



October 27, 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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Foundation John Tabor

Programs Elly Clary

Jeff Atkinson

Cheryl Banks

Bill Barte

Bill Bradley

Kim Brattain

LIVE FROM THE DOUBLE DOOR INN Jay Ahuja

[Click Here for Zoom Link](#)
Passcode: FV8iD9z!



From 1973 when it opened until 2016 until it closed, The Double Door Inn was a magnet for blues, rock, zydeco, and reggae musicians from all over the world. Some of music's greats including Buddy Guy, Eric Clapton, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Koko Taylor, and J.J. Cale, as well as local legends, graced the stage in this former house on Charlottetown Ave. (formerly Independence Blvd.)

Live from the Double Door Inn – the incredible true story of the Legendary Music Club, traces the history of the club, from its humble beginnings in the mid-1970s to international fame and the hundreds of stories in between. It features interviews with club owner Nick Karres and more than a dozen musicians, bartenders, music promoters and fans.

On Tuesday, executive producer Jay Ahuja and our own Kim Brattain, writer and producer, gave us an inside look at how the documentary came to be.

In 1988, Ahuja joined the staff of The Charlotte Observer. In 1990, he became part of the Break Magazine team, the Observer's answer to Creative Loafing.

Ahuja recalled that at the time Break Magazine had advertising from "every night club, a bunch of restaurants, almost all of Charlotte's entertainment scene except the Double Door Inn. Nick Karres (Double Door Inn founder and owner) was our white whale."

Attempting to get Karres' business, Ahuja came up with an ad concept based on a then-current Budweiser commercial for Bud Dry, a new light beer: "Why Ask Why? Drink Bud Dry." He pitched a campaign "Why ask Where?" that spoofed the Bud commercial. It also featured a beer bottle on which was listed the bands playing for a week followed by the iconic Double Door Inn logo at the bottom.

"Nick loved it and used the ad for years to come," Ahuja recalled. "Nick also became more than a client. We kept in contact over the years."

Fast forward to March 2016. Nick told Abuja he was going to close the venue because of the pressure of encroaching development from CPCC and Novant Health. “The writing was on the wall. He wanted to have all the bands back one more time and have one last New Year’s Eve show before calling it quits.”

Abuja suggested why not make a documentary and preserve the history of the Double Door Inn because it is such an important part of Charlotte’s recent history.

“Nick was all in,” Abuja said. “He opened his Rolodex and did everything he could to help us out.”

Abuja pitched the idea to a buddy, Rick Fitts, a film editor. “We met and he loved the idea.” said Abuja. They needed a writer, Fitts suggested Brattain. The three of met and “got along swimmingly,” Abuja said. Turns out Brattain been going to the Double Door for years, and Fitts had played at the venue with four different bands. Later they brought on Chuck Bludsworth and the videographer.

They spent the next several months filming bands and interviews with 17 musicians, 2 promoters, and a wide variety of folks including the staff. They ended with 80 hours of footage.

Deadline was December 7 because there was to be a private screening at the Double Door. “It was not the final product but close enough,” Abuja said.

Brattain said it is “a privilege to capture the history of the mid-1970s in Charlotte.”

As part of the development process, Brattain said, they wanted to make sure they got the words and the music right. They chose the difficult process of transcribing all the interviews and edited the 80 hours of video to the final product of a half an hour.

She spent a great deal of time on research, attempting to get information, pictures, and film from various archives.

She noted that in doing research to license the documentary, she found eight instances of profanity that had to be cleaned up before it could be shown on public television. The clean version can be seen on UNC-TV.org. The unedited version is available for purchase on Amazon.

Here is a [link](#) to the trailer for the film.

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.

Slate of Officers and Directors: The club will vote on the recommended slate of Officers and Directors at next week’s meeting (Nov. 3, 2020). As stated in our Policies & Procedures, the floor will be open for additional nominations for President-Elect, Treasurer, Secretary and Directors. Before any member is nominated from the floor, that member must have stated to the nominator that he/she is willing to serve. The slate, including nominations from the floor, will be published in the Reporter immediately following that meeting. If there are no further nominations from the floor, the slate will be approved by the members on November 3, 2020

President-Nominee 2022-2023: Bill Bradley

Treasurer 2021-2022: Edwin Peacock

Secretary 2021-2022: Colleen Brannan

Director 2021-2023 (select 7): Ann Clark, Ellison "Elly" Clary, Jesse Hite, Christopher "Chris" Jackson, Warren Kean, Vanessa Stolen, Travis Vance

Executive Secretary, [Sandy Osborne](#) vows this is it! It's official. This is Sandy's last week training her replacement. Although it's been said, thank you for your dedication to the Rotary Club of Charlotte and we will miss you Sandy! Please come back to see us often. Enjoy your retirement and time with your family and those beautiful grandbabies.

