

Rotary
Club of
Charlotte



REPORTER

November 7, 2017

Scott Van Der Linden Rotary District Governor 2017-2018



Governor Scott Van Der Linden and First Lady Judy made the district governor's annual visit to the Rotary Club of Charlotte on Tuesday. He came armed with an abundance of enthusiasm for the 2017-2018 Rotary years in District 7680.

The district serves 14 counties in the west-central region of North Carolina. Each county has at least one Rotary club. Governor Scott noted that this was his 54th club visit; there are 59 clubs in the district with some 2,750 members who share similar values and are dedicated to serving the needs of their communities and helping others around the world. Our club is the oldest and largest.

A member of the Charlotte-South club, Governor Scott emphasized that he was representing Rotary International President Ian Riseley of Australia in his visit with club leaders and members. The new RI president made a strong case for protecting the environment and curbing climate change are essential to Rotary's goal of sustainable service in pursuit of his presidential theme, *Rotary: Making a Difference*.

Environmental degradation and global climate change are serious threats to everyone, the RI president has noted. "They are having a disproportionate impact on those who are most vulnerable, those to whom Rotary has the greatest responsibility. Yet environmental issues rarely register on the Rotary agenda," he said.

Governor Scott said President Riseley has challenged every Rotary club to make a difference by planting a tree for each of its members between the start of the Rotary year on July 1st and Earth Day on April 22, 2018.

Governor Scott upped the ante by challenging Charlotte Rotarians to plant three trees for each member which would make the total number about 950 but then rounded it to an even 1,000. The Maryland native also noted that tree planting is a great hands-on activity where "new members can get engaged right away."

Speaking of membership, the former Rugby player at East Carolina University noted that strong membership development is also among the three main goals of President Ian. "We must be very intentional in our membership recruitment," the governor said, which includes robust efforts to engage new member immediately, so they become involved and stay involved.

He noted that we must guard against Rotary becoming older and older, pointing out that many clubs in Europe and Asia, especially, will expire unless they arrest membership aging and decline.

He challenged Charlotte Rotarians to recruit more women and African-Americans. "Our clubs should mirror the communities in which they reside.

"We need to finish our commitment" to eradicating polio in the world, the certified financial planner challenged. Rotary members have spent more than 30 years fighting polio, playing a key role in bringing the world to the brink of polio eradication.

With polio on the brink of eradication, nations from around the world and key donors have pledged more than \$1 billion to energize the global fight. The pledges of new funds will go toward shrinking the \$1.5 billion gap in funding that Global Polio Eradication Initiative partners say is needed to reduce polio cases worldwide to zero. Make ending polio a reason for your giving to Rotary," Governor Scott said.

He also made a very strong personal pitch for the Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust Fund (CART) project. He has a special connection; his mother and many members of his family have been struck by the disease.

Rotary Clubs of North America (predominately clubs in the Southeast of the United States) support CART. Founded in 1995 in Sumter, SC, it provides financial support for Alzheimer's research projects that are yet to be supported by extensive preliminary data but have the potential to substantially advance biomedical research.

One hundred percent of donated funds go to cutting edge Alzheimer's disease research. As of May 2016, the CART Fund has awarded \$5.8 million dollars in 34 grants to recognized US research institutions. All administrative expenses of the Fund are paid from interest earned from invested contributions. Learn more at www.cartfund.org.

Governor Scott challenged the club members to *earn* a "Presidential Citation" for the year's work. There are three strategic priorities: support and strengthen the club, increase humanitarian service and enhance Rotary's image and awareness. "Decide to make a difference and have some fun," he challenged.

He also made a strong pitch for supporting The Rotary Foundation which supports the efforts of RI to achieve world understanding and peace through international humanitarian, educational, and cultural exchange programs. "It's supported by your contributions," Governor Scott said, noting that Rotarians can now support the Foundation through Rotary Direct. It will save time and lower administrative costs, freeing more funds for Foundation projects, he explained.

You can sign up to have a recurring gift amount (minimum \$10) drafted from your checking account or from a credit or debit card. Twenty dollars a week or \$84 a month will amount to \$1,000, a Paul Harris fellowship. (<https://www.rotary.org/en/donate>)

Governor Scott ended his talk with a review of many of the opportunities for "making a difference." One he mentioned involves Rotaract. Rotaract international is partnering with UNC-Charlotte Rotaract, the world's first club, to celebrate the Rotaract's 50th anniversary in 2018 right where it all began! The conference will be on the university's campus June 1-3.

Rotaract was launched as a Rotary International youth program in 1968 by the Charlotte North Rotary Club. It has grown into a major Rotary-sponsored organization of more than 9,522 clubs and 291,000-plus members around the world. It's a service, leadership, professional and community service organization for young men and women between the ages of 18 and 30. **John Luebke** can provide additional information on the Rotaract

celebration and can be reached at john.n.luebke@live.com.

