



August 4, 2020

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

2020- 2021 Board Members

President Jerald Coughter

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Past Pres John Lassiter

Secretary Bill Bradley

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Suzanne Bledsoe

Kim McMillan

Rex Reynolds

Ranjay Sarda

John zumBrunnen

Membership Clyde

Robinson

Foundation John Tabor

Programs Elly Clary

Jeff Atkinson

Cheryl Banks

Bill Barte

Bill Bradley

Kim Brattain

David Tobin

DISTRICT GOVERNOR MIKE WALKER



Former district governor and Charlotte club president Luther Moore welcomed District Governor Mike Walker to Charlotte Rotary on August 5 as he began his requisite district governor's annual visits to clubs in 7680. For the first time visits will be virtual via Zoom because of the pandemic.

Luther and DG Mike are not only Rotarians who have shared leadership positions, they are also neighbors. Said Luther, Mike and I have ended up at the same meeting many times and we've said to each other 'We should have ridden together.' But we've done it only once. DG Mike's wife Susan is also a Rotarian; both are South Charlotte club members.

"It's a year like no other," DG Mike said. RI President Holger Knack is the first German ever to head RI. His 2020-2021 theme appropriately is "Rotary Opens Opportunities," the DG said, noting that he added "new" based on circumstances – "Rotary Opens *NEW* Opportunities"

"We've got this!" he said. "After all, we're creative Rotarians with an amazing get-it-done track record. Luckily, we live in the age of high-speed internet, Zoom, smartphones and much more. "Rotarians don't quit," he said, noting that membership is down only about 2%. "It's a temporary blip on the radar for most Rotarians. Our two Rotary words of the year are also apropos: adaptability and connections."

He shared general principals adopted by the RI board in its April meeting:

- "The health and safety of all participants in Rotary programs, meetings, and events are of paramount importance.
- "No in-person meeting or event shall be mandatory for any Rotary participant who may feel uncomfortable attending because of the pandemic.
- "All conveners and organizers of Rotary meetings are strongly encouraged to consider all health concerns in deciding whether to hold in-person meetings.
- "All conveners and organizers of Rotary meetings shall fully comply with all health and safety rules in effect in that location."

With "an abundance of caution" and a consistent policy for all districts:

- All district-level and above events through 2020 will be virtual.
- RI "strongly encourages" 2020 DG club visits to be virtual.

- The January 30, 2021 Foundation Celebration and 2021 District Conference in April will be in-person but could easily change to virtual.
- Clubs should continue meeting virtually and follow guidance from their governments.

For easy updates: go to (<http://rotary7680.org/coronavirus-updates.php>).

Not surprisingly, there will be significant emphasis on adding new members, especially younger folks. DG Mike noted that RI founder Paul Harris was a seaman on a trans-Atlantic cattle ship, orange picker in Louisiana and a marble and granite salesman for five years after law school before settling down as a lawyer. He started Rotary at age 36.

“The lesson,” the financial advisor said, “is you never know what someone will accomplish based on their *current* job or age. Look at their *potential!*”

DG Mike described his ideal future Rotarian as three-sided: “a leader by mindset, with classy values, who likes to get things done. Regularly invite people like this to join,” he said. “The world needs a *much* bigger Rotary now!” DG Mike urged us “to invite more people under 40. Listen to their ideas for growth and service. You might be amazed. Or, in my case, grateful.”

He cited as proof that the next two DGs – Nico Iannelli and Kam Chandan – joined Rotary in their 30s and “have done amazing things. They will be DGs in their 40s!” He invited all members to view his installation introduction, created by our own Kim Brattain. <https://bit.ly/MikeWalkerInstallationIntro>.

He noted two critical challenges this year

- Creating great new member experiences – *adaptability* – “for new members, regularly making sure their motives for joining are being met. For all members, a great meeting experience, whether as a ‘Zoomie’ or in-person – is central.”
- Creating great member care – *connections*. In a Zoom world, connections must be far more deliberate,” he said. “So, please, after the meeting, pick up the phone and call a member you haven’t seen at a meeting in quite a while. It really is as easy as *deliberate connections*.”

