



## 4 Dozen Helping Hands for 4-H

We had a very productive day at the Northern Virginia 4-H Center on March 14<sup>th</sup>, with approximately 25 Rotarians representing four clubs! The group knocked a lot of items off the 4-H Center's "to-do" list, including:

- Clean-up from the roof repair (shingles, wood sheeting, nails, etc.)
- Adding a drainage ditch and filling it with gravel and tubing to reroute the underground spring water
- Lots of cleaning from the winter hibernation! (wiping, dusting, sweeping)

*Continued on next page*





- Painting the bathrooms, doors, kitchen doors, and table
- Removing an old water fountain fixture

Katie Tennant, member of Rotary Club of Warren County and the executive director of the Northern Virginia 4-H Center, wrote, "The roof looks amazing and isn't growing inches of moss anymore. They said they had to replace [approximately] 30 sheets of underlay that had rotted away!"

The work was made possible by a collaborative grant with the Rotary Clubs of Warren County, Front Royal, Winchester, and Frederick County.

"Thank you again for partnering with us on this collaborative grant!" Katie added. "It was so great seeing people making new friends and working alongside them like they'd known them forever."



## District Interact Conference a Success!

Skyline High School students assisted with the District Interact Conference April 3th and 4th at the Northern Virginia 4-H Center. Michael Williams wrote the group a note afterwards, stating, "You are all true ambassadors of Skyline High, and you embody the ideals of Rotary and Interact. Please never forget your experience." The students later reported that they had thoroughly enjoyed the conference.





## Welcome Reception to kick-off District Conference

*By Thomas Rea*

We can't wait to see you at District Conference in a few weeks. For Rotarians coming in on Thursday and our local Rotarians, we have a special treat. Rotary is teaming up with Dynamic Aviation in Bridgewater, VA (just outside of Harrisonburg – near Buc-ee's) for a welcome social on Thursday night. We will kick off at 5:30 pm with light food and snacks.

In addition to being a great community partner, Dynamic Aviation is in possession of the First Air Force One. It is currently in the process of restoration, but this is a great opportunity to see and experience history in our own backyard.

For those interested, Dynamic Aviation will also be providing flights in their DC3, Miss Virginia, which will give an excellent tour of the Valley from the skies above (weather permitting).

This is a great opportunity to get together and kick off this year's conference. Due to security reasons, we are requiring advance registration so sign up using the link below. Cost of attendance is \$30, which will be collected at the door. For those choosing to fly we also recommend a donation of at least \$40 per person for those that are able. Money made from the event will go to support the First Air Force One and our Rotary District.

So, sign up today and we'll follow up with specific details for everyone attending as we get closer. Note that this will be an alcohol-free event as we will be in an active and open hanger at Dynamic. Sign Up:

<https://form.jotform.com/260684514143051>

## Making a Statement Overseas

Reagan Tweedie (Outbound Rotary Youth Exchange Student from Rotary District 7570, sponsored by The Rotary Club of Warren County) recently participated in the Rome Relay Marathon, to bring awareness to Rotary's push to end Polio. Reagan is a senior at Skyline High School, spending her senior year abroad as a Rotary Youth Exchange student. She has been accepted, and plans to attend, the University of Virginia this coming fall.

***Are you registered for District Conference? You can find the full schedule, registration details, and hotel information at [Rotary7570conference.com](https://rotary7570conference.com).***

## DG Andy Vanhook Visits Club

District Governor Andy Vanhook has been making the rounds to the various clubs in District 7570 during his tenure. Rotary Club of Warren County was number 70 of 75 on his list--though he assured everyone gathered that the order was no indication of ranking.

Early in his presentation, Andy asked, "What are you proud of?" Among the answers:

- Raising over \$30,000 for scholarships
- The Youth Exchange Program
- Warren County being the only county in Virginia where all elementary schools have an Early Act Club
- The recent District Grant project that provided new roof and other improvements at the Northern Virginia 4-H Club (see related story, pages 1-2)
- The many service projects that would be discussed in a meeting that very morning

Andy went on to ask people why they joined Rotary and why they stayed. The common threads? They came because someone invited them, and they stayed because the Club members became a second family to them.

