

COGS

Official newsletter of the
ROTARY CLUB OF KINGSPORT

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SEPTEMBER 2 MEETING PREVIEW

Camren Yarberry - TDOT Projects and Community Impact



Camren Yarberry is a Professional Engineer for the State of Tennessee and a TDOT Construction Team Lead in Carter County. He received his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from University of Tennessee in Chattanooga and Master of Science in Civil Engineering from

University of Tennessee in Knoxville. He started his career with TDOT in summer of 2014 working in the Carter County Construction office and has supervised the operations since summer of 2018.

Camren will discuss current TDOT projects including the Memorial Boulevard improvement project currently underway in Kingsport

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Rotary



Club of Kingsport

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

August 26, 2026 Meeting Summary

Attendance was 51.5%

Co-President Sharon Moore presided over the Kingsport Rotary Club's noon meeting at Meadowview. Jerry Lukach led the club in the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

The club celebrated several members marking important milestones in their Rotary service. Heather Cook was recognized for 15 years of membership, while Jennifer Salyer celebrated 13 years. Karen Short and Linda Figionlino each marked their first year as Rotarians. Ken Calvert celebrated 49 years of marriage, while Leslie Lynch celebrated 56 years of marriage. These remarkable milestones are certainly worthy of congratulations. No birthdays were noted.

Paul Gray introduced, and the club welcomed, Andrew Palmeto as its newest member. Andrew was formally inducted by Aundrea Salyer into the Rotary Club of Kingsport and received his membership certificate and Rotary pin. Members extended a warm welcome to Andrew as he begins his Rotary journey.

Sharon Moore, Membership Chair, reminded members that when they bring guests who may be considering Rotary membership, they should obtain the guest's email address so that a thank-you message from the president can be sent. The club was reminded of the upcoming Isaiah House 117 Open House on August 27 from 2-6:30 p.m. at 254 Bethel Drive, Bristol, TN 37620. Isaiah House 117 was the recipient of the club's 2025-26 Impact Project. The club confirmed that a quorum of the Board of Directors was present and unanimously approved Kaylee's leave of absence. Kitty Frazier, John Fleming, Aundrea Salyer, and Sharon Moore voted in favor. Planning continues for the club's Apple Butter Sales, October 1-3. Kitty Frazier reported that many volunteer slots are already filled and expressed her appreciation to those who have signed up. Additional



opportunities and details will be announced as plans continue. There were no committee reports. Kathleen reported that the previous week's attendance was 55.3%, with four guests attending.

Kitty Frazier introduced the day's speaker, Tamara Darnell, Director of Sales at The Blake of Kingsport. Darnell spoke about the attributes of assisted living at The Blake and outlined the many services and offerings available to residents and their families.

Members closed the meeting by reciting the Four-Way Test, followed by the ringing of the Rotary bell and adjournment.



If someone asked me, 'What is Rotary?' I'd tell them this

Rotary Voices

By Priya Ahluwalia, Rotary Club of Southwest Florida, USA



When you are asked, "What is Rotary?" how do you respond? I know some people describe it as a service organization. Others would say it's a networking group or a place to make friends. While those answers are true, to me Rotary is the following:

A member of our club, Tracey Mitchem, recently faced one of the most difficult moments any grandparent can experience. Her grandson, Elijah, underwent a complicated heart surgery on 21 July at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

The surgery was successful, but Elijah's recovery would require his family to remain in Cincinnati for nearly two weeks. Like so many families facing a medical crisis, they were suddenly confronted with another challenge: Where will we stay?

The Ronald McDonald House had a waiting list. Other local options hadn't worked out. Time was running out.

So we did what Rotary members do. Our club reached out to the Rotary Club of Cincinnati.

Within 24 hours, we received a response from one of their members. Without hesitation, Mary and her family opened their home to complete strangers. Tracey and her family had more than just a place to sleep — they had kindness, comfort, and support during one of the hardest times in their lives.

While in Cincinnati, Tracey even attended a meeting of the Rotary Club of Cincinnati, where she experienced firsthand that Rotary fellowship knows no boundaries.

Think about that for a moment.

Two people who had never met. Two Rotary clubs separated by more than a thousand miles. Connected by one shared ideal: Service Above Self.

So now when people ask me what Rotary is, I don't start by talking about our projects, scholarships, networking events, or international initiatives. I tell them this story.

Because Rotary isn't just something we join. It's a family. And when one member needs help, the family of Rotary shows up.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Cameron Yarberry - TDOT Projects	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Charlotte Whitted - Rotary District News	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Sam Jones - Wreaths Across America	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Tony Melson - Julia C West Foundation	24	28	26
27	28	29	30 			

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sept 16 - Pam Rehart
Sept 17 - Jerry Lukach
Sept 25 - Tim Archer

MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

Sept 01-Gary Bridges - 39 Years
Sept 01-Paul Gray - 12 Years
Sept 07-Isaac Webb - 10 Years
Sept 08-Sharon Moore - 5 Years

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Sept 10-Tim Archer - 32 Years
Sept 13-Lindsey Franks - 10 Years
Sept 19-Deborah Adams - 34 Years

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 2-3, 2026—Erwin Apple Festival—Club Members Assist in Selling Apple Butter See sign Up Sheet

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.org

CLUB OFFICERS:

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John Fleming | 423-579-0059

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Kitty Frazier | 423-534-1745

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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

Leslie Lynch | 520-425-2259

INTERNATIONAL & DISTRICT OFFICERS

RI PRESIDENT:

Francesco Arezzo

DISTRICT 7570 GOVERNOR

Charlotte Whitted

AREA 13 GOVERNOR:

Joseph (Foe) 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.RotaryeClubOne.org