

Rotary District 7710

2026-2027 Presidents Resource Guide

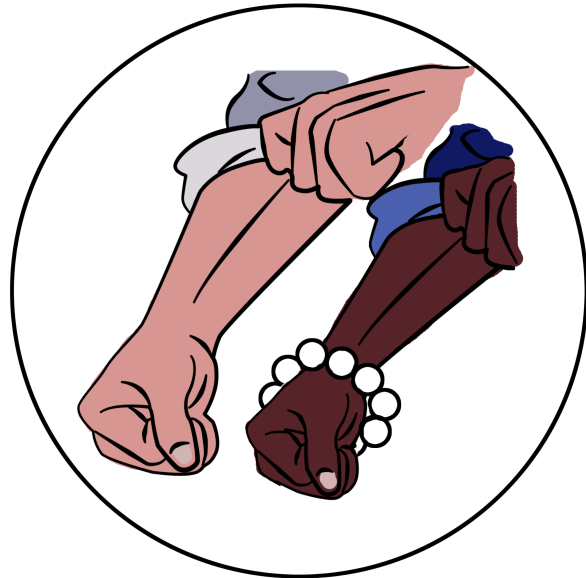


DG Message

Welcome to your leadership year! Thank you for agreeing to be not only a Rotarian, but a Rotarian leader. The most important entity in Rotary is the club. The Rotary International hierarchy, the zones, and the districts were all put in place to support the clubs. This is because most of the important activities happen at the club level. It is clubs who recruit new members, raise funds, contribute to the foundation, and most importantly execute service projects!

Service is the cornerstone of Rotary. Our motto is Service Above Self. The service we do helps those in need in our communities and around the world. It also fosters cohesiveness in our clubs, engages new members, and provides a platform for attracting new Rotarians. That is why our district's theme for 2026-2027 is **ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES FOR SERVICE!**

As you plan your service projects, think about the impact you want to make inside and outside your club. Assess the needs of the community you are serving and develop projects that engage as many members of the club as possible.



For those of you in the President succession chain, I want you to know that you are not in this by yourself. Your assistant governor, the entire district council, and myself are here for one primary purpose - to help your club be successful. To do this we need to understand what success looks like for your club. It is important for you to develop, share, and help execute your club goals. You will have goals for membership, service, foundation giving, public image and more. Whether this will be your first time leading a club or your fifth, your club is counting on you to convey a vision for your club and lead the members to execute that vision.

Your Assistant Governor will work with you as you develop your goals. Use the AG as an additional resource to help you refine your goals and enter them into RI's Club Central database.

We can make this a great year for Rotary in District 7710. I am excited to be on this journey with you. Together we can roll up our sleeves to create lasting change - across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves!

RI 2025-26 President Olayinka Hakeem Babalola



Olayinka Hakeem Babalola is a member of the Rotary Club of Trans Amadi, Nigeria.

Babalola began his Rotary journey in 1984 as a Rotaractor. He joined the Rotary Club of Trans Amadi 10 years later. His leadership roles include serving as district governor (2011-12), RI vice president (2019-20), and member of the RI Board (2018-20). He was also an active leader and participant in RI committees such as the End Polio Now Countdown to History Campaign Committee (2017-23) and the Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee (2013-present, adviser 2016-present).

Babalola received a university degree in engineering in 1988. He worked for 25 years in the oil and gas industry, holding senior positions in Shell PLC. He is the founder of two companies: Riviera Technical Services Ltd., an oil and gas infrastructure delivery company, and Lead and Change Consulting, an executive coaching

and organizational performance advisory group.

Babalola's professional affiliations include the Nigerian Society of Engineers, the Institute of Safety Professionals of Nigeria, and the Association of Change Management Professionals. He is a member of Jericho Businessmen Club, an organization in his birth city of Ibadan that provides input to governments on economic and social policy.

Babalola and his wife, Preba, live in the city of Port Harcourt. He supports The Rotary Foundation with a named endowment and as an Arch Klumph Society member. A trustee of ShelterBox UK, he is a recipient of the Africa Centennial Heroes Award, the Regional Service Award for a Polio-Free World, the RI Service Above Self Award, and The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service.

