

# CLUB NEWS

April 10, 2018



The Wilmington  
**Rotary**  
Club



*Founded April 1915 • A Century of Service Above Self*

## Wine tasting sets revenue record

The annual wine-tasting fund-raiser held March 27 broke previous club records, fund-raising chair **Bo Dean** reported at the April 3 meeting.

Figures were preliminary, he said, but even before final ticket sales were tallied, the revenue total was roughly \$53,000.

When all expenses have been accounted for, and income totals tallied, a full report will be made to the membership. But this "Passport Around the World in Wine" has clearly exceeded last year's take.



Components of that income were:  
Sponsorships, \$41,000+  
Silent auction proceeds, \$7,000+  
Wine sale commissions, nearly \$2,000.  
Final ticket sales have yet to be tallied.  
Bo noted that because the volume of

wine sales was so high, we earned 20 percent commission this year, double what we've made in previous years. Wine sales totalled \$8,700.

Like last year, the fund-raiser was held on a Tuesday evening at the Terraces on Sir Tyler, taking the place of that week's regular lunch meeting.

All proceeds will go to the club's tax-exempt foundation, to be used for our club's projects both locally in globally.

For an update on this year's grant-funded projects, SEE: **page 5**.

## Club to meet at Cape Fear Country Club after July 1

After more than two decades, the Wilmington Rotary Club will be changing its meeting venue. As decided by an overwhelming vote of the membership, we will meet at Cape Fear Country Club beginning with our first meeting in July.

The move is required because of construction of a new hotel that will adjoin the Coastline Conference Center, our current home. In addition to eliminating parking spaces, that work will prevent use of the building's meeting rooms.

In fact, we will be restricted to the former restaurant space at the building's west end for our final month downtown.

A substantial majority of members —141— participated in the vote to select from four possible new meeting places.

Cape Fear Country Club was the clear winner, with 86 percent of the votes. By an even stronger consensus, 98 percent, Rotarians also voted to continue holding our meetings on Tuesdays.

A venue committee chaired by President-Elect Cathy Barlow evaluated several dozen possibilities before narrowing the field to four recommendations. The other three choices were the former Hilton hotel (now rebranded "Hotel Ballast") on North Water Street, the Brooklyn Arts Center on North Fourth Street, and the First Baptist Church Activity Center on



The club is at 1518 Country Club Drive, just south of Oleander Drive, halfway between Independence Boulevard and the Wooster-Dawson intersection.

Independence Boulevard.

Choosing the country club means our meals will now all be catered by the host's food service. That is a return to the arrangement that prevailed 15 years ago before the Coastline Center's restaurant operator went bankrupt and closed.

### 4-Way Test policy and the country club

Before the vote was taken on our new meeting place, a number of Rotarians raised questions about the Cape Fear Country Club, its historical membership practices, and our club's Four-Way Test policy.

Several years ago, some members raised objections to holding Rotary Club events at the country club, citing a former practice of excluding potential members by race.

In response, the club adopted a policy requiring that all vendors and venues we patronize certify that they comply with the values of the Four-Way Test, including non-discrimination. This year, our members selected the country club after assurances that it has agreed to comply with the letter and spirit of our Four-Way Test policy.

# Tooting our own horn: Christmas contributions help Williston musicians in big and small ways

The club's pre-Christmas family holiday party has become a fund-raiser for the Williston Middle School's music program, through the "Dollars for Desserts" auction. This past Dec. 19, the club exceeded its previous efforts, raising more than \$5,000.

In addition to the cash that went to help Williston's band travel to Washington for a performance competition, several spontaneous acts of generosity further heightened the holiday spirit.

As has also become a club tradition, the Williston band provided entertainment for our lunch meeting. As Gwen Fitzpatrick, the school's music director, was introducing the band, part of eighth-grader Tre'jan Mackins' trumpet fell on the floor. Gwen commented

that he had to use duct tape to hold his trumpet together.

Rotarian Dale Smith — who had played the trumpet himself in his youth — then offered to buy a new trumpet for Tre'jan.

