CENTENNIAL HISTORY



ROTARY CLUB OF FLORENCE, SC

EDITED BY MARK W. BUYCK, JR., AND HOLLY Y. BEAUMIER

CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF ROTARY CLUB OF FLORENCE, SC 1920 - 2020

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Rotary Club of Florence PO Box 12255 Florence, SC 29501

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A Message from the Founder of the Rotary Club of Florence

J. Boone Aiken

From his address to the Rotary Club of Florence on its 25th Anniversary

Fellow Rotarians,

I speak for those who have lived, loved and worked in Rotary through the years, and still do so. Rotary has been a benediction in our lives, imperfect as they may have been.

We are glad, after many years, to "keep on keeping on" in Rotary, and are happy that many young, determined and progressive Rotarians of ability have filled and enlarged its vacant ranks through the years to the end that the philosophy and activity of Rotary is still a vital force in shaping the destiny of our "One World."

It is not our idea in continuing as active members to feel that our work is already done, but we aspire to the blending of our experience and knowledge gained through the years with the youth, energy, and character of our younger fellow Rotarians that our club may be and ever continue a true composite of the vital forces worthy of our talents and ability.

Let us therefore fellowship – study – work to dedicate and rededicate ourselves to those high principles of "Service above Self" and always remember that "He profits most who serves best." — J. Boone Aiken, 1945



The clock of life is wound but once
And no man has the power
To tell just when the hands will stop
At late or early hour.

Now is the time we own my friends Live, love and work with a will Place no faith in the 'morrow For the hands may then be still.

Robert H. Smith

INTRODUCTION

There are many different impulses that cause an institution like the Rotary Club of Florence to look back at the road it has traveled over its first 100 years. Curiosity, pride, diversion, accomplishments and endurance are all motives, although the comparative weight given to each sometimes varies. The club's history, while interesting for its own sake, is perhaps even more important in that it collects, records, and places into sharper focus the traditions and values that have brought the club to its 100th year, furnishing valuable insights for planning in the years to come. Since 1920, the club has burgeoned from a 17-member organization until today's membership of 139.

The club was founded in Florence when the city was young and growing. Researching the club's past 100 years has been a fascinating endeavor for Mark Buyck, Holly Beaumier, and others. There have been blind alleys and misplaced files, but the frustrations were literally interspersed with triumph of unanticipated treasures previously undiscovered and unpublished. Notwithstanding the tremendous growth that the club and the City of Florence have experienced in the past 100 years, the club has maintained a sense of tradition and commitment to the area and to the world throughout the century.

The Francis Marion University Library has a treasure trove of items documenting the history of the Rotary Club of Florence. For instance, the original bylaws and minutes of every meeting held from its organizational meeting on December 16, 1919 through the completion of its first fiscal year are in the archives of the Francis Marion University Library. The names of all members of the club through 1960 and other items of interest and historical documents from club founder, J. Boone Aiken, are in the archives. Holly Beaumier performed an excellent research of the items there.

Dr. Walter "Doug" Smith kept excellent records from 1950 to 1990. His files were in safekeeping with Walker Floyd. Holly Beaumier has not only used the files for research, but she is scanning the full set and pulling the important documents for transfer to the Francis Marion University library, where they will be added to those in the archives.

Much of the content of this history book has been drawn from four invaluable documents:

The Day Rotary Began by J. Boone Aiken, 1945

Retrospecting 40 Years of Rotary by J. Boone Aiken, 1960

Florence Rotary at Age Sixty Six by Dr. Walter D. Smith, 1986

The Rotary Road by Tommy Taylor, 2005

This document serves as a celebration of past years, but it can also serve as a means to refocus and be true to the purpose of our founders and most influential leaders. It can also function as an introduction of ourselves to our community. This is a review of the service club we are, we have been, and we will continue to be in the future.

Paul Harris, founder of Rotary International, once wrote, "This is a changing world: we must be prepared to change with it. The story of Rotary will have to be written again and again." It is the hope of editors Mark W. Buyck, Jr. and Holly Y. Beaumier that this book will serve as a resource for years to come.

CHARTER MEMBERS ROTARY CLUB OF FLORENCE

Farmer

J. Boone Aiken
David W. Alderman, Jr.
J. Davis Bridgers
Marion L. Brockington
Mason C. Brunson
Charles E. Commander
Ben W. Covington
J. Wilbur Hicks
J. Maner Lawton
Marion D. Lucas
Thomas Roddy Miller
Lincoln S. Morrison
D. Tilden Riley
R. Kennedy Rutledge
Simons R. Lucas

Herman A. Smith

T. B. Young

Insurance – Fire and Casualty Wholesale Auto Accessory Dealer Manufacturer Metal Specialties Dentist **Newspaper Publishing** Automobile Dealer Livestock Dealer Attorney **General Contractor** Real Estate Life Insurance Brick Manufacturer Druggist Banker Physician – Eyes, Ears, Nose, and Throat Laundry

At first a group of seventeen, And each knew his own strife, But each from the others gleaned A better kind of life. Meeting at the "Blue Bird" On every Monday noon, Sharing in both song and word, A fellowship grew soon; They went by their first names, And fines they would impose... For if one said "Mister," He paid through the nose; Boone was the Kingfish, While Ben was their dry wit, Tommy kept the records straight And each one did his bit. Their club grew and met its test: "He profits most who serves best."

— T. Benton Young, Jr., son of charter member, honoring the 50th anniverary of the club



The meeting venue for the first years of the Rotary Club of Florence was the Blue Bird Tea Room.

100 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP: PAST PRESIDENTS AND DISTRICT OFFICERS OF ROTARY CLUB OF FLORENCE

1919-20	Jefferson Boone Aiken	1958-59	J. Paul Brothers	1995-96	Pete Jo	hnson
1920-21	Jefferson Boone Aiken	1959-60	Marion D. Lucas	1996-97	Dr. Thomas Truitt	
1921-22	Dr. Simons R. Lucas	1960-61	Clyde S. Bryce, Sr.	1996-97	John E. Floyd	
1922-23	Ben W. Covington	1961-62	Troy E. Preston	1997-98	Sylvia A. Perkins	
1923-24	Thomas Roddy Miller	1962-63	John Alexander Kendall	1998-99	Robert W. Odom, Jr.	
1924-25	Mason C. Brunson	1963-64	Dr. John B. Pitner	1999-00	William L. Vessels	
1925-26	Herman A. Smith	1964-65	Dr. Myers H. Hicks	2000-01	Gary Brown	
1926-27	John W. Moore	1965-66	Frank C. Norris	2001-02	Thomas C. Ewart	
1927-28	T.B. Young	1966-67	Edwin D. Zeigler	2001-02	George W. Stukes	
1928-29	Dr. David Tilden Riley	1967-68	Henry L. Sneed, Jr.	2002-03	Mark Buyck, III	
1929-30	Joseph Cromwell Long	1968-69	Joseph Copeland	2003-04	George J. Wilds	
1930-31	Dr. M. R. Mobley	1969-70	Karl M. Guest	2005-06	Trip DuBard	
1931-32	A.L. Hardee	1970-71	Mark W. Buyck, Jr.	2006-07	Charles Edwin Saverance	
1932-33	Dr. James C. McLeod	1971-72	Morton H. Dameron	2007-08	Dr. Robert Veto	
1933-34	Dr. E.M. Hicks	1972-73	Clyde S. Bryce, Jr.	2008-09	Walker Floyd	
1934-35	Grigsby C. Chandler	1973-74	Bennett L. Carmichael	2009-10	Scott Mitchell	
1935-36	Dr. M.L. Brockington	1974-75	A. James Johnston, III	2010-11	Joan Harrison-Pavy	
1936-37	R.B. Hare	1975-76	Dr. T. Carroll Player, Jr.	2011-12	Paul B. Grich	
1937-38	William B. Covington	1976-77	Louis C. Hite, Jr.	2012-13	Dr. Luther F. "Fred" Carter	
1938-39	Louis Carey Hite	1977-78	Simons L. Chase	2013-14	Jule Eldridge	
1939-40	Barney W. Garvin	1978-79	Paul H. Benson, Jr.	2014-15	Debbie Hyler	
1940-41	C. Ray Smith	1979-80	John D. Orr	2015-16	Jill D. Lewis	
1941-42	Julius Caesar Kendall	1980-81	Fred F. DuBard, Jr.	2016-17	Randall Cole	
1942-43	O.S. Aiken	1981-82	R.B. "Joe" Dean, Jr.	2017-18	Dr. Ben Dillard	
1943-44	William Redd Turner		Fred F. DuBard, Jr.	Jonathan Edwards		
1944-45	Dalton A. Kennedy	1982-83	Carl Joseph Turner	2018-19	Jonatha	an Edwards
1945-46	Jefferson Boone Aiken	1983-84	Thomas J. Howard	2019-20	Blaken	ey Pate
1946-46	Charles Hollis Womack	1984-85	Asa Stuart Godbold	DA CT DICT	DICT O	
1947-48	John White	1985-86	Bobby E. Suggs	PAST DISTRICT OFFICERS		
1948-49	Paul H. Gee	1986-87	D. Leroy Bailey	District Go	overno	rs:
1949-50	David H. McLeod	1987-88	Dr. Walter D. Smith	J. Boone Ai	ken	1930-1931
1950-51	Claude Wilson Smith	1988-89	Edward D. Tinsley, III	David H. M	cLeod	1952-1953
1951-52	Congressman Ed Young	1989-90	Grady L. Greer			
1952-53	Robert Schofield	1990-91	Ronald Steinacker	Assistant	Dictrict	Covernors
1953-54	Joseph L. Wolfe, Jr.		Dr. Benjamin Ward, Jr.	Assistant District Governors:		
1954-55	Jefferson Boone Aiken, Jr.	1991-92	Dr. Benjamin Ward, Jr.	Pete Johnson 1997-1998		
1955-56	Dr. George C. Smith	1992-93	L. McTier Anderson	Walker Floyd 2014-2017		
1956-57	Be N. Moore	1993-94	Reynolds Williams	Charles Saverance 2009-2011		
1957-58	Dennis D. O'Brian	1994-95	Ashpy Lowrimore	Dr. Benjami	in Ward	2011-2013

Centennial History of Rotary Club of Florence 1920 – 2020

Edited by Mark W. Buyck, Jr. and Holly Y. Beaumier

On Feb. 1, 1920, Charter #605 was issued to the Rotary Club of Florence, South Carolina, by The International Association of Rotary Clubs in Chicago and signed by its president, Albert S. Adams in Atlanta. The Florence club is the oldest service club in Florence, and it was established just 15 years after the founding of Rotary in Chicago, IL.

J. Boone Aiken, our club founder, in a speech presented on the club's 40th anniversary, reminisced about receiving the charter:

It was that yearning in the heart of a country boy for fellowship in a large metropolitan city, and his attempt to do something about it, resulting in the four friends' meeting on a rotating basis, which gave it birth and fixed its name. Fifteen years later, at the time the Florence club was born, the movement had spread so that there was in existence over 600 clubs and over 50,000 Rotarians. In an effort to define it, the Rotary president who signed our charter, Bert Adams of Atlanta, Georgia, a wonderful, aggressive and kindly southern gentleman, whom many of us had the pleasure of hearing and knowing, used these words in attempting to answer the question – What is Rotary?

It is a just an active everyday influence – something that can be taken into the office or shop or factory – and that impels a man, who has become a Rotarian, to greet his employees with a smile and a cheery "good morning" – something he can take to the wife and kids – something that makes him more considerate of everyone with whom he comes in contact.

It is an influence that is bringing men out of the shadows and making them unashamed to tell the other fellow how they value his friendship – to go to him in his troubles with help and encouragement – to rejoice with him in his success and to cry with him openly in their sympathy and love when the shadows fall about him.

It has reminded men, full grown and successful, how to play again

- for as Elbert Hubbard has said, "Rotary is to help others and to make two laughs grow where but one grouch grew before."

It is making men realize that the boy is the stuff of which men are made and that it is better to put up a handrail and save the boy than to run a dead wagon for fallen men.

Its influence is teaching men that the using and not the making of money is the real joy of life – and that every man owes a civic debt to the town in which he lives, which can only be paid by giving of himself to every civic undertaking.

It is making men see that the Golden Rule is not only the best policy, but the only policy in business; that there is something finer in business than mere profits or material success.

It has taught us that there is a vast difference between succeeding and winning. To win, some must lose. We can all succeed and at the same time help others up the ladder of success with us.

It is making men realize that business when honorably conducted, is the making the world a better place in which to live.

That philosophy is what men of that day were seeking without knowing how to express it. When that type of interpretation of Rotary began to percolate, the South, in particular, was most responsive. The first club in South Carolina was organized in Greenville. Your speaker (J. Boone Aiken) had come under its influence, and after advising with some of the men, who later became charter members of the Florence club, we sought Rotary and with the assistance of the Greenville club – who served as our sponsors – we obtained our charter. Rotary of that day had to be sought after. We all, with one accord, recognized that Florence needed and was ready for a club of Bert Adams' interpretation of Rotary.

Rotary Club of Florence in its First Year: 1920

Just 16 men, professionals in their 20s and 30s, and all interested in joining together to further their own personal lives and the interests of their community, held an organizational meeting leading to the formation of the Rotary Club of Florence at 2 p.m. on Dec. 16, 1919, in the dining room of the Old Central Hotel located on East Evans Street.

The list of those attending included many of the future leaders of the Florence community. Many of their names are still well known to Florentines: J. Boone Aiken, David W. Alderman, Jr., J. Davis Bridgers, Marion L. Brockington, Mason C. Brunson, Charles E. Commander, Ben W. Covington, J. Wilbur Hicks, J. Maner Lawton, Marion D. Lucas, Simons R. Lucas, Thomas R. Miller, D. Tilden Riley, R. Kennedy Rutledge, Herman A. Smith, and T.B. Young. At the organizational meeting, J. Boone Aiken,

who had called the meeting, was elected chairman and H.A. Smith was named its secretary. At the group's second meeting on Dec. 23, 1919, a board of directors was chosen. At that time the name of Lincoln S. Morrison was added to the above list, and all 17 men became charter members of the new Rotary Club of Florence.

On Dec. 30, 1919, the new board of directors met in the banking room of the City Savings Bank and elected the club's first officers: J. Boone Aiken, president; Charles E. Commander, vice president; Thomas R. Miller, secretary; R.K. Rutledge, treasurer; and B.W. Covington, sergeant-at-arms. The group requested a club charter, and the Rotary Club of Florence would become official when its charter was received on Feb. 1, 1920. It was the eighth club to be organized in the state, followed by the Charleston club one month later.

The sanction of the new club was delayed by an influenza epidemic in the winter of 1920. This suspended all club activities (and many public

activities overall) in Florence, and the club's third meeting did not take place until Feb. 20, 1920. According to Dr. Walter D. "Doug" Smith, the inaugural President of Francis Marion College, who prepared a history of the first 66 years of the Rotary Club of Florence, "On that occasion club members did what Rotary Club members were doing across the country—ate, sang, and bantered with each other. But they did more; they began the serious discussion of important issues of the day. At the end of that meeting they voted to send a telegram to the legislature urging the approval of a bridge over the Great Pee Dee River. Whatever impact

that telegram may have had, Florence and Marion residents know that eventually the bridge was built and opened to the public."

Eager to build the organization and its ability to serve the community, the club entertained proposed member nominations immediately. Among the first was the Rev. W.S. (Parson) Poynor, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church. Although other names were pending, the club voted that, "Mr. Poynor be considered the first member elected to the membership of the

club."

It is interesting to note that Florence in 1920 had only one paved street and few automobiles. The charter members, clearly forward-thinking individuals, included David Alderman, who was classified as a wholesale auto accessory dealer, and Charles Commander, an automobile dealer.

The International Association of Rotary Clubs

In order to understand the thoughts and actions of the first members of the Rotary Club of Florence, it's best to step back to 1905, when the International Associations of Rotary Clubs (later becoming known as Rotary International) was established. In his speech to the Florence Rotarians in 1940, J. Boone Aiken recounted those years:

"It was February 23, 1905. The automobile was still evoking cries of 'Get a horse!' The airplane had yet to stay aloft for more than a few minutes...The first motion picture theatre was soon to open in

Pittsburgh with a film entitled 'The Great Train Robbery'... The ice cream cone had just appeared on the American scene... It was the year Einstein introduced his theory of relativity."

This was a time when businessmen worked independently, holding close their lists of clients and tricks of their trade. Networking was not common practice. The idea of building friendships to create opportunities for advancement was the forethought of Rotary founder Paul Harris.



West Evans Street in downtown Florence during the 1920s

On Feb. 23, 1905, Harris gathered three other Chicago residents in Room 711 of the Unity Building on Dearborn Street in Chicago to discuss an idea he had been pondering for several years: to form a club that would offer members the opportunity to form personal friendships that would

promote healthy business and social relationships among members and within the community. The four attendees — an engineer, a lawyer, a coal dealer, and a merchant tailor — were accompanied in subsequent meetings by a printer who then interested a real estate dealer to join in the group's discussions. This organization gained members who met regularly while rotating the meeting place among establishments of its members. In 1907, Harris proposed the club's name: Rotary. Rotary's emblem was designed by engraver Montague M. Bear, an early member of the club. His sketch of a wagon wheel suggested the rotating meeting plan of the group.

Harris and the other three original club members witnessed the growth of Rotary in this country and abroad. In its first roster in 1905, the club had 19 members; by the end of the year its membership

members; by the end of the year had increased to 30. In 1908, the concept of Rotary spread across the nation when the second club was formed in San Francisco. New clubs were soon created in Oakland, Seattle, Los Angeles, New York, and Boston. By 1910, Rotary had grown to some 2500 members and

16 clubs, including one in Winnipeg, Canada. Rotary became the National Association of Rotary Clubs at the club's first convention in Chicago in August 1910. In 1911, clubs were organized in Ireland and England, and in 1912, the name was changed to the International Association of Rotary Clubs.

Just 15 years after the initial Chicago meeting, on Feb. 1, 1920, the Florence club became the $605 \mathrm{th}$ Rotary Club to be chartered. Its 17 charter

members joined approximately 56,000 men around the world who called themselves Rotarians.

The First Decade: 1920 - 1930

Determined to improve Florence, the charter members listed the following priorities for service:

Roads, bridges.

Hospitals, care of crippled children.

Churches.

Improvements in farming.

Assistance to YMCA and Boy Scouts.

Education Loan Fund for higher learning.

The Rotary Club of Florence, after its very first meeting, sent a telegram to the Legislature in support of building a bridge over the Great Pee Dee River. Also important to the group was building of the Atlantic Coastal Highway, now known as U.S. 17. Petitions were circulated to support bond issues for street improvements. In April 1920, the club endorsed the campaign of the S.C. Development Board. The club

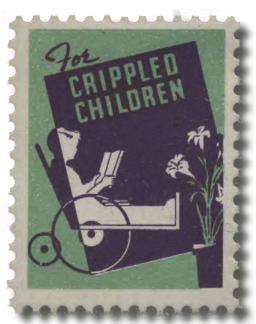
gave support to the founding of the S.C. Chamber of Commerce in 1927.

Seeing the need for medical treatment of children affected by polio, the club members took initiative in the establishment of the Crippled Children's Home on Palmetto Street. The members and their wives took an active role in the operations of the Crippled Children's

Home until the Crippled Children's Society was in a position to accept responsibility for it.

Early member Dr. James C. McLeod's father, Dr. F.H. McLeod, had established McLeod Infirmary in 1906. The tradition of Rotary membership was to follow through the generations of McLeods.

Club members regularly supported the Red Cross, Associated Charities,



The Crippled Children's work in the Pee Dee, pioneered by Florence Rotary, aided hundreds of children in their struggle for useful citizenship.

Salvation Army, YMCA, and Boy Scouts. The high school football team, school faculty and the school board were invited to an annual banquet each year until the Great Depression hit home. Club members Ben Covington, Dolph Mobley, and Win Ivey were known to drive their cars

to Cherry Grove Beach to transport Boy Scouts to YMCA camp.

Among the speech topics of the early 1920s were: a memorial to France to commemorate Battle of the the Marne, a new hotel in Florence, potato storage warehouses to curb the effects of the boll weevil (suggesting growing potatoes an alternative for cotton), and needed marketing facilities for Florence. Charter member Benton Young talked about ways to agricultural improve conditions in the region, and the club's first new member, Parson Poynor,

Y. M. C. A. Building, Florence, S. C.

Former Florence YMCA is pictured. One of first service projects of the Florence Rotary was to support the YMCA.

frequently urged the club to help the boys of the local industrial school. It was in 1920 that the Industrial School for Boys (part of the juvenile justice system) was supported by Rotary with 50 songbooks and by giving car rides to the boys to see a motion picture. The group sought a person to work specifically with the boys.

Minutes in 1920 note that J. Boone Aiken and other members were selling Easter Seals, and Boone was selling bonds for the S.C. Tuberculosis Association. The club members also worked with a ladies' group to set up a traveler's aid center at the train station.

Boone noted in a 1940 speech, "At its regular meeting on Nov. 19, 1920, the Rotary classification of Fred Willcox, local attorney, was changed from honorary member to active member in order to fill the attorney classification being vacated by charter member, J.W. Hicks, who left Florence to become

Dean of the Law School at Furman College. Mr. Willcox then made a ringing speech concerning the financial needs of college students. He so impressed the club that it immediately decided to set up an educational fund from which loans would be made to young men for the purpose of placing them in college. The club was so moved by this creative idea that members quickly contributed \$500.00 to the fund. Secretary Tommy Miller wrote of this meeting, 'Who can now say that this was not the biggest meeting Rotary has ever held in Florence!' "

The Nov. 19, 1920 minutes state, "Starting with this idea as a bud, there blossomed

forth one of the noblest and most altruistic schemes ever conceived within the breast of man." The notes continue with, "This was generally conceded to have been the best meeting the club has held... everybody just had Rotary in his bones."

It was a significant meeting because that educational fund was to serve hundreds of students, and today stands as a monument to the vision of the Rotarians of the 1920s. In 1979, the fund was transferred to Francis Marion College where the annual earnings from the principal (in 2020 amounting to over \$105,000) are regularly awarded as scholarships to college students of Francis Marion University. Indeed, this monument of

Rotary's early service promises to be a source of pride and a continuing challenge for future generations of Rotarians.