District Governor Profile - Patrick Gallagher



Patrick was born September 5, 1963 in Sasebo Japan. As the son of a career Navy officer, he moved extensively when he was young. In addition to Japan, Patrick lived in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Northern and Southern California, before graduating from Schaumburg High School in the suburbs of Chicago. During high school he competed in swimming and water polo and was part of an All-American medley relay his senior year.

From there he enrolled at the University of Illinois in Champaign where he studied Computer Science and was captain of the water polo team. In 1985 he received a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Engineering.

He moved to Chicago and began working for Worldwide Chain Store Systems (WCSS) as a programmer. WCSS was a leading-edge company that developed warehouse and store automation software for grocery chains. He installed or worked on systems in Little Rock, Arkansas; Toledo, Ohio; Los Angeles, California; and Salisbury, North Carolina. In addition Patrick has worked as a consultant for Keane, managed a post-sales implementation group for the Cary-based software company Tangram Solutions, and founded a software services company called Intellus. For the last 16 years he has worked for Motorola Solutions providing operational support for public safety systems worldwide.

Patrick met his wife Vicki in Chicago while she was in graduate school at Northwestern University. They were married in 1989 and moved to Raleigh in 1990 where she began her career as a Professor of Communication at NC State University. They have two children – Danny and Molly who have both been part of Rotary clubs in the past.

After moving to North Carolina, Patrick and Vicki were active in their church. There Patrick began seeking out opportunities for service and got involved with refugee resettlement, yard and home care for elderly members of the community, and causes related to hunger. He served for 15 years as a director for the high school youth group and is currently involved in teaching, stewardship, and home building through Habitat for Humanity.

In 2009 Patrick joined the Rotary Club of Cary Page where he remains an active member. After serving as Community Service Chair, he entered the president track and served as president during the 2018-19 Rotary year. Following that he served as Assistant Governor for Area 9 from 2020-23 and as Lead Assistant Governor Advisor during the 2023-2024 Rotary year.

Patrick's favorite Rotary activities have been building houses in the Dominican Republic, tutoring through Read and Feed, and being involved as a Rotary Peace Scholar host.

District Governor Elect Profile - Samantha Manning



Samantha was born on March 26, 1978 in Raleigh, North Carolina at the old Rex Hospital, for those familiar with the area. She graduated from South Johnston High School in Four Oaks, NC. After high school, at 18 years old, she joined the U.S. Army. She spent most of her enlistment at Ft. Richardson, Alaska.

She later attended N.C. State University, obtaining dual Associate of Applied Science degrees in Field Crops Technology and Agribusiness Management, and I went on to obtain a Bachelor's of Science in Agricultural Professional Services from N.C. A&T State University. For several years she served as the Program Director for the Soldier to Agriculture Program run by NCSU at Ft. Bragg, NC. In 2021, she transitioned into the legal field, and obtained a Juris Doctor from North Carolina University School of Law in May of 2025.

Samantha joined the Rotary Club of Zebulon in 2017, where she quickly became involved in leadership roles, serving as President Nominee and then President Elect. She attended the Carolina PETS training in 2018 and 2019, which prepared her for her term as President of the Zebulon Club from 2020 to 2021. She completed RLI, graduating in 2020, and has served as an RLI facilitator since 2021.

In 2022, due to a job change and relocation, she transferred her membership to the Rotary Club of Morrisville due to a job change and relocation. Samantha has served as Club Secretary and Rotary Foundation Chair for the Morrisville Club. From 2023 to 2024, she served as District Secretary and contributed to the District Conference Planning Committee. From 2024 to 2025 she served as the District Paul Harris Society Coordinator. Samantha has four adult children and one granddaughter. She lives with her husband, Mark, and three dogs in Smithfield, near her family's bicentennial farm.

District Governor Nominee Profile - Bob Griffin



Bob was born on February 17, 1961 in Newton, Massachusetts. The oldest of five children, he graduated from nearby Natick High School where he was actively involved in the Marching Band program. He continued his education at Boston College, where he majored in Economics and Mathematics, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1983. Outside of class, he continued with the Band which provided the opportunity to perform at West Point, the Tangerine Bowl and multiple New England Patriots halftime shows.

