

# CLUB NEWS

December 19, 2017



The Wilmington  
**Rotary**  
Club



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



Fund-raising chair Bo Dean announces 2018 wine tasting at Dec. 5 meeting.

## Annual fund-raiser set: wine tasting March 27

Our next annual fund-raiser will be called "Passport Around the World in Wine," scheduled for March 27, 2018, Fund-Raising Committee Chair Bo Dean announced on Dec. 5.

The wine-tasting evening will feature some new wrinkles, intended to make it appealing to non-members of the club, he explained.

Again this year, the fund-raiser will run from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Terraces on Sir Tyler.

Proceeds from ticket sales and sponsorships will go directly to the club's non-profit foundation. That means the portion of those contributions beyond the event's

cost will be tax-deductible. For more RCDW Foundation news, SEE **page 3**.

The "passport" theme will begin with tickets designed as boarding passes, and attendees will be issued passport documents that they can get stamped as they sample wines from around the world.

Food in the form of heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served, and musical entertainment is planned.

All Rotarians can expect to hear from committee members John Hatcher and Chris Riley, who will lining up sponsorships. Club members will also be encouraged to offer tickets to friends, neighbors and business associates.

## Rotarians generous in hurricane relief

Members of this club have contributed more than \$1,500 to Rotary District 7730's hurricane-relief campaign. The money will supply solar-powered lamps to residents of Puerto Rico left without electricity in the aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria.



Baggett

Magda Baggett, who is a native of Puerto Rico, appealed for our club's help at the Nov. 14 meeting. The district initiative was meant to help provide essential illumination for people who have remained in the dark since the storms devastated the island's power grid. This will help with basic safety and with children's ability to do schoolwork at home.

In cooperation with Rotarians in Dis-

Past District Governor Magda Baggett, who is a native of Puerto Rico, appealed for our club's help at the Nov. 14 meeting. The district initiative was meant to help provide essential illumination for people who have remained in the dark since the storms devastated the island's power grid. This will help with basic safety and with children's ability to do schoolwork at home.



A Puerto Rican family with solar lamps in aftermath of hurricanes Irma and Maria.

trict 7000, which includes Puerto Rico, our district is buying solar lamps for \$13.50 each, a steep discount from their retail price of \$30. A day in the sun will charge these sturdy, waterproof lamps sufficiently to give 12 hours of light.

Our club's \$1,500 plus was a major

portion of the project's \$10,000 goal. The contributions were channeled through our club's tax-exempt foundation. As with any other "earmarked" project, everything donated for this purpose will be passed through and 100 percent put to its intended use.

'Light  
up the  
night  
for  
Puerto  
Rico'



# Rotary Foundation gifts earn Paul Harris honors

Our club has honored four more people in recent months by making them Paul Harris Fellows. That recognizes a gift of at least \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation.

Supporting health, education, community development and peace initiatives both world-wide and locally, The Rotary Foundation is Rotary International's tax-exempt charity, first established in 1917.

Club members who obtained that status were Debbie Elliott, honored on Oct. 10, and Lentz Brewer and Ron McGrath, on Nov. 14.

As she has done for many years, Rotarian Pat Watts uses some of the "points" the foundation awards to its donors to help fellow club members become first-time Paul Harris Fellows. Pat's points match the members' cash contributions.



The other new fellow isn't a Rotarian, but is very familiar to our club's members. James Fowler is on the Coastline Center's staff, and our primary liaison with the venue that hosts our meetings. In recognition of his years of cheerful, efficient assistance in helping our meetings run smoothly, the Board of Directors made the necessary Foundation contributions in Fowler's name. He was presented with his Paul Harris Fellow medallion, pin and certificate on Oct. 17.

Coastline Center staff member James Fowler, left, thanks the club for making him a Paul Harris Fellow.



New Fellows Lentz Brewer and Ron McGrath with Pat Watts.