In January of 1921, minutes mention that a visit from District Governor Buck Perrin from Spartanburg brought "the members some good Rotary

'Dope' straight from the shoulder." It may be that the charter members were just a bit too enthusiastic, as D.G. Perrin recommended that 1) any endorsement of a public nature should be decided upon by the board of directors and seriously considered before being brought to the club; 2) the club shouldn't act on public undertakings – they should be supported by individual members; 3) collections should not be taken up at meetings; 4) pledging of funds at meetings should be avoided; 5) anything of a political nature should not be acted upon at a meeting. Fortunately, noted in the minutes, the club members had decided to hold a closed meeting in the evening "in order that each could soak into his system as much good Rotary meat as possible."

The service mentality had become internalized by the early members of the Rotary Club of Florence. Classifications limited the number of members for each profession (this is no longer the case), and some who wanted to join found their classification filled. Others, not abiding by the strict attendance rules,

CONSTITUTION

and

BY-LAWS

of the

Rotary Club

of

and

The Objects, Benefits, Obligations of a Rotary Club
The Rotary Code of Ethics for Business Men
The Rotary Platform

Furnished by the
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ROTARY CLUBS
Headquarters: 910 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, U. S. A.

FOR ADOPTION BY RACH ROTARY CLUB

(Edition of January, 1911)

The original annotated bylaws of the club are stored in the archives of the Francis Marion University library.

found themselves ineligible to remain in the club. Attendance rules were rigorously followed, to the point that a charter member was dropped after four successive absences. These men were encouraged by Rotarians to organize the Kiwanis Club and the Lions Club, providing additional service to the community.

It was in 1929 that the club members began to provide service internationally, voting to support programs to eliminate leprosy in the Philippines.

As Doug Smith notes in his 1986 history of the club, "Although the

issues being considered often were of a very serious nature, there was always a light side to Rotary meetings in the 1920s. Florence in those days did not boast of good highways, television, dial telephone service, or of today's quick access to the entertainment of one's choice. Therefore, Rotarians provided much of their own entertainment. The opportunity to talk informally with each other seemed to be a central motivating force in bringing members to meetings. At most of the meetings in the 1920s, one or more club members conducted what were called 'stunts,' activities which generally took the form of a performance, a game or a contest. Sometimes the stunt was a musical contest; occasionally it was a quiz between members. In 1929, club member 'Whistle' Smith received an ovation after entertaining the club with a number of whistling selections. On another occasion, Dr. Dolph Mobley held a spelling contest. The capacity for self-entertainment seemed, indeed, to be most evident among the early Rotarians."

While meetings were often light in nature, the club members were sensitive to the affairs of The International Association of Rotary Clubs, in addition to the well being of its own local organization. Not long after the club was organized, 14 members and two spouses traveled to Greenville, S.C., for the 1920 district meeting. Their travel involved driving to Columbia and boarding the Carolina Special to Greenville. In 1925, the club paid the expenses of its president, H.A. Smith, to attend the meeting of newly named Rotary International in Cleveland.

While members were quick to follow the regulations listed in their charter bylaws, they soon began formulating rules for their individual club. Meetings were held to one hour in length, a rule still followed one hundred years later. Attendance was noted, and fines were imposed on those who arrived late or missed a meeting without an excused absence. (This rule has been somewhat relaxed.) Occasionally, as on Jan. 1, 1928, the club had full attendance with all 47 members present at the regular

meeting.

In March of 1921, minutes note that a committee was formed to request that the date for the city elections be changed, as it was the same date as a district meeting in Norfolk, Va. Such was the importance for club members to vote in local elections and attend district meetings. Later notes reveal that the city elections were held on schedule.

Early members took great care in selecting new members, maintaining the strength and discipline of the Rotary Club of Florence. Resignations were discouraged. When Parson Poynor, the first "voted-in" member of the club handed in a letter of resignation in 1928, a committee was formed with the task of convincing him that he should not resign. The effort must have been successful, as Poynor remained a member for many years.

Snippets from Meeting Minutes:

4/1/1920: One of the outstanding features of the meeting was the failure of committees that had been appointed to report.

4/22/1920: Brockington was fined "tuh bits" for being late, and it was announced that hereafter the fine for this serious offense would invariably be collected ["two bits" = 25 cents].

4/29/1920: This meeting was characterized by a 100 percent attendance, which was fine, but there were three members that came in late, which was not "fine" but "a fine" for each.

6/17/1920: Fines should be imposed for the unpardonable crime of sliding at a speaker a few epithets, dishes, adjectives and beer bottles while he is speaking.

3/17/1921: Excuses for absences from the last meeting were entertained, and the club was entertained to a few fines during the process.

1930 - 1940

By 1930, the Rotary Club of Florence had more than doubled its membership, established guidelines and built strong friendships among members. Club meeting minutes do not make mention of the stock market crash of 1929, and very little was reported of the worldwide depression. Reading between the lines, however, one can see its effect on individuals and the club itself. In November 1931, following the annual banquet for school teachers, the minutes stated, "For some reason, presumably on account of 'old man depression,' it has been rumored that this will be the last big banquet for these dear folks." A short time later, on Jan. 4, 1932, the minutes noted that, "until further notice the meals will cost 50¢."

Bank failures soon had an impact on the club. On Jan. 4, 1932, it was noted that, "The financial condition of the Club was discussed owing to the closing of the First National and Peoples State Banks on January 1 in which the funds to the amount of \$1,250.00 were tied up." The club then authorized borrowing of \$150.00 to cover immediate operations. In January 1932, annual dues, including meals, were reduced from \$82.00 to \$63.00. That reduction was thought to be insufficient, and in April, the dues were reduced to \$24.00 and the additional cost of meals set at 50¢ plus 25¢ at each meal for the club expense, The annual club budget in 1933 was \$1,242.00. That same year, the club voted to waive the entrance fee of \$10.00. These details were reported to the members in the "Weekly Blabber," a newsletter that seems to have started in the 1920s and gave way to Rotaryarns as the weekly club newsletter.

As the club braced itself during the Great Depression, the District had its own struggles to survive. The District owed more than \$1,500 to creditors, and many clubs were discouraged with diminishing membership. Several clubs tried to surrender their charters.

Boone Aiken (the club founder and the first president of the Florence Rotary Club) was elected as District Governor under these adverse conditions. Boone visited all the District clubs – 58 across S.C. and N.C. The District finished the year with all debts paid, no clubs lost, and \$500 in the treasury. The District Finance Committee was created to ensure stability.

The Florence Rotary Club operated as usual as possible during the 1930s. Club programs included new member F.L. Douglas, who delighted, forewarned and provided the group with a show of dry ice, a new product for refrigeration, State Senator Clyde Graham forewarning that the control of liquor would be considered in legislature, and club members providing some inhouse entertainment. Meeting notes state, "Master Nick Zeigler

and little Miss Brunson entertained the club with a George Washington dance."

In 1934 and 1935, the Rotary Club of Florence sponsored the organization of the clubs in Conway and Mullins.

During the second half of the 1930s, the depression seemed to gradually diminish, and club activities recaptured some of the spirit of the 1920s. During this period, however, the minutes began to mention a new national concern with the war eventually to be called World War II. Also,

business growth was again being given regular consideration. In 1937, Ed Sallenger discussed the new social security act, one of many Roosevelt innovations, and the club supported efforts to have \$115,000 appropriated for the local airport.

Even with a war developing in Europe, a sense of normalcy seemed to have returned. In December 1937, high school student Louis Hite, Jr., (later to become a member and then president of the club) was guest musician, playing on the flute "Trees" and "The World is Waiting for the Sunrise." In September 1939, Dr. Julian Price praised the club on efforts to build a crippled children's home on Timmonsville Highway. Price said, "Rotary deserves great credit for its work in starting the home." At the following meeting, Bill Covington reported that

all but \$3,000 of the \$25,000 projected for the Crippled Children's Home had been raised.

By 1938, Florentines were beginning to feel the encroaching war clouds of Europe. Club programs ranged from the inevitability of another world war (Major Frank Barnwell), to predictions of the fall of Hitler by internal revolution (Col. Seymour Bullock), to the president of Coker College emphatically stating that the national sentiment was not conducive to war (Dr. Sylvester Green). The issues of war were being debated in Rotary clubs across the nation, and Florence Rotarians were well informed prior to the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.

In August of 1939, the guest speaker was G-Man (FBI agent) Melvin Purvis. While he was surely prompted to speak about his capture of John Dillinger, Pretty Boy Floyd, and Baby Face Nelson, Purvis' message was clear: As police organizations form the basis of public protection, it is imperative that proper equipment and pay are provided, lest graft creep in. He noted that some local police officers were working for as little as \$840 per year. (In comparison, the National Archives lists average household

> income of \$1,368 for that year.) Before joining the FBI, Purvis practiced law in Florence with the Willcox Law Firm.

> Club members were steadfast in their service to the community, even through the depression years and later with World War II on the horizon. The members continued to bring food and other gifts to meetings to provide for the needy. The club regularly donated to the "Old Junior High milk fund," and Rotarian Doug Douglas distributed ice cream spouses) faithfully fed the patients at the clinic each Wednesday.

> every Wednesday at the local clinic. Rotary Anns (the moniker for members'

A tradition known as "Golden Rule Day," in which Rotarians ate soup for a meal and donated the difference in the cost to various charities, was begun in 1931. The Dec. 21, 1931 minutes reported, "Rotarians get real liberal one day each year, eat soup for twenty-five cents and donate the balance to the Associated Charities of the City." Recipients of the funds included the Alston Wilkes Society, Big Brothers, and the Salvation Army. By 1939, the proceeds from this activity purchased "Christmas gifts for the poor and needy of the county." The tradition was later named "Soup Day."

From the Weekly Blabber:

5/17/1934 Who would want a better city to live in than Florence? Who could ask for a more wholehearted and wholesome population to live with? There is no such thing as a self-made man; we all make each other and a mutual debt exists that can never be paid no matter how useful we might be.

Rotary Anns, as explained by The Rotary Club of Humble, Texas:

In many Rotary clubs throughout the world, wives of male members are affectionately called "Rotary Anns." This designation was never one of disparagement, but rather grew out of an interesting historical occasion. The vear was 1914 when San Francisco Rotarians boarded a special train to attend the Rotary Convention being held in Houston. In those days few wives attended Rotary events, and until the train stopped in Los Angeles, the only woman aboard was the wife of Rotarian Bru Brunnier. As the train picked up additional conventionbound delegates, Mrs. Ann Brunnier was introduced as the Rotarian's Ann. This title soon became "Rotary Ann." Since the clubs of the West were inviting the Rotarians to hold their next convention in San Francisco, a number of songs and stunts were organized that would be performed in Houston. One of the Rotarians wrote a "Rotary Ann" chant. On the train's arrival at the Houston depot, a delegation greeted the West Coast Rotarians. One of the greeters was Guy Gundaker of Philadelphia, whose wife was also named Ann. During the rousing demonstration, someone started the Rotary Ann chant. The two petite ladies, Ann Brunnier and Ann Gundaker, were hoisted to the men's shoulders and paraded about the hall. The group loved the title given to the two women named Ann. Immediately the same term of endearment was used for all of the wives in attendance, and the name "Rotary Ann" was here to stay.

Guy Gundaker became president of Rotary International in 1923 and Bru Brunnier was elected president in 1952. Thus, each of the two original Rotary Anns became the "first lady of Rotary International."

1940s and World War II

By the 1940s, the Rotary Club of Florence had become a multigenerational service club. O.S Aiken and J.B Aiken, Jr. sons of J. Boone Aiken, joined the club in the 1930s. Claude W. Smith and Herman A. Smith, Jr., sons of charter member H.A. Smith, became members during the late 1930s. The older Aiken brother, O.S., became club secretary in 1937 and club president in 1942. The sons of other charter members to join the club during the 1940s included Givens Young and Marion Lucas in 1946. Wells Alderman, the only other son of a charter member to join, followed in his father's footsteps by joining the club in 1951.

In his inspirational speech in December 1940, club founder J. Boone Aiken reminded club members that the first service work of the club had been the work with boys – YMCA, Boy Scouts, teams and clubs at the high school, and the boys at the industrial school. He noted that the Educational Loan Fund, which amounted to \$5,000 in 1940, had already assisted 50 boys and girls in receiving their college education. Also, possibly anticipating future social changes, he noted, "Our club is a cross-section of all ages, and that we should arrive at a common understanding. There should be no politics in Rotary and all races, creeds and colors should feel at home in a Rotary Club." By the mid-1980s his description of the Rotary Club of Florence had become more accurate as the club was finally open to all races and to women.

By January 1941, the Rotary Club of Florence had focused more attention on the European War. Programs in 1941 dealt, for the most part, with matters related to the war, and members seemed to be anxiously concerned about the future. Topics ranged from European dictators (Darlington attorney Sam Want), to the Japanese invasion of China (Dr. Frank Price), to the State Selective Service (Gen. Holmes B. Springs), and Roosevelt's foreign policy (Dr. Hazel Gee). On Aug. 8, 1941, the speaker sadly noted that Rotary Clubs had been terminated in the Axis countries.

The anxiety over war, however, did not bring an end to Rotary matters and community service. J.C. Kendall was appointed to serve as delegate to the Rotary International Convention in Denver later in the summer. The Board agreed to re-roof the Boy Scout Cabin and set aside \$25.00 for the USO drive. Relationships with area clubs were strengthened. A Ladies

Night dinner was held in Florence in April 1941, and members of the Rotary clubs in Lake City, Bennettsville, Hartsville, and Dillon were invited to bring their wives.

Following Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7, 1941, the club's programs revolved around the war efforts – ways to prevent sabotage, registration for civilian defense projects, and funds needed for the In the 1980s, the Rotary Club of Florence welcomed Lt. Col. Rocky Gannon as a member. Rocky had flown in 34 different aircraft during four wars. He had enlisted in the Air Force at the age of 17, shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

American Red Cross War Relief Drive, for which the club donated \$50 in December and January. In April of 1942, a speaker made a startling announcement. Herman Brown of the B.F. Goodrich Rubber Company told members that, "it behooves each American... to conserve...the tires on his car" because tires for civilian use would probably not be produced again. At the next meeting, James Rogers of the Florence Morning News predicted that newspapers would be in for tough times due to lack of advertisement and lack of newsprint paper.

While a full list of Rotarians that were inducted into the military cannot be found, it is known that H.A. Smith, Jr., Benton Young, Jr., Glen Isom, and Whistle Smith were sent to war zones. In May 1942, the club voted to send one carton of cigarettes every month to each of its four members serving in the armed forces. All Rotarians who joined the armed services were moved immediately to the classification of honorary member until their return.

In 1945, Rotarians began to return to Florence from the war, and postwar matters were front and center. Two Rotarians hired German workers after hearing from Lt. Stevenson of the Florence Army Base that there were 659 German POWs under the care of 52 enlisted men at the Florence airfield. He had noted that they were good workers, and many hoped to stay in the United States. There were passionate programs by Dr. James McLeod and Dr. Dolph Mobley regarding the establishment of the United Nations.

Boone Aiken Back as 1945 Club President

In that same year, the Rotary Club of Florence re-elected J. Boone Aiken, club founder, as club president. Boone began refocusing the club by reciting two fairly recently adopted principles of Rotary: "Service above self," and "He profits most who serves best." These principles remain as central themes of Rotary.

Boone reinvigorated Rotarian spirit in his 1945 Prospect speech: At the moment, international service opportunities and responsibilities are the most challenging to us, and nations must merge into a spiritual and economic fellowship, or chaos will ensue in a few short generations. Can we of the Florence Rotary Club do anything about it? The answer is "Yes," just as sure as every world citizen has a part in shaping its destiny. Let us seek to fellowship – study – work while "It is still day."

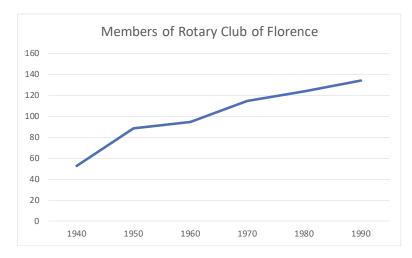
Club programs soon directed Rotarian members' attention to industrialization, economic development, and the new vitality in Florence. Rotarians and their community were investing in new ideas, new projects, new industries, city parks, water system, and improved farming techniques.

In February 1946, four club members, Dr. E.M. Hicks, David McLeod, Ed Sallenger, Jr., and T.B. Young, Jr., discussed Rotary's "Four-Way Test," a code of ethics created by 1954-55 Rotary International President Herbert J. Taylor. While Rotary adopted the Four-Way Test as official policy in 1943, Taylor widely circulated it during his term as president.

ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST
Of the things we think, say or do:
Is it the TRUTH?
Is it FAIR to all concerned?
Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

The Growth Years: 1950s - '80s

Dr. Walter "Doug" Smith interviewed former club presidents while he was writing "The History of the Florence Rotary Club 1919 – 1986. Claude Smith, Ed Young, and Marion Lucas served as club presidents during the 1950s, Myers Hicks and Karl Guest during the 1960s, and seven served as club president in the 1970s: Mark W. Buyck, Jr., Clyde Bryce, Jr., B.L. Carmichael, James "Jimmy" Johnston, Carroll Player, Jr., Louis Hite, Jr., Paul Benson, and John Orr. All remember those years as busy ones for their club. Indeed, the '50s, '60s, '70s, and '80s were "growth years."



During these four decades, club membership grew from its 1940 figure of 53 to 89 in 1950, then to 124 in 1979-80, and to 134 in 1986. (In 2020, the club has a membership of 138.) The Rotary Club of Florence in 1981 helped form Florence West Rotary Club and the Florence Breakfast Rotary Club in 1990. The clubs at Marion, Conway, Hartsville, and Darlington also owe their existence in part to the inspiration and support provided by the longer established Florence club. On Dec. 12, 1968, The News and Press of Darlington reported that, "The Rotary Club of Darlington was organized by a group of 25 local business and professional men at a meeting last week, culminating many months of preparation by sponsoring Florence Rotarians." The report went on to note that Julian Way, Joe Copeland, and Henry Sneed were the Florence Rotarians rendering great assistance in that effort. Similar help had been provided in 1929 in starting a club in Hartsville and in 1953 in beginning the club in Marion.

International Pen Pals

The Rotary project of 1956 was "Know More about Each Other." J. Boone Aiken sought assistance from Rotary International to reach out to Rotary clubs around the world as pen pals. Each member was given the contact of a club secretary in a foreign country and was asked to write an International Letter of Good Will. Rotary International provided the names and addresses. Boone provided guidelines on what was to be written and threatened to call out those members that didn't write a letter. Congressman Ed Young was paired with a club in Barbezieux, France; Charlie Womack: Takamatsu, Japan; David McLeod: Barberton, Transylvania; O.S. Aiken: Famagusta, Cyprus.

Florence Rotary Beauty Trail

One of the Rotary Club of Florence's best known service projects since the late 1940s has been its beauty trail, 13-miles of streets with Rotary's beauty trail signs marking the way for natives as well as visitors who come each year to enjoy the beauty of the first flowers of spring. Rotarian Charles Womack, who was viewed as the "Father of the Beauty Trail," and beautification authority Peg McEachin (Mrs. Peter McEachin) sponsored a program for an annual beautification award for the most beautiful gardens in the city.

Then, with Dr. Dolph Mobley leading the campaign, the beauty trail showcasing the azaleas in bloom was marked with temporary signs for the visitors who came each year to enjoy the views. In 1969-70, when Mark W. Buyck, Jr. was Rotary president, the club purchased permanent metal signs that were erected along the 13-mile route. Mark Buyck recalls a member standing at a meeting to complain that the Rotary Beauty Trail did not pass his lovely front yard, signifying how important the beauty trail had become.

In 1974, the club enhanced the trail by developing and beautifying two parks in the country club area that were named after the two early beauty trail campaigners, Charlie Womack and Dolph Mobley.

Further Beautification Efforts

Following the lead of Charlie Womack and Dolph Mobley, a club environment committee in 1980 arranged for maintenance of flower beds

ROTARY PROJECT: "KNOW MORE ABOUT EACH OTHERS

Instructions For Handling International Letters of Good Will

- (1) Each member of the Florence Rotary Club has been assigned the name and address of the secretary of a Rotary Club in a foreign country for friendly contact. The idea is for each Florence member to write a "Learn More About Each Other" letter. If you care to, you may ask the secretary of the club to whom you write to refer your letter to a member in his club holding the same classification as yours in order to stimulate interest.
- (2) The name and address of the person with whom you are to correspond is shown on the attached list.
- (3) Your letter should be written and turned in to Julian Way not later than next Monday. It is most important that all letters be submitted by that date. The names of all members who have not cooperated by preparing letters will be read before the club. Don't be embarrassed by having your name read -- be a good Rotarian.
- (4) It is not necessary for you to put postage on envelope. The proper postage amounts have been determined by a committee and they will see that the proper airmail postage is put on each envelope. Be sure to show your return address on envelope.

HOW TO WRITE A LETTER

INFORMALITY -

Write as you would to a close friend. Tell of the things that interest you - about your business problems, your family affairs, your home, your hobby, your Rotary Club, its members and their activities.

Tell about your town and country - not in the style of a geographical dictionary - but in the way you might use in exchanging comments with a member of your own club. Touch lightly on these matters - without trying to tell all - but seeking rather to arouse curiosity in the reader and the desire to know more.

ASK QUESTIONS -

Perhaps the best way to arouse his interest is to express your own curiosity about his country, his views and his experiences. If there is some misunderstanding or suspicion prevalent in your country - some problem that both your countries face, you might make a friendly approach toward explaining the subject, without disclosing any firm opinion. By these means, you will encourage him to explain and make it easy and natural for him to reply to your letter.

Ask yourself - ask him in your first letter: as Rotarians, what can we do in a practical way together to serve the cause of world peace. Give him your best thought, and ask for his. The response may be surprising.

PROPOSALS OF COOPERATION -

It will add considerably to the interest of your letter if it contains some proposal for advancing international understanding. You may know of some book

Boone Aiken outlines the International Pen Pal project in the document above.

previously installed by the club at Florence Mall and Coles Crossroads (near 2nd Loop Road and South Irby Street at James Jones Avenue).

In 1989, Rotary International encouraged the Better Streets and Gardens project. Club members planted Bradford pear trees along U.S. 76 between Ebenezer Road and "Ed Young's Farm." Some time later, the highway department asked that the trees be moved back from the roadside. Determining that would ruin the visual impact, the Rotary Club of Florence offered the trees to the city to plant in various parks. Trees were also planted between Stokes Road and Florence-Darlington Technical College on West Lucas Street. A volunteer effort pruned and maintained them.

Business Practices

In 1971, the Rotary Employer - Employee Relations Committee circulated results of an employment practice survey that had been completed by 28 club members. Using the Rotary relationship, business owners and managers could improve working conditions and offer competitive wages and benefits. The average hourly wage at the time was \$2.63 for male employees and \$2.01 for female. Clerical work paid \$82 - \$155 per week. Few businesses had piece work incentives, but many had year-end bonuses. Employees were addressed by their first names in 72% of the businesses. All but one responding company offered paid vacation time.

