

CLUB NEWS

June 21, 2022



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

The Wilmington
Rotary
Club



Founded April 1915 • A Century of Service Above Self

Leaders in Service sets record of net \$61,600

The Leaders in Service award program raised an unprecedented \$61,600 for the club's projects.

Sponsors and ticket buyers for the May 5 awards banquet contributed gross proceeds of \$78,700, a portion of which was offset by the dinner's expenses.

Sponsorships in amounts ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000 supported the project, which honored three local executives for their work to improve our community. They are Rotarian **Chris Coudriet** in the public-sector category, **J.C. Lyle** in the non-profit sector, and **Dr. Yousry Sayed** in the private sector. Coudriet is New



Rotarian **Ben David** was master of ceremonies for the May 5 award banquet. Hanover County manager; Lyle heads the Wilmington Area Rebuilding Ministry (WARM); and Sayed founded Quality Chemical Laboratories.

The centerpiece was a video about the honorees, produced by Rotarian **Lou DiGiusto**. A large committee of Rotarians, headed by **Dale Smith**, organized the event and solicited sponsorships.

For more, SEE: page 3.

Leaders in Service
Service Above Self

Club to remain at Grace Church for now, panel to evaluate other venues

The club will continue to meet at Grace United Methodist Church, the Board of Directors decided on June 13, rather than relocating to the Country Club of Landfall starting in July.

Some members who work downtown have said a cross-town drive every Tuesday would make it impossible to continuing attending.

The board named a new committee to evaluate other potential meeting places. Its members are **Paul Lawler**, **Terri Everett**, **Larry Sackett**, **Nancy Bullock** and **Tolis Vardakis**.

As President **Cleve Callison**

explained on June 14, the committee will consider a number of new venues in addition to those members voted on in May.

Criteria will include space and room for growth, parking, acoustics, members' comfort with the venue, and whether it passes the Four-Way Test. The panel is to make a recommendation to the Board no later than its August 16 meeting.

Still in effect is the decision from the Board's May meeting to suspend the online Zoom portion of our meetings for several weeks in August and evaluate its affect on members' participation.

President-elect Dale Smith calls for fun, more engagement

By Dale Smith, President-elect, 2022-23

For over 100 years, the Rotary Club of Wilmington was known as the leading service club in New Hanover County and the best Club in Rotary District 7730.

The last two to three years have been difficult and, like nearly all organizations, we have slipped. The Leaders in Service program was a good first step forward. Now it is time to jump forward. Let's not just return to normal, let's Move Forward Better!

In 2022-23, we will focus on the Rotary vision, "Together we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change—across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves." To do this, we will focus on two overriding goals:

1. Weekly meetings, socials, and committee meetings will be fun, relaxing and informative.
2. Every member of the club will be engaged in service to the community, participate on a committee, or fundraising.

Meetings

All of our meetings must be well planned and conducted with excellent programs where all members can be themselves. This means we must all:

- Be caring and supportive
- Treat each other with respect
- Foster a welcoming and inclusive environment

Engagement

Every member of this club needs to be fully engaged in a service project and/or fundraising. This year we are adding several new opportunities to get involved through community service projects at Williston, D.C.

Continued on Page 3



Dale Smith will become president on June 28.



From left: Joe Owen, new member Ray Bahar, Albert Corbett, new member Amanda Norton, and Secretary Elliott O'Neal, who did the honors of the induction.

Club adds two members

The club added two new Rotarians to our ranks on May 10.

Ray Bahar joins us after 33 years as a Rotarian, a member of the Spring Valley, N.Y. club.

Board reinstates attendance rule

Active members of this club are again expected to attend at least 50 percent of our regular meetings, or to earn make-up credit by participating in club projects or committee work.

Another favorite approved way to earn make-up credit is to visit another Rotary club, either locally or while traveling.

At its May meeting, the Board of Directors reinstated this long-standing rule, which was suspended in 2020 during the worst of the Covid pandemic.

The purpose is to encourage involvement in the club's work. Older, long-serving "Rule of 85" members are exempt from the attendance rule.

He was sponsored for membership by Joe Owen.

Amanda Norton is in the home health care business. Her sponsor is Albert Corbett.

