

Rotary
Club of
Charlotte



REPORTER

June 25, 2019

JOHN W. LASSITER

102nd President to serve the Rotary Club of Charlotte



Today we passed the gavel from our outgoing President Michael S. Hawley to the incoming John W. Lassiter.

Mike opened the meeting with his remarks, thanking the membership for our enthusiastic support throughout the year. I think many of us concur with his remark that at the weekly meetings or when we participate in the many local and international service events, we always come away with a wonderful feeling. Especially as we meet on Tuesday, our diversity provides us with the opportunity to visit with people with very different backgrounds, occupations, politics, persuasions and life experiences. Also, collectively our varied service projects continue to make a difference, helping our community to move forward in many ways.

As Mike reflected on his Rotary experiences, he sighted a few of the 175 sayings compiled over the years by Allan Head, a former President of The NC Bar Association:

As there is no "I" in TEAM, he thanked the leadership of our many Committees.

He reminded and encouraged all to *write thank you notes at every opportunity*, and thanked those who had sent notes of appreciation to him.

Mike thanked Sandy Osborne who exemplifies that *the successful person does seemingly ordinary things extraordinarily well.*

If you chase two rabbits – both will escape

Measure twice, cut once

Pick up a piece of trash on the way into the building

They may forget what you said, but they will never forget how you made them feel.

With that, Mike turned the gavel over to John Lassiter and it was his turn.

John thanked Mike for his hard work over the past year. In his honor and because of his support of our efforts to strengthen the Rotaract and Interact Clubs, John presented a \$500 scholarship gift for Ni'Chelle Heckman, a member of the CPCC Rotaract Club, in Mike's honor.

John indicated that he encourages our club to support a focus on a couple of critical issues.

The first is the membership experience. At the International Rotary Convention earlier this month, it was clear that many clubs around the world share our struggle of an aging membership redefining relevance. He asks for the support of ALL members of our 2019-2020 membership goal, which is to average 4 new members a month and reduce our attrition by 25% through a full cycle welcoming experience. We will be rebuilding membership this year starting with the Greeters and Sign In Table to an onboarding process that can get new members quickly engaged in our club. If you see a visitor or member with a Red Badge, introduce yourself and ask them to join you at your table.

The second focus will be service; we will be developing an array of service projects so that new and existing members may immediately connect outside of our meetings.

John closed the meeting at 1:13PM, no one objected to that promptness either.

Reporter: Ed Wadsworth; *Head Table:* Katie Tyler, Mike Hawley, John Lassiter, Jerry Coughter, John Tabor; *Invocation:* Tom Bartholomy; *Introduce Visitors:* Colleen Brannan; *Photos:* Sandy Osborne; *Greeter:* Jay Westmoreland

CLUB NEWS

Discovery Place Nature invites everyone to "Buzz About Bees," a special event for their beekeeping operations that Charlotte Rotary supported this year. July 13, 2019 10AM-12PM, Discovery Place Nature (1658 Sterling Rd), access to the event is included with an admissions ticket.

Rotary Means Business is a FREE local networking after-hours event and the next meeting will be July 10 at TechWorks Gaston (52A Ervin Street in Belmont). Drop in anytime between 4pm-5pm. Networking workshop from 5pm-6:30pm. Registration is required: <https://rotarymeansbusinessjuly10.eventbrite.com>



SUMMER
POPS

Noelle Culler and the club's Social committee have arranged the **next Rotary social** at Pops in the Park on July 3. Be on the lookout for some folks holding the big blue and yellow balloons. Bring the family, kids and friends out to Symphony Park at SouthPark Mall by 7pm. Tickets: \$18 in advance, \$20 day of; Youth (13-18) \$5 in advance, \$7 day of; Child (12 and under) free (but ticket is required for admission). More information at <http://www.charlottesymphony.org/concerts-tickets/summer-pops!>

REMEMBERING OUR ROTARY FRIENDS



DR. EDWARD (Ned) J. FOX, JR.

Born: January 1, 1935
Deceased: July 29, 2018

Ned Fox was a native of Charleston, West Virginia and became a Charlottean in 1976 when he came to Charlotte Latin School as headmaster. A resolution adopted by the Collegiate School Board of Trustees in 1976 most appropriately sums up this man. "Ned Fox is a gentleman, at home with all manner of people, equally at ease at a play, in a library, a museum, or the cheering section of a sports arena. With his sense of humor and ready repartee, he is the center of most school groups. He is not an ivory tower scholar, but respects learning as a basis for quality instruction. In establishing curriculum and programming, he has always been creative and innovative." At Charlotte Latin, Ned helped grow the school, and invested in professional development, including a focus on diversity for all sectors of the community. Ned joined Charlotte Rotary in March 1980 and was a member until June, 2001.



DAVID H. STOVALL, JR.

