need volunteers for our **1–5 PM afternoon shift** with Rebuild Upstate! Join fellow Rotarians for a hands-on service project that will make a difference in our community.

Sign up and complete your Rebuild Upstate waiver here!

Whether you can give a few minutes or a few hours, every act of service matters. Let's make November a month of Rotary impact!

Dining Around Greer: Time to Get Involved!

Planning for **Dining Around Greer (DAG)** is well underway, and now is the time to get involved!

At a recent meeting, we distributed sponsor and raffle donation forms for members to use when reaching out to local businesses. **Now is the time to make those connections!** Sponsorships and donated raffle prizes are an important part of making DAG a successful fundraiser.



We're also looking for members to **join the team and help with pre-event preparations.** There are plenty of opportunities to pitch in, including publicity and PR, event logistics, raffle and sponsor solicitation, and restaurant recruitment. Whether you can take on a larger role or help with a few tasks, your involvement makes a difference!

Ready to help? Reach out to **Rachel or Frank Antifonario** to join a task force or find out where help is needed. If you need access to sponsor or raffle donation forms, contact **Carrie Krause**.

Let's work together to make this year's Dining Around Greer a success!

Good Times & Gatherings: A Social Committee Update

Those of us who attended the Rotary social at Peach Bowl Lanes on September 29th, had a great time!

We have postponed our soup cook-off until January. Date to be announced later.

Our Christmas party will be held on Tuesday, December 15th. Details coming.

Karen L. Hansen
Social Committee



Rotary Sightings: Up and Down the East Coast

Rotary is everywhere if you know where to look!







Recent travels uncovered some interesting Rotary connections along the East Coast. In Annapolis, Maryland, Rotary vests were spotted by Carrie Krause at a Navy football game, along with a seat in the stadium bearing a Rotary plaque (it really needs refreshing!). Meanwhile, Frank and Rachel Antifonario discovered a plaque beneath a tree planted in memory of a Rotarian in Beaufort, SC. Even more interesting, one of our own members shared that he had once belonged to that very club!

These little discoveries remind us that Rotary's connections and impact extend far beyond Greer.

Have you spotted Rotary on your travels? Whether it's a sign, plaque, project, or fellow Rotarian in action, snap a photo and send it to Carrie! We'd love to share more Rotary sightings in future newsletters.

From the Foundation Chair

The Rotary Club of Greer now has 15 Paul Harris Fellows. For a club that is only 4 years old, I feel it is wonderful! It shows that the members believe in Rotary and what we do around the world!

Here is what happens when you donate to the Foundation Annual Share:

- Your contribution is invested for 3 years. The interest generated covers the Foundation's administrative costs.
- After 3 years, 50% of the funds come back to the District for local and global projects. The other 50% goes to the World Fund to support large scale international initiatives and the Rotary Peace Fellowships.

So let's spend a minute on the District local grants. The money at the District level is then allocated to the clubs for their Grant projects. This is what allowed us to provide an Adaptive Wheelchair for Upstate Pickleball. The more money we donate as a club, the more we have available to us for grants.

That brings up the next point. If you have an idea for a project for the club to submit for a grant, let us know! We will then have a committee to work on the feasibility of the idea.

Thanks again to all of you for giving. We are making a difference in our community, and in the world!

~ Jim Nichols

Did You Know?

Rotary Leadership Institute

Did You Know? RLI Helps Build Stronger Clubs!
Ever wondered how to attract new members, keep current members engaged, or make your club's service projects more effective?

These are just a few of the real-world challenges explored at the **Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)**. Through interactive discussions, Rotarians exchange ideas on membership, leadership, communication, service projects, and more.

The best part? You don't just learn from the facilitators. You learn from fellow Rotarians who bring different experiences, fresh perspectives, and ideas you can take back to your own club.

RLI isn't just about becoming a better leader. It's about becoming a more effective Rotarian and helping your club thrive!

Online Options:
November 2–3, Part I or II
January 19–20, Part I or III
In-Person Options:
November 7, Asheboro, NC, Part I, II, III
January 16, Columbia, Part I, II, III

There are other training opportunities farther away if you want to travel.
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 **Carrie** for a quick reset.

Dates to Remember!

