



September 24, 2019

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

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

## BOB MORGAN Robinson Bradshaw & Hinson



John Lassiter introduced our speaker, Bob Morgan. Bob is currently the Director of Public Affairs at Robinson Bradshaw. Prior to joining Robinson Bradshaw, Bob served as president and CEO of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce for 13 years. During that time the Chamber announced the relocation of 789 companies, nearly 70,000 new jobs and \$6.7 billion in new investment. Prior to his time with the Charlotte Chamber, Bob was CEO of the Gaston Chamber of Commerce. Prior to that, he worked for Alex McMillan when he was a US House of Representative which is where John Lassiter worked with Bob.

Bob said he was happy to be back at Charlotte Rotary again. At Robinson Bradshaw, Bob focuses his work on three areas – (1) growing the economic development practice; (2) building a government relations practice; and (3) general business development.

Bob mentioned that Robinson Bradshaw is 60 years old and was founded by long time Charlotte leaders – Russell Robinson, Bob Bradshaw, Carlton Fleming and Robin Hinson. The firm currently has three offices in Rock Hill, Research Triangle and Charlotte. It has 44 practice areas and offers comprehensive corporate legal services. Bob describes their 145 attorneys as wickedly smart. Within that group, there are 71 attorneys who are recognized among the best lawyers in American and 51 who are considered super lawyers.

As the Director of Public Affairs, Bob is able to leverage his 30 years of experience having worked for Alex McMillan, the Gaston Chamber of Commerce and the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce. The best part of his new job is he still gets to talk about Charlotte.

Bob's family goes back to the 1750s. They grew up in Rowan County, Stanly County, Cabarrus County, Gaston County and Mecklenburg County. In 1971, Bob moved here when he was six years old. There were 240,000 people and according to Allen Tate the area focused on the big three R's of racing, rasslin, and religion. Bob discussed significant moments in Charlotte history that helped make us the thriving city we are.

In 1978, IBM relocated to Charlotte bringing 1,000 jobs and those employees helped us to focus more on education. Also in 1978, liquor by the drink was passed which was one of the most significant economic development events in our history. In the 1980s, there were numerous economic developments – Royal Insurance, the expanded airport, Discovery Place, Blumenthal PAC, regional interstate banking led by Hugh McColl, the Charlotte Hornets, and the Sear's headquarters competition. The Sears competition involved Sears moving from downtown Chicago. They considered Charlotte and we lost that competition BUT that loss opened people's eyes to what Charlotte had to offer and helped us to transition to the 1990s.

The 1990s experienced some very positive economic development events – the national interstate banking movement, the Carolina Panthers, UNC Charlotte developing PhD programs, Transamerica, Coltec, Hearst, and the 1998 sales tax referendum for transit/land use which led to light rail and some significant economic development.

In the 2000s, we had center city commercial and residential development explode, the blue line opened in 2007, the light rail extended to UNC Charlotte in 2018 and banks consolidated. The payoff on all that work over the last 12 months has been dramatic. In that time, we have had relocations of Lending Tree, Avid Exchange, Honeywell, Truist Bank and Lowe's Tech Center. We are attracting talent.

As we look to future growth over the next 20 years which will take us from 2.5 million residents to 3.5 million residents, Bob said we have to focus on six things:

1. Invest in transportation and be creative in how we fund it. Increase the highway capacity using private/public partnerships. Grow the airport
2. Insist on a very high quality of development and design.
3. Reduce crime and make this the safest city
4. Invest in all forms of public infrastructure through bonds
5. Find ways to promote civic cohesiveness
6. Maintain our entrepreneurial orientation and elect public officials who are willing to take risks

*Reporter: Jim Kelley; Head Table: Ken Poe, John Lassiter, Lori Giang, Carla DuPuy; Invocation: Charlie Bones; Introduce Visitors: Ken Poe; Photos: Sandy Osborne; Happiness: Mark Turner; Greeter: Kevin Poet & Chuck Dahlgren*

## CLUB NEWS

**The Rotary Foundation:** [Bill Bradley](#) chairs the club's committee for The Rotary Foundation (TRF), whose mission is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. Bill educated the group on the meaning of being a Paul Harris Fellow (*recognition of an individual who contributes \$1000 to TRF*); identified Rotary International's six areas of focus (*prevent disease, provide clean water, support education, grow local economies, health services for mothers & children, and promoting peace*); and the crowning accomplishment is the near eradication of Polio from the planet.

Local projects that have been funded by District Grants include: park benches in Shelby; Charlotte South's Beach Blast (*500 inner city kids are taken to the beach for a day*); shoes for low income kids in Salisbury; restoration of the Grist Mill behind Myers Park High School; indestructible soccer balls for Street Boys of Nairobi; and our own club's soccer initiative.

Global grants (*over \$30,000*) have helped provide: basic eye care in East India for cataract surgery; Nepal after the 2015 earthquake; multiple projects in Alto Cayma Peru where club member, [Jim Hintz](#) devotes half of his time serving this part of the world.