Pat Watts presents Debbie Elliott with her Paul Harris medallion.

## Sandlin, Coffee report on visit to Guyana

The second of our club's water-supply projects in Guyana is making good progress, according to an Oct. 31 report by International Projects Committee chair Shannon Sandlin and committee member Anne Coffee.

Both traveled to Guyana this summer to meet with Rotarians from the Georgetown club, and visit the villages of Coomacka and Old England and the town of Linden, the sites of joint Rotary-sponsored projects.

They showed slides depicting work on the new well in Old England, the existing water-supply system in Coomacka, completed in 2015 and expanded since then, and Rotary-sponsored improvements to the public library in Linden.



Shannon Sandlin and Anne Coffee reported Oct. 31 on their visit to Guyana.



At the Club Assembly meeting on Dec. 5, members who have given \$1,000 or more to our club's non-profit foundation were recognized. Those attending were, from left, Al Butler III, Nancy Bullock, Gabe Rich, Ernie Olds, Stacy Ankrum, Tyler Wooden, Marty Conley, Doug

Jennings, Pete Jones, Joe Payne, Erin Payne, Steve Yates, Brad Donnell, Pat Watts, Reid Murchison, Cathy Barlow, Joe Owen, Coleman Burgess, RB Richey, Jane Birnbach, John Hatcher, Howard Loving, John Braddy, Janet Monterose, Harley Sacks, Hansen Matthews,

Nick Rhodes, Ann LaRue, Bert Williams III, Chris Riley, Dale Smith, Mimi Cunningham, Bill Norris, Donna Shiro, Wilbur Jones, Patrice Willetts, Tom McMillan and Mike Brown.

## Club foundation's top donors recognized at club assembly

Since our club established its own non-profit foundation in 2015, contributors have been recognized as they pass the \$1,000 mark. Different levels of cumulative giving qualify donors for membership in honorary societies. These are named for Wilmington Rotary Club members who have served as district governors.

- Members typically give to the RCDW Foundation in or more more of three ways:
- 1) Sponsorships and/or ticket sales to our annual fund-raiser. For details about the 2018 wine tasting event, SEE *page 1*.
  - 2) Regular quarterly payments, billed along with club dues. To set up continuing contributions, or to change the amount, contact club Treasurer John Liverman.
  - 3) Direct contributions to the foundation, which may be earmarked for specific projects.

The donor societies, and their members, are:

**Wilber Wolfe Kirk** (DG 1994-95), \$15,000-\$25,000  
Patricia L. Watts

**Herman Blizzard** (DG 1982-83), \$7,500-\$10,000  
John Hatcher

**William Eugene Edwards** (DG 1957-58), \$3,000-\$4,000  
Wilbur Jones; Donna Shiro

**Henry Alexander Marks** (DG 1949-50) \$2,000-\$3,000  
Cathy Barlow; Michael P. Beaudoin; Carl A. Byrd; Albert

### How to donate

Tax-exempt contributions may be made at any time by sending a check to the order of Rotary Club of Downtown Wilmington Foundation (or RCDW Foundation.) It should be mailed to P.O. Box 1194, Wilmington 28402.

Note that foundation gifts should be separate from club dues. Payments made to the Wilmington Rotary Club are NOT tax deductible.

Corbett; First Citizens Bank and Stacy Ankrum, Mike Brown and Bill Norris; Ann LaReau; Charles E. Mintz; Erin and Joseph Payne; Gabriel J. Rich DDS PA; James T. Summerlin; Bertram Williams III; Tyler Wooden