In the spirit of that gift, other Rotarians made generous bids for donated dessert items. In one case, Joe Owen paid a handsome sum for a big, lavish cake and promptly donated it to the student musicians.

While lots of members contributed to the day's success, special notice is due to Angela McKinnon who largely organized the dessert auction and personally arranged for many of the donations. Also working to put together the family lunch meeting were Melissa Hight, Donna Shiro, Vicki Scott, Kiki Lackman and Ann LaReau. Chad Pearson led the auction.



Auctioneer Chad Pearson wheedled, cajoled and encouraged Rotarians to bid generously for desserts to benefit Williston band.

Gwen Fitzpatrick displayed her student's taped-together trumpet before leading Williston band in holiday music for the club's lunch.



Tre'jan Mackins practices with his brand-new trumpet.

Right: band leader Gwen thanks Dale Smith for contributing \$500 to buy the instrument.





Two of Williston's Science Olympiad team members with a structure they built for the competition in Trask Coliseum. Upper right: science students eat, thanks to a combined club and district grant, while waiting their opportunity to show their stuff.



## Science students score with assist from grant

Williston Middle School expanded its Science Olympiad team from 20 to nearly 30 members this year, and took medals in three categories. This year's competition took place March 10 in Trask Coliseum at UNCW, and included some 1,000 students from schools in five counties.

With help from a Rotary Foundation District Grant, we were able to provide \$1,500 to help provide meals for the participants during the event, snacks during their after-school work sessions while preparing, and T-shirts and entry fees.

This is the first year that Williston won medals for its projects. It placed in the anatomy and physiology, hovercraft and duct-tape challenge competitions.

For more about this year's grants, SEE: *pages 4 & 5.*



## Students honored

We have conducted three Student of the Month ceremonies at Williston this year, in January, February and March, to recognize students chosen by their teachers as exemplifying Rotary's Four-Way Test.

Rotarians are encouraged to attend these morning sessions to hear the students' citations, distribute awards and prizes, and congratulate them personally. These photos are from Jan. 17.



## Music to their ears

Rotarian Steve Yates presents check for Williston band to director Gwen Fitzpatrick and principal Ron Villines.



## Send us news pictures — but make them big enough

Thanks to everyone who documents our meetings, projects and other activities for this newsletter. To ensure photos can run as large as they deserve, please be sure they are sized properly for print. Smartphones may default to small images at 72 dpi. To be usable in print, resolution should be 300 dpi.

# Rotary projects, left hands, public service, beer and jobs, city's status, refugee aid and Dutch settlers among meeting topics



King: Wilmington's diva



David: Law enforcement



Holliday: Rookie teachers



Taylor: gangs to brewery

The club started 2018 with a program about the CART fund: Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust. Because a health issue kept the District 7730 CART Chairman **Norm Rogers** from attending the Jan. 9 meeting, our own **Ann LaReau** filled in to make the presentation.

The Jan. 16 meeting combined history with music. **Nancy King** of the UNCW Music Department delivered a program about Caterina Jarboro, the Wilmington native who was one of the first African-American performers at the Metropolitan Opera. Three of King's student sang arias associated with Jarboro.

Wilmington's craft beer scene was the topic on Jan. 23, with a program presented by **Waterline Brewery**.

Jan. 30 was our annual Service Above Self awards presentation. Rotarian **Ben David**, district attorney for New Hanover and Pender counties, presented plaques to honor law enforcement officers who had gone beyond the call of duty during the past year. Details about the officers honored are on [page 7](#).

The upcoming conference for all the Rotary clubs in District 7730 was the topic for the Feb. 6 meeting. District Governor **R.B. Richey** outlined the program for the conference, to be held April 27-29 in Wilmington. For details, SEE: [page 8](#).

Wilmington Mayor **Bill Saffo** spoke Feb. 13 about the state of the city, including details about upcoming transportation improvements and downtown redevelopment work.

