

Rotary



Club of Gastonia

Birthdays

Joseph Dewayne Ramey
April 26th
John R. Cloninger
April 27th
Gregory Vincent Cherry Sr.
April 29th
Dustin Patrick Letts
April 30th
Hugh Frederick Bryant
April 30th
James R. Westmoreland
May 1st
Benjamin Forest Beasley
May 1st
Jake L. Gray III
May 2nd

Wedding Anniversaries

Omer Lee Shedd
April 26th

Years of Service

Walter N. Hobbs
04-19-1979
42 Years
Brenda Lopez
04-25-2019
2 Years

Club Leaders



Brent Messer
President



Laurel Roe Morris
President-Elect



Patricia Lane Black
President-Nominee



Leslie Gene Davis
Vice President

Cheryl Black Loggins
Secretary

President's Message -April 29, 2021

Dear 'descendants of farmers' and members of the Rotary Club of Gastonia,

I sometimes think about how much my childhood experience in the 60's and early 70's was so different than the childhood experience of today. Instead of entertaining ourselves with smartphones, video games, ultra organized sports or a gazillion channels on television, we went on daylong adventures in the woods, caught crawdads, built tree houses, played army with sticks, had epic tomato fights, and played a neighborhood softball game if we had 3 or 4 players for each team or roly bat if we didn't. Television had three good channels to watch Gilligan's Island, Bonanza and the Carol Burnette Show. To make money we picked blackberries to sell to neighbors and collected glass bottles to sell at T.A. Greens which was about a half-mile walk, pulling a wagon, at the end of Auten Road. The only rules were don't get in trouble and be home by dark or within about 57 seconds of hearing Dad's famously loud whistle, or else.

However, one thing that has remained the same, is the fascination of visiting the Schiele Museum which was as much a wonder to visit in my childhood as it is today. The museum and menagerie of taxidermied animal exhibits, Native American artifacts and mineral specimens that our former member, Bud Schiele created and assembled way back in the day, has survived the test of time and has continued to change to keep up with the times.

Last week our own *Ann Tippitt*, director of the **Schiele Museum of Natural History** introduced our speaker and newer member, *Tony Pasour* who shared with us some of the changes taking place with the Back Country Farm outdoor area of the museum. *Tony* explained to us that for years the **Back Country Farm** with the help of period dressed staff and volunteers, told the story of how the **German and Scotch-Irish** settlers of the **Southern Piedmont** lived and survived here in the wilderness 250 years ago.

It's an intriguing story, however *Tony* related that it needed to be updated to create a new experience that was more relevant and enjoyed more by today's museum visitors. Our ancestors with a farm based economy were much closer to the soil than we are today. Today's visitors include a multitude of children from the current generation that have clean hands, rarely get grass stains on their knees and think vegetables magically grow in an air conditioned grocery store.

Some of the areas in the farm have been transformed by replacing the old structures with a more current mini-farm experience. There is still a garden, but it now includes more vegetables than just the heirloom plants of the past. There are still animals, but not just one's like the historically accurate pig of Spanish ancestry. *Tony* and his team have created what they hope will be a much more enjoyable and relevant experience.

During *Tony's* presentation he kept teasing us about his special guest, *Geraldo*, that he brought with him and was waiting in the hallway. After multiple clues, at the end of his presentation, *Tony* introduced us to Benjamin Franklin's choice for our national symbol. *Geraldo* turned out to be a young lad with impeccable taste, especially with dressing and cranberry sauce. After the meeting as *Tony* posed with his young guest in front of our Rotary Club banner, *Vinnie Cherry* and I observed what *Vinnie* described as a feather drop from *Geraldo's* attire. As *Vinnie* reached down to pick up said feather, I made an accessment and said, " *Uh, Vinnie, I don't think that's a feather*". He promptly withdrew. Clean up on aisle six.

Besides his tasteful guest *Geraldo*, *Tony* also brought with him his daughter **Emma**, a student at that great university in Boone. After *Tony's* presentation, which doubled as his new member talk, *Ring Stafford* and *Ann* had the great honor of ripping *Tony's* new member sticker. *Tony* is a great addition to the club and will be a great board member next year, as he shares his skills, talents, work ethic and Dr. Doolittle abilities.

