



## 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

1<sup>st</sup> Qtr Edwin Peacock

2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr Ron Kimble

3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr Jeff Atkinson

4<sup>th</sup> Qtr Karen Price

## GARY GREEN

### Compass Group North America – The Quiet Company of Charlotte Speaks



How many of you knew a company named The Compass Group NA has their home office near the airport on Yorkmont Road? Where more than 6,000 employees reside in three six story buildings, providing the operations for the leading food service company in North America and generate more than \$20B in annual revenue? That's 63% of the \$30B (+) in annual revenue Compass International achieves in 50 countries around the world. Bringing this news this week was our speaker, Gary Green, CEO, who remarked that it's ok that they are not a household name. Their culture prides itself on being humble. A primary reason you may not have heard of them is that their 28 sector companies are branded under different names with their own CEOs, cultures and market sectors. The Compass Group serves all these underlying companies by providing an economy of scale to the accounting, purchasing, and IT functions.

As Gary spoke it was abundantly clear that the Charlotte operation and Gary in particular, has been the spark providing the sector companies a good deal of the motivation and cheerleading needed to create their results. Forbes recently recognized them as one of the fifty companies changing the world. In the US they continue to grow, outpacing all competition, increasing revenues more than \$1.5B annually.

Gary's remarks were entertaining and engaging. For many of us, his passion, sincerity and informality reflected a persona with whom we would be delighted to work and led by. In his opening remarks he humorously shared the cultural adjustments he and his wife Jane experienced 25 years ago, moving from his native London to Spartanburg and soon after, to Charlotte. Along the way, he entertained us with samples of his wife's cultural gaffes and his daughter's coaching of his conversations with millennial sales reps.

In 1994 when they started the North American company in Charlotte they had no sales. So as stated above, the growth to \$20B has been phenomenal. At first, they bought great companies in each sector to get their foothold, a business plan that probably would not work today. Since then the growth has been organic. They now serve 98 of the top 100 Fortune companies: The Kentucky Derby, the Oscars, universities, hospital systems, private and public schools, and 1000s of others. Their competitive advantage has been their decentralized approach, often beating the price of competitors because of their economy of scale purchasing power and providing great service backed by an employee base with very low turnover. That low turnover is a result of their culture, how they care for and respect both their existing employees and those who have retired.

Internally The Compass Group North America has been benchmarking their success by client retention which over the last 25 years has increased from 88% to 96.9%. They do not advertise their quiet success, but the word is definitely out to Charlotte Rotary!

Reporter: Ed Wadsworth; Head Table: Don Millen, John Lassiter, Ron Kimble, Will Barnhardt; Invocation: Jerry Coughter; Introduce Visitors: Tom Blocker; Photos: Sandy Osborne; Greeters: Patrick Baker, Joe Gass

## CLUB NEWS

DONE and FUN....COMMUNITY MATTERS CAFÉ and QUEENS ROTARACT OPERATION SANDWICH



Congratulations to Chief (retired) [Luther Fincher](#) – Hall of Legands, Legacies and Leaders: Class of 2019. Chief Luther Fincher was hired by Charlotte Fire Department in January 1966 and rose through the ranks to the position of chief in 1987. He was the city’s first hazardous materials coordinator and directed the implementation of the 17 recommendations established by the Mayor’s Blue Ribbon Committee on Chemical Safety. He was president of the IAFC – International Association of Fire Chiefs in 1999-2000 and the only chief to serve on the IAFC and National Fire Protection Association boards of directors at the same time.

Submit your written nomination for the [Excellence in Leadership Award](#) to Phil Van Hoy or Sandy Osborne not later than December 3, 2019. The club will recognize the 30<sup>th</sup> recipient of the award at the February 25, 2020 luncheon at Myers Park Country Club. Consider the following: success in the nominee’s profession and business or organization; visionary leadership and execution; significant contributions for the good of the Charlotte region; civic mindedness and community involvement; humble in their success; and a reputation for character in keeping with the values of the Four-Way Test.



The Salvation Army - Bell Ringing at the Square – November 25 through December 13

11:30am – 12:30pm

11/25/19 Glenn Paton, Rex Reynolds  
 11/26/19 Hank Donaghy, Chad Lloyd  
 11/27/19 Jerry Coughter, Will Barnhardt

12:30pm – 1:30pm

Jason Otte, Linwood Bolles  
 Diego Ramon, MaShona McAfee  
 Ed Wadsworth, Gray Langley

12/02/19 Ron Campbell, Mike Guacci  
 12/03/19 Dan Rajkowski, Mark Norman  
 12/04/19 Robert Daughtridge, **OPEN**  
 12/05/19 Jesse Hite, Ken Poe, Fred Brown  
 12/06/19 Roger Sarow, Tom O'Brien

Lynn Johnson, Travis Vance  
 Marilyn Bowler, Bob Bowler  
 David Tobin, Jim Deas  
 Dumont Clarke, Ed Pickett  
 Catherine Bracey, Carla DuPuy

