

Rotary
Club of
Charlotte



REPORTER

August 30, 2016

STEVE CRUMP

WBTV



The affinity Steve Crump harbors for Charlotte came through loud and clear in the award-winning broadcaster's Rotary presentation.

"This is a community of enormous gifts," the three-decade journalist for WBTV said. "It is a place that can and does write its own ticket."

In reminiscing, Crump showed that Charlotte played a major role in the ticket he has written for himself. By his count, he has covered nine mayors, eight superintendents of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, seven police chiefs, five governors, dozens of city council members and county commissioners and a host of state legislators.

Besides reporting for Channel 3, Crump is an independent documentary producer for WTVI and also produces independently for WFAE public radio. His documentaries have been showcased by the Smithsonian and recognized by the Library of Congress and the Museum of Broadcast Communications.

His most unforgettable politician, Crump said, was former Mecklenburg County Sheriff C.W. Kidd, a cousin of former Charlotte Mayor Eddie Knox. The sheriff beat out such colorful notables as Rufus Edmisten of Watergate renown, former NC House Speaker Jimmy Green and ex-US Sen. Lauch Faircloth, an early political party switcher. And he remembers the US Senate race between Sen. Jesse Helms and NC Gov. Jim Hunt delivered some of the first ferociously negative political ads.

Crump recalls Harvey Gantt's election as Charlotte's first African-American mayor, followed by Sue Myrick, its first female mayor. He was there with a camera when The Charlotte News afternoon newspaper folded and the Queen City won its first major professional sports franchise, the Charlotte Hornets of the NBA.

Jim Bakker got the boot at the PTL club over a prostitution scandal and Jerry Falwell took over. During Bakker's accounting fraud trial, Hurricane Hugo slammed through Charlotte. Crump covered both.

Crump was with Jerry Richardson at a Super Bowl, watching him win support of most NFL team owners to create what became the Carolina Panthers. And Crump watched and reported while Charlottean Mel Watt won election to Congress, becoming only the second African-American in a century to serve from North Carolina.

Meanwhile, NNCB evolved into NationsBank and then Bank of America as Crump reported. Charlotte gained what Crump called "street cred" when the bank built a 60-story

corporate center at The Square.

Dignitaries visited and Crump scored interviews with Mother Theresa, Paul McCartney and Desmond Tutu. A tragic memory is the crash of a US Airways jet just short of a Charlotte-Douglas International runway that killed more than 30.

Charlotte showed resilience during and after the Great Recession of 2008, he said, citing creation of the Levine Cultural Arts Campus.

Crump reported as one former mayor, Anthony Foxx, became US Secretary of Transportation, and another, Patrick Cannon, went to prison for taking bribes.

The area is writing history now, he said, with the House Bill 2 discrimination fuss, the fight against toll lanes on Interstate 77 and the dispute on voter ID laws.

Meanwhile, he's watched as "Harris Teeter is now controlled by Cincinnati-based Kroger, the future of Family Dollar is being orchestrated by Virginia-based Dollar Tree and Belk Stores is in the hands of a New York company." He quoted Charlotte preservationist Dan Morrill: "Poof. They're gone."

Crump takes comfort that Charlotteans still get good burgers from the twins who run Brooks Sandwich House. He's happy that Steve Price continues to fry chicken on Camden Road, albeit with parking meters out front. And he observed that Bruton Smith and Rick Hendrick still will gladly sell you a car.

He closed by cautioning Rotarians not to get him mixed up with sportscaster Delano Little, as did a lady at a Billy Graham Crusade. Her daughter told her: "Mama, he ain't Delano; he's the other one."

"I'm not the guy that does Football Friday Nights," Crump said. "I'm the other one."

Speaker Write-Up: Elly Clary

Head Table: Umberto Torresan, Natalie English, Bob James, Floyd Davis; Invocation: Kim Brattain; Guests & Visitors: Hank Donaghy; AV: Jessica Dupree, Nikki Keith; Photos: Bert Voswinkel; Piano: Em Syrewicze

CLUB NEWS

Fred Brown introduced **Randall Mountcastle** as the club's newest member. Randall is familiar with Rotary through his Father's 40+ years in Rotary in Winston-Salem. Randall is president of two companies: Videre Diagnostics, LLC provides on-site, diagnostic ultrasound services and AMG Healthcare provides wheelchair, stretcher and bed mobility equipment services to hospitals. You can reach Randall at rmountcastle@videre.com. Welcome!

Tim Newman encouraged everyone to participate in the Golf Tournament that will be held September 27 at Ballantyne Golf Club. Registration/Sponsorship information is available on the website: www.charlotterotary.org, click on Events and you will see the golf link.

Diane Restaino is pleased with this year's Joedance Film Festival that raised nearly \$25,000 for Levine Children's Hospital and pediatric cancer research.