Following in his father's and grandfather's footsteps, Bob began a career in financial services after graduation. His early work took him from Boston to Louisville, KY and Los Angeles, CA as a mutual fund wholesaler and eventually to American Express where he served in marketing, management and client-facing roles in Minneapolis, MN, Chicago, IL and back to Boston, MA.

During his time at American Express, Bob continued his studies with MBA coursework at the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota and Northwestern University.

Eager to establish deeper roots in the community, Bob settled in Morrisville NC and spent more than 10 years with First Citizens Bank, helping to design and grow its Wealth Management offering to affluent individuals. A core part of that offering was helping families with their investment and estate planning needs, leading to management responsibility for Administration of Personal Trusts across the bank.

One last assignment to Philadelphia, PA as Trust Director for Wells Fargo Bank in the Northeast Region convinced Bob that North Carolina was the place he wanted to be. So he decided to return to Morrisville and join with a long-time colleague to form a financial planning practice working directly with clients. He's been joyfully focused on helping them achieve their goals in that role since 2020.

Bob's Rotary journey began in 2018 when he joined the Rotary Club of Cary. He quickly engaged as Membership Chair and eventually served as Club President in 2021-22. Bob is an RLI graduate (2020) and has been an Area Governor in District 7710 since 2023. His participation in Emerging Leaders at 2025 Zone 33/34 Summit inspired Bob's awe of what Rotarians accomplish around the world by working to make the world a better place.

Bob and his wife, Carol (a Physical Therapist) were married in 2022 and have two children, Katherine and Michael who are currently in their junior year at UNC-Charlotte and the University of South Carolina respectively.

Bob and Carol are adjusting to life as 'empty-nesters' and enjoy cooking, traveling, working in the yard and exploring local greenways. Their guilty pleasure is spending Sunday evenings on the couch watching the latest F-1 race and imagining attending the Monte Carlo race someday.

Assistant Governors

Area 1	Henderson, Warrenton, Roxboro, Oxford, South Granville County	
	Bob Griffin (Cary)	bobgriffinjr@msn.com
Area 2	Knightdale, Wakefield/Wake Forest, Wake Forest, Wendell, Zebulon	
	Elisabeth Wiener (Durham)	ehwiener21@gmail.com
Area 3	Central Johnston County, Clayton, Garner, Garner Mid-Day, Cleveland School	
	Kevin Barnes (Central Johnston County)	kevin.barnes@firstcitizens.com
Area 4	Fuquay-Varina, Fuquay Varina Downtown, Angier, Lillington, Dunn, Dunn-Erwin	
	Tia Coppus (Cary-Kilaire)	tcoppus@hotmail.com
Area 5	Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill-Carrboro Sunrise, East Chapel Hill	
	TBD ()	
Area 6	Durham, Durham Sunrise, Southwest Durham, E-Club of District 7710, Goodwill	
	Sara Abrons (Southwest Durham)	sabrons@gmail.com
Area 7	Apex, Apex Sunrise, Morrisville, Holly Springs	
	Tim Murray (Cary-Kildaire)	tmurray@teameldercare.com
Area 8	Cary, Cary Central, Cary-Kildaire, Cary-MacGregor, Cary-Page	
	Gerry Cobley (Cary-Page)	gerry@uscobleys.com
Area 9	Capital City, Crabtree, North Raleigh, Raleigh, Raleigh Midtown, West Raleigh	
	Eric Stevens (Raleigh)	EStevens@poynerspruill.com
Area 10	Rotaract: Duke, Durham, NCSU, UNC-CH, Triangle	
	Jackson Lemons (TBD)	jackson.a.lemons@gmail.com

AG Responsibilities	President Responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit each club at least once per quarter • Attend major club events such as fundraisers or banquets • Host bi-monthly meetings to convey information from the district to the clubs • Collect reports from each club for the bi-monthly district council meeting • Assist the clubs with membership, fundraiser, or service projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome the AG to you club as a guest • Offer to treat them to a meal if it is part of a meeting • Attend bi-monthly meetings to receive district information • Provide club status updates to the AG bi-monthly • Reach out to the AG for support on any club issues

