

July 24, 2025

Fireside chat with Mason Ailstock, President & CEO, Rowen: Progress Report on Rowen, GA



Rowen is a 2,000-acre planned community in Metro Atlanta, thoughtfully designed that provides a rare ecosystem where education, business, research and smart city solutions converge to drive innovation in medicine, agriculture and the environment.

Mason is a trusted leader in the formation and stewardship of innovation districts, research parks, and mission-driven real estate developments. With 20 years' experience working with higher education institutions, governments and industry, Mason has a track record of converging real estate, academia, and business to advance communities of innovation. In his role as President and Chief Executive Officer of Rowen, Mason is responsible for the real estate development, public-private-university partnerships, and investment activities of the 2,000-acre multi-use knowledge community ultimately comprising over 50 million square feet of space and housing over 80,000 employees.

July is Maternal and Child Health Month

RSVP Here: [Remember to RSVP for yourself and your guests!](#)

Message from the President

I am excited for all the things we have going on in Buckhead Rotary. The calendar is your best friend, and it is super easy to stay in the know.

We have a growing and thriving club and it is because each of you gives their all to Buckhead Rotary.

As I shared in this week's meeting my three goals for this year are

1. Engage - To help you engage in ways that matter most to you. Whether it's through our regular meetings, various volunteer options, or our Thirsty ThirstyDay socials, "My Rotary-My Way" is designed to help you engage in ways that you find most fulfilling. Remember, the more you participate, the more you'll get out of your membership.
2. Inspire - Our signature service projects are at the heart of the impact we make in the community. Our newest project with LifeLine Animal Project joins our ongoing work with the Shepherd Center and the Boyse Ansley School. Participating in the way that brings you the greatest fulfillment is key. We also inspire each other when we recognize those who go above and beyond for our club and community.
3. Energize - Let's bring energy and fun to everything we do! Our LifeLine Animal Project is sure to bring joy, whether you're volunteering to take a dog for a day, helping at a pet health event, or delivering food through our partnership with OpenHand. And of course our continued work with the Shepherd Center and the Boyse Ansley School are additional ways to bring energy and fulfillment. These are just a few ways to volunteer and make a real difference.

Ultimately our commitment to the above leads to a healthy and thriving club that continues to grow and evolve with its members.

Nominate Your Fellow Rotarians

It's an important focus for my presidency to recognize Rotarians doing good in our club. Please nominate your fellow Rotarians who deserve a sincere thank you for their dedication. Whether they've consistently shown up, lent a hand, or gone above and beyond. Simply send their name and a brief description of why you are nominating them to Jim Coleman jcolemanoss72@gmail.com. These awards are given out at various intervals throughout the year. Whenever you experience Rotarians doing good, please take a moment to nominate them.

Our next meeting is Monday July 28th. Need to join by Zoom, click the link below.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/67941219933?pwd=ZS1SR0BTE1RkZkd0NkZjTGh1TG99#success> Password: 48257

Help us Plan Future Speakers



Belisa Urbina
Receives the Robert Ross Johnson
Humanitarian Award

We value your input!

We are working to plan engaging and meaningful programs, and your feedback is essential. Please take a moment to complete this brief survey and share your preferences and speaker recommendations.

[Speaker Recommendation Form](#)

Thank you for helping us make our meetings even more impactful!

Yours in service,
The Speaker Committee
Reeves Smith, Jeff Nicholson & Miriam Falaki

Thirsty ThirstyDay and Volunteer Opportunities



Don't forget to show off your pet! Email a photo of you and your pet mejgeorgia@gmail.com

July 24 - dedicated Buckhead Rotarian volunteer training at LifeLine

3:30 PM immediately following at 5:30 PM - Thirsty Thursday at LifeLine (optional tours of the facility)

Volunteer Training Sign Up: <https://buckheadrotary.org/event/8392>

Thirsty Thursday Sign Up: <https://buckheadrotary.org/reservation/create?event=8770>

August 2nd: Pawstivity Partnership. Signature Project Orientation 11:00am-12:30am, RSVP Here: <https://buckheadrotary.org/reservation/create?event=8581>

August 16 - Pups on the Path - Dog for a Day foster program, 9:00 AM - Sign Up Here: <https://buckheadrotary.org/reservation/create?event=8587>

LifeLine to pick up pups then walk begins at 11am Central: 3901 Lenox Pkwy NE, Atlanta, GA 30326

We'll enjoy coffee and donuts afterward - ALL welcome (even if you aren't walking a dog)

Do you have something to share?

This year, we will be sending weekly newsletters each Thursday to share meeting information, social events, volunteer opportunities and more! If you would like to include an activity, photo, or just fun news to share, please email Emily Carter at ecarter@ging.org. Please include "Buckhead Rotary Newsletter" in the subject.



Meetings

July is Maternal and Child Health Month

- 7/28 Fireside chat with Mason Ailstock, President & CEO, Rowen: Progress Report on Rowen, GA
- 8/4 Mr. Kevin Rathbun, Chef and Atlanta restaurateur
- 8/11 Sam Donaldson, interim associate dean of Academic Affairs and Professor of Law, Georgia State University
- 8/18 No Meeting: Register for Thirsty ThirsDay
- 8/25 Ricky Smith, General Manager, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL)
- 9/1 No Meeting Labor Day
- 9/8 Dr. Bryan Johnson, Atlanta Public Schools Superintendent
- 9/15 No Meeting: Register for Thirsty ThirsDay

Events

- 7/24 LifeLine Orientation
- 7/24 Thirsty Thursday @ LifeLine Animal Project
- 8/2 Pawsitivity Partnership; Signature Project Orientation at LifeLine
- 8/5 GRSP Welcome for Daniela Bergamo @ Hartsfield International Airport

Our Rotary Family BIRTHDAYS

- 7/3 George Ivey, III
- 7/3 Mark Johnson
- 7/4 Billy Amberg, II
- 7/13 Shelley Hammell
- 7/21 Kevin Andrews
- 7/23 Jared Guyer
- 7/24 Peter Jensen

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7/26 Jimmy Cook
7/30 Dave Peterson
7/31 Ben Vayens

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

7/7 Karla Arriola (23)
7/12 Jim Floyd (56)

Rotary Online

<https://buckheadrotary.com>
<https://rotary6900.org/>
<https://rotary.org/>



LEADERSHIP

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| President | Shelley Hammell |
| President-Elect | Jeff Clark, Jr. |
| Immediate PP | Denise Starling |
| Vice President | Jeff Clark, Jr. |
| Treasurer | Radu Zernoveanu |
| Secretary | Michael Stimpert |
| Public Image | Mark Meltzer |

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