The DG went on to encourage members to share those things--what we're proud of, and why we stay--as part of our efforts to grow the Club.

Andy concluded his presentation with a look at the future, asking four key questions:



- Who's in the room?
- Who's leading?
- What impact are you making?
- What are you known for?

At the end of his presentation, Barbara Ecton presented the book *Fox in Socks* by Dr. Seuss, which would be donated to GE@R Preschool in honor of Andy.



## Committee Notes

### Fundraising Committee

ScholarSips raised at total of \$33,982.05!  
This is more than double our goal!

Ride with Rotary is at \$4,450. All Rotarians are asked to find sponsors.

### Youth Services

Fenna enjoyed a trip to DC with other Rotary exchange students. Telulah shared that one of her favorite activities this past month has been to make cards for soldiers in Djibouti.

### Foundation Report

Kathy reported that we have met our Annual Fund goal! We are at \$10,068!

We have a bit of work to do on our \$4,000 polio goal yet; we are at \$2,702.

### In Other News...

Dave Hardy announced that we have met all requirements this year to be a Gold Club.



### See Them Bloom!

Michael Williams shared some photos of the tulips planted in the fall of 2024 at EWM Elementary School. They continue to beautify the school and bring joy to everyone who sees them!



### Fuel for Families

On April 8th, we were proud to present H.N. Funkhouser with a check for \$1,685.00 to put towards our combined effort to help provide heat for our local households in need. THANK YOU TO all who supported this cause, and to Michelle Smeltzer for helping to organize the fundraiser through Social Services!



## A New Foundation in Town

On April 8th, our guest speaker was the new Superintendent of Warren County Public Schools, Dr. Troy Wright. He shared his experience so far as he has familiarized himself with our area and school system. The community's overwhelming support and interest in our schools has been pleasantly surprising and impressive to Dr. Wright. He commented that other districts do not have the incredible support like we do!

Dr. Wright had a brief visit at each school, and is now working his way through the schools again, spending an entire day at each. He shared a few things he has learned during his visits:

- Our students are outstanding.
- Our class sizes are really small, a benefit that he wants to protect.
- We have a wonderful staff that are creative, loyal, and dedicated to Warren County Public Schools.

Dr. Wright shared "What is next?" for Warren County Public Schools:

- Budget discussions
- Strategic planning
- Part-time students policy - classes available to home school students could be a possible option.
- Middle School schedules to match

Improvements to look forward to:

- Communication
- Collaboration
- Consistency in practice
- Higher levels of engagement for students

Thank you Dr Wright for your continued hard work and dedication! We appreciate you.

Barbara Ecton presented *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss, which will be donated to Phoenix Project in honor of Dr. Wright.

***Thank you to Jen Avery for photos and assisting with various articles!***



# Birthdays & Anniversaries

Member Birthdays	Birthday
<a href="#">Barber, Melanie Crouch (MELANIE)</a>	20 April
<a href="#">Rinehart, June S. (JUNE)</a>	14 April

Partner Birthdays	Member Name	Birthday
<a href="#">Barbour, Lori</a>	Barbour, Brian Christopher	16 April
<a href="#">Rinehart, June</a>	Rinehart, Herbert M.	14 April

Member Anniversaries	Start Date	Years	Years(P)	Total
<a href="#">Chadwell, Hailey(HALEY)</a>	04/27/24	2	0	2
<a href="#">Edon, Barbara D.(BARBARA)</a>	04/06/05	21	0	21
<a href="#">Grove, Deborah D.(DEBBIE)</a>	04/06/05	21	0	21
<a href="#">Hamel, Melanie Hovonec(MEL)</a>	04/06/05	21	0	21
<a href="#">Hardy, T. David(DAVE)</a>	04/06/05	21	0	21
<a href="#">Light, Robert Joseph(ROBERT)</a>	04/06/05	21	0	21
<a href="#">Long, William(BILL)</a>	04/27/24	2	0	2
<a href="#">Napier, Katherine P.(KATHY)</a>	04/06/05	21	0	21

