COGS

Official newsletter of the
ROTARY CLUB OF KINGSPORT

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November 9, 2026

Harry Turner
Evolution of The Heart Center



Join us this Wednesday, November 11, for a special presentation by distinguished local cardiologist Dr. Harry Turner as he shares the story behind the "Evolution of The Heart Center." Dr. Turner will take us through the fascinating history of how the center came about and developed into a true cardiovascular center of excellence. A highly respected professional and community pillar, Dr. Turner holds degrees from UT and Vanderbilt, with advanced medical training from UT Southwestern, UNC, and Duke. Beyond his medical practice, he is deeply involved in our community through the Wellmont and HVHMC Foundations, RAM charitable clinics, Friends in Need Health Center, the Kingsport Community Foundation, and local educational foundations, while also enjoying family, gardening, and choral music.

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November 4, 2026 Meeting Summary

Attendance was 62.2%

The Rotary Club of Kingsport gathered for its regular noon meeting at MeadowView, presided over by Sharon Moore. Isaac Webb lead the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a little Sunshine shared through our newest Watch here. While you're there, please click Subscribe! Our goal is to reach 50 subscribers so we can unlock free live streaming for members who are unable to attend our lunch meetings in person.

There were no member birthdays to celebrate, but the club recognized several impressive membership milestones. Luther Cain celebrated 38 years of Rotary membership, Al Crymble 40 years, Terry Cunningham 31 years, and Kitty Frazier 36 years. Paul Montgomery was also recognized for his 50th wedding anniversary.

The club thanked Aundrea Salyer for bringing everyone together for last week's fabulous program and Jim Johnson for his continued work preparing and distributing the weekly COGs. Kingsport Rotary participated in Kennedy Elementary School's annual Trunk-or-Treat. Special thanks went to Jennifer Salyer for organizing the event and to Jennifer and her family, Amy Charles, and Jane and Larry Crawford for handing out candy and macaroni and cheese to 150–200 children. Fundraising efforts continue with apple butter, Rotary sweatshirts, and the Grace and Grumpy books available for purchase. The club's annual wreath and poinsettia sale is also underway and is the primary fundraiser. Members were reminded that Friends-giving is approaching on November 18. Everyone was encouraged to welcome guests, mix up the seating arrangements, and enjoy an evening of fellowship.

Committee Reports

- Project: Jennifer Salyer provided an update on the upcoming Day of Service at Warriors Path Park. Members were encouraged to RSVP through the club website and the link in COGs so organizers can track service hours and plan for the food being provided.
- Public Relations: Aundrea reported the club currently has 25 YouTube subscribers. Help us reach our goal of 50 so we can offer free live streaming to members at home! The club's Walk in the Park short has 1,200 views already!
- Attendance: Kathleen reported attendance of 65.8% for the previous week, with fourteen guests in attendance



Linda Coffey introduced Rhonda Chafin, the Chief Executive Officer of Second Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Tennessee. Ms. Chafin presented impact statements highlighting the substantial support provided to our community and outlined volunteer opportunities for those interested in becoming more involved.

The meeting concluded with the recitation of Rotary's Four-Way Test and the ringing of the bell.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for another great Rotary meeting!

kingsportrotaryclub@gmail.com

Rotary Club of Kingsport

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

Club Annual Poinsettia Fundraiser

Rotary Club of Kingsport

FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN 2026

One of the club's fundraising campaigns over the last few years has been the sale of Poinsettia Plants at Christmas. This year we would again like your support for this major fundraising campaign with a target of exceeding the previous year's sales. The more we raise, the more we can put back into our community projects. We will offer Fraser Fir Wreaths to supplement our fundraising campaign.

This year there will be 4 alternatives of pot/basket size with the usual choice of red, white or marbled flowers (except for the 1 plant pot which will only be available in red or white). We will also offer 3 sizes of Fraser Fir wreaths.

The following is the cost of the various options available for plants and wreaths.

