

PROGRAM



Bobbie Shields
King of the County
By: Suzanne Bledsoe

Ron Kimball introduced Bobbie Shields, the interim manager of Mecklenburg County, playfully dubbing him “King of the County.” Bobbie joined Mecklenburg County as deputy director of the County Engineering Department in 1986 and has held a variety of roles until his appointment as interim manager effective May 7, 2013. Bobbie is a graduate of NC State, (B. S., Civil Engineering, 1975), University of South Carolina (Masters of Engineering, 1983) and UNC-Charlotte (MBA, 1994). In his current role, he provides executive oversight of the County under the direction of the Board of County Commissioners.

While Bobbie admitted that there were a number of issues he could focus on for today’s talk, he chose to highlight the activity around plans regarding the development of parks and recreation services, including nature preserves, sports complexes, greenways, parks, and recreation centers in the county based on his belief that attractive and robust recreational spaces will encourage and promote continued economic development in Mecklenburg County. He described the longstanding plan for an intercity system of parks that would connect all four wards in center city Charlotte.

One of the lesser known gems of uptown Charlotte, and a successful component of this plan, is Fourth Ward Park. The park, bordering Poplar Street comprises three acres of playground, walking trails, decorative and soothing water fountains and welcoming park benches. It is beautifully maintained by the county with the support of community volunteers. Construction is underway for a park in Third Ward, Romare Bearden Park, with a grand opening scheduled for Labor Day weekend. Second Ward will have Brooklyn Village, a private/ public partnership slated to include green spaces surrounded by apartments and office buildings. The plan for a park in First Ward is in the process of seeking private partners and developers with similar intent. Once all the parks are built and in place, center city Charlotte will have ample outdoor space, all connected by various paths, streets and portions of the Greenway. Funding for these projects was approved by voters in 2008; however, utilization of the funds has been dampened by the weakening economy in the intervening years. One challenge to continued implementation of the plan will be the status of education funding to be voted on in November.

Bobbie stressed the importance of the parks and recreation programs to the quality of life in Charlotte as well as the need for sustained economic growth. The willingness of developers and private citizens to partner with the County will enable continued success and the support of the City, Charlotte Mecklenburg School System, Charlotte Housing Authority and similar agencies is critical.

I suggest you all take a moment to visit the county website and learn something about the vast network of recreational resources we have available to us, thanks to the vision and commitment of community leaders like Bobbie and his predecessors.

Head Table: Dumont Clarke, Jenn Snyder, John Tabor, Ron Kimble, Karen Bentley, Mike Crum
Invocation: Jim Kelley; Health, Happiness & History: Tim Newman; BBB Moment: Tom Bartholomy
Visitors & Guests: Bill Bradley; AV: Nikki Keith; Photos: Bert Voswinkel

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

July 30

Fred Cole
Dept. of Agriculture,
GM Charlotte
Farmers Market

August 6

Anne Matthews
VP – Rotary
International

August 13

Kit Cramer
Asheville Chamber

LUNCHEONS Time/Location

12:30 Tuesday
Charlotte Plaza
Uptown Hotel
201 S. McDowell

2013-2014 THEME



CLUB NEWS

- Tom Bartholomy happily announced not a single Rotarian showed up on the Better Business Bureau's mid-year dirty ½ dozen list of the worst rated businesses; Bob Finley accompanied a group of MBA students from the McColl School of Business on a recent international business trip to Buenos Aires, Argentina and Sao Paulo, Brazil.
- Lynn and David Erdman's daughter, Emily, was married to Jonathan Mauney at St. John's Baptist Church on July 13, 2013. Sugi Kim, our former RYE student from South Korea, was in attendance;
- President John highlighted the success of the club's dictionary project. Over a three-year period, approximately 4,000 dictionaries book plated with Rotary's Four-Way Test were delivered to 3rd graders throughout Mecklenburg County. Volunteers will be needed when this year's project rolls around.
- Community volunteer opportunities: 24 Hours of Booty, Myers Park Traditional School, July 26 & 27. www.24hoursofbooty.org; Electric Run Charlotte (benefits Special Olympics), Charlotte Motor Speedway, July 26, <http://electricrun.com/charlotte>.