Speaker Write-Up: Henry Bostic; *Head Table:* Mike Hawley, Katie Tyler, Luther Moore, Phil Volponi; *Invocation:* Jim Rogers; *Visitors & Guests:* Greg Reagan; *AV:* Jessica Dupree; *Photos:* Bert Voswinkel

CLUB NEWS

The club has a new Facebook page – Rotary Club of Charlotte. **Travis Vance** and **Em Syrewicze** are developing our social media skills and we've had two podcasts of our weekly program on Facebook. We're getting away from the group page set up a few years ago (Charlotte Rotary Club). Hope you'll put a "like" on the new page.

Funeral services for **Charlie Williams** were held on Tuesday at St. Ann Catholic Church. The club will send a memorial to CART (Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust), which is the program Governor Scott referenced in his talk on Tuesday. There was an error in the way the organization was listed in the Observer. If you would like to consider making a personal donation, the check is payable to CART and mailed to P.O. Box 1196, Mooresville, NC 28115.

Charlotte End-of-the-Week Rotary has a Caribbean party known as Island Fever scheduled for November 11th, 6pm-10pm, \$45 per person. Proceeds are primarily donated to Rotary District 7680's Donor Advised Fund for disaster relief and Rotary District 7020 in which 7 out of its 10 territories were affected by the latest hurricanes. The event will be held at Charlotte International House, 1817 Central Avenue, Charlotte. Online tickets: <https://cltendoftheweekrotary.org/islandfever/>.

Update for **Hunter Widener**: PNC Wealth Management, hunter.widener@pnc.com.

Important projects over the next two months....

Clothing drive for Crisis Assistance Ministry will be held during the month of November. Thanks to **Daryl Larner** and **John Cantrell** for their work with this project. Warm clothing for men, women and children can be dropped off at tables set up in the hotel's parking deck.

Salvation Army Red Kettle campaign begins November 17 with the kickoff at the Square (Trade & Tryon). **Mark Norman** and **Mike Crum** are coordinating this project which marks the club's 24th year of ringing the bell to provide Christmas gifts for children and families in need. The Salvation Army anticipates serving in excess of 13,000 children this Christmas. Last year's total of \$5,000 raised by Charlotte Rotarians supported approximately 175 children. If interested in ringing the bell, please contact Mark at mark.norman@jwu.edu or 980-598-1018. Sign up boards will be available at our November 7 and 14 meetings as well. **UPDATE:** *If you signed up to ring the Salvation Army bell on Tuesday, can you please notify Mark Norman of the date & time you selected? The board was accidentally erased and only those who had signed up prior to Tuesday were retained.*

5th annual Christmas Breakfast at Charlotte Rescue Mission will be coordinated by **Bob Webb** and **Joe Penner**. They ask that you consider adding this event to your holiday planning and encourage family members to participate with you. Be on the lookout for the sign-up sheet in mid-November. If you are interested in being the volunteer photographer, please let Bob or Joe know.

Foundation Banquet on Friday, November 17, 2017 at the Ballantyne Hotel. Reception at 6PM; dinner at 7PM; keynote speaker is Richard King, Past RI President; cost is \$65/person or \$110/per couple (\$55 for 3rd person/guest). Sign up is required through

DACDB (Sandy can help with this part).

100 SERVICE PROJECTS (99 completed)

99 PROJECTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED! Someone, please come up with a new project to cap off the club's commitment to complete 100 Service Projects!

- **Platelet Donation:** Register at the American Red Cross or Community Blood Center of the Carolinas to donate platelets. UPDATE - 76 donations to date. Donations have fallen off in the last 3 months and not meeting the goal of 100 donations will jeopardize this effort. Contact: **John zumBrunnen:** jzumbrunnen@zumbrunnen.com.

MEMBERSHIP

07/01/2017	309
11/07/2017	300
Net Increase:	-9
New Members:	
Resignations:	

Visitors & Guests: Richard Mialik, Ella Hoyle, Jim Laroe, Thomas Gathings, Mark Stevens, Justin Adams, Sandra Maldonado, Howard Hoyle, III, Lynn Lee, Mike Walker, Jon Putnam

Visitors	14
Club Members	136
Total	150 (52.7%)

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS (11/16/17 – 11/22/17)

11/16 Ryan Taylor
11/17 Todd Arnold
11/19 Pat Millen
11/20 Keith Nowokunski
11/22 Kim McMillan; Floyd Davis

UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES (11/16/17 – 11/22/17)

11/17 Ann & Henry Bostic; Lynda & Bob James
11/19 Barbie & Gene Williams
11/20 Catherine & Art Ringwald

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

11/14 Kandi Deitemeyer: CPCC
11/21 David Chadwick: Forest Hill Church
11/28 Dianne Bailey: Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson
12/05 Sharon Decker, Tryon International Equestrian Center

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





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