Rotaract Advisors: Lee Tabor has served as the Advisor for the Rotaract Club at Queens University of Charlotte for the last several years and we are looking for a new advisor to take on this role. Rotaract is a service club for young men and women ages 18 to 30 who are dedicated to community and international service. Its membership totals over 184,000 in more than 8,000 clubs worldwide. Rotaract clubs are self-governing and self-supporting and can be either university- or community-based. Individual Rotary clubs sponsor Rotaract clubs and offer guidance and support, making the Rotaract clubs true "partners in service" and key members of the family of Rotary. If you would be interested in working with this group, please contact Jerry Coughter.

Meetings: [Herb Harriss](#) wants to go on record as being the first Rotary Club of Charlotte member to join from his hospital bed. Herb reported being hospitalized yesterday but appeared briefly on Zoom to let us know he is feeling much better. Get well soon, Herb!

Zoom: Our club was previously using the District's Zoom account. We have now purchased our own account to potentially help with committee meetings. Contact [Christine Cipriano](#), the new Executive Secretary, at christine@charlotterotary.org or 704-375-6816 for details or to help schedule a meeting.

URGENT NEED - Classroom Central: We are in need of volunteers at Classroom Central on Wednesday, Nov. 4 from 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Reminder, that you need to coordinate your availability with Catherine Bracey. Reach out to Catherine at csbracey@aol.com.

Red Kettle Challenge & Pennies from Heaven campaign – Thank you to [Mark Norman](#) for leading our club in one of our favorite projects – The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign. Due to COVID19, there will not be a physical red kettle at Trade & Tryon as it has been for over 25 years! Therefore, we must get creative!

There are three ways Rotarians can participate:

- Option 1: Join the #RedKettleChallenge. You can join the Red Kettle Challenge by creating your own online fundraising page. [Click here for instructions](#). Share it on your social media pages, e-mail to friends, family and colleagues, or encourage your friends, family and colleagues to set up their own page. Be sure to join the [Charlotte Rotary](#) team when setting up your page.
- Option 2: Donate to Mark's online page by clicking on this link: [Mark's Red Kettle](#). For those who prefer to write a check, please make it out to The Salvation Army and mail it to Mark Norman, 9806 Deer Spring Ln, Charlotte 28210.
- Option 3: Contribute "Pennies from Heaven." Donate your coin jar or help collect coin jars from others. If interested, please contact David Zimmerman at dzimmerman@southernshows.com

Again, every \$50 raised will give you a chance to win a raffle prize to be held in January. Pretty creative plans! [Click here to get the full presentation](#).

MEMBERSHIP

07/01/2020 259 *New Members:*

10/20/2020 241

Net Increase -19 *Resignations:* Terri Guthrie, Greg Forest, Ralston Pound, Mason Alexander,
Mary Grace Lostetter, John Snyder, Ronnie Pruett, Luther Fincher, Bill
Goodwyn

72 participated on the Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2020 zoom call

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

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS (11/4/2020 – 11/10/2020)

Nov. 4 – Julie Haack

Nov. 5 – Travis Vance

Nov. 7 – Lori Giang

Nov. 7 – Rob Thomas

Nov. 8 – Bob Spence

Nov. 8 – Judy Wishnek

Nov. 10 – Mike Rash

Happy Birthday to you! And many more!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (11/4/2020 – 11/10/2020)

Nov. 4 – Susan and John zumBrunnen

Nov. 5 – Rae Ann and Patrick Baker
Page and Ed Kizer

Vanessa and David Stolen

Nov. 6 – Patricia Shafer and Daniel Haight

Nov. 7 – Anne and Russell Ranson

Nov. 10 – Jan and Ron Kimble

Happy Anniversary to the both of you!

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES (11/4/2020 – 11/10/2020)

23 years, Nov. 4 – Robert Freeman

20 years, Nov. 7 – Ron Kimble

6 years, Nov. 4 – Greg Hatcher

2 years, Nov. 6 – Bryce Chambliss

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

UPCOMING PROGRAMS (utilizing Zoom)

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

11/10 – Bo Thompson, WBT Radio

11/17 – Pete Brunnick, Hospice and Palliative Care Charlotte Region

11/24 – George Couchell, Showmar's Restaurants