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February 9, 2026

February is Peace and Conflict  
Prevention Month

## Robert Ross Johnson Humanitarian Award Luncheon

Each year Buckhead Rotary honors a community member who personifies the ideal of humanitarianism. This year's award will be presented to Kathy Colbenson, recently retired CEO of CHRIS 180, for 38 years, one of the Southeast's premiere mental health, child welfare and family service organizations who saves, serves and protects thousands of abused and neglected children while empowering families through positive, solution focused programming which includes: behavioral health, life/social/vocational skill development, group homes, community services, training and housing programs.

Need to join by Zoom, click the link below.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87941219913?pwd=S15RIBjTE1TRk1NaDRNa3hTcmphUT09#success>  
Password: 485257

Rotary Club of Buckhead  
Maggiiano's Little Italy  
3368 Peachtree Road  
Atlanta, GA 30326

## Message from the President: February 9, 2026

We are very excited to kick-off the 2026 Buckhead Rotary Club Benefit honoring Gary Stokan, President and CEO of the Peach Bowl and his wife Tia on April 11, 2026. We hope all of our members and their guests can attend. This event is the primary fundraising effort for the Club that supports our three Signature Projects along with all our other efforts that make an impact in our community.

We are updating the Patron Sponsorship offering this year to include two levels. The first "Patron Sponsorship" level is at \$500 and will offer Buckhead Rotary sponsors an additional ticket (you already have paid for a ticket through your dues) to the event for their plus one (you will have two tickets total) along with recognition in the event brochure. The second "Hosting Patron" level is at \$1,000 and will offer the same number of tickets plus special recognition at the event. We ask that all Rotarians please seriously consider sponsoring the event to help support the Club and its community service efforts throughout the year.

[Check out the Annual Benefit Information here!](#)

Event details:

Cherokee Town & Country Club (155 W Paces Ferry Rd NW, Atlanta, GA 30305)

Saturday, April 11, 2026 @ 6:30 PM

[Registration is required for all attendees.](#)

Each Buckhead Rotarian has one (1) prepaid ticket reserved exclusively for them, but you must still register to confirm attendance.

You can submit a patron sponsorship in one of two ways:

Online (strong preference) at [www.buckheadgala.com/sponsor](http://www.buckheadgala.com/sponsor)

By Check

Make payable to "Buckhead Rotary Foundation" - please note "Gala Sponsorship" on check  
Deliver to "PO Box 12151, Atlanta, Ga 30355" or to Sponsorship Committee directly  
All we ask is that you complete your sponsorship by 03/15 so we can maintain an accurate count of attendees. We hope we can count on you to support all the good work Buckhead Rotary does in the community and beyond!

Please direct any questions to Ford Donohue at [Ford.Donohue@hbwealth.com](mailto:Ford.Donohue@hbwealth.com) or 404.264.1400.

## Be Pawsitive, Be Thirsty, Be There!

Don't miss out on these upcoming events!

[SHARE Pizza Night, Feb. 11, Shepard Center](#)

[Thirsty Thirsdday hosted by Kevin and Stephani Glass, Feb 19.](#)

[Pawsitivity Partnership, Feb. 21.](#)

[Rotary on the Road, Feb 23, at the Sheperd Center](#)



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## Meetings

February is Peace and Conflict Prevention Month

- 2/9 Robert Ross Johnson Humanitarian Award Luncheon
- 2/16 No Meeting President's Day
- 2/23 Shepherd Center Service Dog Program (on site at Shepherd)
- 3/2 Hands-On Volunteer Activity Benefiting Girl Scouts and Inspiration from their Community Projects
- 3/9 No Meeting: Volunteer for Shepherd Center Tuesday Dinner Service
- 3/16 No Meeting: Register for Thirsty ThirdsDay
- 3/23 Speaker to be Announced
- 3/30 Kyle Waide, CEO, Atlanta Community Food Bank

## Events

- 2/11 SHARE Pizza Night
- 2/16 Board of Directors Meeting
- 2/19 Thirsty ThirdsDay
- 2/21 Pawsitivity Partnership with Buckhead Rotarians Delivering Pet Food with OpenHand
- 3/7 Dog for a Day (or a Few Hours) at the lush and scenic Chastain Park
- 3/10 Shepherd Center Family Dinner Volunteer Event
- 3/16 Board of Directors Meeting
- 3/19 Thirsty ThirdsDay

## Our Rotary Family BIRTHDAYS

- 2/3 James Cotton
- 2/3 Daniela Bergamo
- 2/6 David Bockel, Jr.
- 2/6 Reeves Smith

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2/11 Bill Barney, III  
2/14 Kevin Glass  
2/14 Eddie LaRocco  
2/15 Sean Mikula  
2/15 Patty Webb  
2/16 Michelle Middlebrooks  
2/19 Mark Meltzer  
2/22 Emily Carter

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

2/25 Jordan Jones (7)

## 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
Sergeant-at-Arms	Garth Peters

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