**Roger Moore** (Founding member of the club, 1915; DG 1922-23); \$1,000-\$2,000

Mark Alper; Stacy Ankrum; Jane L. Birnbach; John B. Braddy; Bullock LLC and Nancy Bullock; H. Coleman Burgess III DDS; Butler & Butler LLP and Al Butler III; Martin Conley Jr.; Mimi Cunningham; Linprint Co. and Brad Donnell; Anna Erwin; William B. Fuller Sr.; Gates Psychological Services and George Gates; Susan M. Harrell; Coastal Mini Storage of Wilmington and Robert High; Melissa Hight; Douglas Jennings; Bob King Buick-GMC, Inc. and Robert S. King; Wilmington Machinery and Russ LaBelle; Howard Loving; Hansen Matthews; Howard McCain; Thomas McMillan; William O. McMillan Jr.; John B. Meehl; James M. Mertesdorf; Pawn USA, Pete Jones and Janet Monterose; John R. Murchison; J. Reid Murchison, III; Ernest Olds; Joe Owen; Chad Pearson; Nick Rhodes Jr.; R.B. Richey; Russ Medical and David P. Russ; Harley Sacks; Dale E. Smith; Patrice Willetts; Steve Yates



# Programs address history, health, security



Tillman: Lowes' stores



Mohr: Cutter 'Diligence'



Gurganus: security threats



Sartarelli: UNCW progress

History, education and national security have been themes from recent club programs.

In addition to hearing guest speakers, we have also devoted meetings to club business and to our annual Vocational Fellowship Day.

On Sept. 19, health care for veterans was the topic. **Fred Roche**, administrator of the Veterans Administration Health Care Center in Wilmington, was the speaker.

September 26 was a special meeting, at which the recipients of recent club grants were introduced, and grants presented. For some photos of the grant presentations, SEE *page 6*.

**Robert Tillman**, CEO emeritus of the Lowe's home-improvement chain, described the North Carolina corporation's origins and growth on Oct. 3.

The entertainment editor of the Star-News newspaper, **Jeff Hidek**, accompanied by **Si Cantwell**, the paper's community news editor, spoke on Oct. 10, in recognition of the paper's 150th anniversary.

Coast Guard Commander **Rob Mohr**, commanding officer of the cutter *Diligence*, spoke Oct. 17 about his ship's history and mission, which includes interdiction of drug smuggling and illegal immigration.

Instead of a single lunch program Oct. 24, 120 Rotarians dispersed to eleven different work places for box lunches and tours. The annual **Vocational Fellowship Day** showcases Rotarians' businesses or organizations they support.

Venues were: Bennett Brothers Yachts, Cape Fear Community College's boat-building program, the Cape Fear Museum, Corbett Package Co., the New Hanover County Jail, the Battleship North Carolina, Thalian Hall, Tribute Company's conversion of the former Block Shirt factory into housing, and Wilmington Police Department.

**Dr. Taylor Fain**, a professor of history at UNC-Wilmington, spoke on Oct. 31 about the role North Carolina played in World War I. His slide presentation included several photographs relevant to this club, which was just two years old when the United States entered the war in April 1917.

The annual Farm-City Week program took a turn from "turf" to "surf" this year, with a Nov. 7 presentation about aquaculture. Shellfish farmer **Jay Styron**, affiliated with UNC-Wilmington's Center for Marine Science, was the speaker.

In another look back a hundred years, UNC-Wilmington history professor **Dr. Susan McCaffray** spoke Nov. 14 about the Russian Revolution. The Bolshevik coup, known as the October Revolution because of the old calendar used in Russia at the time, occurred on Nov. 7, 1917.

Current financial challenges in health care were the subject when **John Gizdik**, president and CEO of New Hanover Regional Medical Center, spoke on Nov. 21.

Retired Marine Corps Major General **Mark Gurganus**, a Wilmington native, spoke Nov. 28 about today's national security threats.

The Dec. 5 meeting was a **Club Assembly**, with reports from committees about their current projects, election of Board of Directors members, and recognition of donors to our club's foundation. For details, SEE: *page 3*.

Rotarian **Dr. Jose "Zito" Sartarelli**, chancellor of UNC-Wilmington, reported Dec. 12 on the University's current status and plans for growth in the coming years. He provided a wide array of statistics showing that in some important areas, such as graduation rates, UNCW is just behind UNC-Chapel Hill and N.C. State University.