District Leadership Roles

DISTRICT 7710 LEADERSHIP	
District Governor	Patrick Gallagher (Cary-Page)
District Governor Elect	Samantha Manning (Morrisville)
District Governor Nominee	Bob Griffin (Cary)
Immediate Past District Governor	Lisa Higginbotham (Cary-Kildaire)
Rotary Foundation Chair	PDG Donna Peffley (Cary Central)
Public Image Chair	TBD
Service Chair	TBD
President of the College of Governors	PDG David Hayden
District Secretary	TBD
Membership Chair	Susan Martin (Wakefield/Wake Forest)
Rotaract Chair	Eli Hauber (UNC Rotaract)
Learning Facilitator	Kathy Roadcup (Goodwill of Eastern NC)
Treasurer	PDG Carol Allen

Club Leaders

CLUB	PRESIDENT	PHONE	EMAIL
Area 1			
E-Club of Raleigh International	Vibhuti Shah	919-257-1478	vibshah@aol.com
Henderson	Jerry Edmonds III	414-588-1327	edmondsj@vgcc.edu
Oxford	Don Fick	919-244-4419	don@donfick.com
Roxboro	Katherine M. Cathey	919-619-4304	kcathey@personcountync.gov
South Granville County			
Warrenton	Butch Meek	252-432-1278	butch.meek@gmail.com
Area 2			
All Nations			
Knightdale	Maxine Pearl Phillips	919-349-1726	gammsunlimitedllc@gmail.com
Wake Forest			
Wakefield / Wake Forest	Mathew Martin	919-306-1506	coylemcj@gmail.com
Wendell	Leslye Gabriela Rubio	919-720-1044	info@mencorstreeservice.com
Zebulon	Carnell Taylor		CarnellTaylor@bellsouth.net
Area 3			
Central Johnston County	Kristen Tucker	9196326684	kristen@fbcsmithfield.org
Clayton	Greg Adamson	919-622-9243	greg@blackcastleit.com
Cleveland School (Johnston County)	Jennifer Stancil Wells	919-669-0330	Jennifer.Wells15@gmail.com
Garner	Shawn Ronald Dickison	843-628-9256	dickisonlowvoltage@gmail.com
Garner Mid-Day	Joseph Michael Binns	919-802-0361	josephmbinns@outlook.com
Area 4			
Angier	Angela M. Ceroli	919-656-0963	angceroli@gmail.com
Fuquay-Varina	Charlie Adcock	919-418-4035	charlie.adcock@yahoo.com
Fuquay-Varina Downtown	Kimberly M Austin	803-603-7277	kimberlyaustin@aoktraining.com
Lillington	Karen H. Reichert	919-717-1903	reichert.brock@gmail.com
The Dunn Area	Jessica C Elmore	910-633-9379	Jessie.elmore.od@gmail.com
Area 5			

Chapel Hill			
Chapel Hill-Carrboro Sunrise	Ian Balltutis		ianbaltutis@gmail.com
East Chapel Hill	David Baddour	919-357-0751	davidbaddour@yahoo.com
Area 6			
Durham	Kim Shaw	919-321-6924	kim@thevolunteercenter.org
Durham Sunrise	Jennifer Bedick	919-698-0169	jennifer@thekitchenspecialist.com
E-Club of District 7710			
Goodwill for Eastern North Carolina	Kevin Ray Kline		kkline@goodwillenc.org
Southwest Durham	Stephanie Mixson Byrd	215-901-8150	steph.mixson.byrd@gmail.com
Area 7			
Apex	Ann Stephens	919-369-9219	amstephens408@yahoo.com
Apex Sunrise	Brett Gantt	919-600-9023	bdgantt@gmail.com
Holly Springs	Julie A Shimmel	603-809-9277	julie.shimmel@gmail.com
Morrisville	Quoc Tran	919-777-19756	quoc@levelupadvisors.net
Area 8			
Cary	Travis Wright Colopy	919-673-4689	twcolopy@gmail.com
Cary Central	Sherry Schliesser	984-298-4322	sschliesser@wcpss.net
Cary MacGregor	Nur Onvural	919-616-4308	Nur.Onvural@gmail.com
Cary-Kildaire	Thomas Leo Finigan	919-798-5308	finigantl@gmail.com
Cary-Page	Martha S. Hardee	919-607-6851	mhardee55@gmail.com
Area 9			
Capital City (Raleigh)			
Crabtree			
North Raleigh	Will Lundy	919-818-1093	willjlundy@gmail.com
Raleigh	Thomas Edward Kelaheer		tommy@mysfnc.com
Raleigh Midtown	Robert T Cook	774-578-2736	Robertjaycees2016@gmail.com
West Raleigh	Mark M Boggs	919-809-3055	mmb805@gmail.com