Steven Long addressed the club at the beginning of the announcements, thanking the members of the club and our entire community for the overwhelming support that he, his *brother Joel*, the *GSM team* and the families of *James Lewis* and *Robert Shook* have received in the aftermath of the recent unexplainable, horrific tragedy. *Steven* has been in awe of the support that has come from our community, his industry and from companies and individuals across the country. He stated that no one should ever say anything negative about Gaston County.

The District 7680 Conference was held this past weekend, virtually of course. *District Governor Mike Walker* was joined by other district leaders to recognize many of the achievements of the 57



Scott Scarborough
Treasurer



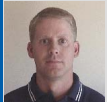
Vincent Cherry
iPast President



Stephen Barrett Driscoll
Rotary Foundation
Chair



Matt Gibbons
Membership Chair



Kay Collins Peninger
Bulletin Editor



Davidson Robert
Hobson
Club Programs Chair



Sharon Heinrich
Assistant Governor-
Gaston County

clubs in District 7680. **The Rotary Club of Gastonia** was recognized for being #2 in the District in total Foundation giving which so far totals **\$22, 289**. We were also recognized for being #2 in giving to Polio Plus having raised so far this year, **\$4,305** to help Rotary International in the fight to eradicate Polio.

Thank you to our **Foundation Chair**, *Steve Driscoll* and to all of members who continue to make our club a leader in Foundation giving for our district. Also thank you to *Cheryl Rhoades* for leading our team of mostly new members to get our inaugural **Crowd Out Polio** event off the ground this year, helping us to also be a leading club in the fight against Polio.

We were also recognized in achieving '**Silver**' status by achieving 13 out of 25 goals that were selected at the beginning of the year which is quite an accomplishment in such a challenging year. Before and between sessions of the conference, two of our members, *Kay Peninger* and *P.E. Laurel Morris* completed Rotary Leadership Institute training and were 2 out of 5 graduates recognized. Our club and its great members will strive to continue to be a leaders in the district and will always look for ways to improve and adapt to our ever-changing world.

Food Drive: We will repeat last year's **Drive Up & Drop Off Food Drive for CAM** to benefit families in our community who are facing food insecurity. This year we will be partnering with Redeemer Lutheran Church, First Baptist Church and First United Methodist Church, who will be providing their properties as drop off sites. The Food Drive will take place on **Saturday, May 15 from 9:00am until noon**. Start talking it up with your neighbors, friends and co-workers. **We need volunteers to sign up for a time slot or two at the different locations. Click on the Google sheets link to sign up:**

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1dSUUpqBcB_jEltInwPXsI3Sly9lJ0fBGL02V5gpqIoUI/edit?usp=sharing

House Business to Complete: We need to complete the approval for our officers for the Rotary year 2021-22. *New Directors - Tony Pasour, Marcia Scheideman and Omer Shedd* were approved along with *Vice-President - Les Davis*. We need to approve our nominations for *Treasurer - Scott Scarborough, Assistant Treasurer - Robin Loupus, Secretary - Cheryl Loggins, and Assistant Secretary - Kay Peninger*. I realize approving our directors and officers in two different groups is a bit abnormal, but this has been an abnormal year. This week will be the second reading. We will have a third reading and a vote during the May 6th Club Assembly Meeting.

FYI - The Board has approved rearranging the presidential order. Laurel Morris as your next president will now be followed by Patti Black instead of Davidson Hobson. Les Davis will follow Patti and Davidson will now be after Les insuring that he will have spent a longer continuous tenure on our board than any member in our club's storied history.

Be a Mini-Mentor to a Rotaract Student. Some of our Rotaractors have each identified three career paths that they are interested in and would like to have a conversation with one of our members who is in or was in one of the careers mentioned. To check out a list of the Rotaract members and their career paths of interest go to the Google sheet link <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/174YxVRnrqUPVAAFumi0V7CkRGMDp7ubIdeODO9joJw/edit?usp=sharing>. There will also be a sign up sheet on your table for you to use if you attend in-person. **This effort does not cost you any money, only a little of your time, but yet it could be so valuable.**

Just enter your name in the cell next to the career path listed for the student and the contact info for that student will be sent to you. There will also be sign up sheets available at the in-person meetings. You can also contact *Mark Skillestad* at 704-718-8850 or mark.skillestad@yahoo.com.

