

Rotary



Club of Gastonia

Birthdays

William Ange Current Sr.
May 4th

Jim R. Baldwin
May 6th

Vincent Cherry
May 6th

William B. Shuford
May 8th

Max Gettys Erwin
May 8th

Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

Years of Service

Stephen W. Whitesell
05-01-1992
29 Years

Jesse R. Mills
05-02-1996
25 Years

William Augustus Anthony III
05-02-2019
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

Scott Scarborough
Treasurer

President's Message -May 6, 2021

Dear 'eager to travel' members of the Rotary Club of Gastonia,

Every kid should play some type of team sport, especially baseball or softball, because it teaches them so much about how to work together as a team and most importantly how to handle adversity. If the game is lost, there will be another opportunity to experience success. If personally, they strike out there is another at bat and opportunity to do better. Besides, their teammates may step up next and hit it out of the park. As *Tom Hank's* character, *Jimmy Dugan* said in **A League of Their Own**, "There's no crying in baseball".

Last Week, *Technology* took the mound and almost struck me out with a nasty curve ball. I was only able to advance when *Technology* threw a wild pitch and beamed me in the head, giving me a wobbly walk to first base. Thankfully, our team is stacked with great talent and our meeting moved along with *James Smith* stepping up to the plate, leading our pledge, followed by Marc Stout leading our invocation, followed by *Vinnie Cherry* making his announcements, and *Ellis Fisher* who always has a great at bat with **Health & Happiness**. We were even able to score when *Robert King* and I presented a **Paul Harris Fellow** to *Marc Stout* after the invocation.

Patti Black, our speaker and longtime team mate came through in a clutch, by hitting a home run with her presentation about the **State of the Travel Industry**. Being the professional that she is, she was not fazed one bit by not having a functioning PowerPoint presentation to work with. She went old school, using her notes and training to keep a laser focus on the seams of the ball and make contact with the fat part of the bat sending the ball out of the **Conference Center Park**.

Patti, who is the manager of our local **AAA Autogroup** branch has helped countless travelers over the years, including many from our club with coordinating and planning trips, both in country and abroad. Her industry, **Travel and Hospitality**, was one of the hardest hit by the effects of the **Covid-19 Pandemic** as travel simply stopped almost overnight.

Patti, who has a personal passion for world travel, shared with us the state of the **Travel and Hospitality** industry as it emerges from the shutdown. Surveys indicate that 61% of **North Carolinians** expect to travel within the next year and 36% expect to take a trip before June. That's great, but as *Patti* pointed out, travel will not be the same as it was pre-Covid, at least not for a long time.

The travel industry has to gear back up, with **Cruise Lines** in particular, having to reassemble their crews and staff that are from all parts of the globe. Hotels and restaurants have to bring back or recruit enough staff to function properly.

Patti warned us that hotels and car rentals will cost more and lines may be longer, requiring a generous dose of patience on the part of anyone traveling. Some things that we have taken for granted may not be available, like the complimentary breakfast at some hotels. Even now flights to some destinations that used to be available are now filled.

We must also be aware that just because countries like **Mexico and the Dominican Republic** may not require a Covid test to enter their country the **U.S.** will require one when you return. **Hawaii** will require a test everytime you go from one island to another. Cruise lines as mentioned have to gear back up and that timeline can depend on the many different rules that different countries have regarding the cruise ships.

To end her program *Patti*, encouraged us get back out there to see our country and the world. Be patient when doing so and understand that everyone in the travel industry is doing their best to come back from such a devastating year of economic collapse. **So get out there and travel!**

This week will have a very important Club Assembly Meeting in order to take care of some club business and communicate with our members. It is very important that you attend the meeting either in-person or by zoom so that we will have a quorum, enabling us to approve much needed changes in our Bylaws and to approve the remaining slate of officers for our next fiscal year. We will vote on the remaining officers first, followed by a membership presentation by *Les Davis* and then *President-Elect Laurel Morris* will present the Bylaw presentation, discussion and vote.

Remember; there will be door prizes! We need at least 46 members to attend in-person and Zoom combined.

Food Drive: We will repeat last year's **Drive Up & Drop Off Food Drive for CAM** to benefit



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

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 slots at the different locations. Click on the Google sheets link to sign up:**

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1dSUUpqBcB_jEltInwPXs13Sly91J0fBGL02V5gpqloUI/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. We will have our third reading followed by a vote.

FYI - The Board has approved rearranging the presidential order. Laurel Morris is your next president and she 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.

Thank you to our Mentors who have volunteered to have a conversation with some of our Rotaract members at Belmont Abbey. Contact information will be sent out, enabling contact to be made and wisdom to be exchanged.

