



May 7, 2019

DR. TONY ZEISS **Museum of the Bible**



Phil Van Hoy introduced our speaker, our own Dr. Tony Zeiss. Tony was born in Indiana, came to Charlotte from Pueblo, Colorado and expected to stay at CPCC for four or five years. In 2016, he retired from CPCC after a 24 year career and was spectacular in expanding the number of campuses from one to seven. After retiring from CPCC, he became the executive director for the \$500 million Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C. The museum is a 430,000 square foot museum that contains eight floors and a wide range of exhibits. Tony came back to Charlotte about a year ago and Phil also recognized Tony's lovely wife and partner, Beth. Tony told Phil that he declined to use the word retirement for his next chapter in life. He said he preferred "going in new directions". And his new prayer is "Lord, whatever you want us to do, great, but please don't make it fulltime." Phil also mentioned that Tony was a recipient of our Executive Leadership Award and Club president in 2014-2015.

Tony reiterated that he has been back in Charlotte for over a year. He said every day is a reunion in Charlotte. He reminded us of the Four Way Test and the Rotary motto. Tony said that the Rotary focus on service came from the Bible's talk of love of neighbor. The Museum of the Bible is the first ever such museum in the world. Tony told the story of his July, 2016 retirement from CPCC and how his plans were to travel with Beth. On a Saturday night, he and Beth prayed to God saying what do you want us to do next? That next Monday a head hunter called Tony and persistently asked him to come to D.C. and take the job of Executive Director. The board members of the Museum kept up with Tony over the next four months and he and Beth finally said yes to move to D.C. after much prayer and discernment.

The organization behind the establishment of the museum was Hobby Lobby which had over 40,000 artifacts. The focus of the museum is the Bible which is the most amazing book ever written and has had the greatest impact in the world of any book ever written. In November of 2017, the museum had its grand opening. In the ten months prior to its opening, Tony worked to hire 250 people and brought in 150 volunteers. He asked for help from and received help from all the other museum directors in D.C.

From October, 2017 to Christmas, 2017, Tony's team welcomed over 107

separate organizations to the museum to help spread the word of its great work and offerings. The Hobby Lobby owners and their family purchased the building which was 16 stories tall and had 430,000 square feet. They spent over \$500 million to build and renovate the building into the museum. It has an annual budget of \$40 million. The museum works with over 100 Bible scholars. Museum of the Bible aims to be among the most technologically advanced and engaging museums in the world. Showcasing rare and fascinating artifacts spanning 3,500 years of history, the museum offers visitors an immersive and personalized experience with the Bible, and its ongoing impact on the world around us.

Tony took us on a tour of the museum with pictures. On the first floor, there are biblical videos on the ceiling; there are 1,250 artifacts from Jerusalem; there are many artifacts on loan from the Vatican library; and there are videos in the elevators.

On the second floor, there are stories of the impact of the Bible in America; there is a 207 foot tapestry; there are two Bibles from the Mayflower; there are four Bibles from Aitken; there is a replica of the Liberty Bell with its Bible verse about liberty; and there are sections that talk about the impact of the Bible on the world in areas such as art, fashion, music, history, literature, and medicine.

On the third floor, there are stories of the Hebrew Bible; there is a Nazareth village with over 14,000 stones from Israel; and there is a New Testament theater.

On the fourth floor, there are historical artifacts and talks on the history of the Bible.

On the fifth floor, there is a world stage theater with videos on the walls.

On the sixth floor, there is a gathering room and the Manna restaurant with first century Jewish food.

Tony said that the average person spends eight hours over two days visiting the museum.

Tony couldn't leave us without talking briefly about leadership. He gave us five pearls of wisdom: (1) don't do it alone; (2) be inclusive yet decisive; (3) as it says in Colossians 3:17, whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of Him; (4) influence others for a common goal; (5) follow John Belk's example by treating others well and giving them encouragement, especially those who serve us.

Speaker Write-Up: Jim Kelley; Head Table: Marilynn Bowler, Mike Hawley, Brian Carn, Phil Van Hoy; Invocation: Jeff Atkinson; Introduce Visitors: Roger Sarow; Greeter: Floyd Davis & Mike DeAmicis

CLUB NEWS

President Mike Hawley called a short business meeting for the club to vote on **John Lassiter** to serve as the club's voting delegate at the RI Convention in Hamburg, Germany. With a motion made and seconded, the vote was passed and thank you, John!

Bob Culbertson's Letter to the Editor in The Observer addressed gun violence and he asks, "Are we a sick culture?"



Last day for teachers to shop at Classroom Central. The Rotary volunteers always have a good time together.

Clyde Robinson, Paul Wyche, Jerry Coughter, Glenn Paton, and Bill Bradley representing Rotary. Classroom Central's Volunteer Coordinator Risa Brandon is always around to make things fun.