The Recovery Court program continues to need our help. Several fast-food gift cards have been donated to the effort. Some were regifted gift cards that were still good. Please remember that the gift card must be for a fast-food restaurant that does not offer beer, wine or any other alcoholic beverage. We will continue collecting the gift cards at the Sergeant-at-Arms table. **You can also help by purchasing fast-food gift cards and donate them or you can make a monetary donation to the Gaston County Adult Recovery Court.** Bring your cards to our in-person meetings or mail them to the ACY/CIS address below.

The Alliance for Children and Youth are handling contributions made to the Recovery Court Program. You can make your tax deductible donation to ACY/CIS, noting on the memo line "Gaston Co. Recovery Court." Mail to ACY/CIS, PO Box 1695, Gastonia, NC 28053. If you have any questions, please contact *Richard Abernethy* who is helping to lead our club's effort to help this worthwhile endeavor.

Rotary Leadership Institute. Go to <http://www.rli33.org/> to register.

CART - Giving CART dollars has never been easier. Go to: <http://www.mycartfund.org> to make a contribution directly to CART to help with Alzheimer's Research.

Continue to care for each other and reach out to one another. Make a call or send a note to a Rotary buddy.

EZ Sign up and select table when you get to the meeting! *We have returned to our hybrid in-person and Zoom format! You no longer have to reserve a table. Just go to the link and sign up to come to the in-person meeting if you can. If you forget or change your mind, come on anyway. We now have a 30 meal minimum. It will be good to know if preparations need to be made for more than 30.*

Click this link to sign up: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1C29DcbTxMvR9rizejJ2-W_1YcN1Jqz8mQxvBEaGa1K8/edit?usp=sharing

To attend with Zoom click the link below: The zoom link will start at 12:15. Please join by 12:30. The meeting will start at 12:40

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87542837213?pwd=SHYrRWc2aEFFdINKMEs2Y0ZIVFFsdz09>

Meeting ID: 875 4283 7213

Passcode: 698591

Thank you for your continued support of Rotary, its ideals and efforts to make a difference in our local and worldwide community, even while facing the challenges of COVID-19. *Invite a guest and share the good work of Rotary and the opportunities it provides.*

Take care, be safe out there and get the vaccine ASAP!

YIRS,
Brent

This Week's Program: April 29, 2021

Are You Ready to Travel? with Patti Black



Our own *Patti Black* is the Branch Sales Manager for the AAA Auto Club Group in Gastonia. Her love of traveling, seeing different cultures, and creating memories has allowed her to turn a passion into a career. With more than 30 years of experience in the travel industry, she has taken the Gastonia office to be one of the top performing offices in the AAA Carolinas. She will speak on the effects of COVID-19 on the travel industry, why, travel is important, and what is going on now.

The program will be offered in-person and by Zoom.

Join us at 12:30pm, with the program starting at 12:40pm.

Reserve your seat for the in-person meeting here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1C29DcbTxMvR9rizejJ2-W_1YcN1Jqz8mQxvBEaGa1K8/edit?usp=sharing

Join the Zoom Meeting here:

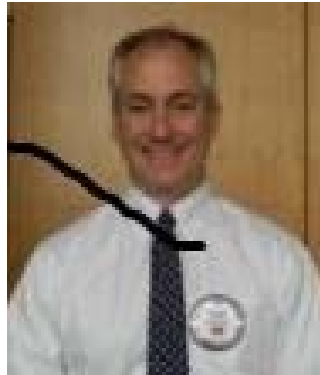
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87542837213?pwd=SHYrRWc2aEFFdINKMEs2Y0ZIVFFsdz09>

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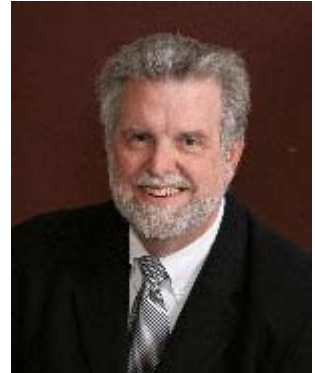
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This Week's Birthdays: April 26-May 2, 2021

Joe Ramey-Apr 26 John Cloninger-Apr 27 Greg Cherry-Apr 29 Dustin Letts-Apr 30



Hugh Bryant-Apr 30 BF Beasley-May 1 Jim Westmoreland-May 1 Jake Gray III-May 2



Next Week's Program: May 6, 2021

Club Assembly on May 6, 2021

CLUB ASSEMBLY

OUR CLUB'S
FUTURE!

