



# Charlotte Reporter

## The Rotary Club of Charlotte

### August 28, 2012

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

### Bridging the Continents

#### Youth Exchange Day

By: John Galles

Matt Joyner opened the program expressing his special thanks to his committee and especially to Karen Steffens and David Tobin. He was pleased to introduce outbound students as well as inbound students. Our club has sent Charlotte students to many places around the world, most recently to Korea, Spain and Germany. We were pleased to meet several students from the summer program including Sebastian from Freiburg, Germany who was leaving this week to go back home after having visited for four weeks. Luther Moore spoke about two students...Juan Carlos Navarro from Spain who attended Charlotte Country Day and Alissa Helka from Finland.



Our primary speaker was Russell Osier who attends Myers Park High School and visited the Czech Republic. He seemed quite taken with his experience. He described the Czech Republic as a Central European nation bordered by Austria, Germany, Poland and Slovakia. It is governed by a parliamentary system with a population of 10 million people within 30,000 square miles. The Czech Republic is only 1/25 the size of the United States and 1/30 the population of the United States.

He spoke about the family life declaring that Czech's are much more family-centric. They spend much more time together over meals and holidays...even extended families.

Russell's experience at the school was also different. He said the classes were divided into tasks like technical, sales and architecture as well as gymnasium. He remarked about how small the school was and how quickly word spread of his arrival and how curious they were of him.

Russell lived in the city Opava which was founded in 1195, It was the home of Gregor Mendel who was well-known for discovering genetics. The oldest museum is also in Opava. The town was heavily bombed in World War II and still exhibits Czech, Communist and Modern architecture. Russell commented that most people are working in smaller businesses and that there are only a very few large businesses.

He was quite impressed by the small town, village life with only about 3000 people and how they experience so many old traditions at the holidays including Christmas and Easter. He said that the communist influence during the occupation was a time when many people lost their religions. Only a few carry their religion forward. The family he visited had a catholic orientation.

In addition to his visit to the Czech Republic, Russell also visited Barcelona, Naples, Rome, Venice, Florence, Monaco and Bratislava. He closed with his respect for the Rotary Club and that he enjoyed his visit to the Rotary

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

2012-2013

Program Chair: Ed Driggs

1Qtr Edwin Peacock

2Qtr Colleen Brannan

3Qtr Bob Freeman

4Qtr Bill Constangy

### SEPTEMBER 2012

4<sup>th</sup> **NOT MEETING**  
(due to the DNC)

11<sup>th</sup> **GOLF CLASSIC**  
NO lunch meeting – all are invited for dinner after the tournament - Golf Club at Ballantyne

18<sup>th</sup> **CHRIS KEARNY**  
Chairman, President and CEO  
SPX Corp.  
**MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE BLAKE HOTEL**

25<sup>th</sup> **Walter Dalton**  
Gubernatorial Candidate

12:30 Tuesday  
Crowne Plaza – 201 S. McDowell Street

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

clubs in Europe, but they were much smaller...usually only 15 to 20 members. He was most gracious for being given the opportunity to participate in the exchange program and encouraged others to take part.

Head Table: Luther Moore, Don Millen, Marilyn Bowler, Matt Joyner, Karen Steffens, David Tobin; Invocation: Julie Haack  
Visitors & Guests: Chris Kemper; Song: Dumont Clark; AV: Jessica Dupree and Nikki Keith; Photos: Bert Voswinkel

## CLUB NEWS

- **Bill Bradley** introduced the club's newest member, **Jill Scott**, on Tuesday. Jill is executive director for Classroom Central and can be reached at [jill@classroomcentral.org](mailto:jill@classroomcentral.org). Welcome!
- **Karen Calder** thanked the United Way for their support to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Charlotte in the Observer's Forum; **Bryan Adams** and **Phil Van Hoy** have been named to Best Lawyers in America in the area of Labor and Employment Law and **Bryan** was named to Super Lawyers in Labor and Employment Law; **Terri DeBoo** was highlighted in the Alumni Connections section on Leadership Charlotte's webpage; **John Lassiter** provided comments on today's hot practice areas for legal services in the Business Journal; **Bob James** is joining Grant Thornton in Charlotte as banking industry senior advisor.
- Congratulations to Linda and **Rex Welton** who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary August 25; it was good to see **Meg McElwain** on Tuesday. Meg took a couple minutes to thank club members for their unwavering support, cards, phone calls, meals, and packing up and moving everything to their new home as the family and Baby Mitchell continue the fight with cancer. Mitchell was able to come home on Saturday, but today's report is he is back in the hospital due to fever. Continued prayers for Meg, Frank, Little Frank & Mitchell.
- **John Tabor** recognized several for their support to The Rotary Foundation: Paul Harris Fellow, **Wells Van Pelt**; Level One, **Bradford Picot, Ed Driggs, David Auger**; Level Two, **Cindy Wolfe**, Level Three, **Ed Wadsworth**; and Level Five, **Luther Moore**.
- Funeral services for **Dr. Tyson Bennett** will be held Wednesday, August 19 at 2:00pm at Myers Park Presbyterian Church and the family will receive friends following the service. Tyson had been a member of Charlotte Rotary for nineteen years had dropped out of the club a few months ago. Word had just spread that he was diagnosed with Leukemia. Cards for the family can be sent to 8335 Eagle Glenn, Charlotte, NC 28210.
- **HOLD THE DATE** – Flu shots will available before and after (11:30 – 2:00) the October 2 Rotary meeting; Club Social, NC Music Factory, October 4, 6-8 PM, proceeds will go to the fund set up for Baby Mitchell Turner. Details will follow.

## ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP GOLF CLASSIC

124 golfers are signed up for the September 11th tournament; goody bag items are coming in; auction items look great....it's all coming together. Golfer names must be emailed to Sandy by Friday so we can get the pairings completed. Payments are also due. I can't say it enough – NO Rotary meeting September 11<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is invited to the Golf Club at Ballantyne for the BBQ dinner/auction when the tournament wraps up around 5:00.

## APPROVE FOR MEMBERSHIP (Comments to the Rotary Office by September 4, 2012)

### **BOBBY LANCASTER**

The Salvation Army  
Classification: Rehabilitation, Operations  
Sponsor: Tom Robertson  
Endorsed: Herb Harriss and David Zimmerman

### **BRAD CANSLER**

Electrolux Major Appliances, North America  
Classification: Appliances  
Sponsor: Robert Freeman  
Endorsed: Marilyn Bowler and Tom Bartholomy

<b>Attendance</b>	<u>08/28/2012</u>	<u>08/30/2011</u>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>New Members:</b> Jessica Brasington, Jeremy Canipe, J. C. Cousar; Jill Scott
Visitors & Guests	21	17	07/01/2012 316	
Club Members	163	180	08/28/2012 319	
Total Attendance	184	197	Net Increase +3	<b>Resignation:</b>
Percentage	57.8%			

### **Birthdays September 4 - 10**

04 Martin Waters  
05 John Lassiter  
06 Paul Wyche  
08 Wes Jones  
09 Tom O'Brien

### **Anniversaries September 4 - 10**

04 Tamara and Bill Griffin  
06 Ty and David Hands  
07 Barbara and Darrell Holland  
10 Libby and Alan Simonini

05 Imogene and Bill Kinney  
07 Harriet and Bill Barnhardt  
08 Heidi and George Wilson