



BE THE INSPIRATION



## Club's foundation exceeded budget to fill funding gaps, aid storm relief; recognizes major donors at year end

The club's tax-exempt charitable foundation disbursed \$61,750 for a wide range of projects during the past year. Outgoing Foundation President **Al Butler III** delivered a report during the club assembly on Dec. 11.

That included unbudgeted grants, primarily for hurricane relief, almost 25 percent over what was originally allocated based on planned spending.

The Rotary Club of Downtown Wilmington Foundation was able to fund the club's charitable budget of \$50,000. In addition, it helped make up for hoped-for but missing District Grant funding for club-supported projects. The Foundation funded special grants totalling \$3,750 to the Wilmington Children's Museum, Paws for People, and Communities in Schools of Cape Fear for its Positive Pathways program at New Hanover High School.

Those additional grants were made to take the place of District Grants the club applied for, but didn't get, which had been meant to match local funds included in the original \$50,000.

In response to damage caused by Hurricane Florence, the Foundation allocated another \$8,000 in grants. Those went to Gregory Elementary School, Mary C. Williams Elementary School, Wrightsboro Elementary School, and

the North Carolina Boys and Girls Homes at Lake Waccamaw.

Checks for the school grants were delivered to the principals on Dec. 12. SEE: *Photos on page 3*

The Foundation's board consists of voting trustees, serving three-year terms. In addition to Al, those have been **Mike Brown, Mimi Cunningham, Elaine Leggett, Charles Mintz, Ernie Olds** and **Watson Snider**. The club's president, secretary, treasurer, president-elect and grants committee chair are non-voting members.

To replace Al Butler III and Charles Mintz, whose terms were expiring, the club elected **Laura Lisle** and **Mathew Davis** to new three-year terms.

After his presentation on the Foundation's work, and the election of new trustees, Al recognized major donors. Those who cumulatively have given specified sums are designated as members of societies named for past district governors from this club. Those are:

**Roger Moore Society, \$1,000+.**

**Ham Marks Society, \$2,000+.**

**Eugene Edwards Society, \$3,000+.**

**Ben Sutherland Society, \$4,000+.**

**Charles Scruggs Society, \$10,000+.**

**Jay Kapner Society, \$25,000+.**

In addition to pins for all major donors present, the Foundation gave spe-



Pat Watts with a gift in recognition of her support for the RCDW Foundation. Her donations qualified her as a member of the Foundation's Jay Kapner Society.

cial gifts to John Hatcher, member of the Scruggs Society, and Pat Watts, member of the Kapner Society.

**Other Foundation donors honored Dec. 11:** Cathy Barlow, Donna Shiro, Tyler Wooden, Mike Brown, Joe Owen, Patrice Willetts, Cleve Callison, Coleman Burgess, Sean Frelke, Janet Monterose, Don Adkins, Pete Jones, Larry Sackett, Bert Williams, John Hatcher and Anne LaReau.



# With help from Rotarians in Pennsylvania, club spreads warmth as winter arrives

One of the many Rotary Clubs that offered us help in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence is in Kennett Square, Pa., between Philadelphia and Wilmington, Del. That tiny club donated 100 new winter coats for children whose families were affected by the storm.