Hidek: newspaper features



Fain: World War I in N.C.



Styron: shellfish farming



Gizdik: health economics

# Club fetes Augustine on 90th birthday



The club helped Past President Joe Augustine celebrate his 90th birthday on Oct. 3. The presentation recognized Joe's legacy as a star of the University of North Carolina Tar Heels football team in the late 1940s.

Joe has been a member of this club since 1979, when he came to Wilmington from Chapel Hill. He was our club's president in 1988-89. He is retired as executive director of Wilmington Chamber of Commerce.

Right, Rob Zapple congratulates Joe. Sparing no expense, the club presented him with an honorary gold crown from the exclusive "Burger King" collection.

Left, President-Elect Cathy Barlow displays photo of the young Joe on the gridiron with his bride, Carolyn.



## 4 Rotarians past 90

Joe Augustine is just the most recent member of our club to hit the 90-year mark. Others who have at least nine decades under their belts are Frank Floyd, born Nov. 11, 1925; Joe Rogers, born April 10, 1927; and Jake Shepherd, born Aug. 5, 1923.

# News briefs: outings, honors, tutoring

\* **Xmas outing for Rotary Cottage boys.** The Boys' and Girls' Home Committee has organized a holiday outing for the residents of the Rotary Cottage at Lake Waccamaw. On Dec. 22, Rotarians will take the young men to Enchanted Airlie, dinner out, and a shopping opportunity. Donors have supplied \$100 per boy, which will also buy the gift cards they will use to buy Christmas gifts..

\* **Flotilla raffle boosts CART fund.** Past President Hansen Matthews was the winner of a raffle to benefit the club's CART fund, which helps support Alzheimer's Disease research. The \$100 tickets were for a chance at a two-night stay at the Blockade Runner hotel during the holiday flotilla at Wrightsville Beach on Nov. 24 and 25.

\* **Club recognized for Foundation support.** Our club was recognized as District 7730's largest donor to The Rotary Foundation, having contributed nearly \$32,000 in 2016-17. That accomplishment was announced at the

district's foundation awards dinner on Nov. 4 in Wallace. Former Rotary International President Ron Burton was the guest speaker. Attending from our club were R.B. Richey, Cathy Barlow, Mike Beaudoin, Elliott O'Neal, Mollie Shiflet, Chuck Wilson and Pat Watts.

\* **Presidential Citation earned.** Wilmington Rotary was one of eight clubs in District 7730 — of a total of 49 — to earn the Presidential Citation for 2016-17. This honor is awarded for meeting a long list of goals and objectives involving membership, community involvement, and financial commitment to club projects and The Rotary Foundation.

\* **Fellowship Wednesday continues.** The latest in our occasional evening social events took place Nov. 15 at South Beach Grill. The host, President Elaine Andrews, provided free hors d'oeuvres, as well as a discount for any Rotarians who chose to stay for dinner.

\* **Grade school tutors needed.** The

Literacy Committee is recruiting tutors to help at local elementary schools. Hours are flexible and no weekly commitment is necessary. If you can help, or need more information, email Sandra Kalom at [sandrakalom@att.net](mailto:sandrakalom@att.net)

\* **Community Service Committee coordinating with grant projects.** As funds from our own sources and from Rotary Foundation grants are disbursed for projects, our Community Service Committee is coordinating work days to lend a "hands-on" component to our projects. Rotarian involvement is a requirement for the District Grants that help fund many of our projects. Under Chair Terry Smith, the committee has been working with our grant recipients to provide service opportunities. A recent example was supplying volunteers to conduct mock interviews with people applying for U.S. citizenship. This is in conjunction with the Cape Fear Literacy Council. All club members are encouraged to help with these projects.

