



2019 - 2020 Board Members

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1st Qtr Edwin Peacock

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3rd Qtr Jeff Atkinson

4th Qtr Karen Price

“V” AS IN “VICTOR” The Mayor Who Listens and Learns. And Then Acts.



Vi Lyles ~ Charlotte’s vivacious, skillful politician and fifty-ninth Mayor ~ who earned her bachelor’s degree in political science from Queens University and her master’s degree in public administration from UNC-Chapel Hill ~ addressed Charlotte Rotary today and captured the audience from her opening remarks. Our Mayor was generous in thanking Charlotte Rotary President John Lassiter for his long history of service to Charlotte in various roles, inclusive of his Chairmanship of the upcoming Republican National Convention. She spoke of her respect for Fire Chief Reggie Johnson and all Charlotte Firefighters as they daily battle flames, floods, medical emergencies and community disasters at the risk of their own lives. “They do,”

she said, “make a difference in Charlotte and we are fortunate to have them.” She acknowledged City Attorney Patrick Baker, Past City Attorney Mac McCarley and City Councilman Ed Driggs, as well as members of City Council, talented coworkers and so many politicians from both parties who have given time, talent and treasure to make Charlotte a better and safer place in which to live. She spoke frankly of lessons she has learned and the impact they’ve had on how she performs her job as our Mayor. One of the most vital lessons, she shared with us, is the ability to keep calm and smile when others are not behaving as politely as one would wish. “I’ve learned to say, ‘Let’s talk about this a little bit,’ and it seems to work,” she said. “It’s amazing how many new ideas spring forth from listening.”

Noted for her leadership and ability to work “across the aisle,” we saw a taste of those talents as she spoke of her strong commitment to affordable housing, an expanded transit system, recruitment of companies and corporations that will ease unemployment and pay workers a living wage, continued partnerships with universities and colleges so that youth are given the opportunities and tools to succeed in life, and a city where people of all walks of life enjoy the fruits of living together in harmony. Due to her hard work she has secured support from members of both political parties which, in turn, mean good things ahead for Charlotte.

One focus of which she's particularly pleased is the recent vote by City Council to fund 950 units of affordable housing as a result of \$50 million raised via bond money and private funds. Another is her work with the American Workforce Advisory Board ~ providing training and partnerships with colleges and universities ~ which affords youth a path for needed jobs.

Our Mayor talked of the importance of service to our community and the necessity we all share of building understanding of - and *for* - one another. She acknowledged Rotary's mandate of Service Above Self and of the power and strength that results from alliances built between individuals, companies, corporations, organizations and political parties.

Looking toward the future, Mayor Lyles expressed both excitement at the potential for Charlotte's growth (citing as an example, Honeywell Company's move that translates to 150 jobs with an average salary for each employee in the range of \$200,000) as well as realistically seeing challenges to come, i.e.: "Parking. I can never find a parking space uptown."

In summing up, our Mayor stated, "We live in an amazing city. I hope, with all your help, we can continue to work to be the best city in the country." And she concluded by asking us, as Rotarians, to vote *and* to support citizens who serve to make Charlotte better.

She was rewarded with an enthusiastic standing ovation.

Reporter: Marilynn Bowler; *Head Table:* Patrick Baker, John Lassiter, Ed Driggs, Reggie Johnson; *Invocation:* Cheryl Banks; *Introduce Visitors:* Tom Blocker; *Greeter:* Alex Browning & Jeff Atkinson

CLUB NEWS

Three new members this week! **Peirce Ward** introduced long time friend, **Clayton Woodard**. It seems Clayton, Peirce and **Alan Simonini** attended Culver Military Academy in Culver, Indiana back in the day. At the time, it was an all male school. Clayton married his high school sweetheart Myra, who was a faculty member's daughter that was attending Culver as a day student...9 girls, 900 boys. Peirce says he and Alan never had a chance. Peirce shared one more story on Alan – he started his Senior year as a Sergeant and ended a Private. Enough said. Clayton is from Decatur, Texas and has spent a good amount of time working in corporate finance in Charlotte and Winston-Salem. He moved to California in 2003 and worked as an executive recruiter before getting interested in residential real estate. He moved back to Charlotte this year and is with Keller Williams SouthPark. He earned his BA at UNC Chapel Hill and MBA at the University of Virginia. President John has asked Clayton to join the Greeters committee. Welcome Clayton – rcwoodard@att.net.