DG Mike said he is pleased that The Rotary Foundation has added a seventh area of focus. “Supporting the environment is new in 2020!” It joins the former six areas: peace and conflict; prevention/resolution; disease prevention and treatment; water and sanitation; maternal and child health; basic education and literacy; and economic and community development.

He also recommended the foundation’s Rotary Direct – online giving – “as the new way to go! It’s convenient, secure and simple.” (<https://www.rotary.org/donate>) “Check it out. Sign up for \$85/month, and you’re set up to be a Paul Harris Society member (\$1,000+/year).

The Florida native also recommended C.A.R.T. Coins for Alzheimer’s Research Trust (<http://www.cartfund.org/>) which he called “the venture capital for cutting edge, promising Alzheimer’s research.” It provides the first \$100,000 to \$250,000 of research money with fast turnaround to researchers. Initial C.A.R.T. funding often leads to grants many times the size. I believe millions will benefit one day from C.A.R.T. funded research, a portion of what you’ve funded in just the past two years.

C.A.R.T. has a new giving site: <https://mycartfund.org/login.cfm>, “where the giving is easy.” The district C.A.R.T. Team is chair Anna Davis with co-chairs Linda Rakvic and Matt Cooksey

“As hard as it is to believe, not every interesting Rotarian on the planet is in your club,” DG Mike said. There are “more than 75 ways to connect with like-minded Rotarians from all over the world” in such groups as golfing, surfing, motorcycling, skiing, wine.

This is an active rebuilding year for Rotaract in District 7680. A partner not a program, Rotaract will become more integrated into Rotary. "We are asking Rotaractors in clubs you sponsor to be more integrated in club activities, including committees."

It's much the same for Interact Rotary. There are more than 50 clubs in high schools in most of the 14 counties in 7680. Like Rotaract, "Interact is high turnover, thus an ongoing membership challenge. Rotary clubs should stay intricately connected to the school, club leaders and advisors. "Interact is not their only service choice," he said.

Finally, he noted that he is working on a Global Grant to serve District 7680 for first time ever. "Needs have grown dramatically in the past four months. We want to create hands-on opportunities for Rotarians and a hand-up for those in need."

Written By: Henry Bostic

CLUB NEWS

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.

CLASSROOM CENTRAL: Charlotte Rotary has a long history of support to Classroom Central...financially, collecting school supplies, and hands-on volunteers to assist teacher shopping days. The club needs to confirm continued support to provide volunteers the first and last Tuesday of each month, with the most likely job being to load supplies in teachers' cars. [Catherine Bracey](#) is chairing this committee and there's lots of flexibility to participate every month, every other month, or even once a quarter. Please reach out to Catherine and let her know YOU can HELP. csbracey@aol.com.

GOLF TOURNAMENT: Golf registrations are picking up and we're now at 55 confirmed. Once the remaining sponsors confirm their teams, we will be in much better shape. Thanks to the following for their registration: [David Zimmerman](#), [Greg Hatcher](#), [Wes Clark](#), [Will Hadley](#), [Don Millen](#), [Carla DuPuy](#), [Katie Tyler](#), [Nancy McNelis](#), [Judy Wishnek](#), [Dena Diorio](#), [John Phillips](#), [Scott Gakenheimer](#), Bill Moore, Sheriff's Office. [Kandi Deitemeyer/CPCC](#), [Mike Wollinger/First Bank](#).

The Golf Committee is seeking silent auction items. This will replace the raffle which raised about \$3,500 last year. Specifically, we are looking for foursomes at local clubs. We are looking for Rotary members to see if they can secure a foursome, with limitations outlined by the clubs, as a donation from their County Clubs. As the event is fast approaching, September 28th, we need a quick response. Thank you for your support.