Club photographer  
**Robby Collins**

Other photos from  
**Donna Shiro, John Lilly and Doug Wolfe**



# Club welcomes big class of new members



Kiki Lackman

Nine new members have joined the club since mid-September, including several who have prior history as Rotarians.

First was **Kathryn “Kiki” Lackman**, who joined the club on Sept. 19. She is a banker with Aquesta Bank and was sponsored by Kyria Henry.

The latest of the club’s many family connections is **Andrew “Patrick” Willetts**. He was sponsored by his aunt, Past President Patrice Willetts. Patrick was inducted Sept. 26; he works in health care administration.

Also on the 26th, **Natalie English** joined the club. She is the executive director of the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce and was a 15-year member of the Charlotte Rotary Club before coming to Wilmington. Bo Dean sponsored her for membership.

Another long-time Rotarian, **Ted Gasper**, was inducted on Oct. 10. Ted is a retired community college administrator, and first joined Rotary in 1976. He has been a member of clubs in Chester and Columbia, S.C., Jefferson City, Mo. and Troy and Roanoke Rapids, N.C. He was sponsored by Father Bob Kus.

A former member of this club, **Debbie Elliott** returned on Oct. 10. She is a public relations and marketing professional and was in the club between 2003 and 2008. Hansen Matthews sponsored her current membership.



Patrick Willetts speaks to club on Sept. 26. Behind him is his sponsor, Patrice Willetts



Natalie English

**Roy “Arch” Archambault** joined the club on Nov. 14. A medical doctor, he is CEO of DryCase, a Wilmington-based manufacturer.

On Nov. 21, **Jim Karl** was inducted. Sponsored by Larry Sackett, he is director of the Wilmington Children’s Museum.

The following week, Nov. 28, saw two new Rotarians become members.

**Cindy Anderson** is a business consultant. Bret Paterson sponsored her membership.

**Laura Lunsford** is the director of UNC-Wilmington’s Swain Center for Business and Economic Services. She was sponsored by Mimi Cunningham.



Ted Gasper



Laura Lunsford



Debbie Elliott



Arch Archambault



Jim Karl

## Grant funds given



Combined district and local grants presented on Sept. 26, with big symbolic checks from District



7730, included \$1,500 for Good Shepherd’s Lakeside Reserve housing project; \$1,000 for



Cape Fear Literacy Council; and \$1,000 for Nourish NC’s backpack program.

# Williston support: desserts for music; clothes; student honors

The club’s partnership with Williston Middle School continues, with monthly honors for students, an ongoing clothing drive, support for music programs, and other initiatives.

The annual Dollars for Desserts auction at the Dec. 19 meeting will help support the Williston Band, which is providing entertainment for that day’s holiday party.

## School clothing needed

Another important need is for clothing donations. Like all New Hanover County schools, Williston has a dress code for students, which presents challenges for some children.

The school has a uniform closet, from which appropriate garments are offered to students who need assistance, or to solve a problem that arises during the day. For example, a student who spills lunch on her clothing and can’t reach a parent can borrow something to wear for the rest of the day.

Earlier this fall, that uniform closet was running low on shirts, especially in small and large sizes.

Mostly, the closet assists students who are living in poverty and can’t always show up in uniform. New or good-condition used polo shirts are most useful. Donated shirts may be delivered to any club meeting and the Williston committee will deliver them.

Dress code guidelines allow polo shirts in solid colors; no stripes. If the shirt has a logo, it can’t be larger than a deck of cards. Also approved are school-

issued T-shirts with the Williston name or tiger mascot.

Other clothing needs are girl’s trousers, either khakis or jeans.

So far, Steve Yates has been able to deliver 100 polo shirts. This was made possible by Hobbs Sutton and Julie Rehder through the Billy Sutton Memorial Fund and a gift from Tolis Vardakis.

Questions about how to help fill Williston’s closet can be directed to Steve Yates: [syates9449@gmail.com](mailto:syates9449@gmail.com)

## Science support

With help from a District Grant, our club is supporting Williston’s Science Olympiad team with a \$750 contribution. A check for that sum was presented to Williston Principal Ron Villines at our Sept. 26 meeting.