Bill wrapped it all up by saying we are all part of the largest club in our district and it is our duty, obligation and just the right thing to do in supporting our organization's efforts to improve our world. A recurring gift of \$25 or \$100 a month, a quarter or whatever you are comfortable with is the way to support our club's effort to improve the community and the world. Enroll online: [www.rotary.org/give](http://www.rotary.org/give). OR, call the Rotary office if you would like your donation to be added to your quarterly invoice.

**Queens University Rotaract Club:** Anthony Raftis and Paulette Jimenez, Queens University of Charlotte Rotaract Club, visited again this week. Anthony specifically asked to be seated with someone in sports marketing and event planning. **Pat Millen** immediately came to mind and the two were introduced. Paulette asked to meet someone in nursing and healthcare and mentioned she had sat with **Carla DuPuy** the week before, where they talked about Carla's work at Carolinas Healthcare System. The group put out a request for a speaker that could talk about service, leadership, etc. at their November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting and **Jim Hintz** answered the call. If you are on Jim's email distribution for all things Alto Cayma, you know he is very involved with Rotaract in Peru and talk about service! Connecting with and mentoring these future leaders hits the very core of how Rotaract works. It's a good thing for all concerned.

**Happiness: Terri DeBoo's** Happiness segment is worth repeating because it is so on point. Terri explained she was filling in for **Mark Turner** and knew this would be easy because all in this room represent happiness. Terri said "it starts when you walk in the room to see the happy faces at the door, then you enter the room to see the warm and inviting face of **Sandy** and whoever is ready at the guard to beep your badge. The team at the guest check-in table waiting to gather the guests' names and write them so that no one can pronounce them and bring a smile to all our faces. Then seeing all of you...**Ralston**, an amazing man; **Marilynn**, such a dear woman; our president **John** who keeps us on task with his proper and stalwart charm; **Tom** with his warm humor and quick to smile personality; **Bill Bartee** – have you met a happier guy? **Angela** who I wait to see on Tuesday for a check in through our busy lives; **Martin** and his impeccable wardrobe; **Rhonda, Michael, David, Lynn, Susan, Edwin, Luther, Ken, Jim, Rudy, Jerry, Carla, Ranjay, Lee, Nancy, John**...all of you! My 3 minutes limit me from naming you all!"

Follow up to last week's program – **Edwin Peacock** wanted to share a bit more about Chas Fagan: <http://static.c-spanvideo.org/files/pressCenter/Chas+Fagan+Trump+Portrait+Press+Release+12.28.16+v2.pdf>

**Foundation Banquet:** Everyone should have received an email from the District about the **Foundation Banquet**. Please consider supporting and attending this event that will be held at the Ballantyne Resort & Hotel on November 15. Additional details: 6PM fellowship & cocktails; 7PM dinner with keynote speaker Larry Lunsford (*Past RI Director and Current Aide to RI President*); program to conclude at 9:15PM; cocktail attire, \$65/person or \$120/couple. Registration available at [www.dacdb.com](http://www.dacdb.com) (or ask Sandy to register you). **Noelle Culler** and **Bill Gill** are working with the District Banquet committee – thanks to both!



## ROTARY CLUB OF CHARLOTTE CHARTERED DECEMBER 1, 1916

This club has a very rich history and for the next year, I plan to share some of it in the newsletters. If you were a member of the club when the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book was published in 1995, you may have read some of this. The below covers how the club was chartered...

(By J. Norman Pease) "The history of the Charlotte Rotary Club could only be well told by giving credit to the small group of people who pioneered the Charlotte Club. We refer specifically to Perrin Quarles who compiled the first chapter of the forty year record published by Charles Stone. This chapter read as follows:

"In the spring of 1916 I had occasion to visit my brother-in-law, H. Frank McGee of Spartanburg, S.C., who was the manager and part owner of the Aug. W. Smith Co. While there he asked me if we had a Rotary Club in Charlotte. I told him no. What was it? He explained to me what a wonderful Civic Club it was. That there was one in Greenville, S.C., as

well as in Spartanburg, S.C., and certainly Charlotte should have one.

“When I returned to Charlotte, I contacted Captain John A. Parker, an attorney, who represented my Insurance Company for titles to mortgage loans. John told me he had a lawyer friend, a Mr. Bloom of Richmond, VA., who had spoken to him about forming a Rotary Club in Charlotte. He had him to come to Charlotte for a preliminary meeting.

“John called in the following business men for this Conference: Frank Lethco, President, Charlotte Laundry; Clarence O. Kuester, Mgr., Kuester-Lowe Company (Wholesale Grocery Co.); Charles A. Williams, Sr., President, Williams-Shelton Co. (Wholesale Dry-Goods Co.); John A. Parker, Attorney; J. Perrin Quarles, Manager, The Equitable Life Assurance Society.

“We were going along with the organization plan, when the Mexican ‘flare-up’ occurred and Captain Parker and his National Guard Company were ordered to Texas. This upset our plans for the time being as John was handling the details. A little later his associate, W. M. (Bill) Wilson, and I got busy with the details and after several conferences with other business men and prominent citizens a group met on October 7, 1916, for the purpose of organizing the Charlotte Rotary Club.