Note from **Carol Jordan**, World Community Service Chair: WSC offers the opportunity to Club members to recommend funding humanitarian projects abroad in areas of health, education, water, and nutrition. The project must be tied to a local Rotary Club who can assist with oversight and completion of the project once funded. Project funds will be awarded on a rolling basis and applications will be accepted and reviewed until all funds are expended. Awards may range from \$500 to \$1,000. Committee members – Carol Jordan, Roger Sarow, Benton Bragg, Jerry Coughler, and Greg Sizemore. cwalkerj@msn.com.



Ed Wadsworth, ed@wadsworthgroup.net
Alexandra Myrick, Alexandra.naranjo@morganstanley.com

WELCOME Our International Students

Franz (left) is from Germany and is attending Charlotte Country Day School

Yseult (right) is from France and is attending Myers Park High School.

Alexandra Myrick is the Activity Coordinator and will help schedule events (both like music, art, sports, shadow your business, family outings, etc.). Host family opportunities are available.

100 SERVICE PROJECTS – 69 projects completed

NEW PROJECTS

School Tools – a donation barrel will be set up at Rotary meetings through mid-September. Bring a new backpack stuffed with pencils, colored pencils, crayons, notebook paper, rulers, glue stick, 2 pocket folders, and composition books. A \$20 contribution will buy 87 pencils. Or, Amazon's online store: <http://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/S5MWQOPXF6KA>. Please report if you've donated to Sandy (sandy@charlotterotary.org).

Victoria A. Bowler CPCC Memorial Scholarship – September 14 at Rooster's/SouthPark; 5:30-9PM. Admission \$25 per person (hors d'oeuvres, 2 drinks, music). Donations/admission to CPCC Foundation, Inc., Attn Ginny Hastings, PO Box 35009, Charlotte, NC 28235.

Hope Haven (3815 N. Tryon St.) is building a KaBOOM! Playground – September 17. Volunteers needed anytime between 8AM-3PM. Lunch is provided and no expertise needed. Registration is available here: <http://www.hopehaveninc.org/events/kaboom-playground-build/>. Rotary contact is Alice Harrison, aliceharrison@hopehaveninc.org.

Annual Duck Race and Youth Services Social – September 18 at Tailrace Marina, Mt. Holly; 2-6PM; Adopt a Duck: 1 duck for \$10; Quack pack for \$25; Flock for \$100. Chance to win \$2500 and a 2016 Chevy Camaro. See Sandy to purchase your tickets.

2016 Walk to End Alzheimer's – September 24 at Symphony Park; registration at 9am; ceremony and walk at 10am. Contact Joan Wright (joan@osullivanwright.com).

Prescription of HOPE with Mitchell's Fund – September 28 at Charlotte Convention Center; 11:30AM-1PM; www.mitchellsfund.org

ONGOING

-Allenbrook Elementary School: North Star Reading Partners with a commitment to read to a 3rd grade student one hour a week. Eric Davis: eric.davis@wellsfargo.com.

-Platelet Donation: Register at the American Red Cross or Community Blood Center of the Carolinas to donate platelets. **50 donations to date!**

-Cotswold Farmers Market: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0548afaa2da5fe3-volunteer>. This group REALLY needs help with set up/take down each and every weekend. Please think about lending a hand.

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS (09/01/16 – 09/08/16)

09/02 Jenn Jackson

09/03 Ed Driggs, Meg McElwain

09/04 Martin Waters, Sean Preston

09/05 Frank Watson, Dusty Holcomb, Robert Freeman, John Lassiter

09/06 Paul Wyche
09/07 Susan Evans
09/08 Wes Jones, Tom Blocker, Patricia Shafer

UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES (09/01/16 – 09/08/16)

09/01 Anne & Lee Morris
09/02 Kimberly & Todd Owens, Wanda & Randy Robinson
09/03 Nancy & David Roberson, Rose Marie & Gene Bratek
09/05 Kim & Bill McMillan, Marti & David Head
09/06 Ty & David Hands
09/07 Harriet & Bill Barnhardt

Visitors & Guests	12
Club Members	154
Total	166 (56.5%)

GUESTS: Reggie Clark, Adrienne Schermer, Mark Washburn, Lynn Lee, Davis Richwine, Elsie Garner, Bill Thompson, Jeff Atkinson, Charolette Obringer, Rob Wright, Mora Quinn, Andrea McGowan

MEMBERSHIP

07/01/2016	318
08/30/2016	319
Net Increase:	+1

New Members: Randall Mountcastle
Resignations:

UPCOMING LUNCHEONS

(www.charlotterotary.org and click on the events tab)

09/06 – Marcus Smith, CEO, Speedway Motorsports
09/13 – John Merrino, President, Olde Mecklenburg Brewery
09/20 – Governor Pat McCrory
09/27 – Golf Tournament...NO CLUB MEETING

Photos from our luncheons and other events can be found on **Flickr** [Click here](#)





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charlotterotary.org 704.375.6816
1850 East 3rd Street | Suite 220 | Charlotte, NC 28204 USA
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