## Students honored

The first two Student of the Month ceremonies of this school year were held on Oct. 18 and Nov. 15. Because of heavy schedule demands, the December ceremony has been postponed to Jan. 17,

President Elaine Andrews presented District Grant funds for Williston Middle School’s Science Olympiad competitors to the school’s faculty on Sept. 26.

(The district supplied the outsized facsimile check.)



## Volunteers ring bells for Salvation Army

As we have done for many, many years, the club supplied volunteer bell-ringers to raise money for the Salvation Army’s Christmas family-support programs. Our assignment is on Tuesdays at Sam’s Club. Wilmington Rotarians are always in the running for the most money raised by any civic club, and several years we have been the kettle campaign’s top fund-raisers. John Lilly organized this year’s bell-ringing project.



Rotarian ringers Joe Rogers and Jay Squires

## New board members elected

The class of 2018 for the club’s Board of Directors was elected at the Club Assembly meeting on Dec. 5. Those five Rotarians will take office at the beginning of July 2018 and serve until the end of June 2021.

One requirement is that any prospective board member must be willing to serve as president, if elected by the board, for the 2020-21 Rotary year.

The new board members are:

Shannon Sandlin Ackerman, Stephen Coggins, Randall Johnson, Noah Woods and Rob Zapple.

When the board votes during the next Rotary year, one of the five will become president-nominee, to take the gavel in 2020-21, next in line behind Cathy Barlow and Eric McKeithan..



## Upcoming programs & events

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

Annual **holiday party**, with entertainment from Williston Middle School band, visit from Santa Claus, and Dollars for Desserts auction for Williston band.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

No meeting. Christmas holiday.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2

No meeting. New Year's holiday.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

**CART Day**, program on the Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust, the "blue buckets" on our lunch tables.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

Speaker to be announced.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 22

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

Waterline Brewing Co.'s project to help gang members find legitimate employment, with **Mark Anthony**.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

Service Above Self Awards for police and public-safety personnel, with **Ben David**, district attorney.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Preview of 2018 District 7730 Conference here in Wilmington. With **R.B. Richey**, district governor.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

The state of the city, with Wilmington Mayor **Bill Saffo**.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Rookie teacher of the year awards, with Rotarian **Joe Owen** and other committee members.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

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

## District announces new leadership

**Dawn Rochelle** of the Jacksonville Rotary Club will be our district governor for 2020-21. She will preside over District 7730, which includes 49 clubs in Southeastern North Carolina, including this one.

Her appointment was announced by **R.B. Richey**, current district governor and a member of the Wilmington Rotary Club.

Dawn was chosen on Dec. 2 following interviews by the District Governor Nomination Committee, meeting in Wallace. She works as executive director of the Onslow County Partnership for Children. She was president of the Jacksonville club in 2011-2012. At the district level, she has been a membership advocate and has been the public image chair since 2014.

She is a member of the Paul Harris Society and a graduate of the Rotary Leadership Institute.

During the next Rotary year, starting in July 2018, Dawn will be the district governor nominee. The following year she will become

district governor elect.

Ahead of Dawn and behind R.B. in the three-year "DG chain" are **April Clark**, present DG-elect, who will succeed R.B. for 2018-19. Following April, **Doug Wolfe** will be district governor for 2019-20.

April Clark, like Dawn Rochelle and Past District Governor Vanessa Ervin (2014-15), is a member of the Jacksonville Rotary Club.

Doug Wolfe is a member of the Morehead City Noon Rotary Club, along with Past District Governor John Scibal (2016-17).



Dawn Rochelle, 2020-21



Doug Wolfe, 2019-20



April Clark, 2018-19



R.B. Richey, 2017-18



Governor's banner to move on next year

### 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  
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### 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)