

Buckhead  
**Rotary**  
Club



August 1, 2025

### Monday's Speaker: Chef Kevin Rathbun

Chef Kevin Rathbun's passion for food and hospitality started in Kansas City, where he started as a dishwasher. Following culinary school, Rathbun went on to New Orleans, Dallas, Houston and Atlanta to work with celebrity chefs and restaurateurs including Bradley Ogden, Emeril Lagasse, Stephen Pyles, Ella Brennan and Pano Karantassos. In 1994, he was nominated for the James Beard Award "Rising Star Chef" for his work at Baby Ruth. By 1996, he opened two different flagship restaurants with Buckhead Life Restaurant Group and served as the Corporate Executive Chef, overseeing several restaurants for the group. Rathbun then ventured out on his own in 2004 to open Rathbun's. King Bar, Kevin Rathbun Steak and K2 Steakhouse followed.

Blue Badge Industries: Tanya "Mac" L'Amour  
Sunshine: Leel'Heater Rhodes

Click the Calendar invite to RSVP, Register a Guest, and find the Zoom Information. [Calendar Invite: August 4, 2025](#)



### August 1: Message from the President

July was an exciting mix of life for our Rotary, but especially for welcoming our fellow Rotarians.

Congratulations to all our new Paul Harris Fellows!

A special congratulations to Jim Paul and Ben Chappin for becoming Paul Harris Major Donors. My Rotary, My Way. We have great attendance at our Monday meetings. Let's turn up the volume on our signature projects and socials too. We have so many ways to get connected and day connected to Buckhead Rotary and our mission. Check out the [August calendar](#) and sign up for one of our many events. I hope to see more of you at one of these events. I hate for you to suffer from FOMO, Fear of Missing Rotary!

Remembering Sunlight.

Brian Mendelsohn who got engaged to Rachelle Copeland

And David Smith who got engaged to Eric Gray

Cheers to the two happy couples!

We have two Rotarians that can use your cheer. Ken Clark, who is homebound is turning 98 on August 10th and has been a member for 38 years! Please send him your wishes on his special day.

Jimmy Pauls had ankle surgery this week. Show him some Rotary fellowship and check in on his recuperation. Wishing you a speedy recovery Jimmy!

Remembering them to Jim Coleman [jimcoleman2@gmail.com](#)

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](#) [jimcoleman2@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. Sincerely, Shirley.

August is Membership and New Club Development Month



Paul Harris Fellow Recipients



### Special Presentation on August 4

Fellow Rotarians, if you were a member of the Boy Scouts of America or have a child/grandchild in Scouting - America or simply want to support our club, Scouting activities, please come to our co-chairs Brandon Smith [brandon.smith@scouting.org](#) or Jim Broadwell [jim.broadwell@fernbankmuseum.org](#). In addition, we will have a special presentation of our club members on August 10 to honor our commitment to Scouting - America.

### August: Opportunities to Connect

**GRSP Welcome for Daniela Bergamo @ Hartsfield International Airport Register Here**

August 5, 2025 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Pups on the Path Register Here**

August 16, 2025 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Please join us in welcoming this year's GRSP, Georgia Rotary Student Program, student Daniela Bergamo. We are gathering at the international terminal for her arrival at 10:00 am. This is an important year for Daniela so let's show her how excited we are to have her part of this program and our club for this scholastic year. Pick up a Dog for a Day from LifeLine and enjoy a nice stroll on the Path followed by a box lunch and dog treats with your fellow Buckhead Rotarians. If you don't want to get a dog but would like to stroll with us, please meet at 10:45 am on the Patio outdoors at the Hyatt Centric Buckhead at 3301 Lenox Parkway NE, Atlanta. We will have short and doggie walks for everyone who is interested. [Prefer to just mingle with your fellow Rotarians over lunch, please register with this link](#)

**40 Rotarians are welcome**

**Thirty Thursday Register Here**

August 21, 2025 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Join us at the Gallery condominiums, 2795 Peachtree Rd., the home of Doug and Julie Edson. We will meet in the club room on the main floor of the building. Please bring your own food and good conversation. Please park in the parking lot of the Cathedral of St Philip and walk across to the Gallery. There is also street parking on Burnside Rd. Questions? Call Cathy Luffert [404.805.2273](#) or [cathy@burnside.com](#)