Scouts

Rotary Club of Florence sponsored the Boy Scout Troop for East Florence in 1963. Mentioned in the acknowledgments was Dr. L.D. Lide, club chairman of the Scout Committee. In 1968, the club established an Explorer post focused on business.

In 1972, Rotary Club of Florence became the sponsor for the Pee Dee Area Boy Scouts annual exposition, a weekend powwow held at the Florence fairgrounds that brought together hundreds of Boys Scouts from the area. Florence Rotarians joined Boy Scout professionals each year in managing the weekend exposition and continued their supportive role until 1984 when the exposition was moved to Sumter, where Sumter Rotarians assumed the sponsorship of this important scout activity.

Study Abroad

In the early 1960s, the Rotary Club of Florence began sponsoring a study abroad program for post-graduate students. Dr. Lyn Croshaw of the Francis Marion College Biology Department was a Rotary Fellow for International Understanding in the Department of Zoology at Makerere College, University of East Africa in 1962-63. Betty Ann Darby, an Ambassadorial Scholar in Italy, Austria, and England returned to the Florence One School District to teach music for more than 40 years. (Now the Florence Regional seemed to call for such an organization. Some have described the 1960s as a difficult decade for families because of the impact on families of the Vietnam War, prolific use of drugs, changing sexual codes, and a new resistance among youth to traditional values. Therefore, Interact, an "International Action Club" for young people ages 15 to 18, came at a time of need. Within a year after its start in 1962, there were 177 clubs in 24 countries. In 2020, the count has climbed to 10,700 clubs in 107 countries with 200,000 members.

Arts Alliance awards merit-based Betty Ann Darby Scholarships, funded by Honda of South Carolina.) Dorie Johansen spent and political science through the Rotary International Scholarship Program. A graduate of FMC, Miss Johansen returned to continue with her Masters Degree in International Business at the University of South Carolina.

In 1971, Helen Marie Brown received a Rotary Foundation Award for undergraduate study in Canada.

W. Buyck, Jr. and his wife also hosted an international student named Duccio from Italy for the

club during his tenure as club president in 1970. They later visited their host student, who had become a lawyer, in Grosset, Italy. On his desk was a pen set from the Rotary Club of Florence.

Public Schools

Youth work by Florence Rotarians since 1978 has reached directly into the public schools through the Rotary sponsored Interact Club, an organization that began nationally in the 60s. Conditions at that time

Florence Rotary Club member Tommy Howard reminisced in 1992 that the worst program a year in France studying French ever was in the late 1970s: a Ladies' Nite during which the topic was centered around the subject of UFOs.

And the most unforgettable program? A local physician was giving a talk on the high rate of heart attacks in the Pee Dee when in the middle of the program the manager of the GE plant collapsed on the floor of a presumed heart attack. All of the medical members In addition to study abroad, Mark jumped on him and carried him from the room. End of program!

Florence Interact Club, which started at South Florence High School in 1978, was guided by club sponsor Mrs. Betty Burkette, followed by Gail Haynes. Tommy Howard was the original Interact committee chairman for the club, followed by Curt Boswell (later South Florence High School principal) in 1989. One student member was at each of the Florence Rotary club meetings. Interact students assisted with Christmas Shopping projects for needy children and raised funds for the Rotary Foundation. Not only has Rotary Club of Florence expanded its youth work in the public schools, but it also carried its efforts into higher education.

Higher Education

Rotaract clubs, similar to Interact clubs but for students aged 18-30, offer

opportunities to build professional leadership skills while serving the community. In 1983, principally through the efforts of Florence Rotarians Dr. Hans Lischka, Dr. Rufus Hackney, and Dr. Joseph Stukes, a chapter of Rotaract was installed on the campus of Francis Marion College. The first president of this program for young people ages 18 to 30 was Miss Donna Schafer.

On Aug. 8, 1972, the Florence Rotary Club Scholarship was established at Francis Marion College.

An additional scholarship was established in 1979, as the club decided to transfer the Educational Loan Fund, which had been established in the first year of the club's existence, to Francis Marion College. The annual earnings from the principal are regularly awarded as scholarships to college

students. The club continued to build this scholarship until reaching its goal of \$50,000 in principal.

Through the generosity of club member Paul Benson, local radio station WSTN offered its studio each year, until the station was sold in 1985, for "Radio Day," a day of programming with donations for advertisements going to the scholarship fund. The \$50,000 goal was reached in 1986. That year, five Francis Marion College students received full tuition and fees. In 2020, the principal is approximately \$105,000.

First African American and Female Members

In March 1985, the Rotary Club of Florence inducted as the first African American members, Bert Brown, Earl Wilson, and Dr. Joe Heyward (who remains an active member in 2020). In 1987, Elizabeth Walker was the first female member of the Rotary

Club of Florence, followed by Mary Demetrious, Miriam Swiler, and Carla Shelton in 1988.

Perfect Attendance

Attendance has always been emphasized by Rotary International and in the Rotary Club of Florence. Dr. Lige Hicks had over 50 years of perfect attendance at the Florence club. While attending the World Series in New York, the series went into extra days. He left the World Series to come back to Florence so his perfect attendance would continue.

The New Millennium: 1990 - 2020

As a new century dawns, the two members to hold the longest membership in the club are A. J. Johnston since 1962 and Mark W. Buyck, Jr., since 1963. Their memberships have remained intact.

A large project headed up by Rotarian Asa Godbold was the construction of a house for Habitat for Humanity in 1992. The club and its members provided half the funds and all the labor. Club members received makeup meeting credit when they worked on the construction site.

First Female President

Sylvia Perkins was elected the first female club president in 1997. During the installation ceremony, each female member of the club presented President Sylvia with a rose. She was an excellent president and led the club in the Paul Harris Fellow program. The FMU scholarship endowment was increased during her term. She received the District Governor's Citation Award and the Presidential Award. Thirty-three women are club members in 2020.

FLORENE DITH CARUN Protein December 1998 Professor, II

Outgoing Rotary President Sylvia Perkins holds up one of the Presidential awards given to her by Rotary Assistant Governor Pete Johnson Monday during the weekly meeting at the Florence City-County Civic Center.

Before 1997, several women were listed as "sponsors" in the club records, as they played piano for the club meetings. Mark Buyck, Jr. recounts that Rotarian Bernice "Bunny" Schipman Johnston, who still actively plays the piano, started with the club as a sponsor. She was often called by her maiden name in the early 60s, but her Rotarian husband, Jimmy Johnston, put an end to that by threatening to not bring her back to play the piano if she continued to be recognized as "Bunny Schipman." Bunny was rather

pregnant with their son Schip (a future Rotarian) at the time.

Study Abroad

The Rotary Club of Florence continued with the Ambassadorial Scholar program, sending Melissa Lewis to Barcelona and Perry Putnam to Europe as Ambassadorial Scholars in 1991 and 1993. Putnam had earned a B.A. at Francis Marion University, and she returned to study pharmacy at University of South Carolina. In 2005, Meg Ramey, a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar, traveled to Scotland. She began studying Modern Literature at University of St. Andrews at St. Mary's College of Divinity, then transferred to the Ph.D. program before returning

to the U.S. in 2009. She earned a Ph.D. in Divinity in 2011. In 2020, she is the Director of Education Abroad for Tutku Educational Travel, and a Rotarian in Harrisburg, PA.

Public Schools

The Interact Club was very active in the 1990s. To support the Gift of Life program, the South Florence High School club held a Twist-a-Thon fundraiser in the Walmart parking lot, and the group ultimately raised more funds for Gift of Life than all other clubs in the district combined.

Becky Floyd, daughter of Rotarian Walker Floyd, was honored to be the Interact president as a high school senior in the 1990s. Walker's son Drew also took a leadership role in the Interact Club. Both students were recipients of Rotary Interact Scholarships.

Rotarians in Drug Deterrence Education (RIDDE) began in 1994. The program reduces alcohol and other drug use by youth through direct interaction between youth and Rotarians. Since its inception in 1994 by Florence West Rotary Club, over 4,000 third graders have successfully completed RIDDE with nearly 200 local Rotarians actively participating in the classrooms. RIDDE has been recognized by International Rotary as one of the Top 20 International Community Programs, and by the South Carolina Department of Education, and the Florence School District One's "Partners in Education" as an effective community collaboration.

Jade Upshur Brandon Sete Man Isaac Taylor
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Story Megan Mannerlyn

Story Ing Jean McPherson Chris. C.

ROTARIANS IN DRUG DETERRENCE EDUCATION

Justin Washington

Eric Nobles Lester Elementary 3rd GRADE Michael 94477

Kenny Rush

December 12, 1995

It was the recipient of the National JCPenney Golden Rule award and was also featured in People Magazine.

Continuing Focus on Education

Education remains a key focus of the Rotary Club of Florence. Members include Dr. Fred Carter, president of Francis Marion University; Dr. Richard O'Malley, Florence One Schools Superintendant; Dr. Joe Heyward, retired VP of Student Affairs at FMU; Ed Hoffman, head of Trinity-Byrnes Collegiate School; Dr. Curt Boswell, retired Director of School Improvement for Florence One Schools; Trisha Caulder, Florence One

School Board member; Andrew Kampiziones, retired professor; and Debbie Hyler, executive director of The School Foundation.

The School Foundation

The late Grady Greer, owner of Toledo Scales, was considered the Father of the Florence School Foundation. In 2000, Grady Greer, Trip DuBard, and executives from the manufacturing sector made a commitment to build The School Foundation to support Florence District One schools.

The trustees of this foundation have included Florence Rotarians: Frank Avent, James Byrd, Trisha Caulder, Fred DuBard, Trip DuBard, Tom Ewart, Emerson Gower, Bret Greer, Grady Greer, Joe Heyward's wife, Evelyn, Dr. Stephen Imbeau, Dr. Charlie Jordan, Reamer King, Jean Leatherman, Ashpy Lowrimore, Joe Nelson, Kanti Patel, Dr. Carroll Player, Thomas Stanton, Mindy Taylor, Dr. Suresh Tiwari, John Turner, Carlos Washington, Katie Wilcox, and Frank Willis.

Robby Hill assisted with website production, and Adams Outdoor Advertising has provided ad space. Bradley Callicott from the Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation served as investment advisor.

Debbie Hyler was hired as the executive director of The School Foundation in 2006. The foundation makes an incredible impact across the Florence community. By May 2019, the foundation had awarded \$1.67 million in grants to Florence One Schools.

Gift of Life

In 1996, the Rotary Club of Florence became active in the Rotary Gift of Life program, providing lifesaving surgeries to children from countries where treatment is not available. John Floyd, who was president during 1996-97, said, "Our major project for the year was bringing Ms. Luz Rodriguez from Bogota, Colombia, to have a life-threatening tumor

removed. The entire club rallied to her needs. Many club members gave anonymously for her welfare and clothing. Dr. Ken Kammer, whose wife Judy is a Rotarian, donated his services as a brain surgeon, and McLeod Regional Medical Center donated hospital costs. Rotarians Charles Bevis and Bruce Barrigan saw that the needed resources and medical care were given to her." The club helped save this child's life. Later, husband and wife Rotarians George Alley and Mary Dean Brewer invited her to return to Florence, live with them, and study health care at Florence-Darlington Technical College.

Since that time, numerous children have been brought to Florence for medical treatment, and because of the club members' willingness to put in extra effort, the most difficult cases have been sent here.

Eastern Carolina Community Foundation

One additional lasting legacy of the Rotary Club of Florence is the Eastern Carolina Community Foundation. ECCF is the newest community foundation in South Carolina. It began to take shape in 2005, when a representative from the Coastal Community Foundation of Charleston was invited to speak to the Florence Rotary Club. Her presentation included a map

revealing that nearly all of South Carolina was served by a community foundation — except for the Pee Dee area. Rotary Club members met with other foundation and nonprofit representatives to form the Eastern Carolina Community Foundation in 2006. The Rotary Club of Florence funded \$75,000 over three years to help cover the initial operating expenses of ECCF. The S.C. Ministerial Fund established by Reamer King

and Heyward King was the first endowment.

Rotarians who have served as members of the ECCF Board of Driectors are Holly Beaumier, Bradley Callicott, Trip DuBard, Tom Ewart, Walker Floyd, Mike Miller, Linda Russell, Charles Saverance, Zip Vassy, and George Wilds. Rotarians Barry Wingard and Sarah Shelley have held the position of executive director.



Mindy Taylor, Jarrod Tippins, and Blake Pate pack weekend food bags at Help 4 Kids Florence.

Eastern Carolina Community Foundation has established a permanent endowment to meet the changing needs of the Pee Dee. Annual grants have benefited the community and helped citizens of Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marlboro, Marion, and Williamsburg counties.

International Service Project

In 2014, retired US Army Col. Barry Wingard and his wife, Carrington, traveled to Ghana to assist in Rotary International's Clean Water Project. Through their two weeks' stay in Africa, they assisted in providing clean water and sanitation facilities in remote villages. The students who had been previously tasked with seeking and carrying water were then able to more effectively use their time in studying.

Community Service

In addition to its very visible involvement in the Rotary Beauty Trail and the RIDDE program, the Rotary Club of Florence provides community service on a regular basis. Each December, club members can be seen ringing

the bell for Salvation Army at the entrance to Walmart, an activity coordinated by Dr. Joe Heyward, and assisting underprivileged children in their Christmas shopping at Magnolia Mall with coordinators Rex and Jane Huggins. Each child also receives breakfast from Chick Fil-A and lunch from KFC thanks to Blake Pate and Irby Wilson.

Also during the holiday season, members forego a meeting to help stuff lunch bags for Help 4 Kids Florence. Without the lunch bags, 2,400 children may not have food on weekends. A typical bag holds two cans of meat, a vegetable, fruit, packages of noodles, and granola bars or oatmeal. Packing space for the weekly activity has been donated by Paul Grich with CSP Insurance Services.

John Floyd also coordinated the Dictionary Project in Florence for more than 10 years. He not only ordered 1,600 books for all three Rotary clubs to distribute to third graders throughout the county, he confirmed that each of the schools were included and that all of the books were delivered.

John requested support from Prudential Financial each year to help cover costs. Regi Armstrong purchases and delivers books for all third-grade students in the parochial schools in Florence.

Since 2017, Andy Arthur has been coordinator of this project. Since his Aflac office isn't suitable for delivery of the large quantity of boxes, the dictionaries are delivered to Circle Park where Bill Gilmer assists in distributing them to volunteers. Students are excited to play word games with Rotarians, and members

enjoy listening to words the students find in the books when they close their eyes and point. Students keep the dictionaries,

books when they close their eyes and point. Students keep the dictionaries possibly the first books they've owned.

Beautification

In 2005, the Rotary Club of Florence, Florence West Rotary Club, and the Florence Breakfast Club donated a town clock in celebration of Rotary International's Centennial. The clock was placed on South Dargan Street in front of the Drs. Bruce & Lee Foundation Florence County Library. The Rotary Beauty Trail was then expanded from the west of Irby Street to include this portion of the downtown.

Fundraising Efforts

In the early 1990s, club members entertained with an annual Trashy

Gala fundraiser. In 1993, the event raised \$10,000 for the Doug Smith Endowed Chair, environmental projects, and other community projects. (Doug Smith was the first President of Francis Marion College, and the endowed chair was established at Francis Marion College in his honor.)

The entire club gets involved in the Rotary Club of Florence Forget Me Not 5K Color Run/Walk to Beat Alzheimer's, which has been presented by the Morning News since 2016.

The Morning News increases awareness of Alzheimer's disease through articles regarding medical breakthroughs and human interest stories.

The color run is sponsored by more than 50 companies with which Rotarian members are associated, and several members run in the race. Other members arrive on race day to assist in the setup and breakdown of equipment, provide snacks and water, and spray color on all who run by. By the third year of the Forget Me Not 5K, more than \$39,000 had been provided to the S.C. Alzheimer's Association. The funds are used to provide respite for caretakers of those afflicted with Alzheimer's disease.

Also countering Alzheimer's disease is the Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust (CART) fund. Rotarians drop their loose change in blue buckets

that are placed on tables at each meeting. The CART fund, which was launched in 1995 in Sumter, S.C., has provided more than \$8 million nationally in funds for cutting edge research to cure Alzheimer's disease. Weekly raffle drawings at Rotary club meetings also benefit the CART fund.

Another fundraiser is the 50/50 drawing at the annual oyster roast, with proceeds benefitting the Rotary Foundation's PolioPlus efforts. Since 1988, PolioPlus internationally has reduced cases of polio by 99.9% (from 350,000 cases in 1988 to 33 cases in 2018), and more than 2.5 billion children have received the polio vaccine. Only three countries remain endemic: Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Nigeria.



The Rotary International Centennial clock in front of the Drs. Bruce & Lee Foundation Florence County Library

The club typically operates on a budget of \$100,000 with approximately \$60,000 contributed to charitable causes.

Rotarians in Not-for-Profit Positions

Many of the Rotary Club of Florence members surround themselves in community service, working in the nonprofit sector:

Jill Bramblett, McLeod Foundation; Bradley Callicott, Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation; Shannon Copes, Pee Dee Land Trust; Nicole Echols, Harvest Hope; Debbie Edwards, Habitat for Humanity; Michael Hesbach, Boy Scouts of America – Pee Dee Area Council; Carl Humphries, HopeHealth;

Debbie Hyler, The School Foundation; Jill Lewis, Florence-Darlington Technical College Foundation (formerly); Roger Malfatti, Florence Symphony (formerly); Julie Maxham, House of Hope; and Sarah Sweeney, CARE House of the Pee Dee.

Power Players

Other members make use of their influence in Florence, the state, and the nation to benefit the Pee Dee region in projects such as the Florence County Library system, FMU Medical Education Complex, downtown investments, and improvements in Florence One Schools:

Mark Buyck, Jr., Bradley Callicott, Dr. Fred Carter, Trisha Caulder, Joe Craig, Fred DuBard, Walker Floyd, Robby Hill, Dr. Stephen Imbeau, Rep. Jay Jordan, Don Kausler, Reamer King, S.C. Sen. Hugh Leatherman, Rep. Phillip Lowe, Mike Miller, Tim Norwood, Dr. Richard

O'Malley, Dr. Carroll Player, Steve Powers, Ray Reich, Mike Reichenbach, Dr. Dan Strickland, Mindy Taylor, Reynolds Williams, Glynn Willis, Irby Wilson, and Barry Wingard.

Wall of Honor

The Rotary Club of Florence is well represented on the Florence Veterans Park Wall of Honor by members who served in our Armed Forces. In addition, Rotarians have paid tribute to relatives who have served. Those include the fathers of Jill Lewis, Ron Glancy, John Floyd, Jr, Stephen

Imbeau, Steve Powers, Jeanne McGowan, Thomas Richardson, and the father, grandfather, and four other relatives of Rose Mary Parham, and the father and the father-in-law of Barry Wingard.

Current Rotary Club of Florence Members on the Wall of Honor:

CPT Reginald A.T. Armstrong (USA), LT COL Mark W. Buyck, Jr. (USAF), CPT Fred F. DuBard (USA), CPL Tom Ewart (USA), LTC John Floyd, Jr. (USA), LT COL R.J. "Rocky" Gannon (USAF), SGT Boyd Franklin James (USAF), MAJ Charles Jordan (USAF), 2LT Andrew Kampiziones (Greek AR), CPT T. Carroll Player (USA), LT Gerald T. Rosenlund (USN), SGM

Richard D. Walden (USA), S/SGT Reynolds Williams (USA), and COL B.F. Wingard, Jr. (USA).

Exchange Students

The Rotary Club of Florence and several of its members have hosted eight youth exchange students since 2005. The students attended Trinity-Byrnes Collegiate School, and have, for the most part, been living with three families. Jennie Pezé provided a back-to-nature, agricultural experience for the students, while Jane and Rex Huggins entertained the students with active teenagers and very large dogs. Rose Mary Parham furnished a home energized by a large family with kids and friends similar in age to the exchange students.

There were three students from Sweden: Tyra Edin 2018-19, Hampus Revland in 2013-14, and Emelie Johannsen in 2006-07. Others from Europe were Ambre Calzat from France in 2017-18, Anne Pyhan from Germany in 2016-18, and Camille Rolin from Belgium

in 2015-16. From Central and South America were Fernanda Araujo from Brazil in 2014-15 and Anylú Zertuche from Mexico in 2005-06.

Undoubtedly, the cultural exchange was enjoyed by all, although by the looks of Hampus' social media posts, he may have been a handful.

Programs

The Rotary Club of Florence is fortunate to have Jean Leatherman as its Programs Chairperson. She locates incredible speakers that cover relevant



Anne Pyhan's advice to all club members: "Get a dog!"

Interesting tidbits from the programs from the early 21st century:

Heat kills batteries, not cold.

— Jeffery Vines of Johnson Controls

QVC was spawned from the infomercial business.

- Mark Scerbo of QVC

The number of seniors in S.C. will double from years 2013 to 2030. This is called the Gray Tsunami.

- Lt. Gov. Glenn McConnell

The Four-Way Test is missing in Washington.

— U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham

Baseball is exempt from the antitrust laws.

Marguerite Willis

There is a 30 million word difference heard by children of middle income families compared to those living in poverty.

— Tammy Pawloski, Start Smart

Florence Harllee, the city's namesake, was Florence's first librarian.

Alan Smith

Teens are at the greatest risk of having their identities stolen.

- Kathy Graham of BBB of Coastal Carolina

One of every three bites we eat depends on honey bees.

- Dr. Austin Jenkins, U.S.C. Sumter

A child that can put their shoes in a cubby directly lined up with their coat on a hook will have an easier time with long division.

- Jane Swain, Sensory Motor Development specialist

The Shriner's Hospital in Greenville allows children to design their own prosthetics.

- Bill Fenters

Approximately 1/3 of the adult population in S.C. cannot read at a 5th grade level.

— Christina Lawson, Florence Area Literacy Council

District 7770 is #4 in the world in level of giving to the Rotary Foundation.

DG Sandee Brooks, 2016

There are three parts to internet: surface web, deep web and dark web.

—Throop Crosland, Securitas Technologies

An ATV comes off the Honda assembly line every 56 seconds, and a side-by-side, every 181 seconds.

— Michele Pridgen, Honda S.C.

topics. Attendance remains steady because of the informative content and well-recognized speakers. Attendance jumps when a college rivalry stokes the fire. Each year those who support the losers of the USC / Clemson game file to the front of the room in shame, as they donate to CART.