“One of the prime men in helping to form the Club was Tom G. Lane, who was elected the first secretary of the Club. On October 24, 1916 the organization meeting was held at the Selwyn Hotel. We had about 47 members, but only 37 qualified and 27 came to the meeting.

“The following Directors were elected: For the three year term: Fred Glover, Ralph Miller, and Rogers Davis. For the two year term: H. M Victor, J. P. Quarles, and C. C. Coddington. For the one year term: C. O. Kuester, John L. Dabbs, and Charles A. Bland.

“The first Board meeting was held on October 28, 1916, in the office of the Mill-Power Supply Company, and the following officers were elected: Rogers W. Davis, President; John L. Dabbs, Vice-President; Thomas G. Lane, Secretary; Fred Glover, Treasurer; James O. Walker, Sergeant-at-Arms.

“On November 14, 1916, the Board of Directors met to set the date for the Inaugural Dinner, when the Charlotte Club would become affiliated with Rotary International Association. This meeting was held at the Selwyn Hotel on Tuesday, December 5, 1916, at 8pm and District Governor Thomas B. McAdams, of Richmond, VA., formerly of Chester, SC, gave the inaugural address. Our Club, No. 256, joined the other cities in Virginia, North and South Carolina, which comprised the 7<sup>th</sup> District of Rotary.

“President Rogers Davis presided. The Charter was presented by District Governor McAdams, and President Davis accepted with a graceful speech. The date of the Charter is December 1, 1916.

“It is interesting to note that it required about six months to form the Charlotte Club. Also, that of the five original promoters, only three became members: C. O. Kuester, Charles A. Williams, Sr., and J. Perrin Quarles. Capt. Parker remained in the Army and was killed in an airplane. Frank Lethco never joined.”

### **CHARTER MEMBERS – ROTARY CLUB OF CHARLOTTE**

December 1, 1916

C. A. Bland	Brent Drane	D. H. McCollough	F. M. Simmons
L. C. Burwell	J. D. Duncan	Herbert McDonald	M. B. Speir
Dr. D. S. Caldwell	J. W. Ferguson	W. L. McDonald	J. L. Staton
Banks R. Cates	George Fitzsimmons	Dr. J. P. Matheson	W. B. Sullivan
P. M. Cave	H. B. Fowler	C. A. Mees	E. C. Sweeney
E. H. Chisolm	John W. Fox	R. W. Miller	Z. V. Taylor
C. C. Coddington	F. W. Glover	S. R. Moore	H. M. Victor
W. S. Creighton	V. J. Guthery	C. W. Parker	J. O. Walker
John L. Dabbs	H. S. Hall	H. B. Patterson	J. Frank Wilkes
Rogers W. Davis	C. C. Hook	R. M. Pound	C. A. Williams, Sr.
R. H. DeButts	C. O. Kuester	J. Perrin Quarles	W. M. Wilson
W. C. Dowd, Sr.	Thomas G. Lane	B. F. Roark	

## MEMBERSHIP

07/01/2019 276 **New Members:** Bobby Stochl, Jensen Caudle, Brooke Reddington, Diego Ramon  
09/24/2019 284  
Net Increase +8 **Resignations:** Brent Cagle

Visitors 11  
Club Members 102  
Total 113 (44%)

Thanks for bringing a guest: Woodson Bradley with [Bill Bradley](#); Steven Collazo with [Andy Dinkin](#); Kay Cowling with [Russell Peck](#), Amanda Fewless with [Jay Westmoreland](#), Grainger Pierce with [Phil Van Hoy](#), Tod Stevens with [Wes Jones](#), Lynn Wheeler with [Sandy Osborne](#), Anthony Raftis & Paulette Jimenez with Queens Rotaract, Steve Eanes with [Colleen Brannan](#), and Jason Otte with [Terri DeBoo](#)

### **Approve for Membership (comments to Rotary office by 10/01/19)**

Paul F. Haddock, III  
Fairclough & Co. (Classification: Clothier, Menswear)  
Sponsor: David Zimmerman  
Endorsed: Mike Ranson and Edwin Peacock

## CELEBRATIONS

### **BIRTHDAYS (10/02/19 – 10/08/19)**

10/03 Karen Price  
10/04 Mike Hawley  
10/06 Dick Klingman

### **WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (10/02/2019 – 10/08/19)**

10/02 Colleen & Scott Brannan; Karen & Darren Price  
10/03 Betsy & Matt Joyner; Lori & Mike Giang  
10/03 Michele & T. J. McCullough; Beth & Rick Handford

### **ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES (10/02/2019 – 10/08/19)**

03 years – Jeff Atkinson  
06 years – Larry Hyatt  
11 years – Hank Donaghy (in this club)

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

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

10/01 – Dr. Ray Hodgson, Life and Death in Nepal  
10/08 – Michael Smith, Charlotte Center City Partners  
10/15 – Dena Diorio, Mecklenburg County Manager, County Priorities  
10/22 – Dan Clodfelter, Utilities Commissioner  
10/29 – Gene Woods, Atrium Health

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