Rotary Things to Know

Mission Statement

Rotary is a global network of more than 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

Calendar

April 17-18, 2026	2026 District Conference - Atlantic Beach, NC
April 20, 2026	23rd Annual Rotary Peace Conference - Chapel Hill, NC
May 1, 2026	Deadline for District Grant Submission
June 13-17, 2026	Rotary International Convention - Taipei, Taiwan
June 25, 2026	District 7710 Leadership Installation Banquet - Cary, NC
June 30, 2026	Deadline for Entering Goals into Rotary Central
July 1, 2026	Start of the Rotary Year
October 24, 2026	World Polio Day
December 31, 2026	Enter the New Club President Elect into DACdb
January 2027	Sign-up President Elect and President Nominee for PETS
March 12-13, 2027	2027 Carolinas PETS - Greensboro, NC
April 29-May 1, 2027	2027 District Conference - Asheville, NC
June 6-9, 2027	Rotary International Convention - Dubai, UAE

Every 1-2 months

Meet with your AG

Every 2 months

Submit a report to the AG for the District Council

Every 6 months

Pay the club invoice

Rotary Acronyms and Abbreviations

AG – Assistant Governor	IPP – Immediate Past President
AKS – Arch Klumph Society	LOA – Leave of Absence
APF – Annual Programs Fund	MAP – Membership Action Plan
BEN – Benefactor	MG – Matching Grant
BOD – Board Of Directors	MOP – Manual of Procedure
BOT – Board Of Trustees	MPHF – Multiple Paul Harris Fellow
BS – Bequest Society	NID – National Immunization Day
CLP – Club Leadership Plan	PDG – Past District Governor
COG – College Of Governors	PE – President-Elect
COL – Council on Legislation	PEF – Permanent Endowment Fund
D– District	PETS – President-Elect Training Seminar
DA – District Assembly	PHF – Paul Harris Fellow
DCh – District Chair	PHS – Paul Harris Society
DDF – District Designated Fund	PHSM – Paul Harris Sustaining Member
DG – District Governor	PN – President Nominee
DGE – District Governor-Elect	PND – President Nominee Designate
DGN – District Governor Nominee	PP – Past President
DGND – District Governor Nominee Designate	PRID – Past Rotary International Director
DIK – Donations In-Kind	PRIP – Past Rotary International President
DIR – District Interact Representative	PRIVP – Past Rotary International Vice President
DISCON – District Conference	RAG – Rotary Action Group
DPIC – District Rotary Public Image Coordinator	RC – Rotary Club
DRR – District Rotaract Representative	RCC – Rotary Community Corps
DS – District Secretary	RFE – Rotary Fellowship Exchange
DSA – Distinguished Service Award	RI – Rotary International
DSG – District Simplified Grant	RIA – Rotary International Assembly
DT – District Trainer	RIB – Bylaws of Rotary International
EREY – Every Rotarian Every Year	RIC – Constitution of Rotary International
FRP – Foundation Recognition Point	RID – Rotary International Director
GMS – Grant Management Seminar	RIDE – Rotary International Director Elect
GPEI – Global Polio Eradication Initiative	RIP – Rotary International President
GSE – Group Study Exchange	RIPE – Rotary International President Elect
IPDG – Immediate Past District Governor	RIPN – Rotary International President Nominee

RIVP – Rotary International Vice President		TPF – The Permanent Fund
RLA – Rotary Leadership Academy		TRF – The Rotary Foundation
RLI – Rotary Leadership Institute		TWF – The World Fund
RYE – Rotary Youth Exchange		VP – Vice President
RYLA – Rotary Youth Leadership Awards		VTT – Vocational Training Team
SAA – Sergeant-At-Arms		YIR – Yours In Rotary
SAR – Semi Annual Report		YIRS – Yours In Rotary Service