Fellowship and Pranks

From its inception, the Rotary Club of Florence pulled pranks and roasted members during the meetings. The emphasis on fellowship is so central to Rotary that a wise crack once stated, "Rotarians were the first to call John the Baptist 'Jack." The Florence Rotary fellowship team doesn't let any opportunity to have fun fly by. In fact, some fellowship programs are simply unforgettable.

While he was doing a fly fishing demonstration, Rick Favaloro caught Tommy Taylor hook, line, and sinker. Ron Glancy sucked helium from a balloon and sang as the Mayor of Munchkinland. Tom Marschel and Rick Favaloro played a harmonica duet. Elvis made an appearance on Tommy Taylor's birthday. While much has changed in the club and in the world during the past 100 years, the fellowship among members remains close.

In Conclusion

Doug Smith, in 1986, highlighted Rotary's connection with the community, past and future:

While the Rotary Club of Florence grew from a small club of 17 members in 1920 to its present membership of 138, the City of Florence during those years grew from a town of some 7,000 people to its present size of 38,000 with an estimated population of greater Florence of 89,500. Since 1920, Rotary has been a very visible part of Florence, its members helping to shape and design nearly every change that has come to the community; also it has been present to assist where unmet needs existed with young people, crippled children, the public schools, Boy Scouts, YMCA, Salvation Army, local colleges, group study exchanges, and educational scholarships. Indeed, Rotary is a part of the fabric of Florence. Without Rotary Club of Florence, its members past and present would surely have been far less human and caring; and without it the City of Florence would just as surely be diminished in stature. The relationship has prospered, and the future for both is promising.

40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Rotarians Celebrate

Fortieth Anniversar

By HERALD LATHAM
Morning News Managing Editor
Florence Rotarians celebrated
heir 40th birthday Monday in a

had heard of the fairly-new Rotary movement and applied for stated.

Among compilsh orogram liberally laced with hu-

e said, "is an active, everyday integrate.

"Mounte memor fullence that can be taken into" "We believe in doing a job and past presidents. he office or the factory. . .or

THE SPIRIT of Rotary, he ex-ained, is not the fellowship its members receive from belonging the club. Rather, he said, it is hat the association inspires each otarian to do as an individual. "Rotary is a God-fearing, nurch-going, law-abiding organt-

Rotary began in Florence, Mr. Aiken recalled, when a group of helping civic progress. They

Only two members of the chart- Aiken, are: youth activities, col-

Among outstanding civic ac-

complishments performed by Rotary here, as listed by Mr.

with destiny. It set the pace for the Florence of today even better

The nostalgia came as older members recalled what had bappened to themselves, the club, club for various reasons are David W. Alderman Jr., J. Wilbur Han had been expected."

Aiken, as he began his speech expected of Greenville, J. Maner Law ton of Myrtle Beach, and Thomas did he would attempt to "recao. Use the atmosphere, motives, and inhitions" of the club's founders, and inhitions" of the club's founders, and the would not be succeeded.

The motive of the club, he said, the club's purpose would distinct the

"I'm Forever Boosting Florence" is a song included in the 40th Anniversary program.



Shown above are dignitaries attending the Rotary Club of Florence 40th anniversary celebration in 1960. At far left is J. Boone Aiken, and sixth from the left is David H. McLeod, both former District Governors.

I'M FOREVER BOOSTING FLORENCE

I'm forever boosting Florence, Boosting Florence every where, She moves so spry, not a groan or sigh, All the knockers soon say good-bye. She's the town to live in, I've looked all around. I'd rather live in Florence, Than to own some other town.



50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



DR. LANGDALE, CENTER, TALKS WITH CHARTER MEMBERS OF ROTARY CLUB AFTER MEET J. Boone Aiken, Left, and Thomas R. Miller Receive Plaques for Service to Club

CHARTER MEMBERS HONORD

Florence Rotary Club Celebrates 50th Year

The only three living ago as first president.

members who helped charter the Rotary Club of Florence in my heart that these people are 1920 — J. Boone Aiken, Thomas the R. Miller and J. Wilbur Hicks beamed at his listeners.

day of your past."

day of your past."

Alken then read a telegram from Hicks in Greenville and R. Miller and J. Wilbur Hicks beamed at his listeners.

1920 — J. Boone Aiken, Thomas the finest in the world," he beamed at his listeners.

—were honored Saturday at a glittering 5 0 th anniversary at dinner.

Dr. Noah Langdale Jr., president of the 14,000 — student Georgia State University and one of Atlanta's "Man of the Decade" award winners, flew emotion in men' that attempts in to deliver the principal adares in honor of two of the surviving three present. (Hicks Jectives.") surviving three present. (Hicks jectives.' was unable to make the trip from Greenville for the ceremonies at the Florence ceremonies at the Florence Country Club.)

Country Club.)

has treasured over the years accepted by golden anniversary

Calling on his listeners to from Rotary leader Paul President Carl Guest. give up the pursuit of comfort and convenience in favor of in agination and reasoning Langdale warned that "modern man can't survive without cultivated, cooperative, civilized education to meet the icissitudes of the future.

"Whatever one wants, he can ave it if he will just honor it .What man honors he will get. .If you want chaste women and private property in Florence you will have to honor them," he said, hitting at livorce and decaying standards our society.

'Think what it would mean not to have the honoring pro-cess at work among us," he

Accepting his special certificate, Aiken first read out loud from the original otary Charter No. 605 white

By DENNIS J. CURRIE was committed to him as "of- Harris. "May the saddest day Morning News Staff Writer licial custodian" half a century of your future be the happies



News of the 50th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Florence made its way into the international Rotarian publication.

The Rotarian Magazine - September 1970.





Guests of honor at the 50th anniversary banquet held this year by the Rotary Club of Florence, South Carolina, were the Club's first President, J. Boone Aiken (left), and its first Secretary, Thomas R. Miller (right). Boone is 81 and actively engaged as president of a local bank and trust company; "Tommy," 73, is senior partner in an insurance firm bearing his name. The man in the middle, presenting commemorative plaques to the venerable pair, is Dr. Noah Langdale, Jr., president of nearby Georgia State University and chief speaker at the banquet.

THE EARLY YEARS

CHARTER MEMBERS ARE ELECTED TO EMERITUS OFFICES OF FLORENCE ROTARY CLUB J. Boone Aiken (L) President and Thomas Miller, Secretary, with Charter Rotarians Elect Officers At the Monday meeting of theing charter member, J. Wilbur | The Rotary Club also named Florence Rotary Club, J. Boone Hicks of Greenville, both men new officers who will take office Aiken was elected President were members when the Flor- this summer, along with the Emeroitus and Thomas R. Mill ence Rotary Club was charter-was elected Secretary Emeritus ed in 1919. Aiken was elected as goes into its golden anniversary the first president and Miller year. Along with the only other liv- as the first secretary of the club The new officers are Cast for the club's fiftieth year. Guest, president; Joe Copeland when it was formed. Aiken was again elected presi-vice president; Mark Buyck dent in 1944 for the club's Silver secretary and Ken Gallier tre surer

J. Boone Aiken was president of the Rotary Club of Florence for three terms: each of the first two years and again in 1944. He was also district governor in 1930. His scrapbooks hold detailed records of the early years.



It is evident by the notes in the original bylaws (above) that Rotary was taken very seriously by the founding members. Two of those members, Boone Aiken and Thomas Miller, long-time secretary for the club, are pictured to the left, holding the original charter in a photo from 1970.



To my friends of the 58th District of Rotary International:

Greetings and best wishes. May the saddest day of your future be happier than the happiest day of your past.

Statisticians tell us that this is a period of great depression. Prosperity is the most welcome of all guests. Men cry for it, pray for it.

It must seem strange to the man in the moon.

It takes more than sunshine to mature the mighty oak. Storm and wind, ice and snow, must cause the roots to drive into mother earth. It takes more ice and snow, is to the making of a mighty oak, the stress and strain of adversity is to the making of a mighty man.

The measure of prosperity is dollars and cents. One can't measure life's great values in dollars and cents. Life's great values are priceless and as frequently found in humble homes as in palaces. I had rather live in the humblest shack of the humblest peasant of all the world if love abound, than to live in the grandest palace ever reared by mortal hands, without it.

Love ranks first of all the priceless things; it is richer than the mines of the Incas.

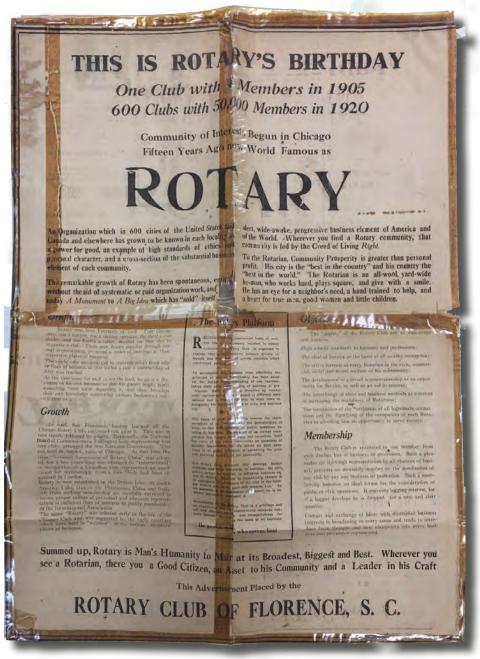
If man is a little lower than the angels, so also is friendship a little lower than love in the order of life's blessings. Love is the sublimation of friendship.

Rotary may never bring you prosperity. If it brings the fellowship of friendly men it will have fulfilled its promise. That Rotary may fulfill its promise in the 58th District of Rotary International is the sincere wish of him who feels honored in subscribing himself

Sincerely yours,

Ilm Harris

Paul P. Harris



Boone Aiken's scrapbook, stored in the Francis Marion University library archives, holds treasures from the early years. Shown here are a letter signed by Rotary International founder Paul Harris and a promotional ad from 1920.

Paul P. Harris, Founder of Rotary

Paul Harris was born in Racine, Wis., on April 19, 1868. In 1895, Harris went to Chicago to practice law. In 1900, after dinner with a lawyer in a residential section of Chicago, Harris was impressed by the fact that his friend stopped at several stores and shops in the neighborhood and introduced Harris to the proprietors who were his friends. This experience caused him to wonder why he couldn't make social friends out of at least some of his law clients – and he resolved to organize a club which would band together a group of business and professional men in friendship and fellowship.

By 1905, he had formulated a philosophy of business relations, and talking it over with three of his clients – Sylvester Schiele, a coal merchant, Gustavus Loehr, a mining engineer, and Hiram Shorey, a merchant tailor – he organized the club. On Feb. 23, 1905, they held their first club meeting, and the nucleus was formed for thousands of Rotary clubs throughout the world. Harris named the new club "Rotary" because the members met in rotation in their various places of business. This met with general approval, and club membership grew rapidly.

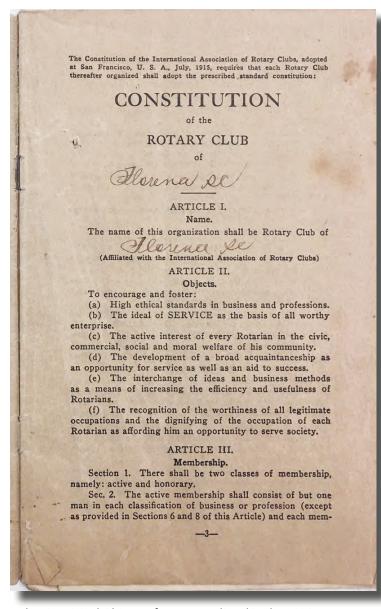
The second Rotary club was founded in San Francisco in 1908. Other clubs were organized, and in 1910, when there were 16 clubs, it was decided they should unite into a national organization that would extend the movement to other cities and serve as a clearing house for the exchange of ideas among clubs.

Harris died on Jan. 27, 1947 as president emeritus of Rotary International.



I did not, in 1905, foresee a world-wide Rotary movement. When a man plants a saplin' in the spring, can he be sure he'll see grow a mighty tree? Does he not have to reckon with the rain and the sun and the smile of Providence? Once he sees the first bud - then he can begin to dream [of] shade. Was it Emerson who said, "You can stop maybe an army of a million men, but you can't stop a right idea when it comes along"?

- Paul Harris



The six original Objects of Rotary are listed in the 1920 Constitution adopted by the Rotary Club of Florence.

2020: THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

To encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

First, The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
Second, High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying by each Rotarian of his occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

Third, The application of the ideal of service by every Rotarian to his

personal, business, and community life;

Fourth, The advancement of international understanding, good will, and

peace through a world fellowship of business and professional men

united in the ideal of service.

In 1932 Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor took over management of Club Aluminum Products Company to save it from bankruptcy. His plan started with setting company-wide a code of ethics. He called it the Four-Way Test of things we think, say, or do. In 1943, Rotary International adopted the Four-Way Test as official policy. Taylor was Rotary International President in 1954-55, Rotary's 50th year. During his term, Taylor made circulating the Four-Way Test his highest priority.

The Four-Way Test still stands as Rotary International's standard of ethics. The Object of Rotary is set against the Rotary Four-Way Test to confirm if a planned action is compatible with the Rotarian spirit.

ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:

Is it the TRUTH?
Is it FAIR to all concerned?
Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Many of Rotary's greatest services to the communities around the world come through its Foundation. In 1917, three years before the Florence Club received its charter, International Association of Rotary Clubs' president, Arch Klumpf, proposed the creation of an endowment fund that could provide financial support for the purpose, he said, of "doing good in the world in charitable educational, or other avenues." His proposal was accepted, and the plan was immediately launched

with a first gift of \$26.50 from the Kansas City Club.

The plan was given formal recognition in 1945 when the Rotary Foundation's objectives were formally defined: "to support other activities designed to achieve better understanding among people of different nations." Soon thereafter, in 1947, Rotary founder Paul Harris died and clubs around the world made contributions to the Foundation in his name. From that start, came the more formal procedure of members giving \$1000 to the Foundation, thereby becoming Paul Harris Fellows. The plan thrived to such an extent that in 2020 there are some 1.4 million Paul Harris Fellows worldwide. The funds flow to projects around the globe. Since its inception, the Rotary Club of Florence has joined in

with 100% member participation each year. Marty Massey was Foundation committee chair for many years, ensuring maximum member support.

The club's first president, J. Boone Aiken, led the way by becoming its first Paul Harris Fellow; other club presidents, now deceased, who were Fellows were: Clyde Bryce, Sr., Simons Chase, and David McLeod. Current Paul Harris Society members include Walker Floyd, Dr. Joe Griffin, Tim Norwood, and long-standing member Charles Saverance. Paul Harris

Sustaining Members include Jane and Rex Huggins, Randall Cole, and the late Frank Avent.

Foundation projects since 1950 which Rotary Club of Florence's supported contributions have include: educational awards to hundreds of students to study abroad, group study exchange with Rotary Districts in many foreign countries, various special grants, and grants for Rotary's international Health, Hunger, and Humanity Program which has included a worldwide effort to immunize children against polio, an effort that has reached over 2.5 billion children.

The Gift of Life Program also operates through the Rotary Foundation. Through this program, several children were provided with lifesaving medical care not available in their home countries.

All of these Rotary Foundation efforts over the past years have

been viewed by Rotarians as investments in the pursuit of peace and service to mankind.



terms as club president and is president emeritus.

(Staff photo by Johnny Ellis)

the program, and many members are active Paul Harris Fellows. The Rotary Club of Florence supports the Rotary International Foundation

national Paul Harris Fellow Award, a certification of

outstanding club service. The Rotary Club observed

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL SERVICE PROJECT: CLEAN WATER

In April of 2014, Florence Rotarian Barry Wingard and his wife, Carrington, made a trip to Ghana with Rotary International. During their trip, the group surveyed the wells that had been completed while working alongside local Rotary clubs in Ghana. They also sought out other areas that were in need of help.

The average distance that a person (woman or child) in developing countries walks to collect water per day is 3-4 miles.

The Rotary International Clean Water and Sanitation Project has

provided 110 schools in Ghana with better sanitation and hygiene through a Rotary-USAID (U.S. Agency for International Development) partnership. Other wells have been completed in Madagascar and Uganda.

The Rotary Foundation has invested in more than 1,000 water, sanitation, and hygiene education projects in more than 100 countries.

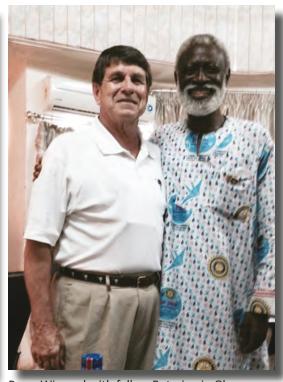
The Clean Water initiative supports the United Nations in reaching its 17 goals set for the year 2030. More information regarding the Global Goals for Sustainable Development may be found at globalgoals.org.

TARGETS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS' GOAL OF CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION:

- 1. Ensure access to safe and affordable drinking water.
- 2. End open defecation and provide access to sanitation and hygiene.
- 3. Improve water quality, wastewater treatment and safe reuse.
- 4. Increase water-use efficiency and ensure freshwater supplies.
- 5. Implement integrated water resources management.
- 6. Protect and restore water-related ecosystems.
- 7. Expand water and sanitation support to developing countries.
- 8. Support local engagement in water and sanitation management.



Barry Wingard tries out a hand pump installed at a school in Ghana.



Barry Wingard with fellow Rotarian in Ghana. Note his Rotarian garb. Every once in a while, Barry shows up to a meeting in similar attire.

POLIOPLUS: THE FIGHT TO END POLIO



From the beginning, the Rotary Club of Florence was focused on helping children crippled by polio. Pictured left is the Crippled Children's Home ca. 1955. Photo courtesy of Julian Price, whose father established the home and was the first superintendent.

Pictured below, Rotary International continues the fight to rid the world of polio.







Holly Beaumier wins the \$2,085 drawing at the meeting on June 1, 2015. There are up to eight balls in the bag; seven are white, and the yellow ball is the winner. One half of all proceeds go to the CART fund for Alzheimer's research. Pictured on the left is Ashley Dingle Deaza, and in the center is Debbie Hyler.

Club members and spouses come to the table during the annual Rotary Oyster Roast. While the event is free to members, a 50/50 raffle is held at the event, and each Rotarian is responsible for selling tickets. Each year the event raises funds for PolioPlus.

CHARITY RAFFLES FOR ROTARY INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

Being a Rotary member is truly a win/win. Not only does it feel satisfying to serve the community, but sometimes it involves cold, hard cash.



ROTARY CLUB MEETING LOCATIONS

While club meetings have been held at various member companies, the standard club meeting sites were the Blue Bird Tea Room, Central Hotel, YMCA, Sanborn Hotel, Florence Country Club, Florence Civic Center (now Florence Center), and Victors inside Hotel Florence. The Centennial Celebration is being held in the Florence Center.

Pictured below in clockwise order from top left are Florence Country Club, entrance to Victors inside Hotel Florence, Florence Center with recent expansion, and the Blue Bird Tea Room. The Blue Bird Tea Room, painted by renowned artist Blue Sky, depicts Miss Jane Evans, founder of the Florence Museum, walking through the dining area.







ROTARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS

FOUR-WAY TEST AWARD RECIPIENTS

1990-1991	Fred DuBard
1991-1992	Asa Godbold
1992-1993	Bob Simpson
1993-1994	Tommy Howard
1994-1995	John Orr
1995-1996	Joe Stukes
1996-1997	Ed Young
1997-1998	Carroll Player
1998-1999	Ashpy Lowrimore
1999-2000	Ben Ward
2000-2001	Tom Stanton
2001-2002	Mark Buyck, Jr.
2002-2003	Bob Odom, Jr.
2003-2004	John E Floyd, Jr.
2004-2005	Tommy Taylor
2005-2006	Charles Saverance
2006-2007	Walker Floyd
2007-2008	Skip Bishop
2008-2009	Joan Harrison-Pavy
2009-2010	Barry Wingard
2010-2011	Jeannie McGowan
2011-2012	Robert "Zip" Vassy
2012-2013	Ron Glancy
2013-2014	Jean Leatherman
2014-2015	Randy Cole
2015-2016	Holly Beaumier
2016-2017	David Wansley
2017-2018	Marty Massey
2018-2019	David Wansley

In 1994, the Rotary Club of Florence began presenting Four-Way Test Awards. The winners in the past fifteen years are:

Walker Floyd
Tommy Taylor
Rob Colones
Steve Powers
Frank M. Rogers, III
Neil Zimmerman
Walker Floyd
Carlisle Rogers
Fred DuBard and Ben Ward
Frank Avent
Reamer King
Dr. Joe Heyward
Dr. Eddie Floyd
Barry Wingard
Henry Brunson - Cooks for Christ



The late Frank Avent receives the Four-Way Test Award in June of 2014. Mr. Avent had been involved in Central United Methodist Church, Salvation Army, FMU Foundation, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Pee Dee, United Way, House of Hope and Coker College. In the photo from left to right are Jule Eldridge, Debbie Hyler, Paul Grich, Jill Lewis, Frank Avent, and Richard Harrington.

CHARITIES THAT HAVE RECEIVED ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE YEARS:

All 4 Autism

Alston Wilkes Society
American Cancer Society

American Heart and Stroke Association

American Red Cross

Amtrak Station - Travelers' Aid Center

Arbor Day Big Brothers Camp Rae

Carolina Power and Light Energy Assistance

Circle Park / Chrysalis Center Crippled Children's Home Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Dentistry from the Heart Durant's Children Center Empty Stocking Fund

Florence Area Literacy Council Florence Boys and Girls Club

Florence County

Florence County Disabilities Foundation Florence-Darlington Technical College Florence Downtown Development

Florence Industrial School Florence Interfaith Outreach

Florence Lions Club Florence Little Theater

Florence Mall

Florence Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)

Florence Regional Arts Alliance

Florence Veterans Park

Florence Youth Activity Center

Florence YMCA

Francis Marion University Scholarship Endowment

Friends of Revolutionary Rivers
Girl Scouts of Eastern South Carolina

Gold Star Families Memorial Guatemala Children's School

Habitat for Humanity Help 4 Kids Florence High School Football Team

House of Hope

Interact Cleanup Day

Kiwanis Club

Leadership Florence

Leprosy Treatment in the Philippines

Lighthouse Ministeries

March of Dimes Masterworks Choir Mercy Medicine

Miracle League of Florence

Pee Dee Area Council - Boy Scouts of America

Pee Dee Coalition against Domestic and Sexual Abuse

Pee Dee Land Trust

Pee Dee Speech and Hearing

Poynor Piano Fund

Rotarians in Drug Deterrence Education (RIDDE)

Rotary Club of Florence Beauty Trail Rotary International Gift of Life

Rotary International Health, Hunger, and Humanity Program

Rotary International PolioPlus

Salvation Army

The School Foundation

Shelter and Nutrition for All Children (SNAC)

Shopping for Needy Children SC Alzheimer's Association SC Tuberculosis Association Student Loan Program

United Service Organizations (USO)

Veterans Honor Guard

Youth Mentors of the Pee Dee

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

House that Habitat and Rotarians built

By Jason Sandford Morning News staff writer

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Florence and the Florence Rotary Club gave a family of five a little piece of harmony Saturday.

