



April 7, 2020

We meet on Tuesday at 12:30 pm at Fairfield Inn & Suites – Charlotte Uptown, 201 South McDowell St, Charlotte NC 28202

2019 - 2020 Board Members

President John W. Lassiter

Pres Elect Jerry Coughter

Past Pres Mike Hawley

Secretary Sandy Osborne

Treasurer Phil Volponi

Directors 2019-2020

Cheryl Banks

William Bradley

Dena Diorio

Carla DuPuy

Bill Loftin, Jr.

Clyde Robinson

Rudy Rudisill

Directors 2019-2021

Colleen Brannan

Stuart Hair

Stephanie Hinrichs

Chris Kemper

Chad Lloyd

Alexandra Myrick

Edwin Peacock, III

Membership John Tabor

Foundation William Bradley

Programs Mac McCarley

1st Qtr Edwin Peacock

2nd Qtr Ron Kimble

3rd Qtr Jeff Atkinson

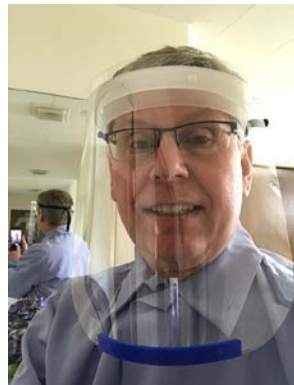
4th Qtr Karen Price

CLUB NEWS

Rotary International link to covid-19: <http://on.rotary.org/covid-19>

STAYING IN TOUCH with our Rotary members is important. Please take a minute to check on your friends, report funny stories and updates back to me to share with everyone so we can see who is doing what. The Reporter can be used to share what your company is doing to get through the pandemic, what your family is doing, send me your How I Got Where I'm At....anything to keep our members in the know.

TOM TURPIN: On Monday March 30, 2020 - Tom Turpin posted an article on LinkedIn of an initiative with The Charlotte Latin School and UNC Charlotte William States Lee - College of Engineering. Students, faculty and local machine shops are partnering to make face shields for local hospitals. This request came directly from doctors that realize there is a great shortage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at this time.



Rotarian Dr. John Houseman, DDS, longtime friend and past president of the Rotary Club of Jerseyville, Illinois saw the initiative and messaged Turpin to request three face shields for his rural Southwestern Illinois dental operation. Turpin was able to obtain the face shields on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 and ship them priority USPS. John received them on Thursday, April 2, 2020.

Dr. Houseman sent a photograph of his new face shield. More information on the Charlotte Medical Emergency Devices Initiative (Charlotte MEDI) is available at www.charlottemedi.org

HERB HARRISS: Kiser Harriss Chemical Distribution Centers, Inc. is a company founded by Herb Harriss. The company operates warehouses in Belmont, Gastonia, Mt Holly and Louisville, Ky. As a service to its warehouse customers the company operates a fleet of tractors, trailers and container chassis. On March 21, John Kiser, Past President of the Gaston Breakfast Rotary Club, and current owner of Kiser Harriss had the opportunity to offer their services to Gaston County Commissioner Chairman Tracy Philbeck. Philbeck immediately accepted the offer and asked that Kiser Harriss coordinate with Rev. Austin Ramble. Philbeck has asked Ramble to chair an effort to establish food distribution sites in all four quadrants of Gaston County.

Kiser Harriss agreed to dispatch its trucks and drivers to the Second Harvest Food Distribution Center in Charlotte as needed and move donated food to the County Food Distribution sites. The first load was repositioned on Tuesday March 31, 2020. Ramble estimates that as many as four loads per week may be needed during this COVID-19 crisis. This could mean that each week 160,000 pounds of food will be available for citizens of Gaston County. Kiser Harriss is happy to be able to put the Object of Rotary to work at this critical time.

LARRY BROOME: As you know, the plan is still that I am retiring this year and will be replaced in June by new Area Commanders for Charlotte. With the state "Stay at Home" mandate through at least April, my involvement in Rotary for this last quarter would be very limited anyway with the many responsibilities I have to manage our programs during the COVID-19 crisis, pack and move (to Atlanta). Therefore, I think it is best for me to go ahead and resign from the Charlotte Rotary effective the end of March 2020. I have enjoyed immensely my participation in Charlotte Rotary. The club has a tremendous impact in our community and we have accomplished a lot together. I do hope and would expect that the new Area Commander will want to join the club at some point this summer after they get settled. I am sure that some of my board members who are also club members will sponsor the new officer when they get here as they did me. The new Area Commander will be announced in April and I will make sure our board members follow up to talk to them about Rotary.

TONY MARCIANO: We are blessed with great partners such as yourself. But due to the corona virus, we have had to put a hold on volunteers to insure the safety and wellness of the 260 men, women and children living under the roof of Charlotte Rescue Mission.

In addition, the success of Community Matters Café has been put on hold as the government has closed the dining room of all restaurants. Now we are under Shelter in Place. Yet we still have students in the Café program who, having completed Rebound and Dove's Nest, want to learn life skills they desperately need to thrive in society. We'd like to propose an idea to you during this time.

We are asking the Rotary Club of Charlotte to sponsor a meal for our 250+ residents. The food would be purchased through Community Matters Café at a reduced rate than a customer would normally pay in the restaurant. I recognize it would be more expensive than a regular meal you would provide (\$3.50 per person) because it would cover a meal cooked by our café staff/students and served to our residents. The cost for Dove's Nest is \$425 and the cost for Rebound is \$525.