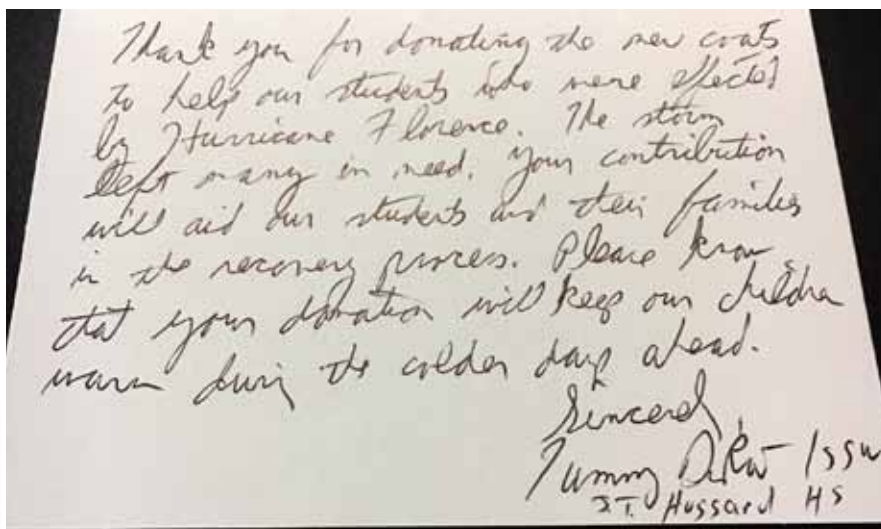
Our members reached out to the schools we already support, including Williston Middle School and the elementary schools that our Literacy Committee works with. We also learned of needs from other schools, including Hoggard High School and the Douglass Academy charter school.

The following list isn't final, but gives a good indication of where the needs were. The shipment from Pennsylvania arrived on Nov. 1 and Rotarians delivered the coats during the following week.

Hoggard High School, 9.  
Williston Middle School, 11.  
Frederick Douglass Academy, 16.  
Bradley Creek Elementary, 10.  
College Park Elementary, 14.  
Gregory Elementary, 15.  
Mary C Williams Elementary, 14.  
Rachel Freeman Elementary, 3.



Above: elementary school students happily bundled up in their new winter coats. Above right: Hoggard High School teacher Tammy Pruden and social worker Tammy Durant with two of the nine coats supplied for their students. Below: Durant's note of thanks says, 'The storm left many in need. Your contribution will aid our students and their families in the recovery process.'



A Hoggard student, left, models her new coat. Hoggard social worker David Pena sent the text message below with some context about his students' needs. Right: Rotarians Dan Smith and Debby Gomulka delivering some of the smaller sizes for elementary school students.

**David Pena** 3:42 PM DP  
To: Donna Shiro Details

Just gave away another jacket... darn good kid too. Perfect grades, attendance and behavior.... just not a lot of money in the house and there are a lot of kids in the family. Here she is....

thanks again!!  
Dave





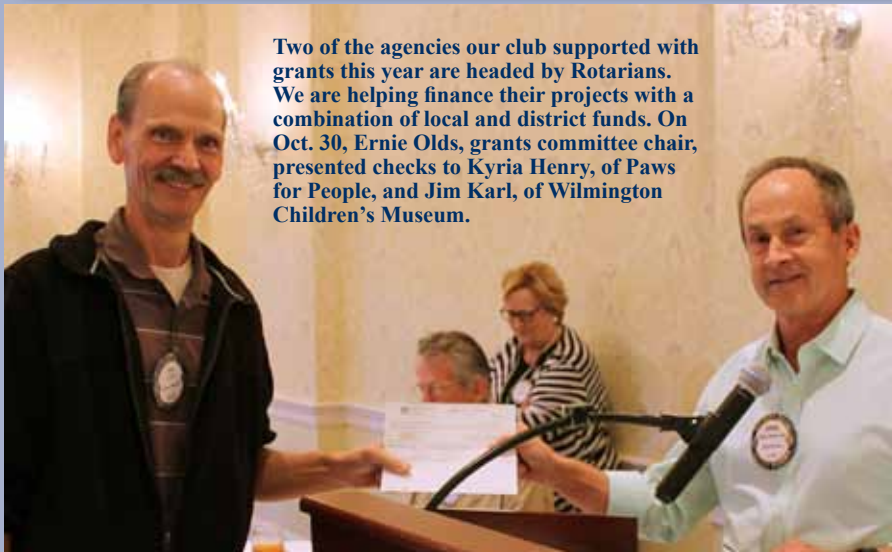
# Principals grateful to get money for hurricane relief



Rotarian Debby Gomulka delivered grant checks from the club's foundation to help replace hurricane-damaged supplies and equipment at three elementary schools. From left: principals Amy Oots, Mary C. Williams; Leigh Ann Lampley, Gregory; and Delores Overby, Wrightsboro.



