



Rotary

Club of Greer



Friday, August 1, 2025

**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**



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Club Meeting

1st and 3rd Tuesdays
215 Trade St
Greer, SC 29651
Time: 05:30 PM

President's Message

July marked an exciting new chapter for our club as we welcomed a new team of leaders. Please join me in celebrating our new Treasurer, Deanna Austin; our President-Elect, Lance Pittman; and new Board Member, Stacey Matsuda. We are grateful for their willingness to serve and lead.

As President, I shared our newly crafted **Three-Year Vision**:
Our Rotary Club envisions steady growth, deeper engagement, and a broader community impact over the next three years. We are committed to providing meaningful opportunities for every member to contribute and grow through Rotary.

We also introduced this year's focus:
Setting the tone for long-term impact and participation through committee development, increased giving, visible service, and community outreach.

In July, we began defining key committee roles and laying the groundwork for stronger member engagement. I'm excited about all that lies ahead and thankful for the energy and heart each of you brings to our club.

With gratitude,
Anna Ryan
President, 2025–2026



August Rotary Theme

AUGUST IS
**MEMBERSHIP &
NEW CLUB
DEVELOPMENT
MONTH**

Expand outreach, recruit members, and establish vibrant, inclusive new clubs.

Who will you invite this month?

Club Officers



Anna
Ryan
President



Lance
Pittman
President-Elect
Vice
President



Amy
Sherrill
McBurnie
Secretary



Deanna
Austin
Treasurer

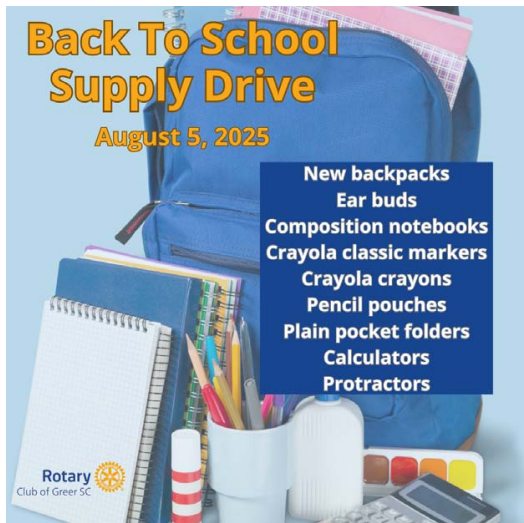
Coming This Month!



You won't want to miss our August meetings! On the 5th we will present the District Grant to Adaptive Pickleball, induct 3 new members, hear from our fundraising chair, and more. We will pack backpacks for Greer Community Ministries' Back to School Supply Drive!

Then join us again on August 19 for our first Rotarian Spotlight of the new Rotary year! Stay tuned for more information on who it will be and how to sign up to speak in the future!

Rotarian Spotlight: [Name] Shares Their Story



More about the Back to School Supply Drive on August 5... The Greer Community Ministries is looking for back-to-school supplies and their biggest need is for "girly" backpacks. Apparently there is no shortage of black, blue and gray for the boys/young men.

Let's aim for 50 backpacks! Remember this is TAX FREE WEEKEND, Fri-Sun this weekend.

Below is the link to all the items they have a need for in general. However, their greatest need is for the actual backpacks. Please plan to arrive early and/or stay late to pack the bags at our next meeting.

Want to help? View the supply list and learn more: <https://www.gcminc.org/back-to-school-supply-drive/>

Collection & Packing: August 5, 2025

Help us give kids the tools they need to start the school year strong!

Venue Change for August 5

Our August 5th club meeting will be held at Trade Street Social, 315 Trade Street, Greer.

At this time, only the Aug 5th meeting is impacted by this change! See you there.



Let's Build Service Projects Together



Rotary is known for *service above self*—but meaningful service doesn't happen by accident. It takes ideas, planning, and a passionate team to bring projects to life. As your new Service Projects Chair, I'm inviting you to be part of that team.

Right now, I'm in the early stages of gathering ideas for service projects that align with Rotary's areas of focus: promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water and sanitation, supporting mothers and children, fostering education, and growing local economies. But I don't want to do this alone—Rotary works best when we work *together*.

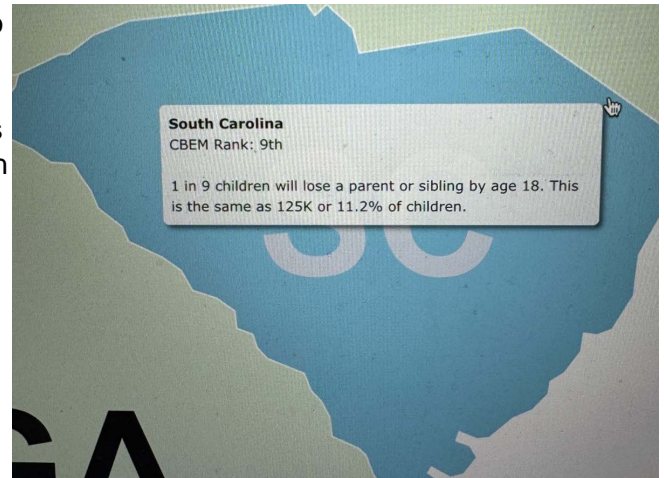
Would you consider joining the Service Projects Committee? Whether you love brainstorming ideas, making community connections, organizing logistics, or just want to help make a difference, your voice is needed.

One organization I've started exploring is **Tomorrow's Rainbow**, a nonprofit dedicated to nurturing emotional wellness and resilience in children and families experiencing grief or trauma. Their mission aligns with Rotary's focus on supporting children and mental health. South Carolina ranks *9th in the nation* for childhood bereavement—1 in 9 children here will lose a parent or sibling before they turn 18. That's a staggering number, and one we can help address.