BY THE NUMBERS

Attendance	07/23/2013	07/24/2012	Membership		New Members: Claire Fallon
Visitors & Guests	10	35	07/01/2013	316	
Club Members	154	161	07/23/2013	316	
Total Attendance	164	196	Net Increase		Resignations:
Percentage	56%				

Birthdays July 30 – August 5

30 Hank Donaghy 31 Karen Calder
31 Bob Hagemann 02 Steve Eanes
02 Vernon Anderson 03 Lamar Thomas
04 Mark Turner 05 Daryl Larner

Anniversaries July 30 – August 5

02 Renita & George Battle 05 Dottie & Jim Barnhardt
05 Jenny Lou & Rob Wright

POSTED FOR MEMBERSHIP (Comments to Rotary Office by July 30, 2013)

George McGough

BDO USA LLP
Classification: Tax Planning
Sponsor: Mark Norman
Endorsed: Mike Hawley, Brian Huber

Jennifer Nichols

The John Crosland School
Classification: Education, Private
Sponsor: Rob Thomas
Endorsed: Darrell Holland, Gregg Walker

Sean Preston

The John Crosland School
Classification: Education, Private
Sponsor: Rob Thomas
Endorsed: Darrell Holland, Gregg Walker

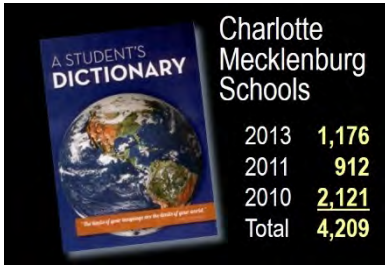
CLUBS SPONSORED BY CHARLOTTE ROTARY

Gastonia in 1919
Mooresville in 1921
Statesville in 1921
Monroe in 1922
Shelby in 1927
Wadesboro in 1927
Albemarle in 1928

West Jefferson in 1938
Mt. Holly in 1944
Dilworth in 1948
Charlotte North in 1952
Charlotte West in 1963
Charlotte East in 1969
Charlotte Top-of-the Week in 1980

Charlotte South in 1984
University City in 1986
North Mecklenburg in 1989
Charlotte Evening Club in 2011

DOING GOOD IN OUR COMMUNITY: DICTIONARY PROJECT



Charlotte
Mecklenburg
Schools

President John highlighted the success of the club's dictionary project. Over a three-year period, approximately 4,000 dictionaries book plated with Rotary's Four-Way Test were delivered to 3rd graders throughout Mecklenburg County.

Volunteers will be needed when this year's project rolls around.

HONORING VICKY

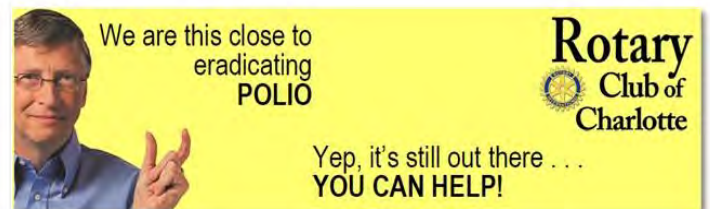


Jenn Snyder and Lee Tabor are leading an effort for a **Rotary Club of Charlotte Team** for the upcoming Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure on October 5th. **A grand idea!** There are two races – a 5K and a “recreational” 5K (which we assume is a “walk”)

If you are interested in participating see Lee, Jenn, or Sandy.

BILLBOARDS

Karen Price with Adams Outdoor Advertising has kindly offered to put Charlotte Rotary billboards up in between their contracted leases. So this week we are asking for ideas from anyone and next week we will vote on the ones to use. So, send us your designs or ideas and we will try to mock them up. These are five that President John came up with.



Have Fun! Send us yours!

LUNCHEON PHOTOS



Joe Gass and Pete Marriott



Jim Kelley and President John



Leland Park with guest Rotarian Bill Workman



Catherine Browning with Guest Tom Wilkens



Karen Bentley and Jenn Snyder



New District 1 Councilman Ken Lindholm, Claire Fallon, and Edwin Peacock



Colleen Brannan, Patrick Cannon, and Jill Dineen



Angela Mauldin with guest Tameka Green



Pat Millen and daughter Franny