

The Spokesman

Rotary
Club of High Point

May 19, 2025

PROGRAM: Fr. Steve Hoyt & Sr. Lucy Hennessey TOPIC: Pennybyrn: Its History Its Future

Introduction: Sarah Barker

Sgt. at Arms: Jeff Benfield & Catherine Mendenhall

Invocation:

Greeters: Wil Elder & Gus Schwenk



Rotary Club of High Point

Thursday 12:00 Noon

800 Country Club Drive

Email: hprotary@northstate.net

Rotary Zone 33

Rotary District 7690

Rotary Club # 6062

Web: www.highpointrotary.org (club)

www.rotary7690.org (district)

www.rotary.org (int'l)



This Week at ROTARY



Father Stephen Hoyt

Fr. Stephen joined Pennybyrn at Maryfield as Mission and Pastoral Care Director in 2023. He was elected as Chairman of the Board of Maryfield, Inc. in 2024 after serving on the board for the past 10 years. Prior to joining Pennybyrn, he was Pastor at St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church in Lenoir, NC. Fr. Stephen has administered in various ministries since ordination such as parish, hospital, retreat and spiritual direction. He has served in New York, New Jersey, North Carolina and overseas in Africa.



Sister Lucy Hennessey

Sr. Lucy is a member of the Congregation of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from High Point University and a master's degree in health administration from St. Louis University. For 38 years, she held the position of Chairman of the Board and Mission Leader of Maryfield, Inc. Prior to that, she held the position of Treasurer of Maryfield and was the nursing home administrator for nearly 20 years.

Thursday we will hear from both Sister Lucy and Father Steve as we are given a look back at a storied history and a look forward in to an exciting future at Pennybyrn.



PENNYBYRN
One trusted name. Many life-enriching choices.

Retirement Living • Assisted Living • Memory Care
Healthcare Households • Transitional Rehab • Adult Day

Last Week at ROTARY

Rain, rain has gone away !! We gathered on a sunny and warm Thursday for our regular meeting of the Rotary Club of High Point.

President Slade opened us with the Pledge of Allegiance and Dave Hanein gave us a warm Rotary invocation while also observing a moment of silence for Past President Ken Esposito's mother. She passed away earlier in the week.

Roger Davis introduced several guests, visiting Rotarians, Impact Club members and at least one prospective member, a guest of President Slade Lewis.

**Backpack
Micro-
Project
Collection
Day for
United
Way of HP
is this
Thursday
at Rotary.
See Page2
for details**

Slade pitched a new "micro-service project" to help support local school backpack programs, administered through the United Way. These small projects are a great way to demonstrate "Service Above Self" without a whole lot of effort. The list of items needed was on each table.

Gus Schwenk handled Special Recognitions, which included a handful of birthdays, Club anniversaries and several 30+ year Member wedding anniversaries !! Slade then paid tribute to the whole Club, announcing the recent Platinum Award bestowed on RCHP at District Conference, held a couple of weeks ago in Cherokee, NC. This is the highest level of accomplishment recognized by Rotary District 7690. As they say Down Under, "Good on ya mates" !!

Dave Hanein received his Blue Badge and further recognition as a "transfer" to our Club from the West Forsyth Club in Winston-Salem. We all knew we have the best Club in the Triad.

(continued on pae five)

**MEALS
ON
WHEELS
IS THIS
WEEK!
See
Page 2
on how
YOU
can
help!**

Meals on Wheels is this Thursday, May 22nd

Call Clark Pierce to help
clarkpierce72cu@gmail.com
336-918-2894

Feeding Lisa's Kids Wed. June 4th

Contact Carroll Brown to help!
adpcorp@triad.rr.com
336-689-0056

DISTRICT 7690 District Leadership Installation

Thursday, June 26th
6:00 p.m.

Tanglewood Red
Barn Event Venue
625 River Birch Creek,
Clemmons, NC 27012

Register now for this
memorable and
inspiring evening

Mark R. Brandon
Rotary District 7690
District Governor 2025-2026
www.rotary7690.org
Mobile #336-407-0643



With Ken Esposito's absence last week at Rotary, there was no Queen of Hearts Drawing. We anticipate the return of the Queen and Ken at Rotary on May 22nd.

THANK YOU
DWIGHT SHAW & SIR SPEEDY
For Your Very Generous Contribution
to our Golf Tournament !