The homebuilding community volunteers turned over the keys to a new house at 909 Harmony St. to Ivory Henry II and his children.

"It's a blessing," Henry said as he struggled to describe his emotion.

The local Habitat group dedicated the home Saturday, the ninth Florence Habitat home built since 1990. Unlike previous projects, one civic group donated almost all the manpower to build the Harmony Street home.

"Habitat was the special project of the Rotary Club this year," said Ben Ward, past president of the club and a member of the Habitat board of directors.

"We donated what we thought half the cost of building the house would be and pledged all the labor," Ward said. "We had a lot of willing workers, and now we have something we can all be proud of."

Asa S. Godbold, a Rotarian and president of Power-Godbold Construction Co., lent his expertise to the project. Club members banged thumbs and bent nails, but felt a sense of accomplishment throughout the project, he said.

We'd like every club to build a house. But the 'building' is really almost secondary now. We're actually 'building' community and we're not going to stop

> **Rocky Pearce** Habitat board president

"There's no greater reward than today when we can turn over the house to its new owner," Godbolt added.

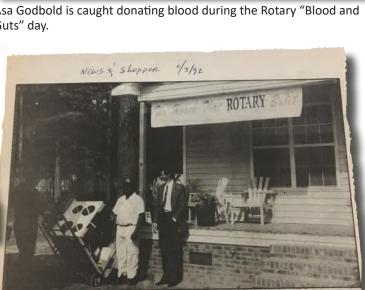
Joe W. "Rocky" Pearce Jr., Habitat board president, said the local Rotarians "caught the spirit" last year when Habitat broke ground on eight homes at one time. He urged more citizens to get involved with Habitat.

"We'd like every club to build a house," Pearce said. "But the 'building' is really almost secondary now. We're actually 'building' community and we're not going to stop."

Henry accepted the traditional Bible that comes with each new Habitat home as his children, Kimber, Ivory Henry III, Kimberly and La-Tonya, watched and smiled.

They have been living in a two-bedroom apartment for three years. Henry said they hope to be moved into the new home by Monday.

Asa Godbold is caught donating blood during the Rotary "Blood and Guts" day.

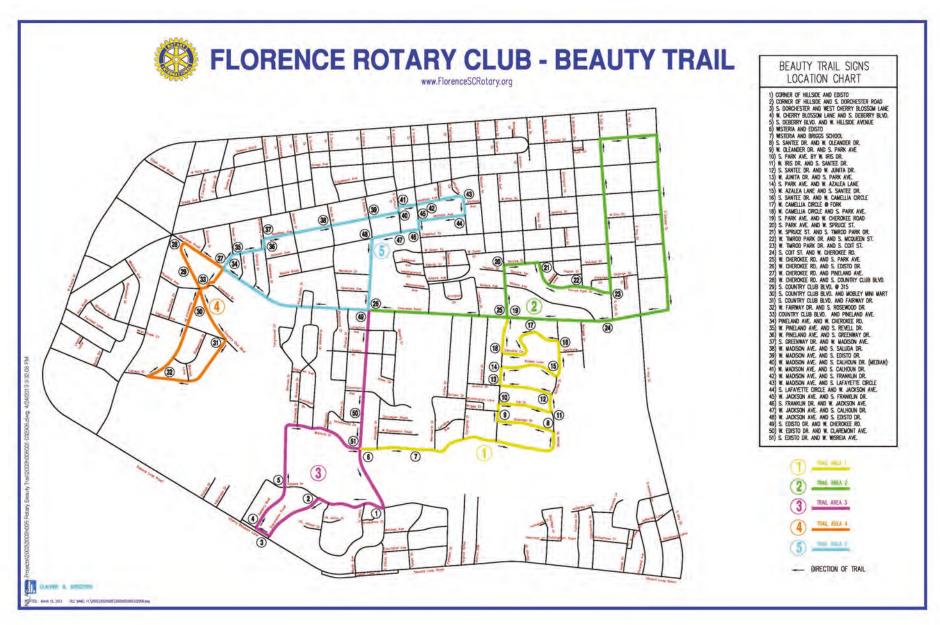


DONATES STOVES -- Mike Jaindl of Caloric watches as a cooking stove made at the Florence plant is unloaded in the home of Ivory Henry, center, Henry and his four children recently moved into the Habitat for Humanity house built by Florence Rotary Club volunteers. Caloric has donated stoves for all nine Habitat houses built in Florence.

The aticle above recognizes Rotarian Asa Godbold for being instrumental in construction of the Habitat for Humanity home.







The 13-mile Rotary Beauty Trail is one of the most widely known service projects initiated by our club. In the 1940s, Charlie Womack and Dolph Mobley created the driving trail. It was expanded, and permanent signage was placed in the 1970s. It was again expanded with the installation of the Rotary clock on the grounds of the new Drs. Bruce & Lee Florence

County Library.

In the spring of each year, visitors and residents alike drive the trail to view the blooming azaleas, yellow jessamine, and wisteria. It is listed as an attraction in AAA Tourbooks, and CDs and maps are available at the Florence Visitor Center and library.



Club members join the first Rotary Beauty Trail Bike Ride.

Tommy Taylor, fourth generation nurseryman, recounts, "In April of 2004, Mark Buyck, Jr., his lovely wife Julia, along with other Rotarians, and their family and friends joined me (with video camera in hand) and my son Justin, on the first Beauty Trail Bike Ride. Mark Buyck, III, another Rotarian, met up with the group, and his son, Mark Buyck, IV, joined the ride. Now there were four Buycks on the bike ride. The pace was modest, and after refreshments in Timrod Park, the group agreed that the idea should be repeated."

Each year before Easter, Tommy Taylor gathers volunteers to spruce up the Beauty Trail before the azaleas, wisteria, yellow jessamine, and camellias draw in visitors.



The late Ben Ward, Walker Floyd, and Tommy Taylor add directional signage to the Beauty Trail.



Pictured left, the Florence Rotary Beauty Trail is the subject of the painting which won an art talent competition among city employees. Jenny Lee is the city arborist, and her painting graces the walls of City Center.



Replacement signs for the Beauty Trail get the whole club involved in 2017. Pictured from left, Marty Massey, Paul Seward, Bradley Callicott, Bert Belk, Trisha Caulder, Jill Lewis, Laraine Stevens, Shawn Carraway, Townsend Holt, Randy Cole, Ashley Dingle Deaza, Barry Wingard, Tommy Taylor, Carl Harrington (crouching), Frank Love, Eric Marechall, Jean McPherson, Adam DuBard, Jennie Pezé, Bruce Boyd, Ashley Christenbury, Zip Vassy, Carroll Player, Joan Harrison-Pavy, Danielle Nance, Alex Palkovich, and Jim Clark. Seated and being entertained is Robert Jordan.

Upon the Dedication of Womack Park, 1974 Marion D. Lucas

In the 10th century a Persian sheik wrote this poem:

If, of thy mortal goods thou are bereft
and from thy slender store two loaves alone
to thee are left
sell one, and with the dole
buy hyacinths to feed thy soul.

The Rotary Club of Florence and the city of Florence have taken measures to honor and perpetuate the memory of a hard-working, quick-thinking promoter who transformed our town — and a good portion of South Carolina — into a colorful springtime spectacle that has brought happiness, satisfaction, and pride of home ownership to its citizens and praise and appreciation for its beauty from every corner of the nation.

His name is Charlie Womack, and we pay tribute to him today in word and deed. Charlie came to Florence in 1935. He set up a tire and appliance business because his wife tired of his traveling and because he saw in Florence an excellent business opportunity. A Georgia native, Charlie had been living in Wilmington, N.C., an old city noted for its swamp gardens and nature trails. It was probably there that he became interested in camellias and azaleas.

His business in Florence flourished, but Charlie still found time to take up a hobby — the cultivation of camellias and azaleas. At a plant sale conducted by the women of St. John's Church in 1945, Charlie perceived the keen interest people had in flowers. Ever alert to new opportunities — and every inch a salesman — Charlie was to offer camellias for sale alongside, and in front of, his store.

He made a deal with the women's garden clubs by which their members would handle flower sales on a commission basis, with the proceeds going to the garden club treasuries. The ladies loved it. Charlie offered prizes for the most beautiful yard in town, then the most beautiful block in town.

The women who had been helping him market his plants were soon to become his customers.

Camellia and azalea sales exploded. Men and women came from far and near to see the lovely Womack Gardens, and thus stimulated, left burdened with newly purchased plants.

Charlie Womack in his 40 years of active business in Florence has sold literally millions of plants. Last year alone his nursery sold 500,000 plants and trees.

Thanks to Charlie and his "lady friends," our town is one of the loveliest in the entire South. We applaud him for his far-sightedness — for lowering the price of flowers down to the reach of everyone by modern cultivation and marketing practices. Charlie Womack is now 67 years old, but he remains vigorous, active and productive. He exemplifies a Rotary slogan, "He profits most who serves the best."

To the great credit of our recent city administrations, city beautification has become a soundly established objective. The city is funding parks, has employed a staff horticulturalist and is continuing to move forward with beautification programs. We owe much to many such as the late James Evans, who foresaw the great potential; Dan McCarthy, the park commissioner whose helpful ideas helped launch the Rotary Beauty Trail; Mrs. Peg McEachin; the indefatigable Frank Key, Sr.; Mrs. Mary Foster Brunson; Rachael Cayce; and many, many others who have given so liberally of their time, talent and money to beautify our city.

Today we dedicate Womack Park. In doing so, we honor not only him, but ourselves. May it ever be maintained in resplendent beauty as a happy memorial to the man who made Florence a city of beauty.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



Pictured above are Boy Scouts in front of the Florence Museum in 1956.

Support of the Boy Scouts is a common theme throughout the history of the Rotary Club of Florence. In the initial meetings, the charter members listed Boy Scouts as an organization they would regulary support. In 1925, three club members drove their cars to Cherry Grove Beach to transport a group of Boy Scouts to YMCA camp. In 1941, the club agreed to re-roof the Boy Scout cabin.

The Rotary Club of Florence sponsored the Boy Scout Troop for East Florence in 1963. In 1968, the club established an Explorer post focused on business.

From 1972 to 1984, the Rotary Club of Florence was the sponsor of the Pee Dee Area Boy Scouts' annual exposition, a weekend powwow held at the Florence fairgrounds that brought together hundreds of scouts from the area. Florence Rotarians joined Boy Scout professionals each year in managing the weekend exposition and continued their supportive role until 1984, when the exposition was moved to Sumter.



Jonathan Edwards in 2019 presents a grant award to Michael Hesbach, Scout Executive/CEO of Boy Scouts of America Pee Dee Area Council.

ROTARIANS IN DRUG DETERRENCE EDUCATION



Bobby Jordan helps students build a marshmallow masterpiece.



The Rotarians in Drug Deterrence Education (RIDDE) program addresses the prevention of alcohol and other drug use by youth through direct interaction between youth and Rotarians. Initiated by Florence West Rotary Club in 1994, over 4,000 third-graders have successfully completed RIDDE with nearly 200 local Rotarians actively participating in the classrooms.

RIDDE has been recognized by Rotary International as one of the Top 20 International Community Programs. The program was also recognized by the South Carolina Department of Education and the Florence School District One's "Partners in Education" initiative as an effective community collaboration. It was the recipient of the National JCPenney Golden Rule award and was also featured in People Magazine.



DICTIONARY PROJECT

Rotary Club of Florence has distributed more than 23,000 dictionaries. Nationwide, 31,638,053 third-graders have received dictionaries through the Rotary Dictionary Project, which started in Savannah in 1992. In 2018-19, there were 1,524,432 dictionaries given away. Rotarian John Floyd raised \$500 per year from Prudential for 10 years for this project. In 2019, Floyd received a thank you from the Dictionary Project Leadership Team in Charleston for a decade's worth of contributions.

Rotarian Andy Arthur took the reins of the Dictionary Project in 2017. Each year 1,600 dictionaries are delivered to Circle Park, and he and Bill Gilmer work with club volunteers to deliver 800 books to seven schools in Florence One Schools. Florence Breakfast and Florence West Rotary Clubs deliver the remaining dictionaries across the county. For some children, this dictionary is the first book they own.





Rotarians Ashley Dingle Deaza, Irby Wilson, Jim Clark, and Tommy Taylor delivered dictionaries to a room full of happy third-graders.



Dewey L. Carter Elementary students show their new dictionaries in 2002.

HOLIDAY JOY



A team of bell ringers encourages donations outside Walmart each year. Pictured above, sporting the red aprons, are Barry Wingard and Jonathan Edwards.

Each year, the Rotary Club of Florence rings in the holidays with community service. Members can be found ringing the bell for The Salvation Army, packing weekend meals at Help 4 Kids Florence, and helping disadsvantaged school children shop for their holiday gifts. The holiday shopping is a long-standing tradition in the Rotary Club of Florence. In the 1930s, our members began the custom with "Soup Day," where the members ate soup and donated the difference in the cost of the meal to buy holiday gifts for students.



In early December, the Rotary Club of Florence helps pack weekend food supplies for elementary school students who may not have food on weekends. Help 4 Kids Florence works to ensure 2,400 children return to school rested, fed, and ready to learn each Monday. In photo above is Judy Kammer.



FORGET ME NOT 5K COLOR RUN / WALK to Beat Alzheimer's presented by Rotary Club of Florence

For several years, starting in 2016, the Rotary Club of Florence has held the Forget Me Not 5K Color Run to Beat Alzheimer's. Proceeds assist caregivers of those suffering with Alzheimer's disease. By 2019, the club had donated more than \$39,000 to the S.C. Alzheimer's Association.

Major sponsors for this event have been the Morning News and Habitat 2000 Apartments.





GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE TEAMS

Among Rotary's most successful ventures in recent years, in Florence and elsewhere, have been the Group Study Exchange Teams. Generally involving a group of five to eight young business and professional people, Rotarians and non-Rotarians visit a foreign country and stay with Rotary families. The members of the Exchange Team inspect businesses, industries, and educational institutions in the area, attend local Rotary Club meetings, often speaking at those meetings, and then return home to report on and incorporate what they've learned.

In 1980, the Florence Club, as a member of the Rotary District 777*, entertained a five-member Group Study Exchange Team from Bangalore, India, and in the following year helped to select and support a Rotary District 777 team visiting India. Similarly, a five-member team from England was entertained by the Rotary Club of Florence in 1983, and a District 777 team paid a visit to England the following year. Roger Hux of the Francis Marion College library staff participated as a member of that team. The Florence club also hosted teams from New Zealand in 1986 and from Ukraine in 2014.



* District 777 became known as District 7770 when Rotary International added a zero to the end of each district number in 1991.



Pictured left and above, doctors from Ukraine visit the Rotary Club of Florence in 2014. The goal of this exchange is to build partnerships and improve medical systems in both countries. The group is escorted by Dr. Jeff Crane, who formerly lived in Florence and now resides in Ukraine.

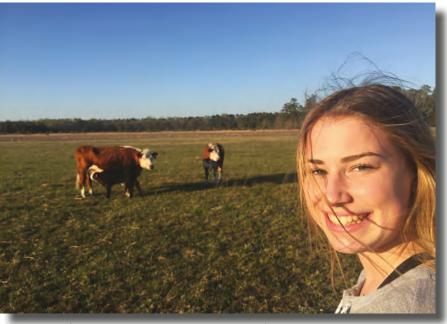
EXCHANGE STUDENTS

The Rotary Club of Florence and its members have hosted several wonderful exchange students through the years. Members involved include Rick Favaloro, Joan Harrison-Pavy, Jane and Rex Huggins, Jennie Pezé, and Rose Mary Parham.

2018-2019
2017-2018
2016-2018
2015-2016
2014-2015
2013-2014
2006-2007
2005-2006



Host "mom" Jane Huggins, Camille Rolin from Belgium, and Head of Trinity-Byrnes Collegiate School Ed Hoffman are pleased to be involved in the exchange program.



Anne Pyhan from Germany experiences Florence's agricultural heritage.



Tyra Edin from Sweden



Amber Calzat from France

OUTBOUND ROTARY EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Ben and Adam DuBard, sons of member Trip DuBard and grandsons of long-time member Fred DuBard, each spent a year as an exchange student.

Ben spent the 2013-14 school year in the Belo Horizonte area of Brazil. Adam stayed in Überlingen, Germany in 2009-2010.

Charles Timmons, the club's first outgoing exchange student, traveled to Argentina in 2010-11.





Adam DuBard spent some of his time snowboarding while in Germany.

rotary youth exchange

At left, Ben DuBard shows his Rotary Exchange Student blazer to our club after he returned from Brazil. The blazer is covered with lapel pins from other exchange students' countries.



FLORENCE VETERANS PARK

Many members of the Rotary Club of Florence have been instrumental in the creation and growth of the Florence Veterans Park.

Frank Willis, as mayor, had the vision and put the park as a priority. He put together the initial planning committee. Others on the committee were: Regi Armstrong, Rocky Gannon, Ray McBride, Alex Palkovich, and David Williams. Tom Marschel and Rick Walden helped to plan the opening ceremony.

Ed Young (and the Byrd Estate) donated the property. Barringer F. Wingard, Jr. has been heavily involved in every aspect of the park and has made monetary donations. Palkovich has designed and built several of the monuments.

Those who have made monetary donations include: Regi Armstrong (Armstrong Wealth Management), Reamer King (King Cadillac), Reynolds Williams, Ron Glancy (Raines Hospitality), Blake Pate (Chick-Fil-A), Scott Mitchell (Hilliard Lyons and Signature Wealth Strategies), Fred F. DuBard,

S.C. Sen. Hugh Leatherman (via S.C. Dept. of Parks, Recreation, & Tourism), Dr. Stephen Imbeau, Michael Reichenbach (Reichenbach Ford-Lincloln), Asa Godbold (Marilyn & Asa Godbold Foundation), Jill Bramblett (McLeod Health Foundation), Dr. Joe Griffin (Advanced Dental Care), Bobby Jordan (Jordan Furniture), Mark Buyck, Jr. (Drs. Bruce & Lee Foundation), Taylor Hucks (A& I Restoration), John Floyd, Paul Seward and Ashley Christenbury (First Bank), Rocky Gannon, Dr. Carroll Player, and Rosemary Parham (Parham Law Firm LLC).

In-kind donations include printing from Steve Powers (S/W Printing), advertisement from Jon Weiss and Glynn Willis (Adams Outdoor), and publicity from Don Kausler (the Morning News).



Palkovich's 9/11 Memorial incorporates a piece of the Pentagon building.



The Obelisk at the entrance to the Florence Veterans Park is topped by an eagle sculpture by Alex Palkovich.

FLORENCE VETERANS PARK WALL OF HONOR

The Rotary Club of Florence is well represented on the Florence Veterans Park Wall of Honor by members who are veterans or have relatives who served in the Armed Forces. The names of current and former members of Rotary Club of Florence listed on the Wall of Honor:

2LT LTJG	John D.Aiken Jefferson B. Aiken, Jr.	USAAC USN
CPT	Reginald A.T. Armstrong	USA
SSGT	Michael D. Blakeley	USAF
LT COL	Mark W. Buyck, Jr.	USAF
CPL	"Pete" Cooper	USMC
CPT	Fred F. Dubard, Jr.	USA
CPL	Thomas C. Ewart	USA
LTC	John E. Floyd, Jr.	USA
LT COL	R.J. "Rocky" Gannon	USAF
Capt	Randall E. Gelzer	USAF
LT	Eugene Daniel Guyton	USN
LCDR	Walter Moore Hart	USN
SGT	Boyd Franklin James	USAF
AE3	D.P. Pete Johnson	USN
PFC	Barry W. Jones, Sr.	USA
MAJ	Charles M. Jordan	USAF
2LT	Andrew Kampiziones	Greek AR
COL	John A. Kendall	USA
CPT	Tom Marschel	USA
CSM	M. Ray McBride	USA
SP/4	Frank Norris, III	USA
LTC	Paul Pittman	USA
CPT	T. Carroll Player	USA
LT	Gerald T. Rosenlund	USN
SN	Jerry W. Shealy	USCG
COL	William P. Tallon, Jr.	USA
SGM	Richard D. Walden	USA
1LT	Joe Payne Waters, Jr.	USA
S/SGT	Reynolds Williams	USA
COL	B.F. Wingard, Jr.	USA
CPL	Rentz S. Woodruff	USMC
CPT	James Givens Young	USA
MAJ	Ed Young	USAF

In addition, Rotarians have paid tribute to relatives who have served. Those include the fathers of Jill Lewis, Ron Glancy, John Floyd, Jr, Stephen Imbeau, Steve Powers, Jeanne McGowan, Thomas Richardson, and the father, grandfather, and four other relatives of Rose Mary Parham, and the father and the father-in-law of Barry Wingard.



The Wall of Honor pays homage to those who are serving or have served in our armed forces.

A FAMILY TRADITION

Through the years, there have been several father-son memberships in the Rotary Club of Florence: the Aikens, Bryces, Chases, Dawsons, DuBards, Greers, Hickses, Lucases, Kendalls, McLeods, Pates, Paxtons, and Smiths. Currently we have a father-mother-son membership with Jimmy, Bunny, and Schipp Johnston. Husband-wife memberships include Sen. Hugh and Jean Leatherman and Rex and Jane Huggins, while Mark and Pasha Buyck carry on the tradition with father-son membership and a 100-year line of membership from their law firm.

J. Boone Aiken J. Boone Aiken, Jr. O.S. Aiken J. Boone Aiken, III

Clyde S. Bryce, Sr. Clyde S. Bryce, Jr.

Maitland Chase Simons L. Chase

Dr. George R. Dawson, Jr. Dr. George R. Dawson, III

Fred DuBard, Jr. Trip DuBard

Grady Greer Bret Greer

Dr. E.M. Hicks Dr. Myers Hicks

J.C. Kendall J. Alex Kendall

Marion D. Lucas, Jr. Marion D. Lucas, Jr. Marion D. Lucas, III Dr. F.H. McLeod Dr. James C. McLeod

David Pate Blake Pate

Erwin Paxton John Erwin Paxton

Herman A. Smith Herman A. Smith, Jr.