On Feb. 20, the club presented plaques and cash awards to five outstanding New Hanover County educators, in our second annual Rookies of the Year program. Assistant Superintendent **Rick Holliday** introduced the finalists and the overall winner. For details, SEE: [page 7](#).

**George Taylor** of TRU Colors Brewing spoke on Feb. 27 about that venture, which provides employment to help gang members turn to productive, legitimate work.

UNCW Professor **Jerry Bron** pre-

sented the March 6 program about the Dutch immigrants who established plant nurseries, flower farms and dairies in Castle Hayne and elsewhere in New Hanover County.

**John Vernon** spoke on March 13 about a sinister topic: left-handers. He explored how left-handedness is addressed in language and culture.

Help for refugees from conflicts in the Middle East, especially Syria, was the topic on March 20. The presentation was by the leaders of the Wilmington-based charity Humanity Now: **Stephanie Meyers**, **Carol Atwood**, **Dana Sachs** and **Jen Maraveyas**.

We had no lunch meeting on March 27, the date of our wine-tasting fund-raiser. For more on that event, SEE: [page 1](#).

The April 3 program was a report from the club's Grants Committee, whose chair **Ernie Olds** introduced representatives of the groups that received funds this year from our club's foundation and from District 7730. Those grants went to:

- Cape Fear Literacy Council, \$2,000 for its citizenship-preparation program for speakers of English as a second language. Explaining that work was **Lauren Rogers**, an ESL specialist from CFLC.

- Good Shepherd Center, \$3,000 for its new Lakeside Reserve, which houses and provides self-sufficiency training for disabled homeless people. Rotarian **Jane Birnbach**, Good Shepherd's development director, described the project.

- The Hill School of Wilmington, \$2,000 to buy projection equipment for its classrooms. Rotarian **Susan Harrell** described how these systems help students in grades 1-8 to overcome "learning differences" such as attention deficit disorder.

- Williston Middle School, \$1,500 to supply entry fees, meals and snacks and team T-shirts for the school's 30-member Science Olympiad team. Standing in for science teacher **Bobby Garcia**, Rotarian



LaReau: Alzheimer's funds



Richey: District conference



Saffo: Wilmington mayor



Bron: Dutch immigrants

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Left: Stephanie Meyers, Carol Atwood, Dana Sachs and Jen Maraveyas of Humanity Now spoke on March 20, describing how their organization is helping refugees from Middle East wars at camps on Greek island of Lesbos.

John Vernon and his left hand: he spoke March 13 on left-handedness in life and culture.



On the other hand...



UNCW singers Tori Thomas, Sarah Wells and Shaunte Jordan, and keyboard accompanist Elizabeth Loparits, performed opera numbers associated with Wilmington-born diva Caterina Jarboro. They performed Jan. 16.

## Programs

CONTINUED from page 4

**Steve Yates** reported that the Williston team took medals in the anatomy and physiology, hovercraft and duct-tape challenge competitions. SEE: photos on [page 3](#).

- Nourish N.C., \$2,000 to buy food for “Nourish Boxes,” containing easy-to-prepare meals and fresh produce, to help school children avoid hunger during school breaks. For details about an April 28 work day at the Nourish N.C. warehouse, SEE: [page 8](#).



Olds: Grants Committee



Rogers: Literacy Council



Birnbach: Good Shepherd



Harrell: Hill School



Yates: Williston Science

# New members join club, introduce themselves



Carol Gravel



Dan Smith



Scott Betz

New members continue to join the club's ranks, and some who signed on earlier caught up with new-member talks. When possible, President Elaine Andrews has encouraged new members to introduce themselves immediately after their induction.

First in this group was **Carol Gravel**, who joined the club on Dec. 19, 2017. Her occupational classification is information technology education and she was sponsored by Bo Dean.

**Josh Rosenberg** skewed the club's average age when inducted on Feb. 6. He turned 26 between Feb. 28 and March 1. (A leap year baby, he's had only six birthdays!) Sponsored by President Elaine, Josh is an investment advisor.

