



May 28, 2019

## JANET LaBAR

### Charlotte Regional Business Alliance



Janet LaBar, president and CEO of the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance spoke at our May 28 lunch. She shared with us her background, passions, initial impressions, 90 day goals and what she sees in the Charlotte regions future. As a first generation American and native of Florida, she and her siblings grew up knowing the importance of a supportive community and family. Prior to moving back to the east coast, LaBar was the president and CEO at Greater Portland Inc. (GPI), a regional public-private partnership that markets the greater Portland metropolitan, two state area and helps companies expand and relocate to that region.

Her 90 days goals include six keys points to gain an in-depth understanding of Charlotte's regional assets and leverage the Alliance's new foundation to build capacity for implementation.

- Know the audience: by meeting with region's leaders, drivers and constituents spanning public and private-sectors, educational institutions and community-based organizations.
- Know the drivers: what makes the region tick? Inventory economic assets across business, education, arts and culture, sports, and global trade and investment.
- Know the product: map employment corridors, innovation districts and entrepreneurial hubs, and areas across the region in need of transformative opportunities.
- Understand regional priorities: listen to and gather stakeholder input on regional needs and priorities.
- Articulate the value proposition: build the business case and strategy for investment in both the Charlotte region and the Alliance.
- Evaluate resources and revenue: match staffing and program requirements with funding to capture market opportunities and establish organizational metrics.

Prior to accepting this role, Janet was last in Charlotte during her early teens. The warmth and southern hospitality she remembered, is alive and well. She reflected on the outreach that her and her family has already received from Charlotte businesses and residents. Looking to quickly plant roots, her husband and three elementary age children will be joining her in Charlotte over the summer. Unsure of whom Charlotte grew into from her teenage years, she recalls stepping off the plane a few months back and thinking "You can feel it. Something is going on here; it's an energy you can feel in the air." That palpable 'something' she said fits the slogan "from the CRVA that Charlotte has a Lot".

LaBar, now 30 days in, is continuing to meet stakeholders, evaluate regional assets, and take inventory of her team. She is focused on the region's trade-sector industries and assesses growth, innovation, attraction and retention opportunities. This will help her identify where the Alliance can add value and draft her strategic work plan. Her schedule,

packed from morning to night she remarked “I am excited to be here, to be this busy ahead of when my family arrives.”

I am thrilled to welcome the Charlotte Alliance’s new president and CEO, Janet LaBar and see great things to come for the Charlotte region.

*Reporter:* Karen Price; *Head Table:* Luther Moore, Mike Hawley, Karen Price, Terri DeBoo; *Invocation:* Catherine Browning; *Introduce Visitors:* Paul Wyche; *Photos:* Sandy Osborne; *Greeter:* Floyd Davis & Wil Bosbyshell

## CLUB NEWS



## Congratulations

**Introducing Mr. and Mrs. William Bradley**

**Bill and Woodson  
May 25, 2019**

**Tony Marciano** writes a faith and value column that appears bi-weekly in 15 area newspapers. The article that will be published June 7<sup>th</sup> (“They didn’t tell me the rules of wearing seer sucker suits”) was inspired from a conversation at Charlotte Rotary with **Luther Fincher**. Check out the podcast here: <https://anchor.fm/real-help-for-real-living/episodes/The-didnt-tell-me-the-rules-of-wearing-seer-sucker-suits-e45tra>

The annual ***Dine Out for Kids*** event will be held Tuesday, June 18. More than 90 participating restaurants will dish up great food and fun and donate a portion of their sales to Communities In Schools. Dine out for breakfast, lunch and/or dinner. List of participating restaurants: <http://bit.ly/DOFK2019>

**Ed Driggs** introduced **Patrick Baker** as the club’s newest member. Patrick was a member of the Rotary Club of Durham and served 22 years in local government as assistant city attorney, city manager, and city attorney. Patrick was sworn in as Charlotte’s city attorney the first of March. Patrick is married to Rae Ann and they have two children – Griffin, who plays baseball for Belmont Abbey College. Daughter Chloe is an undergrad at Wake Forest, Baker’s alma mater. Welcome!

**Luther Moore** was wearing his ‘club trainer’ hat on Tuesday and quickly covered a few things...Rotary International’s convention will be held next week in Hamburg, Germany. Three club members will be in Hamburg...**John Lassiter, Graham Wilson** and **Jerry Coughter**. The 2020 convention will be held in Honolulu and Luther expects hotel slots will go in a hurry. Same for the 2021 convention in Taipei, Taiwan. Luther had the honor of representing our District by serving on the Council on Legislation, which is Rotary’s forum to review and vote on proposed changes to the legislation that governs

Rotary. This group meets every three years and they consider enactments, which change Rotary's governing documents and position statements by the RI Board. The two primary changes that resulted in this year's legislation is the elevation of Rotaract clubs (now counted as members of Rotary clubs) AND Rotary International (only in the U.S.) will change from a 501(c)4 to tax exempt status of 501(c)3.

I also noticed a change in the timeframe for a makeup. Changed from 14 days before or after the missed meeting, to 'during the same year if within the same year.' Full report here: [Report of Action](#)



Greetings from the group attending the pop-up social at Sir Edmond Halley's, located in the Park Road Shopping Center.

### Follow-Up

-Rotary Scholarship Golf Classic September 10, 2019.

-Support Mt. Kilimanjaro END POLIO NOW climb : <https://rotary7680kilidimb.org> (click on Warren Kean to make your donation).

### MEMBERSHIP

07/01/2018 288

05/28/2019 281

Net Increase: -7

New Members: Patrick Baker

Resignations: David Auger (deceased), Greg Sizemore

Visitors 11

Club Members 113

Total 124 (49.1%)

Guests: Rob Wadsworth, Renea Robinson, Joe Padilla, Karyn Lindsey, Marcia Lee Kelly, Ashley Hedrick, Toni Anne Dashiell, Allen Clark, Jaren Butts, Kathleen Burr, Phoebe Brannan

### BIRTHDAYS (06/05/19 – 06/04/19)

06/05 George Rohe

06/06 David Zimmerman

06/07 Jeff Searcy

06/08 Tom Wright

06/09 Alex Browning, Henry Bostic

06/11 Tom Bartholomy, Rick Fogle

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (06/05/2019 – 06/04/19)

06/05 Suzie & Todd Ford, Beverly & John Lassiter  
06/06 Sarah & Tony Lathrop  
06/07 Jean & Al Allison  
06/08 Julie & John Armistead, Eileen Keeley & Pat Millen  
06/09 Suzette & Glenn Bouley, Linda & John Shell

**ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES** (06/05/2019 – 06/04/19)

05 years – Sandra James  
10 years – Fernando Ycaza

**UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

06/04 - Interact Service Award and the Future of College Admissions Panel Discussion  
06/11 – How I Got Where I'm At (*Margaret Marshall, Chris Jackson, Clyde Robinson*)  
06/18 – Steve Luquire, George Andrews, & Danny Morrison, Sports in Charlotte  
06/25 – Club President Transition  
07/02 – Holiday Week – Not Meeting

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



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