Board adds 6 new members

Five new members were elected to the club's Board of Directors during the Board's June 13 meeting. Beginning three-year terms effective July 1 will be: **Terri Everett, Debby Gomulka, David Grandey, Donna Shiro, and Tyler Wooden.** The board's action confirmed a May 10 vote by the club's membership that unanimously endorsed the five-member slate.

Debby and Terri are already on the board, filling out terms left vacant by resignations.

The board also confirmed President-Elect Dale Smith's appointment of **Laura Lisle** to fill another unexpired term, which ends on June 30, 2023.

New Rotarians tell club about themselves

Several recently inducted members have made brief introductory talks during the past two months.

Philip Craig, the rector of St. James Episcopal Church, spoke on May 31. He was inducted into the club on April 19. His sponsor for membership was Tom Dodson.

The same day, **Peter Maloff** introduced himself. Also inducted on April 19, he was sponsored by Clint Meyer. Peter is a retired lawyer.

Lou DiGiusto, who joined the club Oct. 12, 2021, gave his new-member talk on June 7. A retired film-maker, he related anecdotes about some of the celebrities he has worked with. A Rotarian with 44 years in other clubs, he was sponsored by Joe Owen.

Lawler to be 2024-25 president

Paul Lawler has been elected as our next president-nominee, to succeed Nancy Bullock as the club's president, taking office July 1, 2024. He is a current member of the club's Board of Directors, with a three-year term expiring in 2024. Now retired as an accountant, Paul joined the club in 2018. He served on the Wilmington City Council from 2015 to 2019. The club's board confirmed Paul's selection on June 13.



Philip Craig



Peter Maloff



Lou DiGiusto

Ken Bishop, retired Belk manager and half-century Rotarian, dies at 90

Rotarian Kenneth Bishop, 90, died May 8 in Cary. He had moved there to be closer to family when the Covid pandemic began.

He was a Pennsylvania native. After Army service, Ken got a basketball scholarship to Wilmington College, the two-year predecessor to UNCW. After earning a degree in merchandising, he went to work for the Belk department store chain. After managing stores in Sanford and Hickory, he returned to Wilmington, where he was general manager of the Belk-Beery store. He retired in 1992 after 36

years with Belk.

Ken had been a Rotarian for 22 years when he joined this club in 1985, sponsored by his boss, Bill Beery III. That gave him total Rotary service of well over 50 years. In addition to Rotary, his civic service included the Boy Scouts, Salvation Army, Chamber of Commerce, United Way, Merchants Association, and First Presbyterian Church.

Surviving are his wife, Dot; son Doug Bishop and daughter Donna Peffley; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.



New President Dale's agenda

Continued from Page 1

Virgo, and a Habitat for Humanity house. We will also make it easier to sign up for these projects online.

Some of you may ask, "Isn't one of Rotary's priority goals to attract and retain members?" As we achieve these two goals, we will retain members and attract new ones.

My role as president, and that of the board and committee chairs, is to create an environment where everyone feels comfortable, engaged and proud to be in the Rotary Club of Wilmington. Your job is to get involved.

Together, we will take action to create lasting change.

Crooks to become D.G.

C.J. Crooks of the Jacksonville Rotary Club will be District Governor for 2024-25. He will follow Nancy Carr (2022-23) and Allen Quigley (2023-24.)



Committee chairs report on basics of club business

The chairs of various club committees have made brief reports to members during recent meetings about each committee's purpose and needs.

On April 26, **Rob Zapple** described the work of the Sergeant at Arms Committee, which handles check-in at meetings and introduces guests and visiting Rotarians. He urged new members to serve on the committee as a great way to meet fellow Rotarians.

George Gates, chair of the Invocation Committee, spoke May 10 about how that group's members start each meeting with a non-sectarian prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.



Rob Zapple



George Gates

Leaders in Service highlights



Rotarian Chris Coudriet was the honoree in the public-sector category; Dr. Yousry Sayed in the private sector; and J.C. Lyle for non-profits.

The awards were presented by (from left) Rotarians Elliott O'Neal, Alex White, and Shemeka Henderson Kemp.

For specifics about the results of the Leaders in Service fundraiser, SEE Page 1.



Terri Everett of the Veterans' Committee explained on May 17 how the club's military veterans are recognized every November in connection with the federal Veterans' Day holiday.