Please call ((828) 808-4537) or email Mike Wollinger (mwollinger@localfirstbank.com) with questions.

RALSTON POUND: Daughter Lynn reports Ralston was having a good day on Monday and sounded better than over the weekend. Tripp and Lynn are cleaning out the house and "Commander Pound" is directing via telephone! CARDS: Asbury Care Center, 3800 Shamrock Dr., Midwood Room 104, (28215).

HENRY BOSTIC: Henry has chaired the Reporter committee for probably over twenty years. His committee does a wonderful job of writing up the weekly speaker presentations in a very fast turnaround and they are needing 2 to 5 more volunteers. I will admit this is a rather skilled group and if you're up to it, please reach out to Henry. There are grant writers, reporters, historians and lots of other people in this club that do a lot of writing. Please seriously consider this opportunity.

PAT MILLEN: Friends, all of you on this copy list have been incredible supporters of ours in so many ways. Without your support, E2D would not be able to continue our 8th consecutive annual "Mega Back-to-School D-Day." We are so happy to report however, that we are distributing 400 laptops to families next Saturday, 2 days before school starts up again.

Covid-19 has provided us incredible challenges. --> Money has been tight.

--> Staffing has been tight.

--> Incoming laptops has been incredibly tight!

--> Our production? Surprising and quietly efficient.

--> Our resolve? Never stronger.

This community's need for technology? Interestingly, just about the same. What's new is how much more acutely aware of digital inclusion that everyone has become due to school students' needs.

If you're out and about next Saturday morning, swing by AvidXchange and just come and see the magic and the joy. You are directly responsible for the positive life transformations that so often occur when a family gets access to computer technology. You should get to experience the joy first hand!!

KIM McMILLAN: Kim McMillan shared an update on the good work being done by Freedom School. This organization was a recipient of funding from Charlotte Rotary's Literacy committee.

<https://www.wsocvtv.com/community/9-school-tools/freedom-school-has-critical-role-charlotte-students/WVVLJMRRSJH45L5O73LJECSKRM/>

KASEY LANKES: The Environmental Committee was unable to provide a grant to Discovery Place to support their "Cool Globes" project. Kasey had a chance to visit the display and asked that the information be shared with the club. The globes will be on display at Camp North End through September 8th and they look awesome.

MARTIN WATERS: Talked to Martin on Monday and he is doing great. He had just had lunch with [David Anderson](#) and David encouraged him to join a Zoom call. Hope he'll be able to make a meeting in the near future.

MEMBERSHIP

07/01/2020 258 *New Members:* Amarja Webb

08/03/2020 259

Net Increase +1 *Resignations:*

74 members on today's Zoom call

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS (08/12/2020 – 08/18/2020)

08/12 – Ben Dobson

08/14 – Howard Hoyle

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (08/12/2020 – 08/18/2020)

08/12 – Karen & Mike DeAmicis

08/14 – Kelly & Greg Reagan

08/16 – Frannie & Frank Martin

08/17 – Mary & Mason Alexander

08/18 – Norva & Ed Pickett

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES (08/12/2020 – 08/18/2020)

01 year – Lori Giang

03 years – Margaret Marshall

08 years – J. C. Cousar

10 years – Ben Dobson

19 years – Fred Brown & Wes Clark

UPCOMING PROGRAMS (utilizing Zoom)

08/11 – Bill Russell, President & CEO, Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce

08/18 – Firoz Peera & Carl Davis, Rotary Million Dinner

08/25 – Debbie Rabinovich, Research into the old Brooklyn neighborhood

09/01 – Mike Hill, Athletic Director, Charlotte 49ers

09/08 – Courtney Layne & Ed Hawes, The Mayflower Society

09/15 – How I Got Where I'm At (*Kevin Poet, Reggie Johnson, Michael Norton*)

09/22 – Michael Kahn, Charlotte Checkers

09/29 – Will not be meeting – golf tournament will be held 09/28