	Donation	Color Options
1 Plant Pot	$10	Red or White
2 Plant Pot	$15	Red, White or Marbled
3 Plant Pot	$18	Red, White or Marbled
4 Plant Basket	$20	Red, White or Marbled
**Add $1.25 to price of poinsettia for a bow.*		
12" Fraser Fir Wreath	$17	
16" Fraser Fir Wreath	$22	
20" Fraser Fir Wreath	$30	
**Add $3.00 to price of wreath for a bow.*		

Please contact John Fleming with any questions. An electronic version of the form has been sent out by email and return using the email kingsportrotaryclub@gmail.com is preferred if possible. Members are being asked to pick up plants and wreaths at the greenhouse. **Curbside pickup is available.** If a member is unable to pick up their order, see John Fleming to arrange another delivery alternative. Keeping the plants and wreaths at the greenhouse allows us to offer a higher quality product.

Key Dates

Friday, November 20, 2026.	-	All orders must be submitted as we must confirm our requirements with our supplier, late orders need to be in by Saturday November 28, 2026
Monday November 30 – Saturday December 5, 2026	-	Plants & Wreaths available for delivery and pick up at FJ Torbett Greenhouse located at 6181 Hwy 11E Piney Flats Phone 423-538-8492 (Curbside pickup available.)

THE TARGET IS FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE KINGSPORT ROTARY CLUB TO SELL A MINIMUM OF $180 WORTH OF PLANTS AND WREATHS. BUT LET'S SEE IF WE CAN ALL EXCEED THIS FIGURE IN ORDER TO MAKE IT A SUCCESSFUL FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN.

kingsportrotaryclub@gmail.com

Friends of Warrior's Path State Park Workday

Dear Kingsport Rotary Members,

We are so excited to have Rotary Club of Kingsport joining us this year for the Fall Day of Caring. Cross your fingers (say a little prayer) for good weather so we don't have to reschedule. Just in case below are links to receive last minute communications. Please take steps to RSVP. Here is why:
There are several reasons we encourage online registration:

1. MOST IMPORTANTLY: It helps us officially record volunteers for grant applications/ matching funds. Often times when we apply for grants our match can be the number of volunteers /hours we are able to prove.
2. It allows folks to go ahead and process the liability release online which is required by Tennessee State Parks.
3. Confirm total number of volunteers for food /refreshments, projects and supplies.
4. Lastly, it expedites the registration process significantly.

Please use QR Code (right) or link below to pre-register / RSVP.

RSVP and Registration Form

Because sometimes we might start later in the day verses rescheduling altogether. Only Because it's a lot to reschedule, plus a lot of our supplies have already been staged (Rubber,Mulch, Landscape Mulch, Gravel, Sand, etc.)

Any questions, please contact

Mary Steadman, Volunteer (mesteadman@aol.com) 423-956-4330
Friends of Warriors' Path State Park Darrell's Dream Boundless Playground



We're planning a Sullivan County-wide Rotary Friends-giving where we can all come together for some good food, great conversation, and a chance to connect.



kingsportrotaryclub@gmail.com

Rotary Club of Kingsport

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

UNESCO at 80: Why peace still begins in the mind

By Cyril Noirtin, Rotary Representative to UNESCO



Eighty years ago, on 4 November 1946, UNESCO's Constitution entered into force. For Rotary, this anniversary has a special meaning: Rotarians helped lay the groundwork for UNESCO, and our two organizations still work side by side for peace.

The founders' conviction was clear. Political and economic agreements alone cannot secure lasting peace. Peace must be built "in the minds of men and women," through education, science, culture and information.

A bold bet that still holds

The constitution was signed in London on 16 November 1945. A year later, once 20 countries had ratified it, it came into force.

Its authors had just lived through a world war. Yet they chose to invest in classrooms, laboratories and libraries.

Today, the threats have changed: mistrust of science, disinformation, hate speech, the rise of intelligent machines. But the answer chosen in 1945 still applies: invest in education, science and culture.