On May 31, **Steve Yates** gave a run-down of the many activities of the Wiliston Legacy Project Committee. Those include volunteer and financial support for various school projects, our Student of the Month awards, various teacher-appreciation efforts, and an annual educational field trip for students. Steve is one of three committee co-chairs.

The same day, **Terry Smith** discussed how his Community Service Committee



Terri Everett



Steve Yates

coordinates Rotarians' volunteer efforts for projects supported through our Grants Committee.

Albert Corbett of the Membership Recruitment Committee spoke June 7 about ways to identify promising new members.

On June 14, **Steve Yates** returned on behalf of the Health and Happiness Committee to talk about the weekly segment that addresses birthdays, members' achievements and challenges, and offers humorous or inspirational commentary. Then, on behalf of the Raffle Committee, he asked for volunteers to help conduct that weekly fund-raising entertainment.



Terry Smith



Albert Corbett



Above: Williston students and faculty in CFCC's auto paint shop.

Right: On stage at the Wilson Center, visiting students learn about what's required to stage major musical events in the college's performing arts hall.



Williston Students of the Month visit Cape Fear Community College campus



Visiting Williston Students of the Month experience the view from the Wilson Center's stage and from the pier used by CFCC's Marine Tech vessels.

All the Williston Middle School students honored as Students of the Month this school year were taken on a field trip to Cape Fear Community College on May 10.

They were introduced to some of CFCC's most popular courses, to see potential opportunities after high school.

Rotarians and school staff escorted the 80-some students. This was the first such field trip for Williston's honored students since the pandemic began in 2020.

Helping to set up the trip were Rotarians **Robby Collins**, a member of the college's Board of Trustees, and **Erica Talbert**, associate vice president for continuing education at CFCC.

The last Student of the Month ceremony, for both April and May, took place on May 4 in the Williston library.



Rotarian Steve Yates with Williston students and teachers during dental clinic.

Club sponsors dental screening clinic for Williston Middle School

More than 45 Williston Middle School students and parents were seen during a dental screening clinic on May 7.

The club sponsored the event at the St. Mary Health Clinic. Volunteers from the local dental community provided evaluations, diagnoses and fluoride treatments. All participants received oral hygiene kits. Patients with significant treatment needs were identified for referral to dentists or to return to the clinic for definitive care, Rotarian **Gabe Rich** reported. He and **Paul Lawler** helped organize the event.

The students participating were not eligible for dental care either through private insurance or through the school system. Many of these students had never been to a dentist before.

During the event, our Williston Legacy Committee presented a \$1,700 check to the clinic's Director Laura Vinson.

Many Rotary club volunteers assisted the dental professionals and members of the Williston faculty. **Rae McClellan**, who teaches English as a second language, and teacher assistant **Juanita Montano** represented Williston.

Rotarian Gabe Rich with Juanita Montano and Rae McClellan from Williston.



Williston faculty with volunteer dental professionals at screening.



DEI grant aids Ability Garden

The club presented a \$4,000 check to the New Hanover County Arboretum's Ability Garden, which serves people with disabilities. The grant will be used to improve the garden's irrigation systems. The club provided a 50-50 match to a diversity, equity and inclusion grant from Rotary District 7730.

Treasurer **Larry Sackett** made the presentation June 14 to Ability Garden Director **Heather Kelejian** and Arboretum/Ag Extension Director **Lloyd Singleton**.



Ability Garden Director Heather Kelejian accepts check on June 14.

Volunteers needed now for an expanded RYLA

A kickoff meeting for the 2022-23 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards is planned for sometime in July. Rotary volunteers are needed now, RYLA Chairman **R.B. Richey** has announced.

"There are a lot of moving parts in getting another RYLA off the ground," R.B. said, "And your help is needed." In addition to organizing the Wilmington RYLA conference in December and outreach to local high schools, discussion leaders will also be needed for the Saturday-morning conference.

This year, the goal is to get more schools involved, including the private and early-college high schools, which did not participate in 2021 because of Covid-caused schedule complications. "This coming year," R.B. said in a June 6 email, "more high schools should participate and the RYLA Committee should return to having representation from all six Rotary clubs in the Wilmington area."

