

## Bermuda

In October, Girl Scouts joined their parents and Rotarians in a beach restoration project along Bailey's Bay in Hamilton Parish. "They collected over 1,000 pieces of microplastics, several tin cans, paper, large plastics, and rope that were on the beach near the mangroves," says scout troop leader Cathy Bassett, a longtime educator who is president of the Rotary Club of Hamilton. The girls, ages 7 to 10, are studying the preservation of mangroves in Bermuda, Bassett says. The scouts have also conducted a geographical study of sand to learn what gives Bermuda's beaches their distinctive pink color. The mangroves, shrubs, and small trees that dot shallow waters along parts of the 75-mile coastline support.

## England

The Rotary Club of Darlington has raised nearly \$160,000 over the past 14 years by giving Christmas trees a new use. In January, more than 70 Rotarians and friends collected 18,000 trees to be chipped and sold to a biomass processor to generate electricity. Teams traveling in vans worked in snow and ice over two days to gather the trees and collect donations per pickup. The project is as much a fun social occasion as it is service, says David Hayward, who has led the campaign since its beginning. "Everything is loaned free from local supporters, including a large cafe to operate from, the big vans, a tree surgeon chipping all the trees, plus hundreds of pies and pasties to keep our volunteers well fueled," he says. "Success relies on number of trees plus enthusiasm, dedication, energy, and fun." The funds raised support a hospice and other local charities.

## Netherlands

An annual sale of used books, puzzles, and other items speaks volumes for the fundraising prowess of the Rotary Club of Venlo-Maas en Peel. Over three days in January, thousands of bookworms bought \$75,000 worth of books, a record sum directed to the club's charitable foundation, says Peter Elbers, governor-elect of District 1550. Around 140 Rotarians and other volunteers staffed the fair, which the club co-founded 36 years ago. The event is the culmination of a year's work, with Rotarians sorting and categorizing about 450,000 books each year in warehouse space donated by a club member, Elbers says. Books left unsold are pulped for recycling. "Some people come every year to buy a few bags full of books and return them as a gift a year later," Elbers says, "and then, of course, buy new books again — a good way of implementing environmentally friendly circulation."

# THE EARLY RISER

EVERY ROTARIAN  
US \$100  
EVERY YEAR



4 April, 2025  
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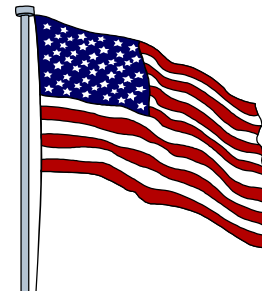
### THE ROTARY 4 WAY TEST

First: Is it the TRUTH?

Second: Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Third: Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Fourth: Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



### ROTARY PRAYER

Oh Lord, and giver of all good, we thank Thee for our daily food.

May Rotary friends and Rotary ways, help to serve Thee all of our days.

# THE ROTARY CLUB OF WICHITA FALLS NORTH



2024-25 R.I. President and D5790 Governor:

President of Rotary International: Stephanie Urchick  
5790 District Governor: Andy Eads

**THE ROTARY CLUB OF WICHITA FALLS (NORTH), TEXAS**

President: Matthew Milhollon

Website: [www.wichitafallsnorthrotaryclub.org](http://www.wichitafallsnorthrotaryclub.org)

## ***FUTURE PROGRAM ASSIGNMENTS***

April 4 Tamara Booher from 2 INgage, a program of Texas Family Initiative.  
April 11 ----- Bill Neale  
April 18 ----- **Board Meeting**  
April 25 ----- Rob Noble  
May 2 ----- Oku Okeeke  
May 9 ----- Jeani Secord  
May 16 ----- **Board Meeting**  
May 23 ----- Troy Secord  
May 30 ----- Linda Sheriff  
June 6 ----- Tom Sheriff  
June 13 ----- Phil Waggoner  
June 20 ----- **Board Meeting**  
June 27 ----- Clint Wood  
July 4<sup>th</sup> ----- **Meeting Cancelled**

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### **NEWS FROM OUR LAST CLUB MEETING HELD AT THE HAMPTON INN:**

The last club meeting held at the Hampton Inn was used for the club to stuff the flag renewal forms to be mailed out. The club owes a big “thank you” to Tristen, Brandy’s boyfriend, for finishing what the club did not.



This is a photo sent to the club of a young person from the ARC enjoying the wheel chair swing at Rotary Park. We are told that he enjoys the swing very much!

The raffle on 3/14/2025 raised \$22.00 and Jeani was the winner. She drew the queen of hearts for a \$10.00 prize. If this week’s winner draws the ace of spades they will win \$215.00 + ½ of what is raised today.

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### ***NEWS FROM ROTARY INTERNATIONAL:***

#### **ROTARY PROJECTS AROUND THE GLOBE**

**April 2025**

#### **Ecuador**

Recognizing the link between renal disease and eye problems, the Rotary Club of Quito Luz de América — “light of America” — conducts free medical and eye screenings for people with chronic kidney disease. Common risk factors for kidney disease, like high blood pressure and diabetes, can damage blood vessels in the eyes, leading to poor vision and other problems. Most recently, 10 club members joined health experts in November to offer examinations for 100 people at the Teodoro Maldonado Carbo Hospital in Guayaquil. Interactors assisted. Three medical professionals help with the screenings: a general practitioner, a gynecologist, and a project leader trained in optometry and visual therapy, says Olga Camacho, a past club president. “To conclude the day, we hosted an artistic show to bring joy and hope,” she says.

#### **Vietnam**

When a primary school teacher in Vietnam’s highlands explained that many of her students’ families struggled to afford warm clothing, the Rotaract Club of One Million Lives Saigon mounted a collection drive. In December, Rotaractors delivered 1,000 garments to villages that are home to Indigenous ethnic minority groups in Dak Lak province, more than 150 miles from the club’s home base in Ho Chi Minh City. “Despite the challenging journey, we are committed to providing support to improve their living conditions,” says Thi Duong, the club’s president. Over 100 adults and children received the gently used clothing, including coats, shoes, gloves, scarves, and other accessories, which were shipped to the school along with food staples.