## Grants awarded to two agencies



Two of the agencies our club supported with grants this year are headed by Rotarians. We are helping finance their projects with a combination of local and district funds. On Oct. 30, Ernie Olds, grants committee chair, presented checks to Kyria Henry, of Paws for People, and Jim Karl, of Wilmington Children's Museum.

## Donations to club's foundation can be earmarked specially for hurricane aid

If you wish to make a purely local donation for hurricane relief, our own RCDW Foundation will earmark funds, ensuring the money is used only for that purpose. To do so, write "Hurricane Florence" on the subject line of your checks. Contributions can be mailed to:

RCDW Foundation  
P.O. Box 1194  
Wilmington, NC 28402

All such designated gifts to our club's foundation will be used locally.

## Emergency grant helps Williston's displaced students and staff members

Williston Middle School is benefitting from a special \$3,000 grant that our club requested from Rotary District 7730's hurricane emergency fund.

Our district, which covers Southeastern North Carolina from Fayetteville to Kinston and Beaufort, was hard hit by Hurricane Florence. A special fund to help with recovery was set up soon after the storm. By the end of October, according to District Governor April Clark, it had already received more than fifty applications for help. One of those was ours. Our request on behalf of Williston was granted in full.

Unlike some schools that suffered serious wind or water damage, Williston's building and equipment were only minimally affected. But because it had survived intact, the school was asked to take in about 100 students from other middle schools that had to close for repairs.

Williston requires its students to wear uniforms, and many of the displaced students weren't immediately able to meet the school's clothing standards.

Although our club has helped the school with a clothing closet to help students comply with the dress code, the influx of new students with minimal financial resources meant more shirts were needed in various sizes.

The new students also needed notebooks; Williston's faculty asked for 120.

Also, the school's staff includes two people whose houses were badly damaged by the storm. One home was a total loss; in the other case, the house was left uninhabitable while repair work is pending. Both families needed basic living necessities immediately.

# Agriculture, art, end-of-life planning on program calendar alongside Rotary Peace Fellows, Foundation and club business



Linton: NCSU ag school



Dempsey: UNCW & Virgo



Clamme: Hospice

Rotarian Van Dempsey was joined on Nov. 6 by three staff members from the D.C. Virgo Preparatory Academy and UNCW's Watson College of Education.

The schedule of programs the past two months has included a generous helping of Rotary-themed business, starting with the meeting of Oct. 30.

That day, **Barry Phillips**, a past district governor, spoke about the Rotary Peace Centers, the nearest of which is jointly operated by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Duke University, and about the Rotary Peace Fellows who study at these six centers world-wide.

Education closer to home was the topic on Nov. 6, when Rotarian **Van Dempsey**, dean of UNC-Wilmington's Watson College of Education, discussed the university's partnership with what's now called D.C. Virgo Preparatory Academy. Helping with the presentation were several of the school's administrators.

That program took the place of the Vocational Fellowship Day, originally scheduled for Nov. 6, which had to be canceled in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence. Because of a scheduling conflict at Cape Fear Country Club, we met at Cameron Art Museum.

**Dr. Rich Linton**, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at North Carolina State University, spoke on Nov. 13 about the conditions and trends in agriculture in the state. He, along with representatives of the Farm Bureau and Agricultural Extension of-

fices from around the region, were our guests as part of the club's annual Farm-City Week.

On Nov. 20, in recognition of Foundation Month, Past President and Past District Governor **R.B. Richey** presented a program about The Rotary Foundation.

We returned to the Cameron Art Museum on Nov. 27, where executive director **Anne Brennan** talked about the museum's origins as St. John's Art Gallery downtown, and its expansion and relocation to its present site on South 17th Street. At her invitation, Rotarians then toured the current exhibits in the museum's galleries.

A speaker originally booked for one of the September meetings canceled by the hurricane was rescheduled for Dec. 4. **Jason Clamme**, director of outreach for Lower Cape Fear Hospice, talked about how to have conversations with loved ones about our end-of-life wishes.