If you can help, contact R.B. before the end of June.

Club thanks Williston teachers and staff with year-end luncheon

On the last day of the 2021-22 school year, the club and volunteer Rotarians served a teacher-appreciation lunch to the faculty and staff at Williston Middle School. This annual tradition is meant to thank educators for their work. Members of the club served the meal, with food catered by Chipotle.



Above: Williston teachers line up for lunch.

Left: Rotarians including Marty Feurer, Bob Kitchen, Rob Zapple, Howard Loving, and Nancy Bullock help feed hungry educators.

Right: Rotarian hash-slingers Elliott O'Neal and Albert Corbett with Albert's grandson Luke Corbett, who also volunteered.



Departing Rotarian Zito Sartarelli accepts congratulations from Foundation Chair R.B. Richey and President Cleve Callison.

Sartarelli honored as 'plus 1'

In appreciation for his service to the university, the club presented retiring UNC-Wilmington Chancellor Jose "Zito" Sartarelli with a Paul Harris Fellow "plus 1" pin on June 14. He will be leaving the club, moving to Naples, Fla. after his retirement is effective at the end of June. The PHF+1 status reflects contributions of \$2,000 to The Rotary Foundation, which is Rotary International's charity arm.



District to double Foundation gifts

Rotary District 7730 has announced that it will match all new contributions between \$100 and \$500 to The Rotary Foundation with district matching points. That will double the value of Rotarians' contributions, helping them either become a Paul Harris Fellow or move up to the next PHF "plus" level.

District Foundation Chair John Mohr said, "Just confirm your donation and I will match it with the points." He can be contacted at 910-209-2864 or carolinajohn0601@gmail.com

CART raffle could pay off big

To raise money for the Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust (CART), District 7730 is conducting a \$20,000 raffle. Only 500 tickets will be sold at \$100 each. The winner can choose a three-year lease on one of three new hybrid Toyotas or can take \$20,000 cash.

We are using money from our CART buckets to buy tickets in the Wilmington Rotary Club's name. If we win, we will donate the money right back to CART.

Sales end June 30; the drawing will be July 7. Buy tickets at cartfund.org. Questions should go by email to Norm Rogers at normrogers@atmc.net.



Dempsey: Virgo Academy



Sterrett: Virgo Academy



Hill-Black: Virgo Academy



Golder: ATF bureau



Williams: OLLI at UNCW

UNCW future, education and business schools, hospital sale proceeds and ATF are topics

The University of North Carolina at Wilmington was the focus of several recent programs, including a look at the school's future. Other guest speakers discussed federal law enforcement and the new foundation that will disburse proceeds from the sale of our public hospital.

Rotarian **Van Dempsey**, dean of UNC-Wilmington's College of Education, **William Sterrett**, an associate dean at the college, and **Sabrina Hill-Black**, principal of D.C. Virgo Preparatory Academy, spoke April 27 about that "lab" school, a partnership between the university and the New Hanover County schools.

No lunch meeting was held May 3 because of the Leaders in Service fundraising banquet two days later. For more, SEE: *pages 1 and 3*.

Investigating arson and crimes involving explosives was the topic of the May 10 program by **John Golder**, a former agent with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, who now operates a private consulting firm.

The May 17 program was about the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UNC-Wilmington, presented by OLLI Program Coordinator **Susan Williams**.

We had no speaker or program at our May 24 meeting, an informal picnic at Greenfield Park's Rotary Wheel Garden.

How the proceeds from New Hanover Regional Medical Center's sale to Novant will be invested and distributed was the topic when **William Buster** spoke on May 31. He is CEO of the newly created New Hanover Community Foundation.

Rotarian **Jose "Zito" Sartarelli**, just days before his retirement as UNC-Wilmington's chancellor, spoke June 7 about the university's

75-year history and its expected growth in the next 25 years.

The university's Cameron School of Business was the subject of the June 14 meeting. Dean **Rob Burrus** spoke.

Members socialize at May 24 picnic meeting at the Rotary Wheel Garden, which had no formal program or guest speaker.