Duck Race



Saturday, May 18th is the DUCK RACE fundraiser for Polio. All are invited to Tailrace Marina, 1010 Marina Village Drive in Mount Holly for the event that runs from 10am to 3pm. Tickets are \$10 each and you have a chance to win prizes (even a new car). www.rotaryduckrace.org is where you go to adopt your duck! There's a river clean up with Catawba Riverkeepers Foundation at 10am, hot dogs & burgers are

available, boat rides, kayaks, stand up paddle boards, and in water boat show. The ducks will be released in the lake at 2pm. It's a great facility and fun for the entire family.

Women in Rotary



John Tabor went through the process of what it took to allow women to join Rotary. It all started when the Rotary Club of Duarte (California) admitted women as members, and that was a violation of the RI Constitution and Standard Rotary Club Constitution. Because of this violation, the club's membership in RI was terminated in March of 1978.

(This club was reinstated in September 1986.) In a lawsuit filed by the Ex-Rotary Club of Duarte, the California Superior Court in 1983 rules in favor. In 1986, the California Court of Appeals reverses the lower court's decision. Finally, in 1987 the U.S. Supreme Court rules that Rotary clubs may not exclude women from membership on the basis of gender and the Bylaws were changed in 1987. Sylvia Whitlock, of the Rotary Club of Durate, became the first female Rotary club president. Women represent 20% of the total membership in the Rotary Club of Charlotte.

The Rotary Foundation: **Jerry Coughter** recognized Rotarians that have supported The Rotary Foundation with a contribution. And, **Julie Haack** asked for a show of hands of those that HAVE supported The Rotary Foundation this year. The club is falling short of meeting our Annual goal and everyone is encouraged to consider a donation. If you would like to have this added to your invoice, let Sandy know (sandy@charlotterotary.org).

Tom Bartholomy moved to Level One and made his wife, Durenda, a Paul Harris Fellow. Also reaching Level One: **Wes Sturges** and **Jerry Walters**. Level Two: **Kip Kiser**. Level Four: **Benton Bragg** and **Bob Finley**. Level Six: **Bruce Darden**. And Level Eight: **Jerry Coughter**.

A refresher on how your donations are recognized...your first \$1000 donated to The Rotary Foundation is recognized as Paul Harris Fellow. Subsequent \$1000 donations move you through the Levels...when you have donated \$2000, you are considered Level One. \$3000 makes you Level Two, and so on.

Arch Klumph was elected as RI's sixth President in 1916 (the year the Rotary Club of Charlotte was Chartered). In 1917 he successfully proposed to the Atlanta Convention the creation of an "endowment fund for Rotary...for the purpose of doing good in the world in charitable, educational, and other avenues of community progress." The first donation of \$26.50 was received from the Rotary Club of Kansas City and the check represented surplus funds from the 1918 Kansas City Convention. Since it was founded over one hundred years ago, the Foundation has spent over \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects. Spend some time at rotary.org to learn more about this incredible organization.

Follow-Up

-Committee selections are due in the Rotary office by May 7, 2019

-Rotary Scholarship Golf Classic September 10, 2019.

-Support Mt. Kilimanjaro END POLIO NOW climb : <https://rotary7680kiliclimb.org> (click on Warren Kean to make your donation).

MEMBERSHIP

07/01/2018 288

05/07/2019 282

Net Increase: -6

New Members:

Resignations:

Proposed for Membership (*comments to Rotary office by 05/14/19*)

Patrick Baker (Classification: Municipal Government, Legal)

City of Charlotte

Sponsor: Ed Driggs Endorsed: John Nicolay, Jim Rogers

Reggie Johnson (Classification: Fire Protection, Municipal)

Charlotte Fire Department

Sponsor: Luther Fincher Endorsed: Joe Penner, Sandy Osborne

Visitors 14

Club Members 121

Total 135 (51.7%)

Guests: Sylvia Van Hoy, Jordan Watkins, Robert Welch, Renea Robinson, David Murray, Cara Lidrbauch, Ella Hoyle, Terri Guthrie, Andy Everett, Nick Carpenter, Bryan Butler, Melissa Smith-White, Beth Zeiss, Jimmy Smith

BIRTHDAYS (05/15/19 – 05/22/19)

05/15 Al Allison
05/17 Christy Majors, Robert Salmon
05/18 Glenn Paton
05/21 Ann Clark
05/22 Rick Handford

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (05/15/2019 – 05/22/19)

05/15 Maria-Jose and Frank Mueller
05/16 Scarlett & Jay Westmoreland
05/18 Nancy & David Auger, Mary & David Vickers-Koch, Jane & Kevin Caldwell
05/20 Angela Broome-Powley & Keith Powley, Shelli & Henry Batten
05/20 Carter & George MacBain, Lara & Brent Cagle
05/22 Lisa & Chuck Dahlgren

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES (05/15/2019 – 05/22/19)

01 year – Kim Kuo
02 years – Victor Chen
11 years – John Cantrell
16 years – Emmy Lou Burchette
18 years – Biff Virkler
23 years – Bob Webb

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

05/14 - John Lassiter, Republican National Convention
05/21 - Winston Kelley and NASCAR President Steve Phelps (**meeting at MPCC**)
05/28 - Janet LaBar, CEO, Charlotte Regional Business Alliance
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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