Dec. 11 was a club assembly, with much of the agenda devoted to our club's non-profit foundation. Rotarian **Al Butler III**, president of the RCDW Foundation, spoke about the causes the foundation has supported, and recognized the largest donors among our membership. For photos and details of Al's presentation, SEE: *page 1*.



Phillips: Peace Fellows



Brennan: Art Museum



Richey: Rotary Foundation



Butler: Club's foundation





# Paying it forward: storm help from out-of-town clubs goes to feed children

Part of the money that Rotarians around the country sent us after Florence went to help NourishNC replenish its food pantry to feed hundreds of new children whose families were affected by the storm.

Our \$1,000 gave the organization “the boost needed to accommodate this extra need,” Past President Mike Beaudoin explained.

In the hurricane’s aftermath, Executive Director Steve McCrossan said, NourishNC added 450 more children to its client rolls. “NourishNC used Rotary funds to help re-stock our shelves with food so we can continue to feed our kids as the holidays approach,” he said.

A food order paid for with our gift arrived on Nov. 6, McCrossan reported, which was “Three days early and a surprise to us.”

The agency serves the one in four children in New Hanover County who struggle with hunger and food insecurity. Its backpack program provides 925 children in forty-eight schools with nutritious food over weekends and during school breaks. The Pantry Pals program stocks emergency food pantries in schools and at other nonprofit agencies. Farmer’s



MarKID distributes fresh fruits and vegetables to children in need.

In November, anticipating Thanksgiving, NourishNC gave every family in its backpack program a “take and bake” dinner that included frozen turkey, fresh vegetables, side dishes and fixings, along with recipes and a baking pan.

## President Cathy outlines club goals for 2018-19

Part of the agenda at the club assembly on Dec. 11 was President Cathy Barlow’s report on the club’s work and goals for the current Rotary year.

She began by noting that the great majority of the club’s active members are already involved in committee work. As noted in the current club handbook, we have 38 committees. “This is the heart of what the club does,” she said.

An important aspect of the club’s work in this year, Cathy noted, will be to follow and update the strategic plan that was developed in early 2016.

Our normal work has been drastically affected by Hurricane Florence. At last count, we have interacted with at least 29 other Rotary Clubs that have delivered or pledged assistance. In addition to tangible donations, including backpacks, coats and school supplies, as reported elsewhere in these pages, cash contributions and pledges from each club range from \$500 to \$10,000.

Other than storm relief work, accomplishments this year have included development of new guidance materials for new-member talks and committee reports, and an updated statement of members’ responsibilities.

Key goals for Cathy’s presidency include helping members get to know one another better, service through mentoring, more accountability for committees, and getting every member involved in some form of club work.

## Paul Harris plus: donors recognized

In honor of their contributions to the international Rotary Foundation, two Rotarians were made multiple Paul Harris Fellows on Dec. 11. Charles Mintz received a pin marking him as a PHF “plus four” in recognition of having given the Foundation more than \$5,000. Ben David got his “plus one” pin for giving more than \$2,000. For recognition of major donations to our club’s own local non-profit foundation, SEE: page 1.



## Rotary news briefs

The last student-of-the-month awards ceremony of 2018 is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 19, at Williston Middle School. Rotarians should show up between 8:30 and 8:45 a.m. to assist with setup. The program will begin at 9:00. Williston is at 401 S. 10th St.

Five new members were confirmed Dec. 11 to serve on the club’s Board of Directors for 2019 through 2022. Chosen by acclamation were John Cheshire, Elaine Leggett, Angela McKinnon, Larry Sackett, and Dale Smith. Under the club’s new bylaws, they were on a slate proposed by the board’s nominating committee. They will take office at the presidential installation banquet at the beginning of next July.

# Meet newest members

New-member recruiting has lagged some due to the distraction of Hurricane Florence and subsequent recovery efforts, but the club's roster still continued to grow during the past two months.

Two new Rotarians were inducted on Nov. 13.