Burrus: Business school



Buster: hospital sale funds



Sartarelli: UNCW future



Upcoming programs & events

TUESDAY, JUNE 21

Fighting human trafficking, with **Audry Moore**, CEI of the Lifting Up the Vulnerable (LUV) ministry.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25

District governor induction ceremony, with **Nancy Carr**, district governor-elect, 12 noon, Patriots Hall, Moore's Creek National Battlefield. \$20 per person.

TUESDAY, JUNE 28

Presidential induction banquet, 6 p.m. at Country Club of Landfall, 800 Sun Runner Lane. (Use Arboretum Drive gate.) With President-Elect **Dale Smith**.

TUESDAY, JULY 5

No meeting: Independence Day holiday.

TUESDAY, JULY 12

Rising to resiliency: Lessons from a spoken word artist, with **Robert Bellamy**, a Wilmington-based poet.

MONDAY, JULY 18

Board of Directors meeting, 5:15 p.m. LS3P Architects conference room, 101 N. Third Street, Fifth Floor.

TUESDAY, JULY 19

UNC-Wilmington's cybersecurity program, with **Dr. Ulku Clark** of the Center for Cyber Defense Education.

TUESDAY, JULY 26

An inspiring story about being born without arms, with **Daniel Ritchie** of Huntersville, N.C.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2

The U.S. Coast Guard on its 232nd birthday, with Capt. **Matthew Baer**, captain of the port of Wilmington.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9

Topic and speaker to be announced.

MONDAY, AUGUST 15

Board of Directors meeting, 5:15 p.m. LS3P Architects conference room, 101 N. Third Street, Fifth Floor.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16

"Funny Girl" at Thalian Hall, with producer/director **Ray Kennedy** of Opera House Theatre Company.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23

Topic and speaker to be announced.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30

Community Gardening in Wilmington, with **David Brenner** of Wilmington Green Community Gardens.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Wind energy off the southeastern North Carolina coast, with **John Hardin** of the N.C. Department of Commerce.

Rotary news briefs

Presidential induction banquet to resume. After a two-year hiatus during the Covid pandemic, the club will again begin the new Rotary year with a dinner ceremony on June 28. President-elect Dale Smith and other club officers will take office. Each Rotarian, plus a guest, is invited to the reception and dinner at the Country Club of Landfall from 6 to 9 p.m. Dinner is paid for through member dues but Rotarians attending must RSVP to an emailed invitation. A cash bar will be offered.

Deadline close for grant applications. Noon Friday, June 24, is the deadline to submit applications for club and/or district grants for 2022-23. Funding will come from our club's non-profit foundation, and may also be matched with grants from Rotary District 7730. Applicants must submit a one-page concept paper that includes a statement of the problem the project will address, its objectives, how those will be achieved, a timeline, and a budget request. Any project funded by a grant must be completed by March 31, 2023 and must include active Rotarian involvement. For more information, see the file "Grant request 2022" under the "Documents" tab on the club website: wilmingtonrotaryclub.org. Applications should go to Grants Chair Ernie Olds: eolds@beckermorgan.com. Questions? Call Ernie at 910-341-7600.

Help needed for Attractions books. Rotarian Harley Sacks, who has managed sales of the *Attractions* coupon books for many years, will be unable to do so this year. He must remain in California, recuperating from a hip replacement, for some time. He has offered to consult long-distance with anyone who wishes to take over this tradition. The club retains half of the cover price of each \$25 book sold. Want to help? Please email Harley at harley@hmslaw.net.

Darryl Bruestle is recovering from a broken leg and would appreciate hearing from fellow Rotarians. The retired chief of the Wilmington Police Department, Darryl has been a member of this club since 1976.

Address cards or notes to:

Darryl Bruestle, Rehab Guest
Davis Health and Rehabilitation Center
1011 Porters Neck Road
Wilmington, NC 28411

Newsletter photos

by Robby Collins, John Meyer, Steve Yates, Donna Shiro, Angela MacKinnon, and Jeff Janowski of UNCW

Board of Directors Meeting

5:15 pm, 3rd Monday of each Month
LS3P Architects conference room
101 N. Third Street, Fifth Floor
Wilmington, NC 28401

Get In Touch

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Submit News Items

Send photos or other information for the newsletter to john@capefearpublishers.com. Please include all pertinent names, dates, etc.

Website

www.WilmingtonRotaryClub.org