This will give a triple blessing of:

1. Providing work for the café students while the restaurant is closed
2. Serving a special meal to our residents while they are on "lock-down"
3. Giving our hard-working Rebound and Dove's Nest kitchen staff a break

I recognize how generous you have been to the men and women of the Charlotte Rescue Mission. I also want to thank you for always being there when we faced challenges.

The Rotary Club of Charlotte has donated \$425 to cover Dove's Nest residents. If any of you would like to help cover the \$525 needed to make a difference for Rebound residents, please reach out to Tony.

Tony.marciano@charlotterescuemission.org.

HENRY BOSTIC: Half of us are going to come out of this quarantine as amazing cooks. The other half will come out with a drinking problem!

- I need to practice social distancing from the refrigerator.
- Still haven't decided where to go for Easter – the Living Room or the Bedroom
- PSA: every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom!
- I don't think anyone expected that when we changed the clocks we'd go from Standard Time to the Twilight Zone
- This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog..... we laughed a lot.
- So, after this quarantine, will the producers of My 600 Pound Life just find me or do I find them?
- Quarantine Day 5: Went to this restaurant called THE KITCHEN. You have to gather all the ingredients and make your own meal. I have no clue how this place is still in business.
- My body has absorbed so much soap and disinfectant lately that when I pee it cleans the toilet.
- Day 5 of Home schooling: One of these little monsters called in a bomb threat.
- I'm so excited --- it's time to take out the garbage. What should I wear?
- Classified Ad: Single man with toilet paper seeks woman with hand sanitizer for good clean fun.

- Day 6 of Home schooling: My child just said, "I hope I don't have the same teacher next year." I'm offended.
Better 6 feet apart than 6 feet under

SHELTER BOX: The coronavirus pandemic is a constant reminder of the fundamental importance of home to our health and wellbeing. With much of the world overwhelmed by the infection rate and lethality of coronavirus, help to the most vulnerable is of paramount concern for all of us at ShelterBox. To find out more or to donate to ShelterBox, please visit www.ShelterBoxUSA.org. [The Rotary Club of Charlotte has made a donation of \\$1500 to ShelterBox.](#)

FROM THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK – ROTARY CLUB OF CHARLOTTE - 1929 to 1933

The year 1929 started with much promise. Rotary Club membership rose to 157, an all-time high for the decade. The GNP reached a high point of \$181.8 billion. The Dow Jones Industrial Stock Average was 311.24. John Paul Lucas, Club President in 1929, watched over the membership during its great prosperity and its decline later that year. In notes, President Lucas stated that the membership's morale always stayed high and that the annual Club picnic was well attended. The Club's financial reserves were used to cover a loss from sponsoring a concert of the United States Marine Band. A Ladies Night featured entertainment by the Charlotte Little Theatre. A Farmer's Day program was also sponsored by the Club in deference to the large number of farmers in Mecklenburg County.

In 1929 Charlotte's council-manager form of government was adopted. It drew national attention because it fostered smooth and interactive dealings between the city manager and the council. It continues today. The stock market hit a high of 381 before it began to plummet. Nineteen million shares were sold, sending the market crashing. The selling panic continued, and billions were lost overnight. The Wall Street hysteria began on Black Thursday, October 24 and peaked on Black Tuesday, October 29.

As 1930 dawned, the Great Depression clutched the country. Fascism was on the rise in Europe and Asia, and hardship and despair were the norm. President Julian Miller's term was marked by his mastery of public speaking. It is said that members attended just to hear his oratory. Miller was editor of The Charlotte Observer and captivated his audience with "his choice of language." During his administration Rotary International founder Paul P. Harris paid a visit to Charlotte.

A crowd of 30,000 came to the airport in Charlotte as the first airmail was delivered in 1930. By 1931, unemployment was 15.9 percent. Bread lines fanned throughout the nation.

George Ivey's term began in 1931, marked by an unfortunate decline in membership. Because of the lack of ready cash, Club dues were reduced from \$35 to \$25 per year. Luncheon prices were likewise reduced from \$.90 to \$.75, then to \$.60. Thirty-three members resigned because of their inability to pay dues and meals. Even the annual Ladies Night was canceled to conserve funds. Edgar A "Turk" Terrell succeeded Ivey in 1932. Economic stress continued, and it showed in the Club and its membership. Resignations continued because of the lack of cash. The annual budget was set at \$3,000, and it was met with a surplus of \$21. In the budget was a line item of \$700 for the Crippled Children's Committee. This was to be the inaugural season for the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra.

Meanwhile unemployment nationwide had hit an astounding 24 percent with no end in sight. Auto sales fell 80 percent from 1929. Franklin Delano Roosevelt was elected president.

Junius M. Smith's presidency in 1933 began as membership hit its lowest mark, dropping to a mere 85 members. One out of every four people was unemployed. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg tax rate had dropped to \$1.55, \$.59 less than just six years prior. The city's budget was half of what it was six years before. It appeared that things had finally bottomed out, and optimism took hold. Smith and other officers pushed for increased memberships, and the ranks began to swell. With funds tight, outside speakers could not be paid. Members filled in, handling the programs themselves and building better fellowship and camaraderie.

MEMBERSHIP

07/01/2019 276 *New Members:*
04/07/2020 268
Net Increase -8 *Resignations:* Larry Broome

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS (04/15/2020 – 04/21/2020)

04/16 Susan Nestor
04/16 Will Barnhardt
04/18 Charlie Pitts

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (04/15/2020 – 04/21/2020)

04/16 Nancy & Michael McNelis
04/17 Elizabeth & Bill Bartee

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES (04/15/2020 – 04/21/2020)

11 years – Dumont Clarke
14 years – Marcus Lee
17 years – John Armistead
18 years – Ken Samuelson
23 years – Tony Marciano