



# Charlotte Reporter

## The Rotary Club of Charlotte

April 16, 2013

Charter Date December 1, 1916 Club 6006 District 7680  
www.charlotterotary.org

### Aliisa and Juan Carlos Youth Exchange Program By: Elly Clary

A power walking course will be hard to forget for a Rotary Youth Exchange student from Finland while another from Spain will remember a tough first workout on the swim team.



Aliisa Haukka of Iisalmi, Finland, and Juan Carlos Navarro Montesinos from Cartagena, Spain, were featured speakers in Tuesday's Rotary Youth Exchange Program for Rotary Club of Charlotte.

Both teens are visiting and attending classes as high school juniors in Charlotte this year. They have lived with various host families, all of whom they professed to enjoy.

Aliisa focused on many contrasts between her life in the United States and what she will return to in Scandinavia. Her hometown of 22,000 in central Finland is a seven-hour drive from the capital of Helsinki. About 300 students attend her high school while she is one of 3,000 at Myers Park High. One of her courses is in power walking, which she finds novel.

She'd heard of Thanksgiving, but now she understands the holiday better. And she's impressed with the feast it entails.

She visited the South Carolina coast and Disney World, where she rode a camel. A Washington, DC, trip might have been most rewarding because of seeing sites such as Mount Vernon and the White House, landmarks she knew something about.

"I saw the Carolina Panthers," she smiled. "I don't know anything about American football, but it was still fun."

Juan Carlos also watched the Panthers. "I had some idea of American football," he said. "I could figure it out." Shortly, he added, "I went to a Charlotte Bobcats game...and they lost." He also enjoyed the Charlotte Checkers and wishes hockey was available in Spain.

One of his pursuits at Charlotte Country Day School was performing on the swim team, which he found difficult. "The first week, I really wanted to die," he admitted.

On a brighter note, he shared an image of himself with his attractive prom date. He pronounced the experience "very good."

And while Aliisa will miss the Carolina weather in icy Finland, Juan Carlos will long remember the snow he played in during a trip to Blowing Rock. His hometown is near the Mediterranean Sea on Spain's southeast coast, where snow is rare.

Host families for Aliisa are Chuck Cocks and Nanelle Napp, Kim and David Powell, and Brandy and Mark Milazzo. Chuck Cocks and Nanelle Napp are also hosts for Juan Carlos, whose other hosts include David and Justine Tobin, Susan and David Shaver, Madison Ayers and her mother Elizabeth Fletcher, Katie and Scott Tyler, and John and Lee Tabor.

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

2012-2013

Program Chair: Ed Driggs

1Qtr Edwin Peacock

2Qtr Colleen Brannan

3Qtr Bob Freeman

4Qtr Bill Constangy

### APRIL 2013

23<sup>rd</sup> **Brad Lambert**  
UNCC Football Coach

30<sup>th</sup> **Congressman**  
**Robert Pittenger**

### MAY 2013

7<sup>th</sup> **How I Got**  
**Where I'm At**

14<sup>th</sup> **Dr. Nathan Hatch**  
President  
Wake Forest University

12:30 Tuesday

Crowne Plaza – 201 S. McDowell Street

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/42974089870/>

Matt Joyner, who has headed the Rotary of Charlotte Youth Exchange Program for four years, introduced Aliisa and Juan Carlos. Near the close of the meeting, Joyner officially relinquished his duties to Ed Wadsworth.

Wadsworth immediately issued a call for volunteers to host exchange student Crissi Wagner who will arrive soon from Germany to attend the 11<sup>th</sup> grade at Myers Park High.

Earlier, committee member Don Millen explained the outbound part of the Rotary Youth Exchange program in which Charlotte area high school students spend time in foreign countries. Destinations this summer include Ecuador and Italy.

Head Table: Lee Tabor, Chuck Cocke, Ed Wadsworth, Marilynn Bowler, Matt Joyner, Lisa Mask, Katie Tyler: Invocation: Karen Calder  
Visitors & Guests: Don Steger; Song: Pam Jepsen: AV: Jessica Dupree & Nikki Keith; Photos: Bert Voswinkel

## CLUB NEWS

→ **John Tabor** introduced **Thomas Mussoni** as the club's newest member. Thomas has been a member of both the South Park Breakfast and Dilworth South End Rotary clubs. He is principal at Commercial Property Advisors and vice president of development for Autobell Car Wash. Reach out to Thomas at [tmussoni@gmail.com](mailto:tmussoni@gmail.com)

→ Charlotte North Rotary will host the Charlotte Area club social at the Ice House South End, 2100 South Blvd, 5:00 PM on April 18. \$15 includes 2 drinks (wine or beer) and light appetizers.

→ Allen Clark and several members of the Charlotte Evening Rotary attended Tuesday's meeting. Allen promoted their club's first fundraiser, which is the development of a business directory for Rotarians in District 7680. \$20 will get you a business card ad in the brochure; mail your business card and check (payable to Charlotte-Evening Rotary) to Ineke Van der Meulen, 17015 Bridgeton Ln, Huntersville, NC 28078.

→ **REMINDER** that host families are needed for this year's exchange student, Criissi Wagner, who arrives from Germany on August 14<sup>th</sup>. She will be in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade at Myers Park High School and is fluent in English. Contact **Ed Wadsworth** or any member of the Youth Exchange Committee.

→ **Robert Freeman** read this week's Rotary quiz: What was Paul Harris' job before he was an attorney - fruit picker, reporter, actor, all of the above? (All of the above); In what US city was the first Rotary Club? (Chicago, Il); How many attended the first meeting? (Four)

→ APRIL is 'bring a guest to Rotary' month. Your efforts may be rewarded by membership chair **Terri DeBoo**.

## APPROVE FOR MEMBERSHIP (comments/questions to the Rotary office by 4/23/13)

**Natalia Russo** **Charlotte Regional Realtor Association** **(Real Estate, Governmental Affairs)**

Sponsor: Elizabeth Barnhardt

Endorsed: Mike Rash and Catherine Browning

## CLUB PROJECTS NEEDING YOUR SUPPORT

→ **Biff Virkler** reminded everyone of the club's environmental project with Goodwill Industries. Basically, anything that uses electricity can be recycled. A drop-off table will be set up in the hotel's parking lot and this effort will continue through the month of April. **Michael Elder** reports a total of 9,236 pounds has been donated to date.

→ **Alice Harrison** thanked those that brought toiletries to benefit clients served at Hope Haven. Items needed include soap, lotion, shampoo, toothbrush/toothpaste, etc. This collection will end on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

→ **Herb Harriss** and others are looking into the details of setting up an account to accept donations that will help defray the cost of the air transport used to get Gloria Hintz back to the States from Peru. More to come.

<b>Attendance</b>	<u>04/16/2013</u>	<u>04/17/2012</u>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>New Members:</b> Thomas Mussoni
Visitors & Guests	35	club	07/01/2012 316	
Club Members	151	social	04/16/2013 315	
Total Attendance	186	no mtg	Net Increase -1	<b>Resignations:</b> Chris France, Chris Linscheid, Jermaine Husser
Percentage	54.3%			
<b>Birthdays April 23 - 29</b>		<b>Anniversaries April 23 - 29</b>		
24 Jim Haney	26 Natalie English	24 Fae & Bob Shaffer	24 Dianne & Jesse Hite	
26 Ronnie Pruett	26 Biff Virkler	24 Courtney & Fernando Ycaza	25 Dot & Martin Waters	
27 Rex Welton	29 Chuck Cocke	27 Claire & Tom Blocker	27 Karen & Rob Calder	
29 Marcus Lee				