At the opposite end of the age spectrum, **Ray Galloway**, who joined on Feb. 13, is 91 and a World War II veteran. He is retired from the commercial insurance business. Robb Lapp is his sponsor.

**Ken Sarvis** was inducted on Feb. 27, under the sponsorship of Ben David. He is chief deputy with the New Hanover County Sheriff's Department.

On March 13, **Hayley Sink** joined the club, under the disability services classification. President-elect Cathy Barlow was her sponsor.

Catching up with new-member talks Feb. 6 were: **Scott Betz**, who was inducted on May 30, 2017, is a video producer; his business is My Life Marker.

**Roy "Arch" Archambault** is a non-practicing physician but is now a manufacturing entrepreneur as CEO of DryCase. He joined us on Nov. 14, 2017.



Josh Rosenberg



Ken Sarvis



Hayley Sink



Roy Archambault

## Have you identified and recruited a new member?

The prospective member checklist and a folder of information about Rotary are available to help you. Copies of both are on the check-in table at each meeting, along with the New Member Proposal Form. Or get the forms from the club's website: [WilmingtonRotaryClub.org](http://WilmingtonRotaryClub.org).

## Enjoying baseball at the Miracle Field



A coach and a baserunner from the team we sponsor in the Miracle League, which plays on a special adaptive surface that's accessible for players with disabilities.



Rotarian Jim Edge congratulates one of our sponsored Miracle League players during a March 17 game.

*Club photographer*  
**Robby Collins**

*Other photos from*  
**Donna Shiro, Tolis Vardakis, Melissa Hight, Steve Yates and Ginger Thornton**

# Club honors police for 'Service Above Self'



Scott: Pender County SD



O'Bryan: Wilmington PD



Williams: Wilmington PD



Kittrell: Wilmington PD



Tello: Carolina Beach PD

During our annual "Service Above Self" award presentation on Jan. 30, the club recognized six local law enforcement officers who had performed exceptional work during the previous year.

District Attorney **Ben David** presented the awards on behalf of the club. Those honored were nominated by the chiefs of their agencies or in some cases by officials from other public-safety agencies.

Deputy **Eva Scott** is in just her second year with the Pender County Sheriff's Department. In January 2018, she answered a call for an elderly man suffering cardiac arrest. Before emergency medical services could arrive, she performed CPR compressions to keep the man's blood circulating. Afterward, EMS officials commended Deputy Scott for "phenomenal" CPR, which they said "made a big difference in the outcome."

Officer **Megan O'Bryan** and Detective **Travis Williams** of the Wilmington Police Department were nominated for their work against domestic violence. Officer O'Bryan and Detective Williams were both commended for diligent, pa-

tient and compassionate work with victims, offering them support and protection, and encouraging them to prosecute and testify against their attackers.

Wilmington Police Sgt. **Lisa Kittrell** was nominated for her dedication to community policing and building strong relationships with residents of city neighborhoods. Among actions mentioned, she helped organize a neighborhood trash pickup; administered CPR to save the life of a man who had stopped breathing; and comforted the mother of a drug-overdose victim.

Officer **Erik Tello** of Carolina Beach Police was nominated for an ocean rescue in October 2017 that saved from drowning a father, his daughter, and several bystanders who attempted to help but got caught in rip currents.

Lt. **Robert Johnson** of New Hanover County Sheriff's Department was nominated for his contributions to building trust and understanding between county residents and law enforcement, including such projects as "Community Conversations," "Know Your Rights" and the "100 Black Men" organization.



Johnson: New Hanover SD



An example of the 'Service Above Self' awards

## Honored rookie teachers take home cash awards



Rookie Teacher of the Year nominees each got a \$500 award at our Feb. 20 meeting. From left: Assistant Superintendent Rick Holliday, who introduced the finalists: Ashley Anderson, Sydney Kong, Margaret Krulik, Katy Leonard and Adriana Poveromo. Poveromo, a third-grade teacher at Forest Hills elementary, took the top honor and \$1,000.