I've reached out to Tomorrow's Rainbow and hope to learn soon how we might support their work—possibly through an upcoming event on **October 19**, or with a dedicated service project.

But this is just the beginning. Let's build something impactful together. If you're interested in helping shape our service efforts this year, please reach out—I'd love to have you on the committee.

Together in service,
Stacey



July Meetings Highlights

We kicked off the new Rotary year on July 1 with a special visit from our founding president, **Jim Mitchell**, who shared reflections on the club's early days. The evening also included the swearing-in of our new president, **Anna Ryan**, as she officially stepped into her leadership role.

At our July 15 meeting, President Anna shared her inspiring **three-year vision** for the Rotary Club of Greer—focusing on increasing our **presence and impact in the community**. She issued a call to action for all members to get involved by joining a committee, either as a chair or a contributing member.

We also received updates on some exciting **fall events** in the works, including **Lake Robinson Day**, **Paws for Polio**, and a **veterans service project**. There's a lot of great work ahead—let's keep the momentum going!

Committee Chairs & Opportunities to Get Involved

This month, we're giving a big thank-you to the Rotarians who have stepped up to lead our club's committees this year! Your leadership keeps our service strong and our club thriving.

There are still plenty of opportunities to get involved—whether you're ready to lead a committee or simply want to lend a hand. Have a passion you'd love to share? Looking to learn something new? There's a place for you here.

See a committee that sparks your interest? Reach out to any club leader—we'd love to help you find the right fit!

Key Committee Chairs

- Membership: **Becky Moreno**
- Service Projects: **Stacey Matsuda**
- Rotary Foundation: **Jim Nichols**
- Programs: **Tony Beam**
- Club Administration: **Amy McBurnie**
- Fundraising: **Rachel Antifonario**
- Public Image/Public Relations: **Carrie Krause**
- Club Socials: **Autumn Lawhun**
- Learning Leader: **TBD**
- CART: **TBD**
- Literacy: **TBD**
- Interact: **TBD**
- Rotaract: **TBD**
- RYLA: **TBD**
- Vocational Service: **Kevin Comer**
- Youth Exchange: **Amy McBurnie**
- Budget: **Melissa Patterson**
- Grants: **Kevin Comer**

Rotary Around the World

During a recent trip to Canada, Frank and Rachel Antifonario spotted Rotary signs and symbols along the way—and captured some great photos!



Wherever *your* travels take you, keep an eye out for signs of Rotary and snap a picture. We'd love to feature your Rotary around the world sightings in a future newsletter!



Greer Rotary Shines at District 7750 Awards Dinner

Nine members (plus 2 partners) of the Rotary Club of Greer gathered on Friday, July 18, to enjoy each other's company and represent our club at the District 7750 Awards Dinner!

We are proud to share that our club was honored with the Platinum Level EPIC Award for Public Image, recognizing our commitment to sharing Rotary's impact with the world in compelling and creative ways.





In addition, we received a Governor's Excellence Award Gold Level recognition for our participation in various aspects of club life and meeting certain goals set by our club at the start of the year.



The evening also marked two special leadership milestones:

Mark Moreno was officially sworn in as **District Governor Nominee**, where he will bring his passion for service to an even broader audience.

Anna Ryan was sworn in as **President of the Rotary Club of Greer**, and we are excited for her leadership in the year ahead.



It was a night of celebration, recognition, and inspiration—and a great reminder of how strong we are when we show up together.

August Save the Date Info!

Info on this graphic is subject to change, so keep up with what is happening via email and our website calendar, and by attending meetings! For information on Rotary Leadership Institute opportunities, see this month's article, Upcoming Rotary Leadership Institute Opportunities!

SAVE THE DATE

1st & 3rd Thursdays: Mauldin Happy Hour Club (our satellite club) meeting at Restaurant Rocco, 315 BridgeWay, 5:30 PM

August 23: Becoming a Vibrant Club Forum (annual Membership Summit) Kroc Center, GVL

October 7: District Governor official club visit

October 18: Lake Robinson Day

October TBD: Paws for Polio Event

November 4: Veterans Service Project

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

Upcoming RLI Dates

Ever wondered what the wider Rotary organization is about? Where can you learn more about the history and organization of Rotary? Interested in connecting with other Rotarians from other clubs to share and problem-solve together? Well, RLI is the place to start! The next Rotary Leadership Institute is in Duncan on August 9. Sign up early as spots fill fast, and don't forget to tell the treasurer when you complete a component, and you'll receive 1/2 off of your next dues invoice.

Rotary Leadership Institute

Duncan, SC

August 9

Register Now





Find Your Passion in Rotary!

Rotary Leadership Institute

August 9, 2025

SPARK Center, Duncan, SC
Register at www.midatlanticrli.org
or the District Calendar in DACdb

Join us for an RLI event to learn about our Rotary history, our Foundation, strategies for why and how to grow membership and the latest public image/public relations ideas. Learn, share, and network with fellow Rotarians about how they serve our community and the world.

All sessions are highly interactive and fun.

CONTACT: Julia Larson, RLI District 7750 Chair
docjulia99@gmail.com



Mid Atlantic RLI

MD • DE • DC • WV • TN • VA • NC • SC
www.midatlanticrli.org



We're Looking for ...
Community minded people,
passionate & fun people,
practical & resourceful people,
helpful people who want to
lead Rotary into the future.

Future RLI Dates:

September 20, 2025; Columbia, SC; Parts I, II, III

October 14, 2025; Virtual, Part I

Register through DACdb.com. If you have trouble accessing registration, please contact Amy for help getting set up in DACdb.

Happy Birthday!



Joseph Lamar Brown

August 13th