**Chris Utesch** was sponsored by Bret Paterson. He works in information technology, employed by CloudWyze. An alumnus of RYLA, he gave an impromptu talk about that Rotary youth program while a guest at our Aug. 7 meeting.



Matt Mylott



Liz Greenwood

Also joining the club on Nov. 13 was **Paul Lawler**, an accountant and a member of the Wilmington City Council. Formerly a Rotarian in Raleigh, he was sponsored by Nancy Bullock.



Chris Utesch



Paul Lawler

**Matt Mylott** joined the club on Nov. 20, sponsored by Bo Dean. Matt works in the Swain Center for Executive Education at UNC-Wilmington.

On Nov. 20, new member **Liz Greenwood** introduced herself to the club. She is a college administrator specializing in nursing education. A Rotarian since 2011, formerly with the club in Altus, Oklahoma, she joined our club on Aug. 14. Her sponsor is Donna Shiro.

## Veterans asked opinions about parade participation

The club, and the veterans among our members, have been asked to consider participating in New Hanover County's 2019 Veterans Day parade.

President-elect **Eric McKeithan**, whose term will include November 2019, has asked Rotarians to offer their opinions about taking part in this event.

Rotarian **David Grandey** is collecting information to be used to make a decision about the club's role. As we begin to plan for the upcoming Rotary year, we are considering securing a float in the newly organized Veterans Day

Parade. That would permit veterans from our club and perhaps other area clubs to be part of the parade and be recognized for their service.

To help determine if this is viable for us to do as a club, we need to know the number of veterans in our club and the number willing to participate by riding on a float next November. If you would participate, please email [davidgrandey@yahoo.com](mailto:davidgrandey@yahoo.com)

The parade is scheduled for Saturday morning, Nov. 9, 2019. For more information, see the parade website:

[www.sencveteransparade.com](http://www.sencveteransparade.com)

*Club photographer: Robby Collins*

*Other photos by Donna Shiro, Mike Beaudoin, Debby Gomulka and John Meyer*



Rotarian Gabe Rich presents President Cathy Barlow with a banner from the Rotary Club of Lake Placid, N.Y. Our club banner will go to that 45-member club, which contributed \$1,000 for our Hurricane Florence clean-up efforts. The Lake Placid club, one of several dozen that have helped us since the hurricane, raises around \$14,000 each year with its "Dam Duck Race" fundraiser. That involves sending 1,500 sponsored rubber ducks over a dam, accompanied by a pasta dinner, music and events for children. In addition to helping us, Lake Placid Rotarians have installed swing sets and slides in local parks and installed bike racks in their community.

## Banner swap comes with storm-relief funds

The favorite Rotary tradition of exchanging club banners during visits to other clubs has taken on a new meaning this fall, with numerous clubs around the country helping us with relief projects in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence.

Anyone planning to travel is welcome to get one or more of our club's banners to take along and trade while visiting other clubs.

Those presented to us join hundreds already in the Herman Blizzard Rotary Archives in UNC-Wilmington's Randall Library.

To find Rotary Club meeting places worldwide, go to the "Club Finder" page online: [my.rotary.org/en/search/club-finder](http://my.rotary.org/en/search/club-finder)

## Have you identified a new member?

Membership application materials, including a checklist, are available on the check-in table at each meeting, and also on the club's website: [WilmingtonRotaryClub.org](http://WilmingtonRotaryClub.org).

## We need pictures and articles!

Involved in club projects? Please submit digital photos for use in this newsletter. Articles, summary notes or even outlines about committee work and club projects are also welcome. Email any and all info to John Meyer at [john@capefearpublishers.com](mailto:john@capefearpublishers.com).



# Rotarian volunteers collect cash for Salvation Army



Among our many members soliciting contributions outside Sam's Club on Tuesdays during December were Donna Shiro and JoAnn Daley, above; Charlie Bowen, upper right, and John Peck and Marty Feurer, right. Every year our club is a contender, and sometimes a winner, in an informal competition among civic clubs: who can raise the most for the Salvation Army's holiday services. This year, because of Hurricane Florence, the need is especially acute.