Thurs. May 29th Mark Hensley District Action Committee Info	Thurs. June 5th Dan Barnard H..P. Theatre's 50th Anniversary	COMING ATTRACTIONS	Thurs. June 12th Dr. Hatem Akdallah Robotic Surgery	Thurs. June 19th Chief Brian Evans High Point Fire Department
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Rotary Beach Bash - Atlantic Beach, NC - April 23 - 26, 2026

**MISSED DISTRICT
CONFERENCE AND
WISHED YOU HAD
ATTENDED? PLAN
NOW FOR 2026!**

RotaryBeachBash.com



District Conference 2026
Atlantic Beach, NC

**ATTENDED DISTRICT
CONFERENCE AND
READY TO GO AGAIN?
PLAN NOW FOR
2026!**

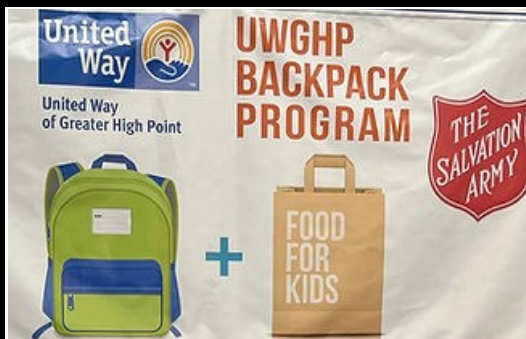
High Point Rotary Micro-Project

BRING IN ITEMS TO DONATE ON THURSDAY, MAY 22nd

UWGHP BACKPACK PROGRAM

The UWGHP BackPack program provides week-end meals for elementary school students in High Point, Archdale, and Trinity.

Through partnerships with community agencies, the United Way of Greater High Point provides nutritious, kid-friendly, pre-packaged food for 2000 children during the school year, holidays, and summer break at numerous sites:



ITEMS THAT ARE NEEDED

Individual cereal boxes
Shelf-stable milk
Toaster pastries
100% Juice Boxes
Cereal Bars
Pop-top meats
Ramen noodles or
microwave pasta
8oz bottled water or
juice pouches
Cups of fruit, fruit snacks,
crackers, etc.

21st Annual HIGH POINT MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

★
MONDAY, MAY 26, 2025 | 10AM
Corner of Main & High Street

POW/MIA Plaque Unveiling

Featuring Randolph County Honor Guard, Guilford Courthouse Fife and Drum Corp, Special Speakers, Music, Bagpiper, & Wreath Laying.

Join Us To Remember & Pay Tribute TO Our Fallen Military Heroes.

For Inquiries Contact Nick Ruden at
HighPointVeterans@gmail.com

Sponsored and Organized by
The High Point Veterans Memorial Foundation



The Date of Installation of this monument was May 30, 2005.

It was a project of
The Rotary Club of High Point
and Nicholas Ruden a local history buff and student. Our Club President that year was Brian Bunch.

This Service is on the site of the War Memorial given to the City of High Point by the Rotary Club of High Point and honoring Veterans of several wars.

Rotary District 7690  RYLA 

Volunteers Needed!

Volunteer Shifts

Thursday, June 12

Registration & Check In 7:00am - 9:30am
20 Volunteers Needed
SECU Reality of Money 12:30pm - 2:30pm
35 Volunteers Needed

Saturday, June 14

Formal Dinner Set Up 1:00pm - 4:00pm
10 Volunteers Needed
**New Location: Koury Center

Join For Meals!

Coming to say "Hello!" and eat with your RYLA Student or Coming to Volunteer and would like a meal?
No problem! Register & Pay Online!

Thursday, Friday & Saturday Lunch:
\$10.00 (+Fees)

Come Visit & Experience

Thursday, June 12

Morning 9:30am - 12:00pm
Afternoon 2:30pm - 5:00pm

Friday, June 13

Afternoon 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Saturday, June 15

Morning 8:30am - 12:00pm
Afternoon 1:00pm - 4:30pm
Formal Dinner 6:00pm - 9:00pm
\$40 (+Fees) Per Person
Register & Pay by following QR Code

Questions?
Email: RYLA7690@gmail.com
Website: RYLA7690.org

Register &
Pay (When Applicable!)
By Following QR Code



THE R.I. CONVENTION



June 21-25
Calgary, Canada

**END
POLIO
NOW**



This recognition of the Rotary Club of High Point's Sensory Garden appeared in the May Issue of the Guilford Merchant's Association newsletter

Sensory garden

Thanks to a partnership with the High Point Rotary Club, children and adults alike can immerse themselves in the sights, sounds, feel and even taste of a new sensory garden at the High Point Public Library.

There are several interesting features in the garden. At the ku-gel fountain, people can push a big sphere that sits on a pedestal filled with water, causing it to hydroplane on the thin film of water.

"Kids love it. It's like a magnet for them," said Mary Sizemore, director of the High Point Public Library. "They try to stop it and change the direction. It's fun to watch."

There are swings, giant building blocks, wind spinners, and braille and sign language boards. Every garden also needs some greenery and this one has three raised bed gardens, a multitude of plants and an herb wall.