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. President Elect Laurel Morris and Assistant Secretary Kay Peninger completed their third RLI course and are now graduates. To sign up for your opportunity to learn more about Rotary, go to <http://www.rli33.org/> to register for an upcoming RLI seminar.

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=SHYrRWc2aEFFdINKMEs2Y0ZlVfFsdz09>

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! We are making progress!

YIRS,
Brent

This Week's Program: May 6, 2021

Club Assembly on May 6, 2021

Hybrid Club Assembly

May 6, 2021



This week will have a very important Club Assembly Meeting in order to take care of some club business and communicate with our members. It is very important that you attend the meeting either in-person or by zoom so that we will have a quorum, enabling us to approve much needed changes in our Bylaws and to approve the remaining slate of officers for our next fiscal year. We will vote on the remaining officers first, followed by a membership presentation by *Les Davis* and then *President-Elect Laurel Morris* will present the Bylaw presentation, discussion and vote. **Remember; there will be door prizes! We need at least 46 members to attend in-person and Zoom combined.**

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

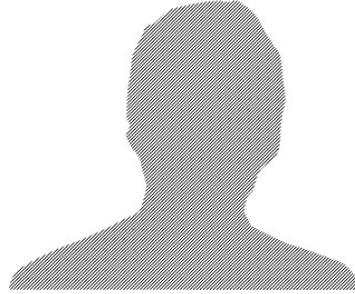
Join the Zoom Meeting here:

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

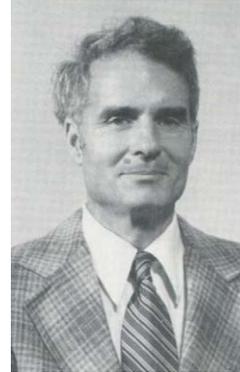
Meeting ID: 875 4283 7213
Passcode: 698591

This Week's Birthdays: May 3-9, 2021

Bill Current Sr.-May 4 Jim Baldwin-May 6 Vinnie Cherry-May 6



Max Erwin-May 8 Bill Shuford-May 8



Global Grant Update on Medical Incinerator for Haiti

GLOBAL GRANT UPDATE



click below to see video

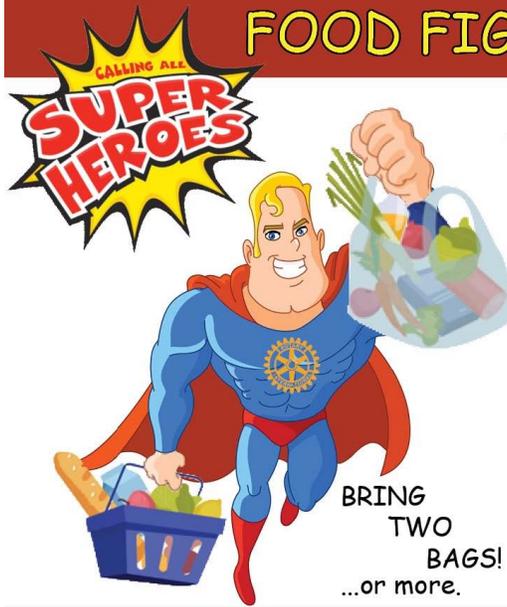
Please click on the link below to hear an update from President Brent Messer, President-elect Laurel Morris and Dr. Omer Shedd.

[Haiti Global Grant incinerator in route](#)

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**

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_jEtlnwPXsI3Sly9J0fBGL02V5gpqloU1/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.



Marc Stout was honored with a Paul Harris Fellow at our April 29 meeting. Participating in the ceremony were President Brent Messer, Robert King, and Marc Stout.

Next Week's Program: May 13, 2021

Jay Falls and the Legacy of Choice Beverage



Our fellow Rotarian, *Jay Falls* is a life-long resident of Gaston County. He is the owner and Chief Executive Officer of Choice USA Beverage Company. He is a graduate of Ashbrook High School and obtained a bachelor's degree from Lees-McRae College. He began his career 36 years ago at Choice USA Beverage in the warehouse and was loading route trucks at 15. Falls assumed the CEO position of Choice USA Beverage upon his father's retirement in 2008.

He is married to Christi, a photographer. They have two sons Jackson and Harrison.

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_1YcN1Jqz8mOxvBEaGa1K8/edit?usp=sharing

Join the Zoom Meeting here:

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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

Events

May 6th
Club Meeting: Club Assembly to Vote on Bylaws

May 13th

Club Meeting: Jay Falls - The Legacy of Choice Beverage

May 20th

Club Meeting: No program - Spring Social

May 27th

Club Meeting: Patrick Mumford - Economic Development