

COGS

official newsletter of the
ROTARY CLUB OF KINGSPORT

VOLUME 104

ISSUE 1

JUNE 29, 2026

JULY 1 MEETING PREVIEW

Club Assembly—Membership Forum

The July 1st meeting will be a forum on membership, existing, new, and prospective. As Rotarians, we recognize that strong membership engagement is the key to a vibrant and impactful club. While we strive to grow our membership by sharing our Rotary story and inviting others to experience the value of service above self, we must also remain committed to enriching the experience of our current members. By fostering meaningful connections, recognizing contributions, providing opportunities for involvement, and creating a welcoming environment, we strengthen member satisfaction and retention. When we invest in both our existing members and future Rotarians, we build a stronger club and expand our capacity to serve our community.

IN THIS ISSUE:

PAGE 1

Upcoming Meeting Preview

PAGES 2-3

Previous Meeting Summary

PAGE 4

Axmen Social Event
Announcement

PAGE 5

2026-2027 Committees

PAGES 6-7

2026-2027 Committees

PAGE 8

Calendar of Events

PAGE 9

Club Information

JUNE 24, 2026 MEETING SUMMARY

Attendance | 57.1 %

Leslie Lynch opened the meeting and introduced Jane Crawford, who led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. Isaac Webb provided the week's Sunshine.

For the final meeting of the Rotary 2025–2026 year, outgoing president Leslie Lynch offered a look back at the accomplishments and challenges of the past year. It was a year of change for the club, with a venue move from Food City on Eastman Rd. to the Meadows Restaurant in the MeadowView Conference Resort & Convention Center. New Early Act and Interact clubs at Kennedy Elementary and Dobyns-Bennett High School gave members a chance to work with students on community projects and share Rotary's commitment to Service Above Self. And the Isaiah 117 House service project continued the club's support of local children being moved into the DCS system. Fundraising through the Poinsettia/Wreath sales will continue, but this year the club is working with the Erwin Rotary Club and their Apple Butter fundraiser to test the feasibility of partnering with other clubs.

The biggest challenge this year, according to Lynch, was membership. Since July 1, 2025, 12 members have left the club. Two relocated, one cited family obligations, and one passed away, but the other eight reported business obligations as a reason for resigning. Bringing in new members and retaining current members will remain a major focus of next year's team.

Aundrea Salyer, co-president with Sharon Moore for 2026–2027, then spoke a few words about the upcoming year. She noted that the two presidents will step into the role with respect for the club's history and practices, while bringing new ideas to challenging issues like membership.



Leslie ended the meeting with a recitation of the Four-Way Test.



JUNE 24, 2026 MEETING SUMMARY

CONTINUED

President Lynch presents Thank-
You gifts to the current Board
Members



A Night at the Ballfield

Save the Date

July 30 2026, 7:00 PM

A night at the Ballfield!!

July 30 at 7 PM

Hunter Wright Stadium

800 Granby Rd

Please Sign up to reserve your spot

A meal will be provided and we'll eat and watch the game from the GRC/
CRW Hot Corner Landing at 3rd Base Picnic Area.



2026-2027 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Thanks for your willingness to serve.
Contact Sharon Moore if you wish to change assignments

Fundraising Committee Chair Kitty Frazier Committee Members Leslie Lynch Kaylee Feathers Sharon Moore _____ _____	Invocation & Pledge Committee Chair Ken Clavert Committee Members Jane Crawford Paul Montgomery _____ _____	Sunshine Committee Chair Isaac Web Committee Members Jane Crawford Tom Todd _____ _____	Social Events Committee Chair Aundrea Salyer Committee Members Linda Coffey _____ _____
Nominations Committee Chair Leslie Lynch Committee Members Paul Gray Heather Cook Jennifer Salyer Aundrea Salyer Sharon Moore _____	Polio Plus Committee Chair Judy Fischer Committee Members Jerry Miller George Testerman Leslie Lynch Jim Johnson _____ _____	Programs Committee Chair Kitty Frazier Committee Members Jane Crawford Linda Coffey Pam Rehart Wirt Taylor Tim Archer _____ _____	PR/Social Media Committee Chair Aundrea Salyer Committee Members Tim Archer Pam Rehart Jim Johnson (COGs) Emily Ball (SM) _____ _____
RI Foundation Committee Chair Jim Johnson Committee Members Jennifer Salyer Judy Fischer Jerry Lukach Bruce Sites Leslie Lynch Deborah Adams John Fleming Curt Rose _____	Service Projects Committee Chair Jennifer Salyer Committee Members Jim Johnson Kitty Frazier Emily Ball Isaac Webb Linda Coffey Buddy Scott Sharon Moore _____ _____	Membership Committee Chair Sharon Moore Committee Members Jennifer Salyer Jerry Miller Al Crymble Paul Montgomery _____ New Member Orientation Committee Chair Al Crymble Committee Members Wirt Taylor Bill Adams _____	Service Projects Committee Chair Kaylee Feathers Committee Members Heather Cook Ambre Torbett Leslie Lynch Claudia Byrd _____ _____



Rotary picnic turns tragic, then miraculous

Rotary Voices

By B. Sadananda Naik MD, Rotary Club of Moodabidri, Karnataka, India

Many of us will never forget one of our club's recent annual picnics. The day started out promisingly enough, but then turned into a near tragedy. Only quick thinking by several Rotary members saved the day.

We had chosen a riverside spot for the picnic known as Jomlu Theertha Falls. It has a reputation as a place where many people have drowned because of the strong currents in the river.

Nevertheless, after a brief time of fellowship, one club member, an expert swimmer, decided to take a swim at the foot of the waterfall. JJ was enjoying himself when he was suddenly caught in a powerful undercurrent produced by the waterfall and a crater beneath it.

