



September 19, 2017

HOW I GOT WHERE I'M AT

Carolyn Carlburg, Carla DuPuy, Kim McMillan

At Tuesday's meeting, HIGWIA – for those not on the same page, an acronym for **How I Got Where I'm At** – again proved to be one of the most informative and enjoyable programs as three new members gave us new insights about how they became the people they are.

Program committee member Elly Clary introduced the three by announcing a two-pronged adjustment to the HIGWIA presentation format. First, each speaker has seven minutes (timed by him), and, second, the programs will have a theme where possible. In this case, all three were women.

First up was Carolyn Hopkins Carlburg, an attorney and CEO of the non-profit Aids Research Alliance of America. Instead of talking about what she's done and accomplished, Carolyn decided to take on the challenge of highlighting the people who shaped her life, "the ones who had the greatest influence on who I've become," she explained.



She cited her father as her "greatest teacher." "He struggled successfully to get the family out of the South and ultimately to California where there was more opportunity. "My father was up at 4:30 every morning to listen to the farm report. He was no farmer, but the show, she said "was an early equivalent of the radio talk

show."

He made her breakfast and they talked about his dreams and disappointments. He shared his dream of becoming an attorney. It was a dream not fulfilled but three succeeding generations have become attorneys.

Carolyn, who is Afro-American, married David Carlburg who is Caucasian. When she told her father of the plans, he replied, I don't know if you and David are brave or foolish, but you have my blessing." My father always lived up to my expectation.

Other major influencers are her middle school teacher, Beverly Chuchian Bernstein – "my hero, mentor and role model," her mother-in-law, Virginia Beecher Carlburg – a descendent of Harriet Beecher Stowe, and Charlie Munger and Warren Buffett.

Up second was Carla DuPuy, a native of Miami, who has been deeply involved in Charlotte-Mecklenburg's political, social and business life for many years. Carla noted that she was married a week after college graduation (something she doesn't recommend for women today) and shortly thereafter had two boys in 20 months.



When the boys got older, she became an active community volunteer. After working on a church project with Ed Peacock, then chair of the county commission, he asked her if she wanted to serve on a county board. She chose the library board and the rest they say is history.

After becoming chair of the library board then co-leading a successful bond campaign for the library with Bill Lee, she was approached by community leaders to run for the County Commission. At that time, the board had five members elected at large.

Surprising many pundits, she came in first among the majority party and had to decide if she wanted to be chair. She said she finally decided she wanted to be chair, saying that I would be mad if I did and madder if she didn't.

Carla described the experience as "serious, frustrating, but she loved it." She got to drop the flag as starter of the Coca-Cola 600, met presidents, governors and celebrities. But all was not fun as she described a continuing run-in with the "Rat lady" who lived near the landfill which was closed to make way for Renaissance Park and the now-departed second Charlotte Coliseum on Tyvola Rd. If you didn't hear her tell the story, ask her about it."

After a third term, Carla was asked by a reporter if she might run for mayor. "I think I offended by friend Harvey Gantt by saying 'running for mayor would be a step down.' After all the city population and budgets were smaller than the county's."

After her political career, worked many years with the Carolinas HealthCare System and Duke/Crescent Land as a public affairs lobbyist. One of her accomplishments was getting the legislature to change the law allowing the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Hospital Authority to provide services outside of the county.



The third presenter was Kim McMillan, vice president, marketing & communications at Charlotte Regional Realtors Association. Being the good professional communicator, Kim divided her presentation into three buckets: family, fate and friends.

Growing up in Pittsburgh, Kim said her "wonderful parents instilled the faith and values and traditions that I still carry on today." Her heroes and influences include a grandmother whose favorite saying was "always keep your side of the street clean;" the late Roberto Clemente who led the Pittsburgh Pirates to the World Series in 1971; Fred Rogers otherwise known as Mr. Rogers on PBS; a seventh-grade science teacher – Ms. Donna Hoffman – who introduced her to the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science, where she learned to think creatively; and Rachel Carson, author of Silent Spring who was also born in Pennsylvania. Kim named one of her daughters Carson.

After graduation from Ohio University, she spent 10 months as a leadership consultant for her sorority where she learned a great deal about fundraising. As a student she had interned at the Carnegie Museum. Her intern director recommended her for a job at Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation.

Here fate took a most positive turn. She met Bill, her husband-to-be, at a bus stop. He worked at the Greentree Marriott where Kim was headed to meet a conference speaker. She happened to know Peggy, the HR director at the hotel, because she was her parents' neighbor.

"A couple days later I'm visiting my parents and Peggy is out in her yard. We start talking and I tell her I was just at the Greentree Marriott asking about her, and she says OMG - you're that girl." Peggy asked if she was dating anyone and Kim said not really. Can I give Bill your number? I said sure, thinking oh right I'll never hear from him. We had lunch two weeks later and we've been married 30 years.

