



October 13, 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  
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### Programs Elly Clary

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## ALEXYS TAYLOR Charlotte Program – Unity Project NC Outward Bound School



Bill Bartee introduced our speaker– Alexys Taylor is the Charlotte Program Coordinator for North Carolina Outward Bound School (NCOBS). NCOBS' Charlotte Programs include The Charlotte Educator's Course, The Dalton Scholarship, and The Unity Project. The Unity Project is a 7-day fully funded backpacking and rock-climbing course for Charlotte-Mecklenburg high-school students. This course is designed to develop student's courage and compassion as leaders, establish a safe space

to have meaningful and impactful conversations about challenging issues, and to create a community within their crew. Upon returning home, the group forms a Unity Club to organize and implement projects that address issues that affect their community.

Alexys is a Unity Project Alum. She was a part of the 2008 Vance High School Unity Crew and was a Unity Project Intern in 2009. Before her role as NCOBS' Charlotte Program Coordinator, Alexys was a member of the NCOBS' Charlotte Advisory board from 2014 -2020. During her time on the Charlotte Advisory Board, Alexys was not only the youngest member of the board, but she was also the Program Committee Chair and she created a mentorship program for the Dalton Scholarship. She is a graduate of Queens University of Charlotte and was the former Collections & Exhibitions Manager of the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture. Outside of NCOBS, Alexys mentors young people. She is a real estate agent, and she enjoys the outdoors, art history, and spending time with her family in Charlotte and Greensboro.

Alexys explained she is a 2008 Unity Alumnus of NCOBS from West Meck/Vance High School. She also was a 2009 Unity intern and then a member of the NCOBS Charlotte Advisory Board before becoming a staff member in 2020. She then introduced the following members of her advisory board who were on the call today: Joe Ahuja, Pat Babin, Will Barnhardt, David Dalton, Rufus Dalton, Robbie Howell and Leigh Schell.

The Outward Bound program was established in 1933 by Kurt Hahn who first began applying the principle that character development, leadership, and

service should have an equal emphasis as traditional academics within education because there is more in us than we know. There are Outward Bound schools in over 30 countries on six continents worldwide and they prepare people to take on challenges and achieve more than they ever thought possible. There are 11 schools in the US including Asheville, Charlotte and the Outer Banks.

Alexys mentioned there are four pillars to the NCOBS – physical fitness, craftsmanship, self-reliance and compassion. The Charlotte NCOBS has three programs: the Charlotte Educator’s Course for those who work with high school students, The Rufus Dalton Leadership Scholarship which is a 22 day back packing program and the Charlotte Unity Project which is the focus today.

The Charlotte Unity Project is a seven day fully funded course which brings together a diverse group of students from seven schools – Butler, East Meck, FOCUS Garinger, Hawthorne, Mallard Creek, Myers Park and South Meck. Up to 12 students from each school can attend. They back pack and take long hikes in the Pisgah National Forest. The students work as a team and engage in physical activities. The students work to break down barriers and discuss serious issues, such as bullying and racial inequity. They talk with people and learn from people who they have never talked with before.

The positive outcomes the students experience – whether they are middle and high school age, college-age or adults – manifest in the form of increased self-confidence, awareness and respect for the interdependence of individuals and a desire to make a positive difference in their own lives and in the lives of others. Strangers become life-long friends. Small accomplishments on a course become life-long habits. Through shared challenges, adversity, failure and success, students discover and develop new skills, confidence and passion.

The idea that “you are needed,” no matter who you are, is a critical ingredient to the success of Outward Bound programs. And it is this element of inclusiveness and reliance on teamwork that sets an Outward Bound expedition apart from any other learning experience

**Written By: Jim Kelley**

## 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.*

NOTE: [Christine’s](mailto:christine@charlotterotary.org) email address: [christine@charlotterotary.org](mailto:christine@charlotterotary.org). Phone is the same – 704-375-6816.

**RALSTON POUND:** In case you want to send a card to Ralston’s children: Lynn Pound, 610 Pisgah Church Rd, Unit 5 – Greensboro, NC 27455; Trip Pound, Draitsas Groom McCormick, LLP, 7511 N. Remington Ave, Ste 101, Fresno, CA 93711.



Thanks to [Terri DeBoo](#) for setting up the club’s second blood drive.

## MEMBERSHIP

07/01/2020 259 *New Members:*

10/13/2020 246

Net Increase -13 *Resignations:* Terri Guthrie, Greg Forest, Ralston Pound, Mason Alexander

53 participated on the Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2020 zoom call

Guests are always welcome to our meetings. Joining us at the past week's meeting were:

Jay Ahuja, Guest of Bill Bartee

Patricia Babin – NCOBS CAB member, Guest of Will Barnhardt

Rufus Dalton – CAB member and founder, Guest of Will Barnhardt

Dave Dalton – CAB member and president of East West Manufacturing, Guest of Will Barnhardt

Robbie Howell – NCOBS CAB member, Guest of Will Barnhardt and Bill Bartee

Leigh Luther Schell - NCOBS Charlotte Area Board Chair, Guest of Will Barnhardt

## CELEBRATIONS

### **BIRTHDAYS** (10/21/2020 – 10/27/2020)

10/22 – Vanessa Stolen

10/23 – John zumBrunnen

10/24 – Jerry Walters

10/25 – Jim Kelley

10/25 – Michael Norton

10/26 – Wes Sturges

10/27 – Bob Knight

*Happy Birthday to you! And many more!*

### **WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES** (10/21/2020 – 10/27/2020)

10/23 – Sandy and Jim Osborne

10/25 – Brooke and Michael Reddington

10/27 – Daphne and Tom O'Brien

10/27 – Leslie and Andy Dinkin

*Happy Anniversary to you both!*

### **ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES** (10/21/2020 – 10/27/2020)

10/25 – Sandy Osborne, 15 years

*We are happy to have you in our club!*

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS (utilizing Zoom)

10/20 – Christopher S. Lawing, Charlotte Signs Project

10/27 – Live from the Double Door Inn documentarians

11/03 – Dr. Michael Blitzer, Nationally recognized political expert

11/10 – Bo Thompson, WBT Radio