For several minutes, JJ fought to reach the surface but eventually ran out of strength. Thinking of his family, he offered up a prayer and slipped into a deep state of unconsciousness.

Members of the club at the top of the hill were unaware of what had happened until some, watching the river from the top, noticed an inverted human body floating in shallow water downstream. Thinking that it resembled JJ, several, including a few doctors, jumped 20 feet down the rocky hill. They immediately pulled JJ out of the water, but there was no sign of life.

The doctors administered CPR to him, not holding out a lot of hope. But then, after several attempts, JJ started breathing. It was simply a miracle!

He was subsequently rushed to a nearby hospital, where he received excellent medical care. Everyone was greatly relieved. The medical staff at the hospital later said JJ was the first person they had received who had been pulled out of the notorious Jomlu Theertha and survived. The club was filled with joy.

The Rotary members who assisted in saving JJ felt it was a real fulfilment of the Rotary ideal of Service



Continued from Page 6

Above Self. We were also reminded of the Sanskrit phrase 'Paropakaratham Idam Shareeram' (roughly translated This human body is meant for the welfare of others).

Within a week of his recovery, JJ led the effort to install a warning sign at Jomlu Theertha to avoid any further loss of life. On each anniversary of the incident, he sends a thank-you note to those who assisted him. Our club will never forget this picnic, and the miracle that restored to us the life of one of our members. May we always do good deeds in Rotary.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Club Assembly— Membership Forum	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Club Assembly— Membership Forum	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Cindy Turner— Kingsport Famers Market	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Matthew Armstrong Holston Rowing Club	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 	30 	31	

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

July 11—Jerry Miller
 July 14—Bruce Sites
 July 19—Kenneth Calvert
 July 22—Rebecca Beck

MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

July 01—John Porter—46 Years
 July 01—Wirt Taylor—59 Years
 July 01—Buddy Scott—42 Years
 July 09—Pam Rehart—18 Years
 July 22—Jerry Miller—28 Years
 July 25—Bill Adams—45 Years
 July 25—John Fleming—25 Years
 July 38—Tyler Williams—1 Year

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

July 01—Bill Bard—65 Years
 July 06—Judy Fischer—53 Years
 July 08—Wirt Taylor—19 Years
 July 10—Rebecca Beck—22 Years

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 30—A Night at the Ballfield—Hunter Wright Stadium— 7:00 PM

HOW TO FIND US

Rotary Club of Kingsport

District 7570 | Area 13 | Club 5739

Meets every Wednesday at Noon
at
The MeadowView Conference Center
1901 Meadowview Pkwy Kingsport, TN



facebook.com/RotaryClubofKingsport/



@RotaryClubofKingsport



KingsportRotaryClub@gmail.com



KingsportRotaryClub.com

CLUB OFFICERS:

CO-PRESIDENTS:

Sharon Moore | 901.230.3919

Aundrea Salyer | 423-863-6914

VICE-PRESIDENT:

TREASURER:

John Fleming | 423.579.0059

SECRETARY:

Kaylee Feathers | 423-967-4667

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

Kathleen McLaughlin | 423.429.8421

CLUB DIRECTORS:

Kitty Frazier | 423.534.1745

Linda Coffey | 423-956-9775

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

Leslie Lynch | 520.425.2259

INTERNATIONAL & DISTRICT OFFICERS:

RI PRESIDENT:

Francesco Arezzo

DISTRICT 7570 GOVERNOR:

Charlotte Whitted

AREA 13 GOVERNOR:

Joseph (Joe) Ley

DISTRICT SECRETARY:

Andrea Milliron

DISTRICT TREASURER:

Peter K. Howard

DISTRICT FOUNDATION CHAIR:

Paula K. Alston

Rotary THE FOUR-WAY TEST

- 1 | Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2 | Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3 | Will it build **GOODWILL** & **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- 4 | Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

LOCAL CLUBS FOR MAKE-UPS

MONDAY

Noon | Tri-Cities—Northeast State Community College, Pierce Admin Bldg., Room P309, Blountville, TN

6:00 PM | Johnson City Evening—Howard Hunt's Edward Jones Office, 4018 Roan St., Johnson City, TN

TUESDAY

7:15 AM | Scott County—Scott Co. Park & Golf Course Clubhouse, 247 Fore Drive, Gate City, VA

7:30 AM | Bristol Morning VA-TN—The Summit Co-Work Space (Expedition Meeting Room) 1227 Volunteer Pkwy., Bristol, TN

Noon | Bristol VA-TN—Bristol Train Station, 101 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Bristol, VA

Noon | Johnson City—Johnson City Country Club 1901 E Unaka Ave., Johnson City, TN

Noon | Greeneville—Tusculum University, Niswonger Commons Pioneer Café, 60 Shiloh Road, Greeneville, TN

WEDNESDAY

7:00 AM | Greeneville-Morning—Laughlin Memorial Hospital Cafeteria Conference Room, Greeneville, TN

7:30 AM | Kingsport-Sunrise—Food City Press Room, Suite 300, 200 Clinchfield St., Kingsport, TN

Noon | Unicoi County—Town Hall, 211 N. Main St., Erwin, TN

Noon | Elizabethton—First Christian Church of Elizabethton, Fellowship Hall, 513 Hattie Ave., Elizabethton, TN

THURSDAY

7:15 AM | Johnson City Morning—Food City Community Room, 920 N. State of Franklin Rd., Johnson City, TN

Noon | Kingsport-Downtown—Food City Crown Center, 1205 N. Eastman Road, Kingsport, TN

AVAILABLE 24/7—

www.RotaryClubOne.org