12/09/19 The Cantrell Family  
 12/10/19 Stuart Hair, Mike Wollinger, Robert Salmon  
 12/11/19 Elizabeth Teagarden, Scott Anderson  
 12/12/19 David Zimmerman, Fred Wagner  
 12/13/19 Jeff Atkinson, Luther Moore

Scott Gakenheimer, Diego Ramon  
 Kim Brattain, Bill Gill  
 Benton Bragg, Kandi Deitemeyer  
 Clayton Woodard, Tom Blocker  
 Pat Millen, Eileen Keeley & Sam

Foundation chair [Bill Bradley](#) recognized the following for their support of OUR Foundation: *Paul Harris Fellow*: [Terri Guthrie](#), [Mike Ranson](#); *Level 3*: [Rex Reynolds](#), [Harriman Jett](#), [John Cantrell](#); *Level 6*: [Warren Kean](#); *Level 7*: [Russell Ranson](#), [Bill Loftin](#). As the year 2019 is winding down, please get your donations for the Foundation into the Rotary office not later than December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Assistant Governor Sean Gautam presented a check for \$11,000 that represents District Grants awarded to Charlotte Rotary in the areas of four key initiatives: literacy, environmental, tree planting, and veterans.

Past President [Tom Bartholomy](#) announced he and Durenda are moving to the mountains to be closer to aging parents and family. Tom is a remarkable person and we hope he will visit his friends at Charlotte Rotary every chance he gets.

## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

*Chad Lloyd is working hard to identify/promote and sign up volunteers for LOTS of service projects. Please look over the below information and let Chad know you can help. [clloyd@mihomes.com](mailto:clloyd@mihomes.com) or [chad.lloyd@yahoo.com](mailto:chad.lloyd@yahoo.com)*

- *The Independence Fund*: Help build a handicap ramp for Marine Wounded Warrior, Nick Firth. Up to 12 Rotarian volunteers are needed on **November 21**; 9AM-5PM (can be split into shorter shifts). Thanks to [Chad Lloyd](#), [Russell Peck](#), [Robert Daughtridge](#), [Mike Wollinger](#), [Will Barnhardt](#), [Joe Gass](#) and [John Nicolay](#) for participating in this event.

- *Christmas Morning Breakfast* at Charlotte Rescue Mission: 40 volunteers needed to serve breakfast. Arrive by 6:15AM; white (collar) shirt, black pants (bow tie will be provided). Sign up: [www.charlotterotary.org](http://www.charlotterotary.org), click on Service, last column on the right has a sign-up box. Questions may be directed to Joe Penner, [jpenner@medic911.com](mailto:jpenner@medic911.com). *IF you are interested in chairing this event next year*, please let Joe or Bob Webb ([bwebb@myers-chapmen.com](mailto:bwebb@myers-chapmen.com)) know.



Our club is partnering with [SHARE Charlotte](#) on group volunteering activities.

We would like to SHARE an opportunity with you:

- *Thursday, December 12, 5-7PM, Wells Fargo Atrium Uptown*  
SHARE Charlotte and the Charlotte Business Journal are teaming up to celebrate Charlotte businesses who give back with [#BizGivesCLT](#). This event brings together Charlotte's for-profit and non-profit business community to celebrate local philanthropy. We need 5-10 people to staff the event.

To participate, email [colleen@branstorm.com](mailto:colleen@branstorm.com)

## MEMBERSHIP

07/01/2019	276	<b>New Members:</b>
11/19/2019	281	
Net Increase	+5	<b>Resignations:</b> Dusty Holcomb, Rock Miralia, Mary Ellen Player

Visitors	9
Club Members	121
Total	130 (52.4%)

Thanks for bringing a guest: Bobby Thompson and Richard Bett with [Phil Volponi](#); Liz Breyer-Johnson with [Mike Hawley](#); Bob Morgan with [Ron Kimble](#); Darren Siler and Brian Micek with [David Tobin](#); Bryan Zeiss with [Tony Zeiss](#); LaShawn Crawford with [Brian Carn](#); Assistant Governor Sean Gautam

## CELEBRATIONS

### **BIRTHDAYS (11/27/19 – 12/03/19)**

11/29 T. J. McCullough

11/30 Byron Bullard; Tony Marciano; Bob Freeman

12/03 Steve Meckler

### **WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (11/27/2019 – 12/03/19)**

None

### **ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES (11/27/2019 – 12/03/19)**

04 years – Wangzhong Lu

07 years – Judy Wishnek

09 years – Henry Batten

12 years – Dan Rajkowski

17 years – Floyd Davis

25 years – Herb Harriss

27 years – Pat Millen

32 years – Tom O'Brien

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

*(All meetings at the Fairfield Inn & Suites, 201 S. McDowell St., unless otherwise noted)*

11/26 – Tracy Dodson, Assistant City Manager, Economic Development

12/03 – How I Got Where I'm At ([Brian Carn](#), [Jessica Mallicote](#), [Mike Wollinger](#))

12/10 – Chief Ken Putney, CMPD

12/17 – Music provided by Inreach Singers

12/24 – Holiday – Not Meeting

12/31 – Holiday – Not Meeting

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