Wedding Anniversaries	Partner's Name	Anniversary	Years
<a href="#">Barber, Melanie Crouch(MELANIE)</a>	Wayne (WAYNE)	04/16	37
<a href="#">Manning, Elizabeth Helen(ELIZABETH H.MANNING)</a>	Michael	04/01	31

**April 6<sup>th</sup>: Rotary Club of Warren County!**  
**Happy 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary!**



# Shred Day

## May 7, 2026



**Sponsored by**

Front Royal Federal Credit Union  
&  
Rotary Club of Warren County



**May 7, 2026**

10am - 12 noon



Front Royal Vol. Fire Dept.  
221 N. Commerce Ave  
Front Royal



All donations will go to the Fire Dept.

**4 box limit**

Contact: Michelle Smeltzer 540.892.6108

## 2025-26 Officers

**President:** Kahle Magalis

**Immediate Past President:**

Ellen Aders

**President Elect:** Katie Tennant

**Vice President:** Debbie Grove

**Treasurer:** Katrina Meade

**Secretary:** Sally Kilpatrick

## 2025-26 Chairs

**Foundation:** Kathy Napier

**Service:** Carol Hardy

**Fundraising:** Jean Plauger

**Grants:** George Karnes

**Social:** Hope Petty

**Membership:** Sally Kilpatrick

**Program:** Debbie Grove

**Public Image:** Jen Avery

**Bulletin:** Celeste Brooks

**Administrative:** Dave Hardy

**Youth Services:** Michael Williams



Enroll in Rotary Direct to support any of the Rotary Foundation programs:  
<https://my.rotary.org/en/rotary-direct>

## Upcoming Service and Events

**April 18th:**

**Ride with Rotary**

*Beneficiary is Habitat for Humanity*

**May 2nd:**

**Greenway Clean-up & Tea**

**May 7th:**

**Shred Day**

**May 12th:**

**Discover Rotary**

**June 30th:**

**Feed Our Neighbors**

## Rotary Club of Warren County

PO Box 702

Front Royal, VA 22630

[warrencountyrotary.org](http://warrencountyrotary.org)

[dacdb.com/Login](http://dacdb.com/Login)

### Meetings:

Wednesdays at 7am

First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

14 W 1st St., Front Royal

(Virtual option available)





Organizations that would like to request volunteer and/or financial support from the Club must complete the Project Request Form located on the Club website.

Need help navigating DACdb?  
Click here.

**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**



## 2025 Sponsors

### Platinum Sponsors

Jean's Jewelers, Inc.  
(Jean Plauger)

George Karnes  
Jonathan Berry  
Financial Advisors  
Wells Fargo Advisors  
(George Karnes)

Bill Long's Auto Care Clinic  
(Bill Long)

Warren County Veterinary  
Clinic  
(Kristen Pence)

Warren Memorial Hospital

### Gold Sponsors

State Farm  
(Ellen Aders)

Ron & Cathy Napier

### Silver Sponsors

City National Bank  
(Katrina Meade)

Dave & Carol Hardy

Michael Williams

State Farm Insurance  
(Bill Powers)

### Bronze Sponsor

Debbie Grove

Melanie Hamel

Sponsoring a guest speaker? Click here for guidelines.

## Did you know the District has a YouTube page?

Be sure to Subscribe or browse the uploaded videos.

There are great past interviews and lots of club resources provided!



**RotaryDistrict7570**

@RotaryDistrict7570 • 169 subscribers • 123 videos  
Discover inspiring narratives of Rotarians using their skills and time to create lasting change...more

rotary7570.org



<https://www.youtube.com/@RotaryDistrict7570>

Our Club has a storage shed! If you need to pick up or drop off something, contact Kahle Magalis.

**Need to Make a Donation, Put  
in Happy Dollars, or Pay Dues?**



Find the donation links on our website!

<https://www.warrencountyrotary.org/project-donations>