Robert Daughtridge 'found' Charlotte Rotary and **Luther Moore** was asked to get to know him and answer any questions he might have. Thanks to Luther for sponsoring Robert. Robert is director of marketing and program development for the non-profit Life Connections of the Carolinas, Inc., an organization dedicated to keeping kids out of jail and keeping families connected. Robert's BS in Clinical Psychology (Mount Olive College) has served him well and prepared him for being involved with the Urban League of the Central Carolinas, Jacob's Ladder West, and Work Source East. Luther could not pass up an opportunity to mention Robert's work with Charlotte Pedicabs, which is a privately-owned rickshaw servicing private events and uptown Charlotte. Thanks to Erin Swanson for joining Robert yesterday. Robert will join the Greeters committee. Welcome – robert@lifeconnections.us.





Luther's next new and interesting member to be introduced was **Jim Deas**. Jim was born in Glasgow, Scotland, bilingual French-english, with working Spanish combining experience as a management consultant and Telecom exec (retired from Nortel Networks). After graduating with MA in Classics and Economics and MBA in the UK, he spent a year as assistant to Igor Ansoff, Dean of the Management School at Vanderbilt University. Jim is also a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar! Golf is Jim's main hobby and his handicap is 1 to 3. His great-uncle won the PGA in 1920, is in the World Golf Hall of Fame, and was also the first American-based winner of the Open in 1921. His ancestor David Deas was the first person (in 1743) to import golf clubs and balls to the Americas. Of course his number one hobby is GOLF and President John thanked him for working with the club's upcoming tournament. Thanks to wife Penelope for joining Jim for his Rotary introduction. Jim has been a Rotarian since 2007 (Hilton Head Sunset and Rotary Club of Hilton Head Island) and is an Honorary Member of the Hilton Head Island club. Welcome! jimgolfdeas@hotmail.com

Forwarded by **Bob Culbertson**: 40-minute documentary "Improved Medicare for All" with be shown Tuesday, August 13, 10:30am at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 3400 Beatties Ford Road.

Waters Incorporated (**Martin Waters**) has moved to 10100 Park Cedar Drive, Ste 190 (28210).

Pender McElroy updated email: pmcelroy1958@gmail.com, cell 704-236-7040.

Bob Phifer updated home: 5633 Ballinard Ln, (28277), 704-577-5798.

Bill Loftin will be distributing new Rosters at next week's meeting. Thank you, Bill!

Next week's meeting is **BACK at the hotel...**

Be sure to check your email for an update on the Rotary Scholarship Golf Classic.

Follow-Up

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

MEMBERSHIP

07/01/2019	276
07/16/2019	281
Net Increase	+5

New Members: Terri Guthrie, Russell Peck, Kevin Poet, Robert Daughtridge, Jim Deas, Clayton Woodard, Mary Ellen Player (reinstated)

Resignations:

APPROVE FOR MEMBERSHIP *(Comments to Rotary Office by 7/23/19)*

Jensen M. Caudle

South State Bank (*Classification*: Banking, Regional)

Sponsor: Neal Triompo

Endorsed: Catherine Browning and Martin Waters

Visitors	21
Club Members	134
Total	155 (58.3%)

Guests: Paul Haddock, Kay Cunningham, Mike O'Brien, Mary Grace Lostetter, Barbara Metropoulos, Emma Allen, Vickie Smith, Jesus Ibarra, Sandra Moore, Brooke Reddington, George McLanauan, Bob Hopkins,

Adam Wood, Renee Ellmers, Susan zumBrunnen, Marisa Mato, Mary Rocque, Grainger Pierce, Carolyn Saunders, Erin Swanson

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS (07/24/19 – 07/30/19)

07/26 Bill Nichols

07/27 Sadler Barnhardt

07/29 Bill Barnhardt, Roger Sarow, Nikki Keith

07/30 Nancy McNelis, Hank Donaghy

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (07/24/2019 – 07/30/19)

07/25 Tracy & Brian Huber

07/26 Debbie & Bruce Darden, Courtney & Rex Reynolds

07/28 Rosanne & Umberto Torresan

07/29 Whitney & Travis Vance

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES (07/24/2019 – 07/30/19)

01 year – Noelle Culler, Dale Halton

02 years – Devon Cains

03 years – Umberto Torresan

04 years – Kim McMillan

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

07/23 – Mick Mixon, Voice of the Carolina Panthers

07/30 – Richard Vinroot, “10 Things on my Mind”

08/06 – David Gilbert, Destination Cleveland

08/13 – How I Got Where I’m At (*Andy Dinkin, Chad Lloyd, Rhonda York*)

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