The library held a ribbon-cutting for the self-contained, 7,000-square-foot sensory garden in April.



Top left: The Sensory Garden opened in April at the High Point Public Library. Photo courtesy of High Point Public Library.



Register at
District
Website

2 Person Best Ball Tournament \$80
Pinewood Country Club Asheboro
June 17th 1 pm
Includes Lunch, Swag Bag, and Prizes

ROTARY CLUB of HIGH POINT 2024-2025 Officers, Boards, Committees	
President	Slade Lewis
President Elect	Ricardo Siordia
Vice President	Scott Wagoner
Secretary	Mary Sizemore
Treasurer	Amy West
Immediate Past President	Ken Esposito
Executive Secretary	Kristen Hoskins
Sergeant-At-Arms	George White & Gus Schwenk
District Liaison	Joanne Iwan
Membership Retention	George White
Special Recognitions	John Anderson, Joel Gentry Gus Schwenk, Barry Nelson
Condolences	Sharon Smith
Greeters	Steve Ilderton
Blue Badge Administration	Jamie Lee
Football Pool Master	Tony Bertschi
Rotary History	David Wall
Birthday Cards	Nancy Baker
Membership Recruitment	Jeff Benfield
Classification	Gus Schwenk
Orientation	
Attendance	Mary Sizemore
Social Events	
Club Public Image	Guy Lucas
Spokesman Newsletter	Mark Pierce
Website Development	
Social Media	Carol Hughes
Press Releases	Wayne Rutherford
Photography	Myra Clodfelter
Club Administration	Catherine Mendenhall
Luncheon Committee	Don Shaw
District Conf. Contacts	S. Lewis / R. Siordia
Youth Services	
Interact	Jeff Fuller
RYLA	
Local Scholarships	HPRF decision
School/Student Relations	Jeff Fuller
Job Shadowing	
Children's Christmas Party	Ricardo Siordia
4 Way Test Speech Contest	Don Shaw
Community Srvc Projects	Jamie Lee
Literacy (Read-A-Thon)	Mary Sizemore
Concern For The Elderly	Clark Pierce
Feeding Lisa's Kids	Carroll Brown
Salvation Army Bell Ringing	
Service Projects	
Fundraising Projects	Allison Aldridge & K. Esposito
BBQ & Raffle	Allison Aldridge & K. Esposito
Poinsettia Sale	Don Shaw
Golf Tournament	
ACC Day	Ken Esposito
Allocations	Joel Gentry
Foundation & Inter. Srv.	Don Shaw
Polio Plus	
District Grants	Mark Pierce
Programs	Tom Blount/David Jobe
HPRC Impact Club	
Satellite Club Rep	

Board Class 2024-2025

Guy Lucas
Jeff Benfield
Don Shaw

Board Class 2025-2026

David Jobe
Steve Ilderton
Jeff Fuller

Board Class 2026-2027

Catherine Mendenhall
Allison Aldridge
Jamie Lee

Easy Make Ups!

You can now receive make up credit through the Internet. Just go to the web-site: www.rotaryclubone.org. This site gives you another make up opportunity you can do from the comfort of your own home. This is a fully chartered club by Rotary International. You can choose a 'Program' that you want to read, answer some question, and print out the make up slip. All they ask is that the person donate the cost of maintaining the site. If you contribute the cost of your meal, please be sure and let Mary Sizemore or Kristen Hoskins know so that you will receive meal credit on your next statement.

Rather do a Make-up in Person?

Use your Ignite App.
Click on Rotary Resources. Then click on Club Search. Under Search, select Clubs. Enter the Club you are interested in visiting or just select High Point, click on 25 miles and you will get every club meeting within 25 miles. You can even be more specific and add what day of the week on which you would like to find a meeting for your make-up. Click on the Club name and you will see information on the day and meeting time as well as the facility name and address for the meeting. It is easy and can be done right from your phone.

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY



DAVID JACKSON
Wed. May 21st

HAPPY CLUB
ANNIVERSARY



**JANE
LIEBSCHER**
4 years
May 18th



**JOE
YOUNGBLOOD**
22 years
May 22nd

**No Wedding
Anniversaries
to report this
week**

WE REMEMBER

*Susan Reanetta Esposito,
mother of Ken Esposito who
passed away on Mother's
Day. Her funeral was this
past Saturday in Durham.*

*Cards and well wishes to Ken
and his family may be sent
to: 4500 Crystal Lake Drive
Greensboro, NC 27410*

Belated Condolences

*to Dwight Shaw whose
mother-in-law, Susanne
(Dannie) Weber passed
away on April 24th, just
three months after her hus-
band Art on January 27th.
Please keep the Weber,
Couch, and Shaw families in
your thoughts and prayers.*



