



# The Fayetteville Rotary Spokes

The Weekly Newsletter of the Fayetteville Rotary Club

October 6, 2022



## **Fayetteville Rotary Club Meeting**

**Welcome:** Past President Paul Johnson opened this week's Fayetteville Rotary Club (FRC) meeting at Highland Country Club at 1:00 PM, welcoming everyone and leading all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Meeting Prayer and Meal:** The meeting invocation was given by Steve McDavid. This week's meal was Barbeque Ribs, Mac & Cheese, Collard Greens, Mixed Salad and dressings, and rolls.

**Rotary Song and Rotary Minute:** Secretary Gerome Banks sent the membership their selections for Committees. The Committees include Membership, Administration, Image, Service, and Strategic. The District will hold its Foundation Workshop on October 8<sup>th</sup> at Sampson Community College in Clinton from 11:00 am. to 3 pm. Register on DACdb. The Foundation dinner will be at the Mad Boar, in Wallace on November 12<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 5 pm. The speaker will be the Rotary International President Nominee Stephanie Urchick. Sign up.

**Attendance & Guests:** There were a total of 21 attending the weekly meeting, 17 members in person, 2 via Zoom, and 2 guests, Rich Nelson and Toni Cooper, Interim CEO and President of the Chamber of Commerce.

**Health and Happiness:** This week Past Secretary Drew noted that we had one member with a birthday, Graham Blanton, October 6<sup>th</sup>, and no anniversaries. The membership was reminded that the Fayetteville Rotary Christmas Parade will take place the first Saturday in December with a kickoff at 10:00 am., from The Court House Parking lot and Person Street. World Polio Day is October 24<sup>th</sup>

**Club Program:** Past President Paul Johnson introduced Toni Cooper the Interim Director and CEO of the Greater Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce. Toni is a home-town native who has owned a business in town and served in a variety of positions with the Chamber. She graduated from Rutledge College. Prior to becoming President and CEO Mrs. Cooper was the Chamber and Fayetteville's department of Economic Development Office Manager. She has had a variety of roles within the Military Affairs Council, an adjacent organization to GFC that has a strong relationship with Fort Bragg and Pope Army Airfield leadership. Mrs. Cooper brought more than 15 years of Chamber experience. As President and CEO Mrs. Cooper oversee the day-to-day operations, relationships with local, state, and federal government and continues the long-standing relationship with economic development. The Greater Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce is a vigorous advocate for the economic success of over 800 member businesses. The Chamber promotes Fayetteville healthy business climate through economic development, public Policy initiatives, services, and benefits to members. Mrs. Cooper was asked about what she thought the impact on wages locally would be with the new Amazon warehouse and FedEx expansion. She said their coming to town will have an impact and it is expected that impact will be for the best for employees and businesses. She did say the Economic Development Office was looking for a big tract of land.

## **Future Meetings and Upcoming Events:**

- Oct 13 - The FRC will meet at Highland Country Club and via Zoom at 1:00 pm. Club Business
- Oct 20 - The FRC will meet at Highland Country Club and via Zoom at 1:00 pm. DG Nancy Carr's Visit
- Oct 27 - The FRC will meet at Highland Country Club and via Zoom at 1:00 pm.

**50-50 Raffle and Meeting Farewell:** Joe Running won \$13 in the 50/50 Raffle this week. Past President Paul welcomed all to the club meeting, thanked the guests for attending, thanked Toni Dixon for her program and then lead all in the **Four Way Test of the things that we think, say, and do**, before adjourning at 2 PM.