Pictured above are Jimmy, Bunny, and Schipp Johnston.



Jean and S.C. Sen. Hugh Leatherman put "Service Above Self."



Rex and Jane Huggins, shown above, have participated in many Rotary endeavors. They are particularly active in the exchange student program.

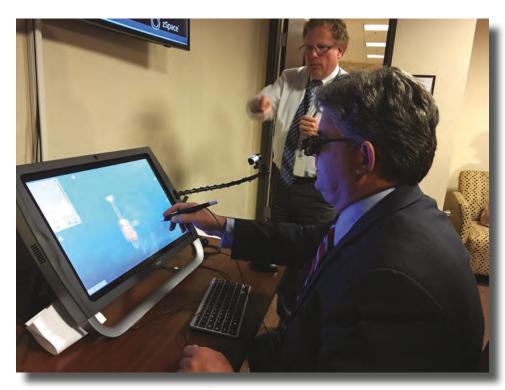


Mark W. "Pasha" Buyck, III (above left), and his father, Mark W. Buyck, Jr., are both former presidents of the Rotary Club of Florence.

PROGRAMS

Dedicated program coordinator Jean Leatherman invites informative speakers each week. Topics have included:

retirement investments opiod crisis healthy diets Alzheimer's disease economic development active shooter survival tips writing of country music changes in tax laws solar eclipses power infrastructure veterans and the military Rotary Youth Exchange manufacturing facilities charitable organizations



George Stukes takes David McBride's advice on assembling a virtual reality piece of equipment. The meeting involved a tour of the Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing Technology Center.



Debbie Hyler had a chance to hug a gator following a program by the Lynches River County Park director.

NETWORKING EVENTS

One of the perks of being a Rotarian is the opportunity to network with fellow community leaders. Each year, the Rotary Club of Florence holds a Sweetheart Dinner, an Oyster Roast as a fundraiser for the Rotary Foundation PolioPlus Project, a Fireside Chat for new members, and a night out at a RedWolves game.

Paul Harris once said, "The foundation of Rotary is friendship; on no less firm foundation could it have stood." In our networking events, friendships are cultivated, connections are made, and aspirations are supported.



Debbie Filyaw, Debbie Hyler, and Sylvia Perkins mingle at the 2016 Wine Down event.



Jonathan Edwards, Taylor Hucks, Scott Abrams, Sally and Rick Favaloro, Blake Branham, Walker Floyd, Tania Patel, Bobby Chowdary, and Shannon Copes gather for a fireside chat at the Bird's Nest.



Following a meeting, the late Jean McPherson joked with Jim Clark and Ron Glancy.

FELLOWSHIP PRANKS CONTINUE FOR A CENTURY

Pranks have been an integral part of Florence Rotary meetings since the first gatherings.



Elvis is still alive in Florence. He shows a distinct resemblance to the Rotarian taking the selfie in the image to the right. Here he poses with Tommy Taylor, the Rappin' Rotarian.



Maitland Chase, Sr. was known to fall asleep while sitting on the front row of the meetings at the Florence Country Club. He was later replaced by Pete Johnson who sat in front of the speaker's podium at Victors. Ron Glancy caught him in the act while taking a group selfie during fellowship. Carroll Player sits directly behind Ron Glancy.

True personalities seem to make their way to the surface during fellowship.

Rick Favaloro is apt to pull out his harmonica. It has also been said that he plays Christmas carols on the harmonica for hours non-stop while ringing the Salvation Army bell at Walmart.

Tommy Taylor, the Rappin' Rotarian, never disappoints. He raps about everything from Rotary to nature to fashionable shoes.

And Rose Mary Parham? Everyone waits for her turn, and they still talk about her dangling participle.



Rick Favaloro the fly fisherman "reeled in" rapperfish Tommy Taylor from Victors restaurant. Randy Cole checks out the net that caught the big fish.



Tommy Taylor, Jane Comfort, Rick Favaloro, Blake Pate, and Sylvia Perkins sport rival hockey team jerseys as part of Rick Favaloro's fellowship program.

FELLOWSHIP JOKES AND QUIPS

These were found in the approved jokes and quips of the 1960s:

Two bass were swimming about contentedly in a pleasant lake. "What's the good word, Sam?" asked one. "Can't complain," replied the other. "I'm managing to keep my head under water."

They were discussing their wives. "Now that the kids are grown up," said one of the men, "my wife is taking courses in literature at the university. She wants to write poetry. Every morning last summer she woke me up by chanting, 'Lo, the morn!'"

"What have you to complain about?" demanded the other man. "My wife is taking a course in gardening. Every morning last summer she woke me up chanting 'Mow the lawn!"

"Mother, why are the men in the front rows baldheaded?"
"They bought their tickets from scalpers, my child."

"Boss," said the hired hand, "I'm afraid you're going to have to give me a raise. There are three other companies after me."

"That so?" replied the employer. "Who are they?"

"The light company, the gas company, and the telephone company."

"I'd move heaven and earth to break 100," said the golfer as he swung away in a sand trap.

"Try heaven," advised his partner. "You've already moved enough earth."

Wise men talk because they have something to say, fools, because they have to say something.

— Plato



In the photo above, Rose Mary Parham provides highly anticipated fellowship. Seated in the photo is 2019-20 club president Blake Pate.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT THE McLEOD LEGACY



Pictured above is the McLeod Infirmary which was located on the north side of the IOO block of West Cheves Street. It was demolished when the McLeod Regional Medical Center was established on East Cheves Street.



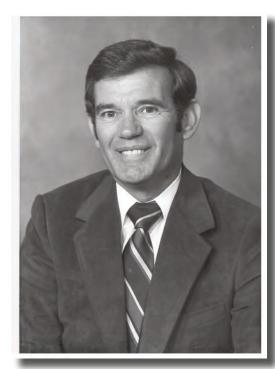
The McLeod Regional Medical Center in downtown Florence is a measure of Drs. F.H. and James C. McLeod's commitment to the community.

The McLeod Infirmary was built by Dr. F. H. McLeod and enlarged and continued by his son Dr. James C. McLeod, both of whom were early members of the Rotary Club of Florence. The younger Dr. McLeod held numerous positions and actively supported the community and the Rotary Club. He was a candidate for governor in the Democratic Primary at the end of World War II and was in a run-off in the 11-candidate field with Strom Thurmond, whose gubernatorial election led to his long and successful political career. Dr. McLeod served as president of the South Carolina Medical Association in 1946. Dr. James C. McLeod died unexpectedly on Dec. 9, 1947.

Today, McLeod Health has grown as a leading health, care provider in the region. It is a locally owned and managed, not-for-profit organization 62

with 750 medical staff members and more than 2,700 nurses. In total, McLeod Health is composed of 8,500 employees and more than 75 physician practices in its 18-county service area. With seven hospitals, McLeod Health operates three health and fitness centers, a sports medicine and rehabilitation center, a behavioral health center, hospice, and home health services. McLeod also provides the region's only children's hospital, and the McLeod Hospice House is the only inpatient end of life facility in the region. A teaching facility for residents since 1980, McLeod supports a three-year family medicine residency program, and with MUSC-Florence provides hands-on experience for third- and fourth-year medical students from USC School of Medicine to complete their clinical rotations.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT SEN. HUGH LEATHERMAN



Above is a photo of Sen. Leatherman ca. 1980, found in the Rotary files of Dr. Doug Smith.

Florence and the entire State of South Carolina is fortunate to have Sen. Hugh K. Leatherman in leadership. Leatherman has dedicated nearly 40 years of service to the people of the Palmetto State while serving in the S.C. Senate since 1981.

Born in Lincoln County, N.C., he has left a legacy of civic involvement, governmental leadership, and community service in the Palmetto State. Leatherman rose from the office of mayor pro tem of the town of Quinby to the position of chairman of Senate Finance Committee in the S.C. Senate. He served as President Pro Tempore of the S.C. Senate for all but one day from June 18,

2014 to January 8, 2019. The position was abolished and replaced with President of the Senate. He was subsequently named President Pro Tempore Emeritus by the Senate.

Along the way, he served in a number of legislative capacities: as a member of the Senate Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee, Ethics, Transportation and Banking and Insurance committees, Finance Committee, Senate Republican Caucus, which he chaired, and as a member of the S.C. Budget and Control Board and the Joint Bond Review Committee.

Leatherman has been a member of the Rotary Club of Florence since

1980, and he has been heavily involved in community affairs. He served as president of the Florence Toastmasters Club, Florence Optimist Club, and the Pee Dee Technical Society. Other organizations that benefitted from his participation are the S.C. Consumer Affairs Commission and the Florence Area Transportation Study Policy Committee.

His achievements in business also are substantial: commercial development of hotels, home building and residential development, and co-founding Florence Concrete Products, Inc.

Leatherman works tirelessly for the betterment of the state. He was successful in recruiting Boeing to Charleston, and he acquired funding to deepen Charleston Harbor for the S.C. Ports Authority. The terminal will be named in his honor upon completion.

Leatherman has assisted locally with acquiring funding for Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing Technology at Florence-Darlington Technical

College, many capital projects at Francis Marion University. **Affairs** Veterans Home, Nursing Leatherman Senior Center. downtown development, and Florence Veterans Park. The new FMU Medical Education Complex has been named in honor of the senator and his wife, Jean.



The Leathermans with five granddaughters.

Despite his busy governmental, civic, and business schedules, he still finds time to carve out a rewarding home life in which he is a devoted husband and father of 6 children, grandfather to 8, and great grandfather to 2.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT DR. FRED CARTER

Rotary Club of Florence member and past president Dr. Luther F. Carter has served as the president of Francis Marion University since 1999. During Carter's tenure at FMU, the university has been recognized as a leader in higher education, consistently recognized for excellence in U.S. News and World Report's annual collegiate rankings, and recently, as one of the "50 Most Affordable Colleges and Universities in America" by study.com.

Carter has presided over the establishment and growth of FMU's campus-based nursing education program, the creation of the School of Health Sciences, and two new degree programs in engineering. FMU has constructed five major academic buildings under Carter's watch without incurring debt. Three more new structures are under way as FMU begins its second 50 years.

Carter's career has been devoted exclusively to public service. He served as the chief of staff to Gov. Mark Sanford as the executive director of the S.C.



photo by Trish Munn

The Dr. Luther F. Carter Center for Health Sciences in downtown Florence provides classrooms, laboratories, and state-of-the-art simulation learning environment for USC medical students who are completing clinical rotations at McLeod and MUSC.

Budget and Control Board, and as the senior executive assistant to S.C. Gov. Carroll Campbell. He has also served on the faculties of the College of Charleston, the University of Central Florida and Western Kentucky University.

Presently (2020), Carter chairs the Governor's Medical Education Council and the S.C. Commission for International Cooperation and Agreements. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Northeastern Strategic Alliance, the S.C. Bar Association's Commission for an Independent Judiciary, the Executive Committee of the S.C. Research Authority, and the Scientific Advisory Committee of the U.S. Census Bureau.



He is the recipient of the S.C. Order of the Palmetto, and honorary degrees from the College of Charleston, Lander University and the Citadel. His service has been recognized by the National Governors' Association (Distinguished State Executive Award), the S.C. Chamber of Commerce (Public Servant of the Year Award), and the S.C. Regional Council of Governments (Public Official of the Year Award).

Carter is a native Floridian. He received his BA degree from the University of Central Florida and was awarded its distinguished alumnus award in 1999. He earned his MPA and Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina and was recognized by the university's College of Arts and Sciences as its distinguished graduate alumnus in 2006.

Carter served as an infantry officer in the Marine Corps and retired as a colonel in the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve.

He and his wife, Folly, have two children, Luke and Bryan, and three grandchildren, Chloe, Max, and Millie.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT DR. DOUG SMITH 1919 - 2018

Dr. Walter D. "Doug" Smith served as president of Francis Marion College (now Francis Marion University) from its opening in 1970 through 1983. Dr. Fred Cater, FMU president, once noted, "Doug Smith was the ideal leader for Francis Marion in the early years of the institution. He began with a pine forest and farmland, hired faculty and staff, constructed buildings, developed a curriculum, and established a very fine college in a relatively short period of time."

During Smith's tenure, enrollment grew from 500 to 2,800 and the faculty increased from 20 to more than 130. He presided over the addition of more than a half million square feet of new campus buildings and was part of awarding more than 3,500 degrees.

Very active in the Rotary Club of Florence, he wrote "Florence Rotary at Age Sixty Six," in 1986, one year before he was club president. It is this document that provided much of the information in the Rotary Centennial book.



Alex Palkovich stands with Doug Smith at the unveiling of the sculpture depicting Smith at FMU.



Doug Smith, always humble and good-humored, wrote in true Rotarian spirit, "A middle-aged male's less than brilliant performance on the golf course prevents him from taking himself too seriously."

Smith was born in Harriman, Tenn. He earned an undergraduate degree at Lincoln Memorial University in 1943, then served in the U.S. Navy for three years during World War II, skippering a motor torpedo boat in the Pacific Theater. He met his wife Rhondda, an Australian, while on leave in Sydney during the war. After the war, Smith resumed his education. He earned his masters and Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Michigan.

Following his retirement, Smith participated on a number of local civic boards in Florence, chaired committees for the Florence Chamber of Commerce, the United Way, and the Pee Dee Council of Boy Scouts. He also served as the initial director of the Governor's School of Science and Math in Hartsville, helping to found yet another Pee Dee educational institution.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT ED L. YOUNG 1920 - 2017



Former Congressman Ed Young smiles as he joins 100 veterans on an Honor Flight to visit the National WWII Memorial in 2012.

Ed Young first joined the Rotary Club of Florence in 1946. By that time, he had graduated from Clemson College, served as a fighter pilot in the Pacific during the last part of World War II, and had received the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with nine oak clusters. He had been the commander of the 67th Fighter Squadron, and he'd flown in 195 combat missions.

Ed Young's family was involved in agriculture, and a photo Ed was always delighted to show friends was that of Mikado Millie, a cow that had produced 850 lbs. of butter and 13,303 lbs. of milk, setting a world record. Ed Young was just a child in the 1926 photo, standing with a group of men that included Herbert Hoover.

Ed Young was elected to the S.C. House of Representatives as a Democrat in 1968, and after serving one term, he listed as a Republican. In 1972, he won the Republican nomination for S.C.'s 6th congressional



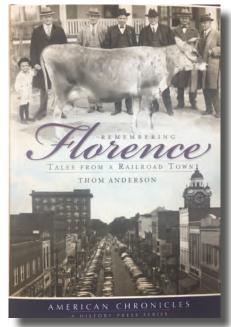
The Young Farm, built c. 1877, is located on U.S. 76 near I-95.

in history to represent this part of the state. With the Watergate scandal, there was a backlash against Republicans, and Jenrette won the seat in 1974.

Ed Young and his wife, Hatsy, were very active in Ebenezer Baptist Church, and Ed hosted a live radio show called Radio Sunday School for more than 50 years. In the 1960s he hosted the Southeast Almanac TV show.

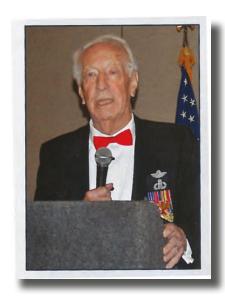
Always keeping the community in mind, the congressman transferred land for public space such as the Florence Center, Florence Veterans Park, and Florence Soccer Complex. He also developed several hotels in Florence and Myrtle Beach.

district. John L. McMillan, a 17-term Democrat incumbent, was defeated in the primary by a more liberal Democrat, John Jenrette. With a Republican landslide carried by President Richard Nixon's presidential win, Young won by nine points, becoming the first Republican



On the cover of a Florence history book, Ed Young, age 5, joins T.B. Young, W.J. Keegan, Fred Young, Herbert Hoover, D.W. Covington, and Bright Williamson with Mikado Millie, Young's award-winning cow.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT ROCKY GANNON



Lt Col Roland "Rocky" Gannon was born in Palermo, N.J., and moved to Ocean City when he was 7 years old. Shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 and while he was a junior at Ocean City High School, Rocky enlisted in the Air Force at age 17. He immediately entered pilot training. Shortly before his high school class graduated, Rocky became a B-17 Flying Fortress pilot. At age 20 he was flying the B-29 Super Fortress.

Gannon served in the Air Force for 37 years. He flew 6,000 hours in 34 different aircraft, from bombers to transports, from gliders to fighters. In the 1980s, he became the Florence Airport director and joined Florence Rotary at that time. Under his leadership, he increased airline service to the airport and expanded the workforce.

He has 50 military awards and decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, 10 Air Medals, four Meritorious Service Medals, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm. He flew as a combat pilot in World War II, Korea, the Belgian Congo and 387 combat missions in Vietnam. After World War II, he served three years in the occupation of Iwo Jima and Japan. Fifteen of his 37 years of active duty were served overseas.

As a result of the post-World War II pilot draw down, he became an Air Traffic Controller. Throughout his career, he continued to mature into an Air Traffic Control and Air Space Management expert. He was presented the Air Force's first (engraved #1) Master Air Traffic Controller Badge by Maj Gen Rupert Burris, AFC/CC from 1975 to 1977. He commanded three squadrons: 2035th Comm Squadron, Castle AFB, Calif., the 1868th Flight Check Squadron, Wiesbaden, Germany, and the 1815th TESPO, Kirtland AFB, N.M. He commanded six different Comm Detachments, including two in France and one in Korea.

While in the service he earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees. On Nov. 11, 2003, Rocky received his Ocean City High School diploma 59 years after he left OCHS.



Information and photos courtesy of *Communicator*, official publication of the AF Comm & ATC Association, November 2019.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT DR. JOSEPH E. HEYWARD

Excerpts and photos from Florence News Journal, "Career of Long-Time FMU Administrator Joe Heyward Honored by Road Named Heyward Drive at FMU" 9/11/18



Heyward Drive is the main east-west street on the FMU campus.

Dr. Joseph E. "Joe" Heyward, a native of Florence, has been an active member in the Rotary Club of Florence since March 18, 1985. He is one of the first three African American men to be inducted in the club.

Dr. Joseph E. "Joe" Heyward served Francis

Marion University for more than 30 years as an instructor, administrator and provost. In 2018, a street on the campus of Francis Marion University was named Heyward Drive in his honor. At the dedication ceremony, FMU President Dr. Fred Carter called Heyward "one of the architects of the development of the university," and said that he depended upon Heyward's sound advice during the early years of his presidency.

Dr. Heyward graduated from Wilson High School, received his BA from Hampton University, his Master of Mathematics degree from Morgan State University and his Ed.D from the University of South Carolina.

Dr. Heyward taught math and physics, served as an assistant principal, and an assistant superintendent in Florence School District 1. He served in a variety of roles at FMU during two different stints with the university. From 1983-2006 he was a vice president. Concurrently, he served as university provost on three occasions for a total of four years.

During his career Heyward also served as an area representative for Sen. Fritz Hollings, and Heyward served in the U.S. Army and the U.S. Army Reserve.

Heyward is active in a number of professional and community organizations, including Rotary Club of Florence, Cumberland United Methodist Church, South Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, Pee Dee Housing Development Corporation Board, the Pelican House Board, and FMU's African American Faculty and Staff Coalition.

He and Evelyn have three children and six grandchildren.



Joe stands by as his wife, Evelyn, holds a replica of the street sign on the FMU campus.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT FRED DUBARD, JR.



Fred DuBard, Jr. is the former owner and CEO of DuBard Inc., a Florence-based distributor of Anheuser-Busch products. He served on Coastal Carolina University's Board of Trustess for many years, including three terms as chairman. DuBard has been an active leader in

many Florence area organizations, including the Florence Chamber of Commerce, the Florence Rotary Club, United Way, Vision 2000, YMCA, McLeod Community Board, and Florence-Darlington Technical College. DuBard first joined Rotary in Greenville in 1965, and he joined the Florence club in 1972 when he first moved to Florence.

DuBard grew up in the food business. His father was manager of the Columbia branch of Pearce-Young-Angel Co. (Jim Pearce later sold this Greenville-based business to Sara Lee.) DuBard held his first "job" as a youngster, helping his father in the warehouse, earning 25 cents per hour.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Wofford College in 1957, where he met his wife, Jessie, and a master's degree from the University of Tennessee in 1960.

A job offer from John Kassab brought Fred and Jessie to Florence in 1972 to work with N.B. Baroody Beverage Company. After managing the business for 17 years, the DuBards became the owners of DuBard, Inc. and grew this Florence institution from 1989 through 2006.

DuBard recalls the transition to the Florence facility: "While at Greenville I attended the Anheuser-Busch national conventions annually. At these meetings, the South Carolina people hung out together. That is

where I met John Kassab, manager of N.B. Baroody. Over the years, we became good friends. After working in the beer business for seven years, I knew I wanted to be an owner. One day, I got a call from John Kassab, and he said he wanted to talk with me. We got together for dinner one evening, and he offered me a job as manager. It was a hard decision, for by that time I was vice president of five operations and doing well. It took me two months to make up my mind. I came to Florence in 1972 to a warehouse that was behind the times, to say the least. Old trucks and old people who were going through the motions. I managed the company for

17 years. During that time we built a new warehouse, upgraded the trucks and hired people who wanted to work and build. When I came to Florence, we had 15% of the market. When I sold the company we had 69% share of the market," he continues. "I bought the company in 1989 from the Baroodys. I owned the company for 17 years and sold it in 2006 to a fellow Rotary member, Schipp Johnston."

Fred and Jessie are strong supporters of the McLeod Foundation. The Courtyard Garden located at the base of the new McLeod Center for Intensive Care has been named in DuBard's honor.



Jessie and Fred DuBard attend the McLeod Foundation Chef and Child dinner and auction.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT SYLVIA PERKINS



Above, Sylvia Perkins is an active attendee of Florence Rotary meetings. Pictured right, Sylvia Sylvia eventually rejoined the ziplines over a waterfall and rain forest workforce as Vice President of in Panama.

Sylvia Perkins, the first female president of the Rotary Club of Florence, has always loved traveling, and as she notes, "has gasoline in her blood." She has visited almost all of the states and many countries, including Turkey, Argentina, and Panama. As Club President in 1997, she attended the Rotary International Convention in Scotland. She also attended the 2000 Rotary International Convention in Argentina.

After high school, Sylvia worked in the Industrial Relations Division of the Florence Chamber of Commerce. She retired to raise her two sons, Scott and Todd. Sylvia eventually rejoined the workforce as Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Motel Associates. While there, she

developed a golf package business that brought hundreds of golfers into the Florence area.

