



March 24, 2015



## **Ted Abernathy**

Economic Leadership LLC

Edwin Peacock introduced Ted Abernathy, an economic futurist. Ted began two new ventures in 2013. He became the economic development policy advisor to the Southern Governors Association, where he is developing a new research policy agenda for southern states and is leading a public input process for reimagining higher education. Ted also launched a new economic consultancy, Economic Leadership LLC, that focuses on information curation and helps places, organizations and leaders be more competitive, more collaborative and more successful. His first major projects include developing new economic strategies for North Carolina, Arkansas and Missouri and developing regional economic and workforce plans in Mississippi, Kentucky, Arkansas, Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina. Ted's contributions in rewriting the new Economic Development plan for the state of North Carolina ranked them as the number 8 State in the nation to do business.

Prior to 2013, Ted was the Executive Director of the Southern Growth Policies Board, a 42-year old public policy think tank that provides economic development research, strategy and marketing advice to state and communities across the South. Before coming to Southern Growth, Ted was a practicing economic developer for 28 years.

Ted talked about understanding issues of competitiveness impacting North Carolina. He discussed some economic facts. Of the 16 southern states, North Carolina ranks second in population change from 2000 to 2013 and ranks third in employment growth from 2004 to 2013 but was behind most other southern states in change in real GDP from 2004 to 2013. We ranked almost last in change in real personal income per capita from 2004 to 2013 because most of the job growth came from lower end jobs and we also lost many middle income jobs.

In North Carolina wages were up in Charlotte and Raleigh/Durham but were not up in most other areas of the state. In real wage change, we were stagnant as a state. In manufacturing, the share of real GDP was flat but the number of people employed in manufacturing was down due mostly to changes in use of technology. The change in average employment from 2008 to 2013 was up in the coastal areas of the state, Charlotte, Raleigh/Durham, Ft. Bragg and Asheville. The rest of the state was down.

In looking at the North Carolina growth by county size, the top 25% of the 100 counties ranked by population had a population growth of 28.6% from 2000 to 2013 while the bottom 25% had a growth rate of 6.5%. North Carolina and the country as well are becoming more urbanized. Of the 3,000 counties in the US, half of the population lives in 146 counties – including Mecklenburg and Wake Counties.

In looking at education, the southern states overall had low 8<sup>th</sup> grade proficiency in science and math. The highest southern states had 40% proficiency in both. In looking further at education, Ted said that by 2022 only 23% of jobs in America will require a bachelor's degree or more. Fully 65% of jobs will either require less than a high school diploma or a high school diploma or equivalency.

Finally, Ted discussed the changing face of America and near future trends. Over a 100 year period from 1960 to 2060, whites have dropped from 85% of the population to 43% of the population. Blacks have gone from 10% to 13% and Hispanics have gone from 4% to 31%. Ted ended with nine near future trends:

1. Slow to moderate economic growth (US and Global)
2. Rapid technological change
3. Globalization, urbanization and unevenness
4. Aging and diversity
5. Austere government budgets
6. Austere personal budgets
7. Transitioning military
8. Business reordering (sharing economy)
9. Intense competition for everything

Written by: Jim Kelley

Head Table: Phil Van Hoy, Todd Owens, Tony Zeiss, Edwin Peacock, Greg Sizemore, Nancy McNelis; Invocation: Ken Poe; Guests & Visitors: Charlie Bones; Song: Ed Pickett; Health, Happiness & History: Chase Saunders; AV: Jessica Dupree & Tom Bartholomy; Photos: Bert Voswinkel

## Club News

Three new members were introduced to the club this week: **Dale Halton** has moved back to Charlotte from Telluride, CO and can be reached at [dalehalton@gmail.com](mailto:dalehalton@gmail.com). She retired as president & CEO of Pepsi in 2005 and is sponsored by **Tony Zeiss**. **Peirce Ward** was introduced by **Dick Klingman**. Peirce is a financial services professional with HF Financial, is a former member of Charlotte East Rotary and can be reached at [pward@financialguide.com](mailto:pward@financialguide.com). **Wil Bosbyshell** is associate professor & internship coordinator for The Art Institute of Charlotte (South University). Wil was introduced by **Matt Joyner** and can be reached at [wbosbyshell@aii.edu](mailto:wbosbyshell@aii.edu). Welcome!

