



September 4, 2018

GOVERNOR JIM MARTIN Revelation Through Science



Can science and religion co-exist? “Yes” says former Governor Jim Martin. His book “Revelation Through Science” details how. Martin explained his book in mostly understandable terms for Charlotte Rotarians.

“The title is based on my belief that science reveals to us – it’s a modern form of revelation,” said Martin, who earned a doctorate of chemistry from Princeton

University and taught the subject at Davidson College. He is an honorary member of our club.

“Science doesn’t tell us anything about who God is, but it tells us how God created the universe and created life – as much as we can understand about that,” he said.

Martin led Rotarians on a tour of modern times, when science placed stress on religion. He highlighted findings of Italian Galileo Galilei and Englishman Charles Darwin. Galileo endured “vehement suspicion of heresy” because he proved the earth revolves the sun, not vice versa. With the help of variations in Falkland Islands foxes and Galapagos turtles, Darwin devised the theory of evolution.

That theory led to competing views: Evolution precludes belief in God, or belief in God rules out evolution.

Evolution’s explanation eluded Darwin and required the mid-20th century unraveling of DNA by American biologist James Watson and English physicist Francis Crick. Mind-bogglingly complicated, DNA is sometimes called the “language of God.” It explains inherited characteristics and variations in them. Nature selects from these variations those most suitable for a being’s environment.

“While DNA provides excellent proof for evolution, it reveals to us something so inordinately complex that you have to wonder if life could ever arise by unguided means,” Martin said. “You may conclude whatever you want from that.”

Scientists have figured out that all matter originated from a single point that exploded in what is known as “the big bang” 13.7 billion years ago. But what came before that moment? Martin asked.

“Science has no way to ask the question or to answer it,” Martin said. “So what you have is a theological question.”

Then there’s the Cambrian explosion. Until about 500 million years ago, only four very simple body forms existed. Then, in maybe 10 million years – “the blink of an eye in geologic terms” – six or seven dozen new body forms appeared.

“Any attempt to explain how that happened has a fundamental problem in that it has not happened one time since,” Martin said. He wondered: Did it result from intervention?

In a similar vein, a long-ago human genetic defect weakened head muscles that control biting. Without pressure on it, the human brain cavity began to expand, allowing the brain to grow.

“Coincidence or intervention?” he asked. “It’s a theological question.”

The Bible is the revealed word of God in narrative and poetic form, Martin maintained, but it is not a science textbook. “I believe,” he added, “modern science is the best opportunity to understand how God did it.”

Speaker Write-Up: Elly Clary; *Head Table:* Bill Constangy, Mike Hawley, Carla DuPuy, Bob Freeman; *Invocation:* Mac McCarley; *Visitors & Guests:* David Seroy; *History:* Matt Joyner; *Photos:* Bert Voswinkel; *Piano:* Em Syrewicze

CLUB NEWS

Congratulations to **JT Simpson**, McNichols Auto Group, who will be participating in Leadership Charlotte Class 40!

Classroom Central  **Tuesday, September 11** is the last day you can drop off school supplies at Rotary. Most needed items: (consider stuffing in a book bag) pencils, colored pencils, crayons, notebook paper, rulers, glue sticks, 2 pocket folders and composition books. Use this link to purchase online: <http://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/S5MWQOPXF6KA/>.

91 golfers are signed up to play in the October 2nd **Rotary Scholarship Golf Classic**. RAFFLE TICKETS will be sold during our lunch meetings for the next three weeks. Ticket sales provide an opportunity for everyone to support the event. This signature event was put in place to fund college scholarships for the children of our First Responders. 1 ticket for \$10/3 tickets for \$20.

Wear Your Rotary Pin...Reasons for wearing a pin vary: for publicity of Rotary, for pride, for acceptance and recognition, for the start of easy conversation with other Rotarians wherever you go. Past RI President Bob Barth (1993-1994, Rotary Club of Aarau, Switzerland) felt that a Rotary pin says this about the wearer: “You can rely on me, I am dependable, I am reliable, I give more than I take, and I am available.” Our very own Governor David Hare, District 7680, has this to say about wearing your Rotary pin: TWYRP...Thanks for Wearing Your Rotary Pin. Make it a priority.

Make a note...

Charlotte Evening Rotary Club meeting at Duckworth's, 330 N. Tryon St., 6PM

Huntersville Happy Hour Rotary Club meeting at Spare Time Huntersville, 16317 Statesville Rd, Huntersville, 6:30PM

Charlotte Providence Rotary Club meeting at Providence Baptist Church, 4921 Randolph Rd, 12:30PM

Charlotte End of the Week Rotary Club has folded

Calendar Events

- October 2, 2018 – Rotary Scholarship Golf Classic – Ballantyne Resort – the tournament is a fundraiser that provides college scholarships for families of our First Responders.

- November 10, 2018 - Rotary Foundation Banquet at Langtree Plantation, 554 Langtree Rd, Mooresville, NC. Fellowship & Cocktails at 6PM; Dinner at 7PM; Program Concludes by 9PM. Keynote speaker will be Past RI President John Germ. \$65 for first person; guests are \$55 per person; Rotaract or Interact students \$40 per student.

MEMBERSHIP

07/01/2018 288

09/04/2018 284

Net Increase: -4

New Members: Howard Layson

Resignations: John Luebke

Visitors 12

Club Members 127

Total 139 (52.3%)

Visitors & Guests: Mike Torti, Joe Martin, Carol Jegou, Ella Hoyle, Lauren Bremer, Leigh Bullard, Bill Crowder, Jeff Doggett, Sandra Moore, Shawn Proffitt, Khalif Rhodes

BIRTHDAYS (09/12/18 – 09/11/18)

09/12 Helen Verkamp

09/13 Cheryl Banks

09/15 Rich Campbell, Katie Tyler, Ron Campbell

09/16 Gray Langley

09/17 Dal Shefte, Mark Norman, Tim Flanagan, Larry Hyatt

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (09/12/18 – 09/18/18)

09/12 Linda Gallehugh & Elly Clary

09/14 Elsie & Will Barnhardt

09/16 Russhonia & Chris Jackson; Kaye & Lamar Thomas

09/17 Sylvia & Larry Hyatt

09/18 Ann & Floyd Davis

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES (09/12/18 – 09/18/18)

02 years – Parker Cains

13 years – Steve Meckler

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

09/11 **Police Chief Kerr Putney, MEDIC Joe Penner, Fire Chief Reginald Johnson, Sheriff Irwin Carmichael, Governor Pat McCrory, First Responders 9/11 Panel**

09/18 **Margaret Spellings, President, UNC System**

09/25 **Dale Folwell, Treasurer, State of North Carolina**

10/02 **Rotary Scholarship Golf Classic No Rotary meeting at lunch**

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





Rotary
Club of
Charlotte



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