Always interested in Florence, she has been on the Florence County Accommodations Tax Committee, Florence County Progress, and is currently on the Florence County Transportation committee.

She was invited to join the Rotary Club of Florence in 1990 and became the club's first female President in 1997, after being nominated

by the late Ashpy Lowrimore. During her inauguration, she was surprised when each female Rotarian presented her with a yellow rose.

Sylvia retired (again) in 2010 and now spends her time being a wife to Bob, a mother to her two sons, and a grandmother to her five beautiful granddaughters.

Always bringing a bit of sunshine, she and Judy Kammer work together on the Care Committee, ensuring that any club members who aren't feeling well are contacted.

She is a three-time Paul Harris Fellow and is working on her fourth. She is celebrating 30 years in Rotary in 2020.





Joe Stukes leans over to kiss the hand of Rotary outgoing President Sylvia Perkins as she hands him the Four Way Test Award, the highest award the club can give, Monday during a meeting at the Florence City-County Civic Center.

Excerpts from scnow.com, "An immigration story: Florentine of Greek descent reflects on his journey" by Melissa Rollins 2/15/15

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT ANDREW KAMPIZIONES

Andrew Kampiziones emigrated from Greece to the United States with his wife, Eula, in 1956. As his parents had settled in Florence, he first lived here before a brief stay in New York where he studied economics. Returning to Florence for a quieter lifestyle and to be closer to his parents, he was "feeding bellies,' as he says, at the Flamingo Restaurant.

Eula urged him to follow the path he'd started in his hometown of Lamia, Greece: to be an educator. "I went to USC and got a degree in philosophy and started teaching philosophy at Francis Marion University for a number of years," he stated. Before long, he had put in years as a college professor not only at FMU, but also at Coker College and Florence-

Darlington Technical College (FDTC).

He is a loval attendee the Florence Rotary meetings and has served on the Florence Museum Board, the McLeod Regional Medical Center Foundation Board and the Florence Heritage Foundation Board. He was a charter member of the Committee for Housing for the Mentally Ш and was chairman the of Historical Commission and the Florence Symphony Board, though that is far from all that he has

done.



Photo by Hunter Thomas Professor Kampiziones speaks at FDTC, upon receiving the title of Faculty Emeritus.

Kampiziones said that even though he is an American now, he is proud of his heritage and helped start both the Greek Festival in Florence and International Day at FMU (now Arts International) in which different cultures are represented through food, presentations and costumes.

Professor Kampiziones was honored in 2019 as the first ever Faculty Emeritus of Philosophy and Ethics at FDTC. When asked what a teacher's purpose is, he responded, "A teacher obviously is not to simply impart



Photo by Hunter Thomas Andrew and Eula Kampiziones are delighted upon his receiving the title of Faculty Emeritus of FDTC.

knowledge — the students can find it in books and dictionaries. A teacher's mission, I would say, is to INSPIRE the students by being a role model of inquiry and learning, conscientiousness, responsibility, dignity, care, and responsiveness."

Recognized for his service and contributions to the community over the years, Kampiziones is an Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Order of St. Andrew the Apostle. He was honored with the Ellis Island Medal of Honor for humanitarian preservation of diverse ethnic heritage in 2002 and his service in the Greek Army is commemorated on the Wall of Honor at the Florence Veterans Park. He also received the Order of the Palmetto from the State of South Carolina in 1988 and the Jack Baker Award from the arts community in Florence.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT DR. JOE STUKES 1927 - 2016

Excerpts from scnow.com, "A Man of Many Talents: Florence Historian Joe Stukes Dies" by Melissa Rollins 1/13/16

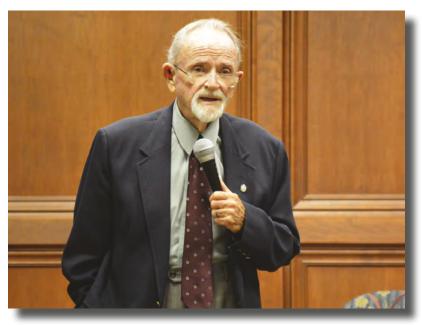


photo by Joshua Lloyd

To many residents of Florence, Stukes was known as "the old college professor," even if they never set foot in a classroom while he was still teaching. Instead, Stukes brought history to life outside the halls of educational institutions over the course of his long-running history series at the Florence County Library, during overseas excursions to historical locations, and even through simple conversation. Most memorable to the Rotary Club of Florence was his character depiction of Rotary International founder Paul Harris.

To Stukes, history was never boring, and because of him, many others began to understand why he felt that way. A native of Manning, Stukes earned multiple degrees and taught at Erskine College before joining the faculty of the newly established Francis Marion College in 1974.

Dr. Fred Carter, president of Francis Marion University and a Rotarian, said that Stukes left an invaluable mark on the university. "Joe was a professor of history and the chair of the history department at FMU from 1974-1990," Carter said. "He played an integral role in the development

of the university in its early days and was an immensely popular teacher and an accomplished administrator. Joe had great affection for this university and its faculty, staff and students."

Barry Wingard, chairman of the Friends of the Florence County Library and a fellow Rotarian, recalls one of Stukes' history series programs and how quickly any reservations he had about the character depiction disappeared. "I remember very vividly the first time I went to see him perform," Wingard said. "I like to think that I know a little bit about history and a little bit about the military. The character was (General Douglas) MacArthur. Joe walked out with a WW II hat on and a pipe; he was a rather small figure and I thought, 'Boy, I'm wasting my time.' A minute into the presentation, I was hooked."

Fellow Rotarian Rocky Gannon went on six overseas trips with Stukes. Even as someone who had been abroad, Gannon said that Stukes' trips were captivating. "I'm ex-military and during the Cold War I spent about 10 years living in Europe," Gannon said. "I couldn't go to all of the places beyond the Iron Curtain. When we took the trips with Joe, we went to places like Warsaw and Budapest; it was just fantastic. His knowledge of all of Europe, Africa and the world was just beyond description, and I'm a history major, and I've lived all over the world."

Though Stukes may be best known for his presentations in the Pee Dee, he also traveled to other states to talk about the subject he loved so much. "He was a treasure, not just to us in this area but throughout the country," Gannon said. "He did presentations all over the country, and in my estimate, he did a job that is just unequaled."

When Stukes retired his history series in 2014, the room was packed. There were life-long friends, people who had become friends after attending Stukes' performances and even those who could not pass up the opportunity to take in the last show of the series that had been running for more than two decades.

Dr. Elwood Owens has compiled videos of Dr. Stukes depicting famous characters which are available at Florence County libraries and FMU.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT ALEX PALKOVICH



Alex sculpts Francis Marion and his horse, Ball.

Alex Palkovich was born in the Trans-Carpathian Mountains in 1947. He grew up in the Soviet Union in Uzhhorod, a city which is now in the country of Ukraine.

Both of his parents survived World War II concentration camps.

Alex earned a master's degree in engineering from LVIV Polytechnic National University. In 1973, Alex and his family moved to Israel where he took an engineering position in an MRI manufacturing facility. An MRI magnet factory he built in Oxford, U.K., was acquired by General Electric in 1998. This brought him to Florence as a global MR operations manager for GE. Other plants he was responsible for overseeing are located in China, Japan, India, Cleveland, and Milwaukee.

Alex always had sculpting as a hobby, and he took it on full-time when he retired from GE. His work is featured in Florence Veterans Park, Francis Marion University, Lake City, Johnsonville, and Brookgreen Gardens.

Alex is a member of the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists, the Oxford Art Society, and the National Sculpture Society. His work has received awards from the American Institute of Commemorative Art, National Sculpture Society, Allied Artists of America, and Portrait Society of America.



"Home Safe" by Alex Palkovich stands in Florence Veterans Park. Fellow Rotarian Rose Mary Parham modeled for the sculpture.

Alex now spends six months of the year in his home in Israel, and he returns to the Rotary Club of Florence frequently while working in his Florence studio.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT TOMMY TAYLOR, THE RAPPIN' ROTARIAN

100 Years of "Gears"

For 100 years the "gears" of "Service Above Self" have turned at Florence Rotary Club. Around the world folk have joined this quest to keep the "gears" turning from the hub.

Caring and sharing time and resources foster benefits of truth, fairness, and goodwill. Good Leaders and followers team up to shadow life's ideals with thrills.

From a bridge over Pee Dee River to a Crippled Children's Home projects abound, And having a Beauty Trail that showcases spring is the "talk of the town."

Members value fellowship, and friendships come from multiple "gears." Third-graders cherish the dictionaries, and are challenged by R.I.D.D.E. every year.

Salvation Army bells ring aloud, and Rotarians shop with children for Christmas joy. Several have been saved by the "Gift of Life, and "Youth Exchange" brings warm feelings, oh boy.

At Rotary, Florence School Foundation and Eastern Carolina Community Foundation got "geared up." No bragging while bagging lunches "Just 4 Kids Florence," a thrill for all grown-ups.

Giving blood is a regular thing for those who have the "guts."

Oyster roasts and sweetheart banquets "gear down" the members, but not in the ruts.

So many programs inform and inspire, especially for those in need, For Rotary hearts are large with love and humility indeed.

The "gears" turn and turn in the 5K Run, And C.A.R.T. adds weekly to the Alzheimer's fund.

May the song and pledge add "we've been working hard for Ro-ta-ry," The RI Centennial clock stands tall at the Florence Library.

Fellowship often entertains with some challenge to heighten, News about the area and members surely does enlighten.

Focusing on the future is a goal for all, May God shower blessings to keep Florence Rotary in "gear" y'all.

Tommy Taylor, the "Rappin Rotarian," "TnT Coolpops," Proverbs 22:1,4 1-12-2020

Tommy Taylor, Rotary Club of Florence member since 2002, always keeps the meetings upbeat. As a nurseryman, he educates members on landscaping and indigenous flowers. His dedication to maintaining the Florence Rotary Beauty Trail is commendable.

As a Rappin' Rotarian (certainly the only one in the world), he entertains with his poems and raps. He wrote a special rap to celebrate the club centennial. It's obvious that the gears in Tommy's brain never stop turning!



Tommy Taylor takes the stage at the 2005 centennial celebration of Rotary International in Chicago. His impromptu "Four-Way Test Rap" was a big hit in the House of Friendship.

1 joined the club because of the great work Rotary does for our community. The membership and leadership make me proud to be a Rotarian.

Jill Bramblett

2 My CEO encouraged me to join Rotary.

Not only is it a great way to network and stay connected, but it provides a wealth of educational and service opportunities. The connections and friendships made are priceless!

— Katie W. Wilcox

Rotary's power comes not from numerical strength in club units, but from sincerity of purpose and friendship, which create understanding and goodwill among men and nations.

Florence Rotary Weekly Blabber, 1933

4 I'm a Rotarian to meet and interact with leaders in our community.

Tom Ewart

5 It is a prestigious community "Service Above Self" minded club consisting of business professionals — great servants of our community.

- Andrew Kampiziones

6 If Rotary had not started PolioPlus in 1985, there would be, at the time of Rotary's 100th birthday in 2005, eight million more children with polio.

Dr. Albert Sabin, developer of oral polio vaccine and Rotarian

75 REASONS TO BE A ROTARIAN

71 am a Rotarian for fellowship, community enrichment, business connections, and contributions to community through service.

Ken Gunter

• Rotary changes lives all over the world.

Jill Lewis

9 I was invited to join Rotary in 1994 by Joe Turner, an executive with Carolina Power & Light. He told me that Rotary would give me the opportunity to meet and socialize with business and community leaders and that I would make lifelong friends. He was exactly right.

— George W. Stukes

10 John Floyd sponsored me in Rotary. I wrote this "Four-Way Test Rap" on a napkin in February 2002, and shared it the day I was inducted to the Club.

Ro-ta-ry is the club for me.

The "Four-Way Test" is fact,

So speak, think, and act.

Tell the truth and be fair,

Build goodwill and friendships there.

Benefits to all around,

Give God the Glory, blessings abound!

Thank God I am a Rotarian.

Ro-ta-ry is the club for me.

Tommy Taylor

11 Rotary is a wonderful place to make new friends, become more informed, and to make contributions for the betterment of our community, state, and nation.

Barnett Greenberg

12 When asked to join Florence Rotary, I was excited to have the opportunity to work and enjoy fellowship with many of the community leaders and be involved with so many worthwhile projects. My single most memorable experience occurred in 2014 when I spent two weeks in Ghana with 20 other Rotarians from the US, working with Rotarians from Ghana to eradicate diseases and provide clean water. This unforgettable experience confirmed what a truly world wide organization I had become a part of.

- Barry Wingard

13 I participate in Rotary to do the same thing I do for the Army, serve and give back to my community.

— Captain Scott Abrams

14 Years ago I worked for a real estate company, and the broker was a Rotarian, and he went to meetings every Monday. He was excited to go. So I was curious, what is that about? Then a few months later, one of my classmates invited me to a meeting. I went for a few weeks, saw what it was about, and saw business people that I knew and respected in the community. I knew I wanted to be a part of the service that Rotary offers to the less fortunate. The Four-Way Test means having integrity. I'm proud to be a Rotarian. I've been a member for 12 years.

Ann King

15 I look forward to the weekly friendship and fulfilling Rotary's mission.

Mike Miller

16 It's important to make a difference in the community, and it's fun to do it with fellow Rotarians!

- Holly Beaumier

17 Ed Young called me back in the 60s and asked me to be the pianist. At that time, Rotary met in the old Sanborn Hotel at one long table, and I was the only female in the room! At the annual Valentine banquet, I played "Let Me Call You Sweetheart," while each Rotarian held his wife's or date's hand and sang to her.

Bunny Johnston

18 Brother, when this old Rotary bug gets you, you really like to do things for people. It just makes you forget about making a living and teaches you how to make a life.

- Florence Rotary Weekly Blabber, 1936

191'm a member of Rotary because I like to surround myself with caring people who can make me a better person, so that I can better help others, and Rotary is the best place to do that.

- Jonathan Edwards

20 It is just an active everyday influence — something that can be taken into the office or shop or factory — and that impels a man, who has become a Rotarian, to greet his employees with a smile and a cheery "good morning" — something he can take home to his wife and kids — something that makes him more considerate of everyone with whom he comes in contact.

Bert Adams, Atlanta
 Signer of Rotary Club of Florence charter

21 Fellowship, Friends, Fun, and a lot of Fright after being elected the first woman President of our club in 1997.

Sylvia Perkins

22 Life to me is a little sweeter by reason of Rotary.

- J. Boone Aiken, 1930

Through my contact with Rotary, I learned about the importance of community service. The Rotary motto of Service Above Self—and I still remember that today—has left a deep impression and has guided me since.

 Sadako Ogata, former UN High Commissioner for Refugees

24 I joined Rotary because this club is for the "doers" in Florence. Where else can you find a bigger group of people who not only say the right things, but take action to improve life for people in Florence and around the world?

P. Alan Smith

251 joined the Rotary Club as soon as came to work in Florence to get to know local business leaders and to be a part of an organization that does so much for the community.

Ashley Christenbury

26 Rotary: a window to the world and our community; the place to be.

S.A. Imbeau

27 The reason I joined Rotary is not the reasonI've stayed. Originally, networking was my primary objective. I was willing to invest my time for civic functions in exchange for opportunities to form relationships with potential clients. I quickly learned that I had it backwards, that helping the community as a Rotarian was the objective and the relationships came second. Four years in, I've thoroughly enjoyed being a productive member of this community and the relationships made possible from Rotary. It's a win win for those willing to invest first.

- Derek Hemmingsen

28 The atmosphere was sure charged with enthusiasm... for a large part due to the fact that this is a real Rotary Club and "Rotary" and "Pep" are synonymous terms.

Minutes of Club Meeting, April 1920

29 I enjoy being a Rotarian not only because of the service the club gives to the community, but also because I get to eat lunch with great people.

- Regi Armstrong

30 The people who are most interested in our community are, in turn, the most interesting people in our community. And they are in Rotary.

JoEtta Chewning

31 Rotary has reinforced this concept [of the Golden Rule], terming it vocational service.

— JC Penney, businessman and Rotarian

32 The first time I heard of Rotary it was a great consolation, and I said to myself, "Now they are beginning to do what is necessary for the future."

 Dr. Albert Schweitzer, Nobel Prize winner and Rotarian

1 have always tried to be involved in my local community, and what better way than to be involved in my local Rotary Club. I enjoy assisting with the bell ringing for the Salvation Army, the RIDDE program, providing free dictionaries to third graders in our school district, eradicating polio, and donating to our club's CART fund to fund Alzheimer's research. The members of "My" Rotary Club are always in the news for doing something in the community, whether individually or as a group. I am very proud to be a member of this prestigious group of movers and shakers in our community.

Steve Powers

34 I was very fortunate to be introduced to the Rotary organization by my father when I was a young child. When I began my career, he advised me to find an active Rotary Club. I am so glad that he gave me the directive. I have enjoyed service in our club and serving as a third generation Rotary Club President. Our organization is involved in activities in our community as well as around the globe. The motto of Service above Self is one to strive to live by each day. It is a privilege to be a member of the Florence Rotary Club and the Rotary International organization.

- Jule Eldridge, III

35 I am grateful my father introduced me to Rotary. The Four-Way Test is instrumental to me personally and professionally.

- Bret Greer

36 I am honored to be a Rotarian. When I first came to Florence in 1963, I wanted to join Rotary, but they had a rule regarding classification. There was already a dentist and an orthodontist, which kept me from being able to join in. I have been an active member since 1998.

— Dr. Townsend Holt

37I joined the Rotary Club of Florence 22 years ago. I was invited to attend meetings by a women member, Mary Dean Brewer, whom I respected and admired. At that time, there were maybe only ten female members. I joined the club to get to know the members, and I found the programs very informative. I am excited about how our club has evolved to include more women and a younger group of people. I feel honored to be a Past President of such a community-minded club.

Joan Harrison-Pavy

381 slowly became better indoctrinated with the Rotary precepts of service, and the tie-in with the "club" concept, the power of many doing good deeds versus the power of one. I came to understand that we could serve our fellow man, particularly our community, by doing, by financially supporting, and by reinforcing both with regular, like-minded fellowship on Mondays at lunch, kind of like going to church regularly.

George Wilds, IV on being inducted

39 I joined rotary for the fellowship and community project support. I have remained in Rotary for about 50 years because I have found it to be true to its objective of good fellowship and worthwhile community projects.

— J. Banks Scarborough

40 I was ushered into Rotary by a mentor I had the utmost respect for and found that our club was filled with business and community leaders that I had idolized from afar and now could join and break bread with weekly. When introduced to the concept of 'Service above Self,' I naturally came to build a career and life trying to live up to this weighty goal. Rotary has introduced me to people who have shaped me into the type of person who values his community and desires always to make it a better place through service to others.

Robby Hill

4 1 I was taken to my first Rotary meeting by my father. He was a man that modeled service above self better than anyone I have ever known. After attending a few meetings I realized this was the club for me. The Four-Way Test is a great foundation for my life, and service is something that is close to my heart. I am honored to be the current President of our Rotary club.

Blake Pate

42 Rotary is doing all these wonderful projects, most of all the eradication of polio, to improve lives.

Desmond Tutu

43 Ever since I was eight years old, I wanted to be a Rotarian like my father. He took me to a meeting with him, and when we left I told him I wanted to be a Rotarian like him. He died before I was old enough to join. As soon as I was able to join in Greenville, S.C., I joined to work and serve in any way I could. When we moved to Florence, I really went to work in the Rotary Club. That was almost 50 years ago. I do not regret one moment of it.

- Fred F. DuBard, Jr.

44 I was honored to be asked to join Rotary by an outstanding Rotarian and former Rotary President. The invitation and subsequent comradery, spirit, passion and commitment of this outstanding national organization make me feel privileged every day to say I am a Rotarian.

Jane Comfort

45 I have been a Rotarian for 44 years and can without hesitation say it has been one of the most rewarding organizations of which I have been involved. The fellowship, programs, local club projects and the humanitarian accomplishments of Rotary make me proud to say, "I am a Rotarian."

— Ray Reich

46 I have been a Rotarian for 26 years because I enjoy and appreciate the friendships of all of my fellow Rotarians and for the good things that Rotary does for people in the community and worldwide.

— Zip Vassy

47 I have been a member of nine different Rotary Clubs in my career. From New York to Nebraska, the Florence Club is the best of the bunch. And I mean that sincerely!

Joe Craig

48 When I arrived in Florence, S.C., in the early 1980s, Rotary served as a transition point from my 37 years as a military pilot in four wars to civilian life and community service. With Rotarian help, I became the Florence City/County Airport Director. I was able to change its name to Florence Regional Airport, increase the number of airlines serving the airport from one to four and increase the number of airport employees from six to thirty-eight, all in four and a half years - all with Rotarian help.

Rocky Gannon

49 After all the chief product of Rotary is the individual Rotarian. Are you a finished job?

 Anderson Gazette, Official Organ of the Rotary Club of Anderson, August 19, 1930

150 have been a member of Rotary for the vast majority of my career. Both my father and my husband are Rotarians, so it is a family tradition! Rotary provides unparalleled networking and business relationship opportunities and is such a valuable resource to the communities it serves.

— Mindy Taylor

5 1 I joined Rotary nearly 20 years ago. Initially it was because we were just starting our new business and I wanted to surround myself with other successful business leaders. It didn't take long for me to figure out that the benefits of Rotary were far greater than this networking opportunity. The organization and most every member is committed to serving the community and others. What a great lesson I learned from our Rotary, that serving others was a much better benchmark of success than just financial outcomes. I try to use this as a model for my company and life.

Rick Saunders

521 joined Rotary to help and support the community.

Roger Malfatti

53

m a n
who does
a little more
work than he's
a sked to — who
takes a little more care
than he's expected to —
who puts the small details
on equal footing with the more
important ones — he's the one who's
going to make a success of his job. Each
little thing done better is driving the thin end
of the wedge into something bigger and better.
— London Rotarian, 1930

56 I moved to Florence as a new pastor who wanted to engage with the larger community. I was looking for an avenue to meet community leaders, find fellowship, and work with people who want to make a positive difference. I am proud to be a Rotarian because Rotary makes a real difference in Florence and in the world beyond.

Rev. Thomas Smith

5 The link between the Rotary movement and mankind's noble aspirations for a more perfect society may be demonstrated by the fate of Rotary International in my country.

 Vàclav Havel, former president of the Czech Republic

58 I joined Rotary for the 2nd time after my retirement from a career in medicine. Though my interests remain primarily needs for children, I wanted to broaden my outreach in the Florence community.

When I learned of the END POLIO campaign, I made the commitment. Since joining, an added benefit has been a new group of friends I would otherwise never had gotten to know and a fellowship I look forward to weekly.