Rotary was there before the beginning

People are often surprised when I tell them this. In 1942, Rotarians from 21 countries met in London to discuss how education and cultural exchange could help rebuild the post-war world.

That gathering helped plant the seed of the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education, and ultimately of UNESCO itself.

So when I walk into UNESCO House in Paris, I never feel like a visitor. I feel like a partner whose roots run deep in this house.

Ideals turned into action

As Director-General Khaled El-Enany puts it, "UNESCO's strength and uniqueness also lie in the diversity of the tools it mobilizes to turn ideas into action."

Think of:

- **Saving heritage:** in 1960, dozens of nations united to save Abu Simbel, affirming that some places belong to all humanity.
- **Standing firm in crises:** protecting culture in Mosul, Beirut, Kyiv, and Sana'a.

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- **Shaping tomorrow:** the 2021 Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, now applied with nearly 80 countries.

Behind these milestones are real people. A girl who stays in school. A teacher who fosters tolerance. A community that protects its ecosystem. To me, that is what peace looks like.

Shared values, converging missions

The visions, objectives, and programs of our two organizations converge on many levels. We share the same philosophy:

- **Education for all**, regardless of race, gender, beliefs, or culture.
- **Cultural diversity**, which we both defend, and dialogue as a source of tolerance and mutual respect.
- **Science**, whose benefits we put to work for sustainable development.

These values also meet on the ground. Four of Rotary's seven areas of focus lie at the heart of UNESCO's mandate: peacebuilding, basic education and literacy, water and the environment.

This is why Rotary holds associate status with UNESCO, the highest level of official partnership open to an NGO.

Working side by side

This convergence has produced concrete results:

- **Water**: in 2006, Rotary organized a conference on water at UNESCO. It led to a strategic partnership between The Rotary Foundation and UNESCO-IHE (today IHE Delft). Its fellows are water experts who return home to improve access to clean water. The first graduated in 2014, and districts still support the program.
- **Education**: Rotary takes part in the Global Education Coalition and the Greening Education Partnership. In February, I helped steer the International Forum of NGOs on greening education.
- **Dialogue**: in March, Rotary brought more than 850 participants from 38 countries to UNESCO House to discuss the future of international organizations.

Why it matters

Through our relations with the United Nations, clubs and districts gain access to expert knowledge, research and best practices.

A club working on literacy, for example, can align its approach with UNESCO's global education standards. It gains credibility, coherence, and resources it could never develop alone.

The result? Greater impact. Wider reach. A stronger capacity to adapt.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Rhonda Chafiin Second Harvest Food Bank	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Harry Turner - Evolution of the Heart Center	12	13	14 Warrior's Path Day of Caring
15	16	17	18 Friend-Giving Special Luncheon Event	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 No Meeting This Week	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29	30	1	2 Jeff Fleming - Kingsport	2	3	4

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov 08 - Vanessia Bennett
Nov 14 - Leslie Lynch
Nov 14 - John Fleming
Nov 15 - Lindsey Franks
Nov 24 - Linda Coffey
Nov 30 - Judy Fischer
Nov 30 - Linda Figliolino

MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

Nov 01 - Luther Cain - 38 Years
Nov 01 - Al Crymble - 40 Years
Nov 01 - Terry Cunningham - 31 Years
Nov 01 - Kathleen Frazier - 36 Years

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Nov - 06 - Paul Montgomery - 50 Years

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 14 - Fall Day of Caring at Darrell's Dream Boundless Playground
November 18 - Friends-giving Luncheon - Meadowview 12:00-1:00 PM

kingsportrotaryclub@gmail.com

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:

CO-PRESIDENTS:

Sharon Moore | 901-230-3919

Aundrea Salyer | 423-863-6914

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TREASURER:

John Fleming | 423-579-0059

SECRETARY:

Kaylee Feathers | 423-967-4667

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Kathleen McLaughlin | 423-429-8421

CLUB DIRECTORS:

Kitty Frazier | 423-534-1745

Linda Coffee | 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 (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