Rotarians at work during District 7730 project at Trinity Center in Carteret County on Dec. 1.

## District volunteers refurbish RYLA venue; financial help still needed

Thirty Rotarians from around District 7730 showed up on December 1 for a service project at The Trinity Center in Pine Knoll Shores. That conference facility hosts the district's annual RYLA convention. On a Bogue Banks beachfront site, the center was damaged by Hurricane Florence.

RYLA is the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards program.

The service project was scheduled before the storm, had to be pared down from its original plan. Some tasks will now require full scale reconstruction beyond the capabilities of volunteer workers.

What the volunteers were able to accomplish included installing window blinds, ceiling fans and full-length mirrors in the center's dormitories.

District Governor April Clark reports that while the physical work was completed as planned, donations are still needed to pay for materials. She is appealing for contributions from clubs or individual Rotarians. "We are very close to our goal," April said. "No amount is too small."

Information about how to help can be found on the district's website:

[www.rotary7730.org](http://www.rotary7730.org)

## Upcoming programs & events

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Family holiday party with entertainment and Dollars for Desserts auction; with **Santa Claus**.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25

No meeting: Christmas holiday.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1

No meeting: New Year's holiday.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

Hurricane Florence recovery, with County Managers **Chris Coudriet** and **Randy Woodruff**.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15

N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, with Secretary **Susi Hamilton**.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

Region's economic outlook for 2019, with Professor **Adam Jones** of UNCW's Cameron School of Business.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

Latest results in Alzheimer's Disease research, with **Dr. Len Lecci** of UNCW Department of Psychology.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Rotarians recovering from Hurricane Florence, with **Donna Shiro**.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Handling stress in the workplace, with **Holly Konrady**, yoga instructor and stress management specialist.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Rookie teacher of the year awards presentation.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Literacy Committee report and update.

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

Wilmington Chamber of Commerce update, with President and CEO **Natalie English**.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

Service Above Self awards for public safety officers, with District Attorney **Ben David**.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

Reports from recipients of club and district grants.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

University of North Carolina Wilmington status report, with Chancellor **Jose V. Sartarelli**.



## District CART raffle adds 2 cars, extends deadline

The opportunity to buy a chance at a new Corvette — or \$50,000 cash — has been extended to next April, and the pot sweetened. The district-wide CART raffle was originally intended to conclude this month, but because of Hurricane Florence, ticket sales have been slower than expected.

District CART chairman Norm Rogers announced the changes in early December.

Tickets cost \$100 and will be sold until April 30, 2019. The drawing will be April 27. And just in case you aren't interested in a Corvette, the winner will be able to choose one of two other luxury car models: a Cadillac CT6 or a Jaguar I-Pace electric. Or, of course, the \$50,000 cash.

Proceeds from the raffle will go to the District 7730 CART fund, which supports research on Alzheimer's Disease. The acronym stands for "Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust." Primary source of money for that cause is the blue buckets on our lunch tables.

Acknowledging how hard the hurricane hit our district and many Rotarians, Rogers said, "Even with all the problems we have sold over 300 tickets in a time of crisis and for that I am most grateful. Rotarians from across the country have purchased tickets." But for the raffle to make a worthwhile profit, he said, "We have 950 tickets to go and I am asking for your help."

The goal is to raise \$125,000, of which half or more will go to the CART fund and the balance for the prize. If the winner chooses one of the cars, the prize will be a voucher for \$62,500, applicable to one of the three models.

Questions about the raffle or about CART can be directed to Norm at (910) 616-1205 or [normrogers@atmc.net](mailto:normrogers@atmc.net)

Checks, payable to CART Fund, Inc., can be mailed to:

Norman Rogers  
CART Chairman 7730  
7985 Castaway Lane NW  
Ash, NC 28420

To buy a chance online, go to the District 7730 website: [www.rotary7730.org](http://www.rotary7730.org)



### 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 Cathy Barlow 791-5248  
President-Elect Eric McKeithan 679-4468  
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)