Dr. Charlie Jordan

59 joined Rotary because I believe in Service Above Self. It is a privilege to be part of a service club with like-minded community leaders making a difference locally and globally. The fellowship each Monday is a great start to the week.

Shannon Copes

60 It has always been important for me to make a difference in lives of others and my community. When I joined Rotary, I was able to meet and become friends with a number of good people. I get to network with many of our community leaders who continually give the time and energy to make a difference in the lives of others, our community, and those around the world. With Rotary, I have successfully achieved those goals and more.

- Irby Wilson

Decades ago, my upstate New York Rotary **□ L** Club sponsored my Rotary Youth Exchange Scholarship to Belgium. I lived a spectacular year of cultural immersion, social open-mindedness, individual flexibility, spontaneous friendship, rich bilingualism, profound self-discovery, and personal growth. Every day since, I have applied the benefits of that most-treasured year. Now, as a Rotarian, I relish the opportunities to share my gratitude and passion for all things Rotary. I do it through Youth Exchange leadership, district and international conferences, dictionaries to young students, upkeeping nature trails, Club Fellowship, food for families in need, and simply offering good cheer at a Club meeting. Rotarians know that doing good for others does good for us all. Supporting all we do is the Four-Way Test; for me, this is our special promise: Whatever happens elsewhere, here in Rotary, we are and always will be an oasis for truth, fairness, and benefit to all.

Rick Favaloro

62 point of the networking opportunities. Today I value the many friends I've made and enjoy service projects.

- Debbie Hyler

As one of the first two African Americans to join the Rotary Club of Florence, I was somewhat apprehensive about the reception that awaited me. What I found was a club that was very inviting, service-oriented, and one that I was able to integrate with ease. My 30+years in the club have been a joy, and I wouldn't trade the memories for anything.

- Joseph E. Heyward, Ed.D.

64 I see Rotary International as a generating force of incalculable value.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, US president and Rotarian

65 I joined Rotary at first to network. Now after six years, I've come to realize it is more than that! Meeting new friends, organizing the dictionary program each year and seeing how this club helps so many in our community has helped me to witness how vital the Rotary Club of Florence is. I'm proud to be a member!

Andy Arthur

66 I joined Rotary for fellowship with community and business leaders of our city, and for a chance to serve. My father has been a Rotarian for many years, and he's always extolled the Four-Way Test. It's great to see that in action with the members of our club!

Bill Gilmer

67 Rotary has won a place of respect in the global village — in fact, Rotary has helped make the world a global village.

- Carol Bellamy, UNICEF

68 My reason for being a Rotarian: The enjoyment of associating with a dedicated and diverse group of community friends who believe in Service Above Self for the betterment of the underserved in our world — Dr. Carroll Player

69 am the son of a Rotarian and can recall my father's service as President 50 years ago. Our club has a tradition of good fellowship and strong programs that makes the weekly meetings a pleasure to attend.

- Mark W. Buyck, III

70 The Rotary Club of Florence is great because there are so many unbelievable service opportunities, and you get to have lunch with 100 of your friends every week!

Scott Mitchell

71 I joined Rotary not because of what the club could do for me, but what I could do for the club as well as the community.

Taylor Hucks

72Being a member of Rotary facilitates using one's talents and resources to benefit the community and eventually the world.

John Elwood Owens, MD, JD

73 Rotary is to help others and to make two laughs grow where but one grouch grew before.

Elbert Hubbard

My father was a Rotarian in Michigan. I originally joined to meet new people outside of my direct social circle, but I remained in Rotary because of the wonderful philanthropic works both in Florence, S.C. and worldwide.

— Judy Kammer

75 Rotary is one of the most important and credible nongovernmental organizations in the world.

- Mikhail Gorbachev

BECAUSE THE ONES WHO ARE CRAZY ENOUGH TO THINK THEY CAN CHANGE THE WORLD ARE THE ONES THAT DO.

STEVE JOBS

WALKER FLOYD ON "WHY I AM A ROTARIAN"

Walker Floyd is a current Rotarian who has two children that were members of the Rotary sponsored high school Interact Club.

The Interact Club at South Florence High School was an exceptional club. Gaining membership in the club was very competitive. They helped with our Christmas Shopping Project every year. They had a member attend our club meeting every week. They saw our members as an example of how they could impact the world as adults. The primary project for the SFHS Interact Club every year was to raise money for Gift of Life. Every club in the district did so. However, the South Florence Interact Club routinely raised more money for the Gift of Life program than all of the other clubs combined. Just like our club raised more money for the Rotary Foundation than any other club, these high school students did a great job! Betty Burkette was the faculty advisor for this club for years. She was followed by Gail Hayes. All of this was made possible by our Rotarian Curt Boswell. My daughter, Becky Floyd, was honored to be the club president as a high school senior. They raised at least \$10,000 that year for Gift of Life. I have heard reports that it was likely more. My son, Drew Floyd, was also a leader in the SFHS Interact Club. Both were recipients of the Rotary Interact Scholarship.



Through Interact, I saw what Rotary did, and I wanted to be a Rotarian.

Prior to my joining the club, The Rotary Club of Florence had an international case with a girl from Colombia, South America. Her name was Luz Rodriguez. Luz was eventually adopted by her Rotary host Mary Brewer. She attended FDTC and became a nurse at McLeod Hospital but died of an unrelated illness. Luz Rodriguez had been treated by Dr. Ken Kammer (husband of our member Judy Kammer).

Gift of Life recipients included Andreas Ciora from Romania (eyes), Dagmawi Solomon from Ethiopia (brain tumor, two separate cases due to recurrence), Awal Ibrahim from Ghana (cranial tumor), and Jenifer Valladares from El Salvador (brain hemorrhage due to AVM).

Gift of Life has been involved in approximately 250 cases for children

in the U.S. and quite a number abroad. Gift of Life - District 7770 was the second such organization internationally. It was founded to bring children into the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. The objective was to do relatively simple heart procedures on children where the option was not available in their home country. It expanded to orthopedics, eyes, burns, plastic surgery, dental, spinal and brain issues, and more. The Florence Rotary Club typically gets very difficult cases that involve quite a bit of logistical planning and implementation. This is because we are blessed with Dr. Billy Naso and Dr. Andy Rhea, and Florence has a pediatric intensive care unit at McLeod Children's Hospital. I cannot possibly express what an enormous service all of these and their related personnel have been to the Gift of Life cause. But that is not all. The members of the Rotary Club of Florence, S.C. have given time and time again without fail and without limit to help these children.

Some of these cases were extreme with little hope. Gift of Life - District 7770, to my knowledge, has lost only one child while under our care. We knew it was likely, but this was the only child we ever treated who was from South Carolina. His case was desperate, and we failed, but we tried.

A USAID representative once called my home on Christmas Eve to tell me what an impact our club had on significant international relations. "Your outreach is much more significant than just one child," she said.

I am a Rotarian because in no other place can I have as much impact. We feed the hungry; we help the sick; we provide relief to those in need without any restrictions or personal expectations. The wonderful thing is that we get more out of giving than anyone else. Below are my two favorite Rotary Themes. They are exactly what Hebrews 13:16 describes.



Walker Floyd, Assistant District Governor 2015-17

MEMBERS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF FLORENCE PAST AND PRESENT

Phillip Abdelnor 1999 CPT Scott Abrams, Jr. 2018 CM Kathi Addison 2008 Jefferson Boone Aiken 1920 DG, P Jefferson Boone Aiken, Jr. 1939 P Jefferson Boone Aiken, III 1977 CM John D. "Jack" Aiken 1949 O.S. Aiken 1935, 1995 P Dr. Robert W. Albrecht David "Wells" Alderman 1920 Mike Alexander 1999 Richard Alexander 1995 Mark Allard 1990 Marcus Allen 1939 Will Allen 2016 George Alley 1996 David L. Allgood 1992 Dr. Kenneth Alton Herbert Ames 1995 Michelle Anderlik 2014 L. McTier "Mac" Anderson 1985 P Scott Anderson 2002 Freddie T. Andrews 1999 James D. Apple 1974 George Miller Armstrong 1925 Reginald A.T. Armstrong 2000 CM Andy Arthur 2014 CM Henry Lee Ashcraft 1927 Fred W. Atkinson 1935, 1970 Robert Earl Atkinson, Jr. 1960 Robert Earl Atkinson 1985 Verlin William Atkinson 1980 J. Paul Avant 1983 A.R. Avent 1939 Frank Avent 2001

William C. Ayres David L. Bailey D. Leroy Bailey 1982 P Richard W. Baird 1989 Warren Baird 1984 G. Badger Baker Louis A. T. Baker 1985 Richard F. Baker 1989 Miriam T. Baldwin Jim Balestino 1997 John D. Bankson, Jr. 1997 CM Watson T. Barbrey 1980 J. Paul Barnes 1992 James P. Barnes 1993 Michael G. Barnes 1993 Henry Barnwell 1947 David V. Barr 2002 Bruce Barragan 1989 David Barrett 1994 Lewis W. Barron Hasell W. Barton 1972 Edward Briggs Baskins 1939 John Baucom 1967 Holly Y. Beaumier 2010 cm Dennis Beckley 2016 Philip Bein 1962 Bert Belk 1993 CM Gary Bell 1997 Thomas A. Bendle 1984 Paul H. Benson 1920 Paul H. Benson, Jr. 1937 P Willie Lee Bethune 2004 Charles E. Bevis 1991 Michael J. Biediger 1985

L. LaFond Biggs 1965

Peter G. Bine, Sr. 1977

Melody Birmingham-Byrd 2009 P.D. Bishop 1995 Pierce D. Bishop 1971 Robert A. Biwer 1972 J.V. "Tom" Blackmon 1960 Michael Blakeley 2005 Hugh M. Blanton 2019 cm Mark Blum 2011 E. Herman Bolton 1939 Oliver J. Booker 1996 Kenney Boone 2006 Alan Borcher 1998 Curtis B. Boswell 1989 CM Charles H. Boulware 2001 Robert E. Bowers 1968 Phillip C. Bowman 2007 Bruce Boyd 2012 cm Vance Lyn Brabham 1938 David Bradham Jill Bramblett 2003 CM Frank J. Brand 1990 Joan Brandon 2000 Blake Branham 2017 CM LaFayette Lorin Braswell 1928 Alden D. Bray 1968 Mary D. Brewer 1995 J.D. Bridgers 1920 Dr. Randy Bridges 2015 William M. Bridges III 1993 Jim Briggs 1993

Brandon Brim 2017 Dr. M.L. "Shorty" Brockington 1920 P Earl Thomas Byrd, Jr. 1974 J. Paul Brothers 1948 P Bert Lee Brown, Jr. 1985 Claude V. Brown 1949 Clyde Greg Brown 1921

D. L. Brown David E. Brown, Jr. 1999 cm Gary W. Brown 1991 P Lynn H. Brown 1994 Richard P. Brown 1997 Samuel W. Brown 1921 Mason Chandler Brunson 1920 P Gwen C. Bryant 2009 Robert A. Bryant 1995 Robert R. Bryant 2014 Robert E. Bryant 2014, 2017 William E. Bryant 1977 Clyde S. Bryce. Sr. 1949 P Clyde S. Bryce, Jr. 1966 P Richard Buck 2000 Bill Bugg, III 2001 Frank J. Bullard 1994 Juanita A. Bulloch 1994 James F. Bullock 1941 Richard Bunn 1988 **Edwin Burchins 1996** Ken Burgess 2001 Allen Burns 1985 Dr. William A. Burns 1975 William A. Burns 1995 Victor G. Burrell 1942 Charles Orman Butler Mark W. Buyck, Jr. 1963 P. CM Mark W Buyck, III 1989 P, CM **Bob Byrd** Cheryl Byrd 2007

Edward L. Bvrd

James E. Byrd 1988

Bradlev Callicott 1995 cm

Fred H. Campbell 1993

Fred C. Avent 1974

Michelle Cantey 2014 J. Glenn Cantrell 1985 Jack Capuano 2002 Edwin A. Carlson 1962 Bennett L. Carmichael 1963 P Jeremiah W. Carmody 1928 Bruce Caron 2008 Shawn Carraway 2013 cm Terry M. Carson 1977 Cleyburn F. "Sonny" Carter 1973 Dr. Luther F. "Fred" Carter 1999 P. CM Robert Colones 2003 CM Steve Carter 2000 Jesse Stanley Cartrette 2009 M.W. Cartwright 1923 Paul L. Cashwell 1939 George Casteen Trisha C. Caulder 1997 cm Frank W. Cayce 1948 Grigsby C. "Grigs" Chandler 1920 P A.C. Chapman 1995 David H. Chapman 2004 Elting L. Chapman, Jr. 1963 M. Eason Chapman 1971 Thad Chapman 2005 John R. Chase 1991 M. Schipman "Mait" Chase 1935 Simons L. Chase 1970 P JoEtta Chewning 2019 cm Mike Chinnich 2005 James Franklin Chisholm, III 1984 Babita "Bobby" Chowdhary 2019 cm Ashlev Christenbury 2012 CM Bill Christian 1987 Bruce Clark 1993 cm C. Ray Clark 1964 James E. Clark 2002 cm Carl E. Cliche 1983 Glenn Clingempeel 2009 Bruce Dayvault Cloaninger 1936

Bill Coates 1947 William D. Coggeshall 1972 Jeffrey B. Coggin 1992 Dr. Steven Coker 1979 John W. Colby 1995 Randall Cole 2010 P. CM William W. Coleman, Jr. 1974 William V. Coley, Jr. B. John Collins, Jr. 1978 Scott M. Collins 2006 Jane Comfort 2019 cm Charles Edward Commander 1920 Robert A. Conard 1924 Jerry Condra 1980 Charles D. "Pete" Cooper 1989 Samuel M. Cooper 1995 Joseph Copeland 1961 P Shannon Copes 1998, 2018 CM Jeff Corbin 1992 W.B. Corbin 1934 Philip S. Corby 1970 Jill Z. Cornwell 1997 Jim Cornwell 1997 Nestor I. Corpuz 1994 B.N. Cothran 1964 J.E. "Jim" Cousar, Jr. 1944 Dixie Wayne Couts 1979 Ben W. Covington 1920 P William B. Covington P Forrest Cowan 1994 Joseph Craig 2015 cm Darcy M. Craven 2012 Malcolm Lane Craven 1978 John Frank Crawford 1930 Dr. Kristopher R. Crawford 2004 cm Leander "Lee" Crawford 1986 Steven S. Creedman 1991 Lindsay M. Crighton 2012

Rick Crocker 1993 Francis Edward Cronenberg 1936 James F. Crosby 1965 O.L. Cross Dr. George Crow 1970 Dr. William Bruce Crowley 1972 John Andrew Crumpton 1995 Robert M. Culver Dr. Chris Cunningham 2008 Robert E. Currin Darby Cusack 1958 William D. Cusack 1979 Daniel E. Cutler 1978 Dr. Verne E. "Gene" Cutler 1978 Maurice Dake 1986 Morton H. Dameron P Dr. Julian Wiley Daniel 1977 Dr. Fred R. David 1989 Mary S. Davidson 2000 Robert C. Davidson Clarence S. Davis 1999 Johnnie M. Davis 1988 Walter B. Davis 1989 Dr. Alfred Dawson 1980 Dr. George Robert Dawson, Jr. 1941 Jane Taylor Eidson 1961 Dr. George R. Dawson, III 1977, 1986 Dr. William Eitner 1936 Elaine Dean 2008 R.B. "Joe" Dean Jr. 1972 P C.H. Dearing 1947 Robert W. Degenhart 1966 Mary Demetrious 1988 Dr. Ben P. Dillard 2013 P Ashley Dingle Deaza 2015 Jerry Dixon 2002 Sobie Dixon 2009 Gene B. Doll 1966 Dennis Dorman 1999

Peter Dowling Millard T. Dozier 1966 John A. Drake 1988 Raymond G. Driscoll Fred F. DuBard, Jr. 1972 P, CM Trip DuBard 1997 P Joe H. Duff 1986 John C. Duke 1991 William J. Duke 1970 Bryce B. Durham 1961 Kenneth R. Dye 1987 Michael J. Eades 2000 Hugh J. Eargle 1947, 1971 James Aubrey Early 1960 Nicole Echols 2019 CM Eralphia "Jimmy" Eckles, Jr. 2001 CM Thomas Duncan Ector 1942 Ben Eder Kyle Edney 2007 Debbie S. Edwards 2009 cm Jonathan Edwards 2013 P, CM T.H. Edwards Thomas W. Edwards 1978 Jule E. Eldridge, III 1996 P. CM Mason Ellerbe 1991 Chilton Ellett 1931 Frank Ellington, IV 1997 F.K. "Kitt" Ellington, III 1974, 1979 Barry L. Elliott 1987 Dr. Nicole D. Ellis Dr. W. D. Ellis 1950 Kenneth M. Emerson 1965 Robert E. England 1965 Arthur L. Ennis E.M. "Van" Ervin E.L. Erwin 1962

Forrest S. Douglas 1931

DG — District Governor, ADG — Assistant District Governor, P — Club President, CM — Current Member

Johnny M. Dorton 1992

Dale Doty 2010

Carl E. Espy, III 1979 Matthew Ethridge 2019 CM Altan Evans 1989 Harry W. Evans Johnny J. Evans 1974 Douglas Everett 1989 Thomas Everett, III 2015 Edward W. Ewald 1984 Thomas C. Ewart 1994 P. CM Robert C. Faulkner 1979, 1988 Rick Favaloro 2014 cm Alan Feimster 1998 Lvn G. Felling 1993 L. Harold Fenters Jr. 1983 Thomas T. Ferguson 1984 W.S. Ferguson Henry Theron Few 1986 James L. Fields 1967 Michelle Fields 2016 Jeanette Filpi 2008 James A. Finklea 1995 Raymond Allan Fisher 1980 Shawn Fitzgerald 2011 W. Huger Fitzsimons, Jr. 1929 William Warren Flora, Jr. 1968 Cecil E. Floyd 1989 Charles E. Floyd 1988 John E. Floyd 1985 P Kerry Floyd 2004 Walker Floyd 1999 ADG, P, CM Charles E. Fogg 1960 Howard Michael Folb 1972 Thomas J. Ford 1973 Winton B. Ford 1966 Fred C. Fore Andrew H. Fowler 1994 Dean C. Fowler 1993 Latrell Fowler 2000 Robert M. Fraser 1937

Carolyn Frate 1997 Lee Freeman 2005 cm Charles H. Frenzel 1977 Gail D. Fruetel 1994 Nannette B. Frve 1996 Mark Fuleihan 2006 Bert Fullerton 1992 **Edwin Fulton** William H. D. Gaillard 1928 Charles "Arden" Galchel 1998 Harry Gall Kenneth L. Gallier Robert B. Gamble 1973 Ronald J. "Rocky" Gannon 1990 CM Charles Seymour Gardiner 1921 Barney W. Garvin P Charles Arden Gatchell 1998 John H. Geanes 1977 Paul H. Gee 1936 P Randell E. Gelzer 1973, 1986 Joseph Getz 1996 V.A. Gheesling 1963 G. Rick Giles 1985 Tom E. Gilhoolev 1948 Bill Gilmer 2015 CM W.N. Ginn III Ronald Glancy 2009 CM Asa Stuart Godbold 1976 P Libby Godbold 2004 Denise G. Godwin 2014 Rodney Godwin 2000, 2013 Dr. E.L. Goebel 1995 Charles E. Goff 1971 Jeff Goodwyn 1980 Victor Goodyear 1936 Dr. Charles W. Gould 1983, 1994 Harold W. Gowdv 1992 Emerson F. Gower 1991, 1996 Steven D. Grady 2013

Jay Graham 2013 Stephen W. Graham 1926 Richard L. Granger 1976 Richard Granger 1996 David N. Grantham 1987 **Hubert Gray 1988** Phillip Barnett Greenberg 2015 CM Bret A. Greer 1995 cm Grady L. Greer 1980 P Thomas Parker Gressette 1977 cm Paul B. Grich 1999 P. CM Allen Griffin 1999 Dr. Joseph L. Griffin, Jr. 2005 CM Dobby Grossman 2002 Johnny Guerriero 2003 Karl M. Guest 1952, 1963, 1980 P Bobby Dean Guffey 1979 Anne G. Gunn 1991 James R. Gunn. Jr. Robert W. Gunn 1986 Ken Gunter 1994 cm Dr. Eugene D. Guyton 1947 Rufus Hackney, Jr. 1971 Susan R. Hagan 1997 Jesse T. Halden Tim Hall 2005 L. Stephen Ham 2005 Samuel Kirkland Ham 1973 James K. Hamilton 1971 Murray Mac Hamilton 1974 Gary T. Hampton 1992 Anne Marie Hanna, CPA 2000 cm Billy G. Hanna 1988 Carlos Hanna 1988 A.L. "Bee" Hardee 1926 P R.B. Hare P M.D. Harlee 1924 Jimmie E. Harley David Harper 2013

Samuel D. Harper 1984 Walter D. Harper Jr. 1948 James B. Harris 1984 Jack E. Harrison 1977 Joan Harrison-Pavy 1997 P. CM James M. Harsh 1987 Daniel Hart 2008 David Hart 2007 Dr. Walter Moore Hart 1949 George Westly Harvard 1970 Charles E. Haselden 1946 Jimmy Rue Head 1998 Robert T. "Tim" Headley 1971 Donald G. Heath 1976 George Dawson Heath 1929 Richard D. Heavner 2000 Joel Barton Heffler 1987 James B. Heiden 1984 G.R. Heine Jim Heller 1995 Edward R. Hemann 1984 Derek Hemmingsen 2015 CM Edward Henderson 2019 CM Michael Hesbach 2017 cm R. Jerry Hewitt 1966 Dr. Joseph E. Heyward 1985 cm Dr. E.M. "Lige" Hicks 1922 P Jannelle K. Hicks 1997 John Wilbur Hicks 1920 Dr. Myers H. Hicks 1963 P Nathaniel W. Hicks 1920 Robert C. Hicks 1991 Emery L. Higgs 1986 cm Charles Wayne High 1977 Cindy Hill 2003 Robby L. Hill 2005 CM Harry Hiott Louis Carey Hite, Jr. 1946 P Louis Carey Hite P

DG — District Governor, ADG — Assistant District Governor, P — Club President, CM — Current Member

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Members of the Rotary Club of Florence pose after the Forget Me Not 5K Family Fun Color Run to Beat Alzheimer's on Aug. 3, 2019 at the SiMT Center on the Florence-Darlington Technical College campus. The event to raise funds for Alzheimer's is coordinated by the club with the Morning News as title sponsor.

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