District Conference

Action Plan

Building your Board

Club Meetings

Template

Yearly Template

District Service/Emerging Leaders

Financial Management

Expectations for President Role

- Must Do Checklist (minimum requirements)
- Planning your year - what things to accomplish (goals)

Who we are/what we do/mission statement, vision, etc. - one page

District Goals

10% more of everything

Service Projects (how)

Membership (how)

Meeting Attendance (how)

Foundation Giving (how)

CART Participation (how)

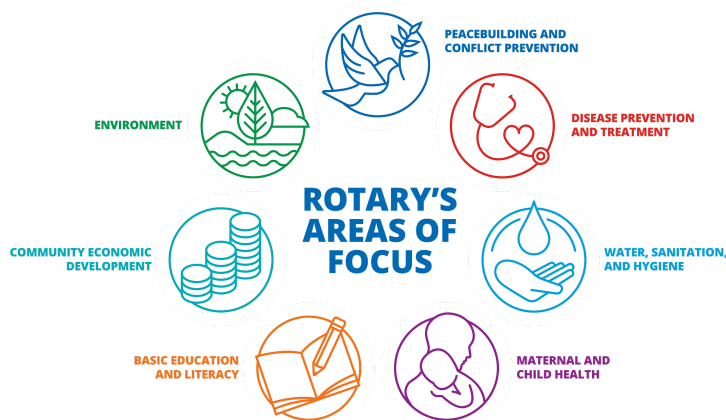
District Assembly Attendance (how)

District Conference Attendance (how)

Areas of Focus

Rotary's seven areas of focus give us a way to think about the service projects we want to initiate or participate in. These are the areas that Rotary International focuses its efforts.

These areas of focus are aligned with the [17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations](#), which aim to end poverty, protect the planet, and improve everyone's lives and expand their possibilities.



When our members take action in these areas, they are collaborating with people around the world to address the significant challenges we face today. And having areas of focus that are aligned with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals provides a common language used by others in these fields, which helps us communicate with our partners and the communities we work with.

The vision for each area of focus

- **Peacebuilding and conflict prevention:** Rotary invests in peace education and builds the capacity for peace, fosters strategic relationships locally and globally, and integrates peacebuilding into our programs and service projects.
- **Water, sanitation, and hygiene:** Rotary envisions a water-secure world, driven by locally led collaboration among governments, water and sanitation service providers, and civil society — who have the commitment, accountability, skills, and financing to provide sustainable, climate-resilient, and safe water, sanitation, and hygiene services for all.
- **Global health (disease prevention and treatment, and maternal and child health):** Rotary collaborates with local, regional, and international health providers to address preventable and treatable causes of illness and death while promoting equity in health services.
- **Basic education and literacy:** Rotary seeks a world in which all children and adults have access to quality education and lifelong learning opportunities.
- **Community economic development:** Rotary works create sustainable economic opportunities for people who are living in poverty, young people, women, refugees, people with disabilities, and other underserved communities.
- **Environment:** Rotary uses evidence to sustainably address shared environmental issues and foster harmony between people and nature.

Youth Programs

Interact

Interact clubs bring together young people ages 12-18 to develop leadership skills while discovering the power of Service Above Self.

Interact clubs are established at local high schools. A participating school is sponsored by a Rotary club.



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an intensive leadership program for young people. Organized by clubs, districts, or multidistricts, RYLA allows participants to learn new skills through civic engagement and personal and professional development opportunities.

RYLA is open to all students in their junior year of high school. Participant interviews and selections are handled by individual Rotary clubs.

Youth Exchange

Rotary Youth Exchange builds peace one young person at a time. Students learn a new language, discover another culture, and truly become global citizens. Exchanges for students ages 15-19 are sponsored by Rotary clubs in more than 100 countries.

Long-term exchanges last a full academic year, and students attend local schools and live with multiple host families. Short-term exchanges last from several days to three months and are often structured as camps, tours, or homestays that take place when school is not in session.



