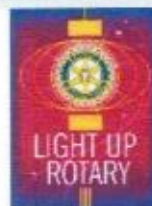


To: Alan Palmore  
Subject: RE: Rotary Club of Alpharetta Bulletin - 1/28/2015

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### [Meals on Wheels](#)

*Jan 02, 2015 – Jun 30, 2015*

### [District Regional Training](#)

Cottage School Roswell  
*Jan 28, 2015  
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM*

### [Rotary Leadership Institute \(RLI\) - Athens](#)

Athens Academy  
*Jan 31, 2015*

### [Homestretch Mentorship Training](#)

Homestretch Roswell  
*Jan 31, 2015*

### [Entrepreneur Class](#)

*Feb 07, 2015*

### [Homestretch Workday](#)

*Feb 07, 2015*

## JOIN US FOR THE BEST BREAKFAST IN ROTARY!

### SINCE 1983

We meet Fridays at 7:15 AM  
Alpharetta Presbyterian Church  
180 Academy St  
Alpharetta, GA 30009  
United States

## STORIES

### [President's Message](#)

*Posted by Karen Nolan on Jan 21, 2015*



At the beginning of the 2014-2015 year I shared with you that our Club will continue its tradition of investing in a President's Signature Project. This is a project or area of focus that the President is personally passionate and is committed to investing their thinking, time, talent and treasures during their term and into the future. President Signature Projects might focus on one organization, i.e. Stand Up for Kids or Special Pops Tennis or one of the Rotary's six area of focus. At the Rotary International Conference in Sydney I realized that it was in the area of basic education and literacy,

[Stock food and non-perishables at Homestretch](#)

*Feb 14, 2015*

[Entrepenuer Class](#)

*Feb 14, 2015*

[Business of the Year Award](#)

*Feb 18, 2015*

[Literacy Summit](#)

*Feb 21, 2015*

[Enterpenuer Class and VINO after hours](#)

*Feb 21, 2015*

[USO](#)

*Mar 05, 2015*

[Special Pops Tennis](#)

*Mar 07, 2015 – Mar 08, 2015*

[North Fulton Day of Service](#)

*Mar 09, 2015*

[Adopt a Highway](#)

*Mar 28, 2015*

## **SPEAKERS**

*Jan 30, 2015*

[Steve Stirling](#)  
*MAP Intl*

*Feb 06, 2015*

[Jasmine Burton](#)  
*Waterless Toilets*

specifically **Literacy**, where I could best “Light Up Rotary.”

I promised you in my first newsletter that our investment in literacy would be in programs that are sustainable and where we can continue our partnership in future years. We are making those investments. We established the Rotary Children’s Sharing Library at the Alpharetta YMCA, and used the District Matching Grant to help fill the book shelves. Rotarians attended Read Ready from the Start training and many will serve as volunteer readers at the before and after school programs. Each week our speaker’s gift is a book to the library. We are invested! We continued our relationship with the City of Refuge by partnering to resource a Level-Up Computer Lab for the after school program. Our commitment is to be there to help as needed. We invested in programs like Next Generation Focus where our members, Jim Benson and Steve Gillard, already give their time and talent. We know Alpharetta Rotarians are vested and will continue to serve. We stepped out of the box, after attending an Alpharetta Art Guild Meeting recognizing Art Education and Literacy should be part of our program. With the help of a local retailer, Sis and Moon and Principal Shannon, we will have two at risk students participate in an Art Education program. This is a pilot program, if it is successful, we hope that we continue it. We supported the Dream Trust for Stand Up for Kids. Rather than just supporting the students with our treasures, the trust rewards them for accomplishment (good grades). Wow, we’ve gone deep with our literacy program and made investments in sustainable programs in our community. We’re not done yet!

In a previous newsletter, I asked you if you knew that there’re are nearly 800 million adults worldwide who can’t complete a job application or read to their children. This week I visited a program established for adults. The classrooms were filled. In one classroom the students could only read at the second/third grade level. The next classroom students were working on the new core standards to complete their GED, and students in other classrooms were receiving special tutoring or embarking on their journey to learn to read. As I was admiring the Students of the Month Board and reading about each student, I was introduced to one of the 800 million adults, Javier Hernandez. Javier is an extraordinary Fulton County employee. The County wants to promote him, grow him as a leader, but Javier was not literate in Spanish or English. This was holding him back. Four years ago he joined the program and he can now read



Feb 13, 2015  
[Lowell Douglass](#)  
*Adventure Outdoors*

Feb 20, 2015  
[Joseph Rosen](#)  
*Immigration Attorney*

[View entire list](#)

## BULLETIN EDITOR

[Alan Palmore](#) (*If you have any comments or questions, please contact the editor*)

and write in both Spanish and English. He's not done yet but I am confident he will succeed. This program will be my final investment in the President's Signature Project. I will be reaching out to you over the next few months to volunteer one night where we will join the students in a networking event. We'll share our professions and listen to their dreams. As the quote on our plaque at the Rotary Children's Sharing Library so beautifully states, "The more you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." – Dr Seuss "I Can't Read With My Eyes Shut.

