

Durham Rotary Club Bulletin

July 16, 2012



Volume XX, Issue 2

Post Office Box 51503 – Durham, North Carolina 27717

www.DurhamRotaryClub.org

The mission of Rotary International is to support its member clubs in fulfilling the Object of Rotary by:

- Fostering unity among member clubs
- Strengthening and expanding Rotary around the world
- Communicating worldwide the work of Rotary; and
- Providing a system of international administration

THE 4-WAY TEST

Of The Things We Think, Say or Do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

7/16 – Board Meeting – 11:30 AM

7/16 – Stuart Albright, Novelist

“The Power of a Diverse Public Education”

Introduction: Don Stanger

7/19 – “Rotary After Hours” – 5-7PM

Place: Bull City Burger, Parrish Street,
Downtown Durham

7/23 – District Governor Rick Carnagua

“The 2012-2013 Rotary Year”

Introduction: Don Stanger

7/30 – James Cox, Duke & Thomas Lee Hazen,
UNC-CH

“Changes In Corporate Governance”

Introduction: Rob Everett

8/1 – Rotary Fundraiser at the DPAC

8/6 – Dr. Frank Neelon

“Literature In Medicine”

Introduction: Rob Everett

8/13 – Chad Johnston, Axel Foley

“The People’s Channel”

Introduction: Carver Weaver

8/20 – Anton Zuiker

“Building Online Communities”

SERVICE SCHEDULE

7/16 7/23

Music: V. Simonetti V. Simonetti

Invocation: B. Stokes K. Gresham

SAtArms: J. Coates J. Coates

 J. Pierce J. Pierce

DRC Raffle: RI Foundation Programs

Contribution: \$1/Ticket; \$5/6 Tickets

Proceeds: ½ RI Foundation; ½ Winner

7/9 Winner: **Susan Ross \$70 / RI \$71**

The CART Fund (Coins for Alzheimer’s Research Trust)

7/9: \$33.43

Durham Literacy Center – Reginald Hodges



A few years ago club member Gaston Warner, who was with the Duke Divinity School but about to leave to join Zoe Ministries, gave us a presentation about that organization’s mission to empower orphans in Africa. In parts of Africa where disease, war, famine and other causes left children to fend for themselves, Zoe goes into communities where these children are already living and brings them together in supportive groups to feed and protect themselves from violence and exploitation.

One of the questions that Gaston got from the audience was whether there was anything like this going on in the US. Without hesitating a second Gaston exclaimed, “Of course! That’s what gangs are all about.” I remember this vividly because I think I was one of many in the audience stunned by this response. My naïve conception of gangs was that they were minor-league crime syndicates formed to wreak havoc on the community and each other.

It was an “ah-ha” moment for me but not the kind that brings a smile to your face. The simple fact is that our community has more than its share of virtual orphans that have been neglected or ignored by their families and our institutions and must fend for themselves in a hostile environment. For these children the chances of living a productive life are left largely to chance and their odds of being ground up in the indignities of our criminal justice or welfare systems is much higher than it ought to be.

Beneath the sheen of our revived Downtown and high tech economy are some things that we cannot be proud of. We have the highest poverty rate in the Triangle and then there is the horrific statistic that 44% of our students cannot pass end of year grade level proficiency tests. That doesn’t include the number that drop out of school every year.

The good news is that heroes step forth or are created in such circumstances and we got to meet two of them at our July 9th meeting. The first was our speaker and new member Reginald Hodges, the current Executive Director of the Durham Literacy Center, an organization over 25 years old that focuses on adult literacy. Mr. Hodges grew up in our neck of the woods and is a graduate of North Carolina Central University, but he brings an international understanding of the problems of poverty from his experience in the Peace Corps and 35 years of non-profit human development programs. During his career he has worked in over 35 countries. He returned to North Carolina in 2000 and took over the leadership of the DLC in 2004.

Mr. Hodges shared estimates that our community has over 20,000 people that are functionally illiterate. Currently the DLC can handle about 500 clients a year through the efforts of a small staff and volunteers that are trained in a phonics approach to reading that has proven to be effective. This makes a dent in the problem and proves that it can be done. However, it clearly must be expanded.

The second hero we met was Chris Williams, a graduate of the DLC program. Mr. Williams spoke movingly about how he had coped early in his life to avoid the embarrassment of his lack of reading skills by keeping to himself. He also spoke with disdain about being pushed through the system and getting a diploma even though he was functionally illiterate. A city employee with the Department of Public Works, he made it clear that the importance of reading to him was more than just the obvious practical application but also how it made him feel about himself for taking this courageous step.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS REPORT: July 9, 2012

Presenter: Reginald Hodges

Club Guest(s): Joyce McKinney

Guests of Members:

- Marge Nordstrom. Don Stanger
- Joy Barber. Rick Jorgensen
- Barbara DeBerry. Toby Barfield
- Simone Simpson. Bill Stokes
- Pondora Simpson. Bill Stokes
- Elora Dash. B. C. Dash
- Smita Baguant. B. C. Dash
- Georgia Marica-Spencer. B. C. Dash
- Diane Pledger. Susan Ross
- Blake Strayhorn. Keith Artin

Proposed Members Pending:

STEPHEN N. FOSTER

Interim Executive Director, The Durham Art Guild, Classification: Non-Profit Arts Management, Sponsored By: Shannon Leskin

ERNIE C MILLS, JR.