**Let's get the word out about LifeLine**

Don't forget to show off your skill while a photo of you and your pet to Mark Johnson [mjohnson@gmail.com](#)

LifeLine Donations. We are collecting the following items every month at our Monday luncheon to include the following:

- Blankets
- Linens
- Towels
- Pet Food
- Pet Toys
- Cleaning Supplies



## Meetings

August is Membership and New Club Development Month

- 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 ThirdsDay
- 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 ThirdsDay
- 9/22 Rotary on the Road Lunch at Fulton County Animal Shelter

## Events

- 8/2 Pawsitivity Partnership; Signature Project Orientation at LifeLine
- 8/5 GRSP Welcome for Daniela Bergamo @ Hartsfield International Airport
- 8/16 Pups on the Path
- 8/16 Lunch After Pups on the Path - All Are Welcome

## Our Rotary Family BIRTHDAYS

- 8/1 Collette Brown
- 8/6 Blake Beyer
- 8/6 Ken Clary
- 8/6 Rick Higgins
- 8/9 Matt Jollay
- 8/15 Dietrich Logan
- 8/21 Michael Stimpert

## Monday's Speaker: Chef Kevin Rathbun

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Sunshine: LeeHester Rhodes

Blue Badge Induction: Tayen "Haz" Hazqiyal

Click the Calendar invite to RSVP, Register a Guest, and find the Zoom Information: [Calendar Invite: August 4, 2025](#)

8/23 Jim Floyd  
8/24 Matthew Frost  
8/31 Brian Mendelson

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## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

8/3 Kari Kirkley (23)  
8/24 Cort Neimark (34)  
8/24 Phyllis Neimark (34)  
8/25 Blake Beyer (18)  
8/25 Ford Donohue (6)  
8/25 Chris Jones (28)  
8/28 David Bockel, Jr. (21)

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## Rotary Online

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



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## 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





## **August 1: Message from the President**

July was an exciting kick off to the new Rotary year, especially for recognizing our fellow Rotarians.

Congratulation to all our new Paul Harris Fellows!

A special congratulations to Jim Floyd and Ben Shapiro for becoming Paul Harris Major Donors.

I wanted to take a moment to once again, Thanks "a Latte" to our July honorees; Drew Amerson, Michael Stimpert and Marilyn Morgan. And a special shout out to Kari Kirkley for winning the special GOAT award for all her efforts with RYE and LifeLine.

My Rotary, My Way. We have great attendance at our Monday meetings. Let's turn up the volume on our signature projects and socials too. We have so many ways to get connected and stay connected to Buckhead Rotary and our mission. Check out the [August calendar](#) and sign up for one of our many events. I hope to see more of you at one of these events. I hate for you to suffer from FOMR, Fear of Missing Rotary!

#### Membership Spotlight

Congratulations are in order to...

Brian Mendelson who got engaged to Rachelle Copeland

And Brandi Smith who got engaged to Eric Cray

Cheers to the two happy couples!

We have two Rotarians that can use your cheer. Ken Clary, who is homebound is turning 96 on August 6th and has been a member for 38 years! Please send him your wishes on his special day.

Jimmy Paulk had ankle surgery this week. Show him some Rotary fellowship and check in on his recuperation. Wishing you a speedy recovery Jimmy!

#### **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](mailto:jcolemanoss72@gmail.com).

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Sincerely,

Shelley









***Paul Harris Fellow Recipients***





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initiatives, please contact our co-chairs Brandon Smith [Brandon.smith@scouting.org](mailto:Brandon.smith@scouting.org) or Jim Breedlove [jim.breedlove@fernbankmuseum.org](mailto:jim.breedlove@fernbankmuseum.org). In addition, we will have a special presentation at our next meeting on August 4th to honor our commitment to Scouting - America.

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## **August: Opportunities to Connect**

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August 5, 2025 10:48 am— 12:00 pm

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All Rotarians are welcome!

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August 21, 2025 5:30 pm— 7:30 pm

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Don't forget to show off your pet! Email a photo of you and your pet to Mark Johnson [mejgeorgia@gmail.com](mailto:mejgeorgia@gmail.com)

LifeLine Donations: We are collecting the following items, every week at our Monday luncheons to include the following:

Newspapers

Linens

Towels

Pet Food

Pet Toys