President Karen

### [Speaker this Week - Steve Stirling, MAP International](#)

*Posted by Lee Doernberg on Jan 28, 2015*



On July 8, 2014, the Board of Directors of MAP International, a Christian global health organization headquartered in Atlanta, announced the appointment of Steve Stirling as the president and CEO. MAP

International provides medicines, prevents disease and promotes health to create hope and lasting change in some of the poorest countries in the world.

A graduate of Cornell University, with a Masters in Management from Northwestern University, Stirling has an impressive twenty five year background in executive leadership, diverse brand marketing, fundraising and management in major multinational corporations and NGOs (non-governmental organizations) including Heifer International, World Vision, and Bristol-Myers Squibb.

In addition to his business skills, Stirling's personal story also makes him uniquely suited to head MAP. Born in South Korea, he contracted polio as a young child and lived until he was eleven in an orphanage, until he was adopted by an American family. "MAP's important mission of providing medicines to those in need is very personal to me," said Stirling. "Although I know God has blessed me in many ways, my life would have been different if I'd had access to the polio vaccine as a child."



[Read more...](#)

Alpharetta YMCA and Alpharetta Rotary  
nurture Early Readers Program

*Posted by Janet Ulrich on Jan 25, 2015*

On Wednesday, January 21 the Ed Isakson/Alpharetta Family YMCA held its initial "Read Right from the Start" Language and Literacy workshop. The half-day session is designed to train volunteers to read to children from the community at their local YMCA. This training follows and supports a 2014 literacy initiative at the Alpharetta Y, where a Children's Sharing Library was established through support of the Alpharetta Rotary Club. This workshop is proof that excellent programs are provided in the local community to strengthen a resolve toward better education and literacy.



Rotary International (RI) supports Literacy and Education programs worldwide via several means, and continually challenges its network of 34,000 individual clubs to find creative and sustainable ways to provide literacy-enhancing programs or activities in their local community. In 2014, through a grant from the Alpharetta Rotary Club, the Alpharetta Y established its Children's Sharing Library by purchasing over 100 scholastic books. The Alpharetta Rotary Club continues to provide books weekly to the exchange program and plans to provide ongoing support through volunteering to read to Y children.



Scott Doll, Executive Director of the Alpharetta Y and participant in the RRFTS workshop, pointed out that with over two thousand community children in after-school programs and 500 more in day camps daily, the potential impact from including such an instructional program at the local Y is far-reaching. He stated the Alpharetta Y plans to be a pilot program for a strong literacy and reading program. Mr. Doll also noted "Read Right from the Start" marks the beginning of adding more value to the work



we do for our youngest children". Lastly, he assured additional workshops will be offered at the Ed Isakson/Alpharetta Family YMCA this year.

[Read more...](#)

#### Meeting - Friday 1/23/2015

*Posted by Alan Palmore on Jan 29, 2015*

At the Friday, 1/23/2015 meeting of the Rotary Club of Alpharetta, Susan Opferman, the Principal of Webb Bridge Middle School, and Shannon Kersey, the Principal of Alpharetta High School, recognized the teachers and students of the Quarter. Glenn Guest and Karen Hipes were recognized with the Will Watt Fellow award, and Eric Douglas was presented with a Will Watt Fellow +1 pin and a GRSP Hue Thomas Jr. Fellow award.



Dan Merkel was the first to participate in a new feature of the club meetings

called "Member Spotlight". Each week, President Karen will appoint a member of the club to be spotlighted so that the club can learn more about its members. This week, Dan Merkel put Steve Beecham in the spotlight and provided the club with some insightful background on Steve.



Mike Hart and President Karen Nolan recognized Glenn Guest and Karen Hipes as GRSP Will Watt Fellows.



Eric Douglas, pictured on the left, is recognized by Mike Hart and President Karen Nolan as a GRSP Hue Thomas Jr. Fellow.



Webb Bridge

Middle School Principal, Susan Opferman, recognizes Kaylee Cook as the student of the Quarter.



Webb Bridge

Middle School Principal, Susan Opferman, recognizes Kirk Stroud as Teacher of the Quarter.



Alpharetta

High School Principal, Shannon Kersey recognized Brendan Ramsey as Teacher of the Quarter and Eddie Koh as Student of the Quarter.




Alpharetta High School Student Eddie Koh gave an inspiring speech to the club about his motivation to do service hours for the community.

[Read more...](#)

#### Karen Nolan's Commitments

This email was sent to Karen Nolan by Alan Palmore  
Rotary Club of Alpharetta

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