Stewardship Officer, Durham Rescue Mission, Classification: Non-Profit Management Sponsored By: Bucky Waters

BARBARA W. DEBERRY

Financial Advisor; Sponsored By: Toby Barfield

ALFRED 'BLAKE' STRAYHORN

President/Executive Director Habitat For Humanity of Durham; Classification: Non-Profit Management; Sponsored By: Don Stanger

MARGET NORDSTROM

Retired Business Consultant and Advisor; Sponsored By: Don Stanger

Club Statistics as of July 9, 2012

- 211 Total Members
- 180 Active: Male (138) Female (42)
- 31 Honorary: Male (30) Female (1)

2012-2013 ROTARY LEADERSHIP

- RI President: Sakuji Tanaku
- District Governor: Rick Carnagua
- ADG-Area 7: Newman Aguiar

2012-2013 Club Officers

- President: Don Stanger
- Immediate Past-President: Arthur Rogers
- President-Elect: Bill Ingram
- Vice-President: Meg Solera
- Secretary: Jay Zenner
- Treasurer: Rick Jorgensen
- Sergeant-at-Arms: Bryan Huffman

2012-2015 Board of Directors

- Robert Gutman 6/2013
- Sylvia LeGoff 6/2013
- Michael Palmer 6/2013
- Seth Jernigan 6/2014
- Dieter Mauch 6/2014
- Sheridan Townsend 6/2014
- Shelly Green 6/2015
- Deirdre Haj 6/2015
- Deana Labriola 6/2015

Club Website Masters

- Newman Aguiar, Designer
- Jay Zenner, Updates

New President Don, who introduced Mr. Hodges, wisely deferred presentation of his strategic plan for the coming Rotary year to allow plenty of time for this presentation.

However, it will be no surprise that community literacy will be a big part of the plan and for the longer term strategic plan. In other words, we will all have a chance to become heroes in Durham's war on illiteracy.

It should also be no surprise that we already have a few heroes on that front including Past President and current Assistant District Governor Newman Aguiar, as well as Ellen Reckhow and Barker French, who have been leaders in the East Durham Children's Initiative, and Todd Taylor who is leading a tutoring program for the Club at YE Smith School. Tutors he has already recruited include immediate Past President Arthur. Mr. Hodges also cited Rotarian and commercial real estate broker Seth Jernigan for putting together the deal to purchase the DLC's new home on Chapel Hill Road, which will greatly expand their capability.

The organization's website is at <https://sites.google.com/site/durhamliteracy/>, where you can also find the moving video that Mr. Hodges showed at the beginning of the presentation.

Submitted by Jay Zenner

The Durham Rotary Club family is saddened by the loss of longtime member, Alan H. Reckhow, friend to many and parent of Ken and Ellen Reckhow. Our deepest sympathies go out to Ken, Ellen, and their family during this difficult time.

Supplies Drive to support Durham Public School Teachers



The Fill that Bus! campaign to collect school supplies to supplement the teacher supplies needed for students is underway. If your business can station a collection bin at your office, contact Tammi Brooks (tammi.brooks@gmail.com). If you cannot host a bin please remember to purchase supplies and help fill the barrel

whenever you see one.

Fellowship and Fundraising at the DPAC! – August 1



We will have a **reception from 5:30 - 7 p.m.** with delicious hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar, then enjoy **CHICAGO** featuring Christie Brinkley! Tickets are **\$100 per person** and include the party and the show. We only have 50 seats, so reserve yours today! All profits will go toward scholarships for deserving students in our community. Already have tickets to the show on another night? The DPAC ticket office will swap them for seats on August 1, and you can just pay \$55 per person for the reception. Contact Carver Weaver, weaverc@durhamtech.edu or 919-623-7888 to make arrangements.

July Birthdays

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 02 Eric Becoats | 14 Jim Sackett | 26 Deirdre Haj |
| 02 George Maddox | 14 Lloyd Whaley | 27 Jennifer Noble |
| 08 Reyn Bowman | 15 Mark Lazenby | 28 Christopher Gergen |
| 10 Jay Zenner | 19 Boyd Strain | 30 Dave Ross |
| 11 Joe Murray | 20 Pelham Wilder | 30 Janene Tompkins |
| 11 Seth Warner | 20 Steve Pike | 31 Carolyn Aarsonson |
| 12 Matt Dees | 21 David Reese | |
| 14 Millie Chalk | 23 Art Pappas | |



Club Facebook link: www.facebook.com/DurhamRotaryClub

Executive Secretary: Sharon Lassiter
slassiter38@nc.rr.com