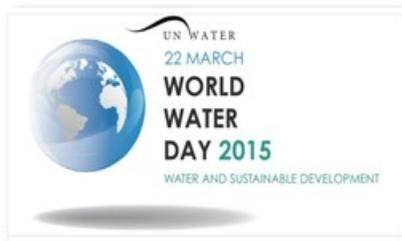
Several members to keep in your thoughts & prayers: **Chuck Cocke's** mother, Catherine Cocke Sellers, passed away March 18; **Karen Price's** mother-in-law, Joan Price, passed away March 22; on a brighter note – **John Mahaffey** is doing well from his hip replacement surgery; **Ralston Pound** continues to improve; **Lynn Johnson's** mother fell and broke her hip and Lynn is in Alabama with her; **Darrell Holland** was at this week's meeting and is hopeful to return to the club.

**Todd Stevens** has sent a note that WB Moore Company of Charlotte, Inc. won the top award in the Construction Safety Excellence Awards, and 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Specialty Contractor division; **Angela Broome** and the American Red Cross received a proclamation from the Mayor's office for their assistance to thousands; NCDOT is conducting a rail survey and has asked Rotarians to take a minute to answer provide their thoughts: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/nctrain](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/nctrain).

If you didn't get a chance to volunteer at Charlotte Rescue Mission on Christmas Day, there are plenty of opportunities to lend a helping hand on Easter Sunday. Sign up available at <http://charlotterescuemission.org/easter-volunteering/>.

**Ed Wadsworth** announced Nan and **Bill Loftin** will host the year-end party for Raul and Jana at their home on April 12, 5-7PM. All current Youth Exchange committee members and anyone else interested in participating on the committee next year are invited. Coordinate/questions - Ed Wadsworth, [ed@wadsworthgroup.net](mailto:ed@wadsworthgroup.net).

**ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP GOLF CLASSIC** - September 29 at the Golf Club at Ballantyne. Contact **Elizabeth Harrison** ([eharrison@charlottesports.org](mailto:eharrison@charlottesports.org)) or **Luther Fincher** ([lfincher@carolina.rr.com](mailto:lfincher@carolina.rr.com)).



### Last Sunday was World Water Day.

Water is a basic staple of life. Here are some unfortunate facts:

Worldwide, 783 Million people do NOT have access to Clean Water; Each year, 3.4 Million people die from water borne disease; Every minute a child dies of a water borne disease

It's also important to The Rotary Foundation. Water and Sanitation is one of the Foundation's six areas of focus. This past year, the Foundation funded close to 200 grants at a cost of over \$11 Million...Including our project.



The Rotary Club of Charlotte teamed with Joseph's Exchange, here in Charlotte. Dick Klingman and Sandra Gordon serve on their board. Following the earthquake in 2010, Joseph's Exchange committed to building a village outside Port au Prince.

They have partnered with folks in Haiti, along with Johnson C. Smith, Carolinas Healthcare, and the Rotary Club of Charlotte. Our club is putting in the water system and sanitary centers throughout the village. The drilling of the well is complete, hitting water at just over 300 feet. Next will come the water tower, solar panels to provide electricity to the pumps and 75-100 latrines. The funding comes from our club, the District, and the Foundation, for a total investment of \$80,000. This project will improve the lives of more than 2,000 children and families.

### UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS (3/31/15 – 4/6/15)

No birthdays this period

### UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES (3/31/15 – 4/6/15)

04/02 Natasha & LJ Stambuk; Michaela & Greg Sizemore

04/04 Debbie & Bill Constangy

04/06 Lisa & Kelly Mirt

Visitors & Guests	11
Club Members	148
Total Attendance	159
Percentage	52.7%

### MEMBERSHIP

03/24/2015 317

07/01/2014 317

Net Increase:

New Members: Patricia Zoder, Courtney Ramey, Dale Halton, Peirce Ward, Wil Bosbyshell

Resignations: Matthew Brown, Liz Irwin, Melissa Wesley, Heath Morrison, Bill Allen, Tom Wilkens

### VISITORS ON 3/24/15

Godson Jean, Mollie Faison, Ruthie Mathurin, Will Manning, Luiguy Massanga, Jackson Chavre, Marie Esther Fenelon, Chris Evans, Vidore St. Louis, Corin Reed, Carl Zimmerman, Greg Phipps, Ramon Leon, Robert Yearwood, Blair Bryson, Lindsey McAlpine

UPCOMING LUNCHEONS ([www.charlotterotary.org](http://www.charlotterotary.org) and click on the events tab)

03/31 – Gene Cochrane, President, The Duke Endowment

04/05 - Kelli Price, Premier

04/14 – HIGWIA

04/21 – Phil Reiger & Mary Ellen Player, Google

04/28 – NO MEETING – social at SMS Catering 6:00PM

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**Photos from this week's luncheon – thanks Bert!**





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



[charlotterotary.org](http://charlotterotary.org) 704.375.6816  
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