## Upcoming programs & events

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

UNCW women's basketball Coach **Karen Barefoot**.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

State champion New Hanover High School football team, with Coach **Earl Smith**.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Student-of-the-Month ceremony, 8:30 a.m., Williston Middle School, 401 S. 10th St.

MONDAY, APRIL 23

Board meeting, 5:30 p.m., LS3P office, 101 N. Third St.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

Regional economic outlook, with attorney and civic leader **George Rountree**.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 27-29

Rotary District 7730 Conference. See details below.

TUESDAY, May 1

Cape Fear Community College's Wilson Center and its community impact, with director **Shane Fernando**.

TUESDAY, May 8

*Schoolhouse Rock*, by one of its creators, **Rev. Jay Sidebotham**, now of St. James Episcopal Church.

TUESDAY, May 8

Golf Fore Fun outing, 12 noon, Beau Rivage. This is an optional alternative to the regular weekly lunch meeting.

## District conference schedule

District Governor R.B. Richey is billing this event as the Southeastern North Carolina Rotary Clubs Conference.

Most conference events will be at the Ballast (formerly Hilton) Hotel, 301 N. Water Street. Sessions begin at 9 a.m. Friday and Saturday, April 27 and 28. Other events:

**Governor's dinner and dance**, 6:00 p.m. Friday, Battleship North Carolina. Program: humorist Glen Ward.

**Picnic lunch**, 12:30 p.m. Saturday, at Rotary Wheel Garden, 1954 West Lakeshore Drive.

**Community project**, 2 p.m. Saturday, Nourish N.C. warehouse, 601 Greenfield Street. Packing food boxes.

**Dinner**, 6 p.m. Saturday, N.C. Aquarium at Fort Fisher. Program: magician Hayden "Haydini" Childress.

**Interfaith memorial service**, 9 a.m. Sunday, Ballast hotel.

You can still register for the conference at the district website, [www.rotary7730.org](http://www.rotary7730.org). Rotarians who can't attend the full conference are still encouraged to come to lunch at the Rotary Wheel Garden. Sign up at any regular meeting.

## Rotary aid transforms Williston's emergency clothing closet

Rotary's accomplishments are bigger than what any one club does, as proven by recent generous help with our Williston Legacy Project from a member of another local club.

Among the ways our club supports Williston Middle School is through its emergency clothes closet. It helps families that struggle financially to provide clothing for their children, especially when it comes to meeting the school's dress code.

Members of our club have donated merchandise and money to ensure that these students have access to proper school clothes and warm outerwear. Unfortunately, the storage space

where these garments are kept has become badly disorganized, with heaps of clothing on the floor and wasted space above, making it difficult to find needed items in the correct sizes.

Our club's Steve Yates reached out for advice to Rotarian **Fred Kumpel**, who is now a member (and president-elect) of the Wilmington Central club. Fred is a former member of this club. He owns Strickland Window Coverings, a company that also does closet and garage organizing.

Fred volunteered to assign his designer, Ginger Thornton, to a makeover of the Williston closet, and donated shelving. With his staff and volunteer labor from Rotarians, he cleaned out the closet, repainted it in the Williston colors, and installed new storage modules with plenty of room for hanging shirts and jackets and cubbies for pants and shoes.



Before: closet held plenty of clothing, but it was badly disorganized, items hard to find.



After: freshly painted and professionally designed, with new donated shelving.

## Board of Directors Meeting

5:30 pm, 4th Monday of each Month  
LS3P Architects conference room  
101 N. Third Street, Fifth Floor  
Wilmington, NC 28401

## Get In Touch

**President Elaine Andrews** 232-4643  
**President-Elect Cathy Barlow** 291-5248  
**Secretary Elliott O'Neal** 397-3613  
**Newsletter Editor John Meyer** 392-5228  
**Webmaster John Meyer** 392-5228

## Submit News Items

Send photos or other information for the newsletter to [john@capefearpublishers.com](mailto:john@capefearpublishers.com). Please include all pertinent names, dates, etc.

## Website

[www.WilmingtonRotaryClub.org](http://www.WilmingtonRotaryClub.org)