Born: December 21, 1946
Deceased: August 23, 2018

David Stovall was a member of Charlotte Rotary from October 1987 to December 1996. Dave had a long and successful career in the retail business, from early days working for his father at Leggett, followed by time at Woodward & Lothrop and Bloomingdale's in the Washington area. He came to Charlotte where he spent 23 years at Belk, ultimately serving as the chairman of the Central Division. He served as chairman of the Charlotte Chamber in 1993 and worked with the team that helped bring the Carolina Panthers to Charlotte. After retiring from Belk, he took on the role of CEO at Jacksonville, Florida-based Stein Mart. Despite all of his business success, perhaps his crowning achievement was in his role as "granddaddy" to his four grandchildren. He passed away at his home in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.



BILL J. STEGELMEYER

Born: August 23, 1943
Deceased: January 27, 2019

Bill Stegelmeyer had deep roots in Louisiana, and in Rotary, in which he had participated for more than thirty-five years. Although his family has been in Louisiana since 1779, his self-described "passion for diamonds" led him to Charlotte. Bill studied Economics in undergraduate school, achieved his MBA and had begun work on a Doctorate when he took over his mother's jewelry and gift business after she suffered ill health. With a background in marketing, he was naturally drawn to participate in Louisiana Tourism Commission and the World's Fair in New Orleans. Striking up a friendship with Charlottean Robert Love on a diamond-buying trip, he became interested in the Charlotte area. Bill's love for Mardi Gras was off the chart and every year, he came into our club meeting wearing his Mardi Gras mask and hat, while carrying a King Cake that he shared with his tablemates. When Rotary's International Convention was in New Orleans, he was on the phone with Sandy and Jim Osborne, making suggestions of what to eat, where to visit and how to get there over the four day convention. He loved the club's golf tournament and supported everything this club did. He fought through a stroke and eventually experienced a serious decline in his health, but none of that prevented him from attending Rotary up to the very end. Bill and Dianne had only been married about three years when he became ill. Dianne called Sandy to say how much he

enjoyed the club's annual project to collect warm clothing for Crisis Assistance Ministry. At his request, his clothes were donated to the organization.



OWEN HAMPTON (HAMP) WHITFIELD, SR.

Born: February 4, 1922
Deceased: February 28, 2019

Hamp received his B.S. in Commerce from UNC with a Major in Accounting in the class of 1944. His studies were interrupted by WWII and after serving the U.S. Army Air Force for three years, he returned to Chapel Hill and received his degree in 1947. Hamp flew twenty-six missions on B-29's over Japan, for which he received the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters. He came to Charlotte in 1948 and joined Charlotte Rotary in 1964. It isn't exactly clear when he took on the job of preparing the club's financial reports at no charge, but it was at least in 1975. Hamp was named an Honorary Member in June, 1998 for his outstanding service to the club. When the club celebrated our 100th Anniversary in December, 2016, Hamp called the Rotary office to say he was delighted and honored to have received an invitation, although he was unable to attend.



DR. LELAND M. PARK

Born: October 21, 1941
Deceased: February 13, 2019

Leland Madison Park died at The Pines at Davidson on February 13, 2019. A 1959 graduate of the McCallie School in Chattanooga, he entered Davidson College in 1959. Often referring to Davidson as a "way of life based on things of the mind, tempered by manners and morality," Dr. Park quickly made Davidson the way of his life after his graduation in 1963. Apart from Army service and acquiring advanced degrees from Emory and Florida State, and a stint on the staff of what was then called the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County; Dr. Park devoted the rest of his life to Davidson College. As Dr. Carol Quillen noted, Park's stories were "punctuated by his joy-filled, one-of-a-kind laugh." That laugh led to free tickets to comedies in the early days of the Davidson Community Players, his joyful laughter could help bring together the Davidson community beyond the campus boundaries. Leland was honored in 2011 by the Town of Davidson with its G. Jackson Burney Community Service award, which he treasured perhaps even more than the state's Order of the Long Leaf Pine bestowed on him at the time of his 2006 retirement. Leland joined Charlotte Rotary in May 1984 and was a member until his death in February 2019. He loved this club, was a faithful supporter of The Rotary Foundation, financially supported everything aspect of this club, and loved to send cards. In fact, he sent Sandy and Catherine Browning a Valentines card during Catherine's year as president and it was signed "Love, Paul Harris." It took months to figure that one out.



JAMES T. HANEY

Born: April 24, 1933
Deceased: February 6, 2019

James Thomas Haney, known as "Dad" to his daughter and son, "Jimmy" to his family, and "Jim" to his many friends and colleagues, was born in Charlotte on April 24, 1933. Jim received his BSCE from N.C. State University, MSCE from Georgia Tech, and was a graduate of Harvard Business School. In addition to serving as President and CEO of Concrete Supply Company, he was recognized as both an industry leader for the concrete industry and a community leader in Charlotte. He joined Charlotte Rotary in October 1986 and was a member up to his death in February 2019. Most Tuesday's, you found Jim at his seat with his friends at The Table. He enjoyed helping Luther Fincher set up his hospitality tent for the club's golf tournament

and participated in lots of stories and fun on tournament day. When Jim's wife, Ruth, passed a few years ago, he said he would never forget walking into that church and seeing so many Rotary friends there to support him through that very tough day. Jim loved wood-working and graciously made the three beautiful name badge boxes you see at check-in every week. Jim was a quiet man that made a big impact in the lives of many.