**SOCIAL FRIENDS
CUSTOMERS
CHURCH FRIENDS
NEIGHBORS
WORK COLLEAGUES
RELATIVES**

**ALL WOULD MAKE
GREAT ROTARIANS.
WHO WILL YOU ASK?**

ABSENT: 5/15/25

Aldridge, Barker, Bowman,
Byrd, Clarke, Coulson. Draelos,
Dunbar, Esposito, Fuller,
Gibson, K. Hughes, Ilderton,
Jackson, D. Johnson, Lackey,
Lee, Lessard, Liebscher,
Mendenhall, Mills, Morris,
Nelson, Ross, Rutherford,
Sizemore, Suire, Webster,
Whitley



LAST WEEK AT ROTARY (continued from page one)

Jeff Benfield and Don Shaw gave us an Owen Bertschi Golf Tournament wrap up noting the gross funds received from entrants and sponsors was over \$35,000 with the “net” available to distribute to our chosen charities in excess of \$25,000. Both thanked all of our sponsors, players and volunteers. Special kudos to Sir Speedy (owned by member Dwight Shaw) who donated all the printed signage that was displayed around the course. Thank you Dwight !!

President-Elect Ricardo Siordia was up next to introduce Amber Williamson and Hannah Ray, our speakers from High Point Discovered. Founded by Christie Barbour of Barbour Spangle, it grew out of Christie’s children’s assessment several years ago that “there’s nothing to do in High Point”.



What started as a simple Instagram page touting all there really IS to do in our hometown, the non-profit was organized in May 2020 to “tell the stories of High Point”. The mission of High Point Discovered is to communicate the many activities in High Point, connect our residents with opportunities and coordinate business endeavors and happenings to the greater Triad area.

HPD publishes a periodic magazine which is beautifully done and amazingly, ad free !! Copies of the “just off the press” recent addition were on each table and not a one was left at the end of the meeting. Our members were VERY interested. HPD also connects with us via an “events app” as well as their very informative website, devoted to telling the stories of High Point.



Amber and Hannah also touched on specific outreach efforts of HPD that are sustainable and ongoing. Research conducted through focus groups and online surveys has helped narrow the focus and identify what would connect with the most people in the larger areas of social, business and recreational opportunities. Several of the recent articles published in the magazine were highlighted. The general consensus when folks find out about all there is in High Point is “Who knew?” Hence, HPD fashions themselves as the “storytellers of High Point”.



Both pointed to a gathered amount of technical data that is clearly showing the work of HPD is proving fruitful. Residents and businesses that once responded with low connectivity percentages have now seen a marked increase when asked about the various goings on in High Point. Our citizens now have a much greater awareness of new businesses, events, people and City activities.

Hannah and Amber played a bit of “pass the mic” to touch on the increasingly positive perception of High Point thanks, in no small part, to the work of HPD. It involves creative messaging in all its forms: print, social media, websites, small group gatherings, seminars, etc. Wrapping up, Amber and Hannah pitched for the support of everyone, either through monetary donations (HPD is a certified 501c3) or by simply “liking and following” their Facebook and LinkedIn pages. The two took a variety of interesting questions from the audience.

(continued on page six)

Our President (Slade), President-Elect (Ricardo), Vice President (Scott), and just to prove we give equal time and exposure, a Past President (Don)

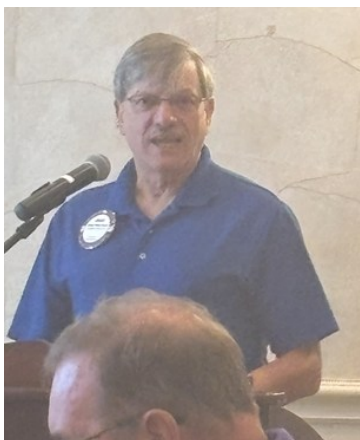
I want to be cremated, it’s my last hope for a smoking hot body.

Amazing how much exercise and extra fries sound alike.

Never trust an atom, they make up everything!

LAST WEEK AT ROTARY (continued from page five)

With Mary Sizemore not in attendance, our tradition of presenting a book to our speakers will be saved for another meeting. President Slade provided a universal thank you for all the good work we have been doing as a Club and we parted ways after closing with the Rotary 4 Way Test.



Special Thanks to Don Shaw for writing up last week's program while I was away from Rotary. Fellow Rotarians Sarah Barker and Ken Hughes joined me at a luncheon honoring the Sisters from Pennybyrn who are returning to Ireland and England after years of dedicated service here. Included among the honorees was Honorary High Point Rotarian Sister Lucy Hennessey. She will be addressing our Club next week at Rotary!

Mark Pierce