Our club will gather at our regular meeting time on May 6 to discuss and vote on proposed changes to our Bylaws, elect several officers for the next Rotary year, and share our thoughts about the future of our club.

DOOR PRIZES!

ELECTIONS!

BYLAWS
VOTE

DID I MENTION
DOOR PRIZES?!?



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Recording of Tony Pasour's program on the Schiele Museum's new farm

If you were not able to attend the April 22 Rotary meeting, you can listen to Tony Pasour's program on the Schiele Museum's new farm here:

[Tony Pasour Apr 22, 2021](#)

Reimagining an Outdoor Learning Experience

The **NEW** Farm at the Schiele Museum



Congratulations to our Rotary Leadership Institute Grads



Second Place in our District in Giving

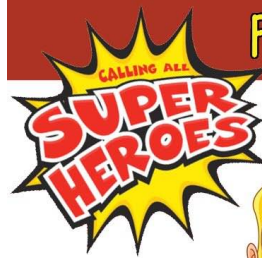
Congratulations to Us!



CLUB SERVICE OPPORTUNITY: Volunteer at the Food Fight for CAM on May 15

Volunteer at the Food Fight for CAM!

FOOD FIGHT FOR CAM



Drop Off Food at Three Gastonia Locations

Redeemer Lutheran Church
1915 South New Hope Rd.

First Baptist Church
2650 Union Road

First United Methodist Church
190 East Franklin Blvd.

**CRISIS
ASSISTANCE
MINISTRY**

BRING
TWO
BAGS!
...or more.

DRIVE THRU & DROP OFF Sat - May 15

9:00 am
until
Noon

Sponsored by The Rotary Club of Gastonia

Partners: Redeemer Lutheran Church, First Baptist Church, First United Methodist Church



We will repeat last year's **Drive Up & Drop Off Food Drive for CAM** to benefit families in our community who are facing food insecurity. This year we will be partnering with Redeemer Lutheran Church, First Baptist Church and First United Methodist Church, who will be providing their properties as drop off sites. The Food Drive will take place on **Saturday, May 15 from 9:00am until noon**. Start talking it up with your neighbors, friends and co-workers. **We need volunteers to sign up for a time slot or two at the different locations. Click on the Google sheets link to sign up:** https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1dSUqBcB_jEltInwPXsI3Sly9IJ0fBGL02V5gpqIoU1/edit?usp=sharing

Spring Social Invitation



Our Spring Social will be held May 20th from 6:00pm-8:00pm at Barrister's downtown.
The cost will be \$26 per person. You may pay at the sergeant-at-arms table.
We are establishing electronic payment capability.

Nomination of Remaining Officers for 2021-22

Officer Nominees 2021-22



Treasurer
Scott Scarborough



Assistant Treasurer
Robin Loupus



Secretary
Cheryl Loggins



Assistant Treasurer
Kay Peninger



Remaining Nominees to be Approved

Recovery Court Gift Cards



The Recovery Court program continues to need our help. Several fast-food gift cards have been donated to the effort. Some were regifted gift cards that were still good. Please remember that the gift card must be for a fast-food restaurant that does not offer beer, wine or any other alcoholic beverage. We will continue collecting the gift cards at the Sergeant-at-Arms table. **You can also help by purchasing fast-food gift cards and donate them or you can make a monetary donation to the Gaston County Adult Recovery Court.** Bring your cards to our in-person meetings or mail them to the ACY/CIS address below.

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CART bucket contributions

CART

Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust

**Make your easy donation at
mycartfund.org or cartfund.org**

Rotary



MyCartFund or CartFund

Events

April 29th

Club Meeting: Patti Black - Ready to Travel?

May 6th

Club Meeting: Club Assembly to Vote on Bylaws

May 13th

Club Meeting: Jay Falls - The Legacy of Choice Brewing

May 20th

Club Meeting: Michael Applegate - Travel and Tourism