Bill was in the hotel business so they moved to Albany, NY, and Boca Raton, FL before eventually landing in Charlotte. When she arrived in 1991, she started networking right away. That led to an interview with Henry Bostic then a job in the PR and marketing department at Presbyterian Hospital. "Thanks to Henry I not only started my career here but learned so much about Charlotte."

Speaker Write-Up: Henry Bostic

Head Table; *Carla DuPuy, Katie Tyler, Elly Clary, Carolyn Carlburg, Kim McMillan* Invocation: *Peirce Ward*; Visitors & Guests: *Chris Kemper*; AV: *Jessica Dupree, Daryl Larner*; Piano: *Em Syewicz*; Photos: *Bert Voswinkel*

CLUB NEWS

Mark your calendar for the [Flu shot clinic](#)...September 26, 2017 from 11:30AM to 2:00PM. The nurse will be set up at a table by our name badge boxes and you'll be in and out in no time. Thank you past president **Catherine Browning** for making these arrangements.

78 people have signed up to play in the [October 17th Rotary Scholarship Golf Classic](#) at Ballantyne Golf Club. Raffle tickets will be sold over the next three meetings and thanks to those that have contributed raffle items: Jesse Brown's, Johnson & Wales, Charlotte Knights, Autobell Carwash, Wingate University, Donald Haack Diamonds/Fine Gems, Wil Bosbyshell, Dale Halton, and Sam Ryburn. Happy to add your name to this distinguished list of sponsors. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20.

The Rotary Foundation Banquet will be held 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).

Carlos Sanchez reminded everyone to support the 2017 general election ballot to approve a \$922 million bond referendum for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.

Em Syrewicze chairs the club's Environmental Committee and invites others to join the committee. If you would like to serve with this group, plan to attend their organizational meeting next Tuesday following the Rotary luncheon. And, if you have an environmental project you would like to consider for funding, pass that information on to Em – Emilee@catawbariverkeeper.org.

President Katie Tyler called a business meeting to order at 12:45 in order to present the Nominating Committee's recommendation for the upcoming officers/directors of the club. The Nominating Committee, chaired by Past President **Tom Bartholomy**, included President **Katie Tyler**, President-Elect **Mike Hawley**, three most recent Past Presidents that were available – **Marilynn Bowler**, **Ron Kimble** and **John Tabor**, and **Sandy Osborne**. Following a motion by **Herb Harriss**, seconded by **Phil Van Hoy**, the slate was unanimously approved.

2019-2020 President – **John Lassiter**

2018-2019 Treasurer – **Phil Volponi**

2018-2019 Secretary – **Sandy Osborne**

2018-2020 Board of Directors – **Cheryl Banks**, **Bill Bradley**, **Carla DuPuy**, **Dale Halton**, **Bill Loftin**, **Clyde Robinson** and **Rudy Rudisill**

100 SERVICE PROJECTS (97 completed)

- **Konica Minolta NFK Golf Classic** will be held **September 25** at River Run Country Club. Volunteers needed for three shifts: 7:30AM-10:30AM registration; 9AM-4PM volunteer scorers, 2PM-5PM post-event reception. Contact: Rob Hayden Robert.hayden@kidney.org.

- **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

09/19/2017 307

Net Increase: -2

New Members:

Resignations: Carol Jordan (family care giving commitments)

Visitors & Guests 11

Club Members 139

Total 150 (52.7%)

Guests: David Broadie, Henrik Donnermeyer, Catherine Horne, Wes Cornish, Marnie Rodgers, Pat O'Neal, Geoffrey Curme, Catherine Poling, Bob McCarter, Carlos Sanchez

APPROVE FOR MEMBERSHIP (comments to Rotary Office by 09/26/17)

Catherine W. Horne

Discovery Place, Inc. (*Museum, Science*)

Sponsor: Rich Campbell

Endorsed: Valerie Truesdale, Angela Broome Powley

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS (09/21/17 – 10/04/17)

09/21 Chris Kemper, Sandy Osborne

09/22 Joey Godbold, Bob Phifer, Rudy Rudisill

09/24 Joe Penner

09/26 Tom Burgess

09/27 Harriman Jett, Tim Newman

09/28 Lisa Mask

09/29 Henry Batten, J.C. Cousar, Lee Tabor

09/30 Mark Duncan

10/01 Gayle Sims, George MacBain

10/02 Frank Deaton

10/03 Jenn Snyder Gibson

10/04 Mike Hawley

UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES (09/21/17 – 10/04/17)

09/21 Amy Burkett & Robert Upton

09/24 Marnie & John Roders

09/28 Michelle & Steve Gassaway, Michelle & Vernon Menard

10/01 Joan & Jim Kelley

10/02 Dianne & Bill Stegelmeyer, Colleen & Scott Brannan

10/03 Betsy & Matt Joyner

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

09/26 Dr. Patrick Graham, Charlotte Works

10/03 Beth Butler, ED, North Carolina Business Leader Network

10/10 Fred Whitfield, Charlotte Hornets

10/24 Ted Williams, Founder/Publisher, Charlotte Agenda

10/31 Suzie Ford, Owner, Noda Brewing

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

