

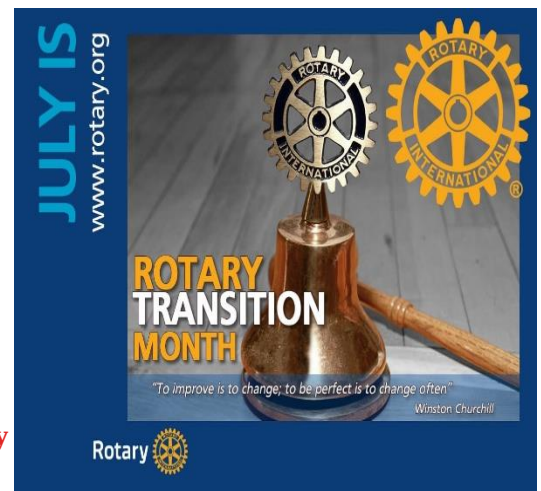
THE SPROCKET NEWSLETTER

Rotary Club of New Bern Breakfast Chartered May 9, 1985
District #7720 – Club #22802 - P. O. Box 14625, New Bern, NC 28561 -
www.NewBernRotary.org - Follow us on Facebook/NewBernBreakfastRotary

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Meets every Thursday morning from 7:30-8:30 and
2nd & 4th Thursday evenings from 5:30 – 6:30

Governor: Sophie Szymeczek 2026-27 - Area 8 Assist.Dist.Gov.: Melonie Wray



INSTALLATION DINNER – JUNE 25, 2026

Our regular morning and evening meetings for this Thursday were replaced by a delightful evening at the Chelsea Restaurant for our Annual Installation Dinner. The Pledge was led by Dwight Carlblom, and our Invocation was offered by Carolyn Perrigo.

Following our dinner, the program began with Brant Bills announcing the winners of the Major Todd S. Denson Memorial Scholarship. A member of our Breakfast Rotary Club, Todd Denson, 32, flew the F/A-18 Harrier for a decade and had been a flight instructor for two years, when he and his student, Capt. Jason K. Meiners, lost control of the training Harrier they were flying to their base at Cherry Point on February 3, 2001. Our Rotary Club established this scholarship in his memory to assist graduating college-bound seniors with their advancement in professional, educational, and technical learning opportunities. Each year, five \$1,000 scholarships are presented to graduates of high schools in Craven County. Students are selected based on academic achievement, community service, extracurricular activities, and financial need.



Brant Bills, Chair of the Scholarship Committee, introduced this year's scholarship winners who joined us for the evening: Braedon Skaggs, Maureen Spencer, Isabella Colon, and Heidyy Herrero-Garcia. A fifth winner, Sega Diawara, could not be with us because of a conflicting obligation.

The Don Masch Memorial Scholarship, established in memory of a Past President of our Rotary Club, offers \$1,000 scholarship to a nursing student enrolled at Craven Community College. Brant announced that this year's recipient is Brianna Kelly, who was not able to attend this evening but hopefully will be able to be with during a meeting in the coming weeks.



We also were delighted to present our 2026 Community Leadership Awards this evening. Dave Super spoke about the significant contribution Todd Whisnant, owner of Coastal Sole, has made to our Kicks-For-Kids program for more than a decade, as well as to many other community organizations and activities. Todd was presented with a Crystal Award as our Community Business Leader of the Year.



Ann Super had the pleasure of introducing Amanda Delgado, the Executive Director of the Coastal Center of Hope & Healing, formerly the Coastal Women's Shelter. After reviewing some of Amanda's background and



the important range of services provided by the Center, Amanda was presented with the Crystal Award as Community Non-Profit Leader of the Year.

Paul Platek, our Rotary Foundation Chair was next on the program and because of a gift of PHF points from Rich Goldstein, he presented Paul Harris Fellow Recognitions to nine (surprised) members: Elmer Praul, Lix Praul (not in photo), Ramona Stoner, Wayne Hauck, Paul Platek & Rich Goldstein (presenters), Linda Postle, Rodger Allison, Tammy Allison, Dre' Nix, and Greg Postle.





RY 2025-26 Club President, Dave Super, spoke about the club's accomplishments during his term and expressed appreciation for all the support he received by so many members, especially those committee chairs who gave the club increased opportunities for community service, adding new members, a year of great programs, keeping the club's administration running smooth, providing grants to local nonprofits, delivering over 330 pairs of shoes to kids throughout Craven County, and so much more! All this was done while giving our club additional visibility in our community and having fun!

Dave then introduced our District Governor, Brownie Futrell for RY 2025-26,

who offered congratulations to our scholarship and Community Leader awards. He also recognized the outstanding role the New Bern Breakfast Rotary Club has played during the past year, with several of our members serving in District leadership positions. Brownie reminded us that at the beginning of his term last July, he challenged all clubs in our District to make adding new members a priority with a promise to put on a Pig BBQ (his specialty!) to the club that had the largest *percentage* of new members between July 2025 and June 2026. Apparently, New Bern Breakfast was tied with the Oriental Rotary Club, so he has decided to do this BBQ celebration for both clubs! Details will follow when determined.



Then it was time for DG Brownie to induct Ann Super and present her with the official pin as the club's President for RY 2026-27, as well as her new Board of Directors. Ann gave a few comments on her plans for the coming year to build



on what has already been established during her Super 2.2 administration, and she will be supported by a great Board of enthusiastic members.



Here's to another great year of Service as Rotarians, in our community and the World, as we "Unite For Good".



Board of Directors, Rotary Club of New Bern Breakfast for Rotary Year 2025-26:

Richard Goldstein (Co-Chair, Public Image), Brownie Futrell (DG District 7720), Ann Super (President), Ben Monachino (President Elect), Bette Morris (Secretary), Gretchen Derda (Chair, Community Service), Carolyn Perrigo (Treasurer), Rodger Allison (Chair, Youth Services), Ann Marie Devanney (Chair, Programs), Paul Platek (Chair, Rotary Foundation), Dave Super (Past President), Michael Macy (Co-Chair, Public Image), and Dre'Nix (Liaison, Evening Club).

As previously announced, there will be NO MORNING MEETING on Thursday, July 2, so enjoy the July 4th holiday and celebrate our 250th!

Both MORNING and EVENING meetings will be held as usual on Thursday, July 9, at 7:30 am and 5:30 pm. Our morning speaker will be Taylor Seijo who will talk to us about the mission and activities of Sound Rivers. Our evening speaker will be Jasyn Griffith, Founder of Supporting Peace and the Peace Center in New Bern.