DAVID J. AUGER

Born: January 12, 1956

Deceased: May 17, 2019

David Auger led the community-owned and locally operated communications and cable system that serves Mooresville, Davidson and Cornelius. He was previously region president for Time Warner Cable's Charlotte location and was publisher of the Los Angeles Daily News. David announced his retirement in 2017, but continued working. Marilyn Bowler commented that his funeral was tremendously personal and joyful. Those who shared remembrances ranged from childhood friends, to business executives from his years as President of Time Warner, to current Spectrum top managers, to college buddies, to neighbors, to hunting, fishing and golfing buddies. The common thread on all of the tributes were his intelligence, humor, generosity and warmth to everyone he met. David joined Charlotte Rotary in June 2009 and was a member up to his death in May 2019.

PROJECT RECAP 2018-2019

Community Service Avenue

- \$4,000 CART (Coins for Alzheimers Research Trust)
- \$500 CPCC Foundation (student sponsorship)
- \$3,000 Discovery Place Nature (beekeeping program)
- \$6,475 FAST NC (Hurricane Florence victims)
- \$1,250 Lakewood Preschool (take-home reader program)
- \$750 Freedom School Partners (books for six scholars)
- \$500 NC Military Veterans Hall of Fame
- \$1,000 100 Gardens (aquaponics greenhouse installation MPHS)
- \$500 Queen City Honor Flight
- \$2,500 Rocky River Trout Unlimited
- \$5,000 Rotary Scholarship Golf Classic (college scholarships)
- \$5,000 TreesCharlotte

International Service Avenue

- \$7,000 Alto Cayma (equipment & furnishings for day care facility)
- \$2,500 International Youth Exchange Student
- \$1,000 Libros for Learning (library in rural schools in Mexico)
- \$2,000 Mothering Across Continents (library in South Sudan)
- \$12,000 The Rotary Foundation (Polio Eradication)

Vocational Service Avenue

- \$3,000 Classroom Central

Youth Service Avenue

- \$4,908 CPCC Foundation (Rotary Scholarship Fund)
- \$1,000 Interact Leadership Workshops
- \$1,500 NewGen Peace Builders (sponsor 3 students)
- \$1,500 Seminar for Tomorrow's Leaders (sponsor 3 students)

MEMBERSHIP

07/01/2018 288
06/25/2019 276
Net Increase: -12

New Members: Reggie Johnson

Resignations: Tripp Guin, Irwin Carmichael, Christy Majors, Mary Vickers-Koch, Howard Layson, Tom Gibson

Proposed for Membership (*comments to Rotary office by July 2, 2019*)

Clayton Woodard

Keller Williams SouthPark (Real Estate, Residential)

Sponsor: Peirce Ward

Endorsed: Alan Simonini and Art Ringwald

Jim Deas

Nortel Networks (Telecommunications, Networks)

Sponsor: Luther Moore

Endorsed: Chad Lloyd and Tom Bartholomy

Robert Daughtridge

Life Connections of the Carolinas, Inc. (Mentoring, At-Risk Youth)

Sponsor: Luther Moore

Endorsed: Chad Lloyd and Sandy Osborne

Visitors 19
Club Members 119
Total 138 (51.1%)

Guests: Toni Anne Dashiell, Russell Peck, Clayton Wood, Murray Turner, Ronnie Bryant, Gretchen Wyatt, Jordan Watkins, Ben Lassiter, Beverly Lassiter, Katherine Pierce, Robert Daughtridge, Renea Robinson, Lilian Byakutaga, Ken Small, Mary Grace Lostetter, Diego Ramon, Scott Syfert, Kelly Zeigler

BIRTHDAYS (07/03/19 – 07/16/19)

07/03 Brent Trexler
07/04 David Erdman
07/07 Gunda Knese
07/09 Rex Reynolds, Charlie Bones
07/10 Ron Kimble
07/12 Jordan Harris, Randall Mountcastle
07/13 Herb Harriss
07/14 Jerry Bryson
07/16 John Snyder

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (07/03/2019 – 07/16/19)

07/06 Phyllis & Bill Gill
07/07 Penny & Charlie Bones
07/09 Gunda & Hugo Knese
07/10 Cynthia & Tom Marshall
07/11 Anja & David Zimmerman
07/13 Marilynn & Bob Bowler

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES (07/03/2019 – 07/16/19)

02 years – Chris Jackson

04 years – Clyde Robinson

09 years – Brian Huber

17 years – Matt Joyner

18 years – John Snyder

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

07/02 Holiday Week – **Not Meeting**

07/09 Ty Hardy, Navy Seal

07/16 Mayor Vi Lyles – **Meeting at Myers Park Country Club**

07/23 Mick Mixon, Voice of the Carolina Panthers

07/30 Richard Vinroot – 10 Things on My Mind

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



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