



# Rotary Club of Durham

Connect. Collaborate. Serve.



## March 13, 2017

Volume XXIV, Issue 29

Post Office Box 51572 – Durham, North Carolina 27717

[www.DurhamRotaryClub.org](http://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

03/13	<b>Billy MacDonald: The Story of Flying Tigers In China</b> <u>Introduction:</u> Brady Surles
03/20	<b>Art Pappas: Pappas Ventures</b> <u>Introduction:</u> Don Stanger
03/27	<b>Offsite Meeting At TROSA</b> Randall "Randy" Lanou: Durham Habitat Blitz Builders <u>Introduction:</u> Don Stanger
04/03	<b>Offsite Meeting At JB DUKE HOTEL</b> Joyce McKinney, Durham Animal Protection Society: Care and Feeding of Our Stray, Abandoned & Abused Animals <u>Introduction:</u> Nancy Gordon
04/10	<b>Offsite Meeting At TROSA</b> Dan Berman: Carolina Theatre Update <u>Introduction:</u> Treat Harvey
04/17	<b>No Meeting!!</b> <b>In Observance of The Easter Holiday</b>
04/24	<b>Joe Colopy, Founder: Bronto Software</b> <u>Introduction:</u> TBD

### SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 13, 2017

Lead Vocal: **MARK HIGGINS**  
Song Selection: **God Bless America**  
Pianist: **ANDY ESSER**

ROTARY INVOCATION: **DAVID DURACK**  
DRC RAFFLE: RI FOUNDATION PROGRAMS  
Contribution: \$1 Ticket; \$5 – 6 Tickets  
Proceeds: ½ RI Foundation; ½ Raffle Winner  
**Raffle Total On 3/6/2017: \$112.00**  
Rotary International: **\$56.00**; Raffle Winner: **\$56.00**  
RAFFLE WINNER: **JOHN CROSS**

CART FUND  
(Coins For Alzheimer's Research Trust)

**3/6/2017: \$1,142.00!!**

## ADAM KLEIN American Underground Update



American Underground has done a bang up job of providing a path and encouragement for minorities and women who want to become part of the entrepreneurial movement. But what about us old folks? It's also admirable that the model has evolved to include physical products and not just software and high tech stuff. And how smart is it to include professional services, which I assume includes lawyers, graphic designers, accountants, and maybe even real estate agents. Check it out on [www.gridworksdurham.com](http://www.gridworksdurham.com).

But back to us old folks. How many toilets are there in the world? How many guys think it's more than a little icky to have to lift a toilet seat to do number 1, especially in a restaurant, rest stop, or, God help us, a gas station? What if someone invented a levered device that bolted to the toilet bowl under the seat that would lift the seat out of the way but when in the down position, also provide additional support to rise from the seated position like the arm of a chair without adding those ugly grab bars to the wall?

You have signed the non-disclosure, haven't you?



Crazy idea maybe, but when Adam Klein, who describes himself as the Chief Strategist of The American Underground, or the Startup Hub of the South, mentioned Feline Innovations' cat scratching device with replaceable scratch pads as one of the companies participating in the Startup Stampede now in progress, I thought, maybe not that crazy. But isn't that the point --- to put together potential entrepreneurs in an environment where they can collaborate and support each other. Anyone that has done product development knows that having a product is often the easiest part of launching a company to sell it.

Case in point, the story of David Baron, Founder of NuggetComfort.com, and part of a member of The American Underground, who [shared his four-year](#) last month to the launch of his product, which is essentially four cushions covered with fabric that configure as a bed or a couch or a fort for the kids. A simple idea maybe --- but the interesting part was how they improvised the packaging with the help of forklift hydraulics and market it exclusively online.

The idea of having like-minded folks around with experience, however uneven, in things like accounting, marketing, pricing, e-commerce, fundraising, packaging, regulations, and dozens of other necessary components that complement the creative process.

This is the second time that Adam has spoken to us. The first time was in December of 2012. We tend to think about American Underground in terms of what it has meant to Durham ---- and there is no question that it has come a long way and been a major factor in the revitalization of Downtown, but we shouldn't overlook the service it provides for entrepreneurs like David and the impact they have on our City. Some of the key statistics are in Adam's Power Point Presentation, which you can link to on the website if you are reading this in the Bulletin.

This time, Adam was introduced by his friend and our Fellow Rotarian, Mike Kriston, who is a Senior Vice-President at McDonald York Building Company. We hope Adam won't wait another 4 or 5 years to visit again. In fact, maybe Mike can convince him to join our Club. We have our own Innovation Fellows Program here that could probably benefit from his experience.

**CLUB STATISTICS AS OF  
MARCH 13, 2017:**

**Club Members: 247; Active: 214  
Active-LOA: 4; Honorary: 29  
Staff Positions: 1**



**March Birthdays 2017**

KEN LUNDSTROM	MARCH 01
KAY GRESHAM	MARCH 02
MARION JOHNSON, JR.	MARCH 02
MARLON TORRES	MARCH 03
CAROLINE WELCH	MARCH 04
SUSAN ROSS	MARCH 05
JOHN KERR	MARCH 05
MATT KOPAC	MARCH 05
STEED ROLLINS	MARCH 06
JAMES HEDRICK	MARCH 08
CRAIG BROWN	MARCH 09
RALPH SNYDERMAN	MARCH 13
ERNIE MILLS, JR.	MARCH 13
DENNIS MCLAIN	MARCH 16
GUY SOLIE	MARCH 17
JOHN STADDON	MARCH 19
DOUG BUTLER	MARCH 22
JAY MOSELEY	MARCH 24
MARIE BAKER	MARCH 25
EMILY PAGE	MARCH 27
INGRID WICKER-MCCREE	MARCH 29
BURTON KING	MARCH 30
LARRY CRANE	MARCH 31

Lucia Peel Powe  
(Sponsored By: Newman Aguiar)

Durham Police Chief, C. J. Davis  
(Sponsored By: B.C. Dash)

**2016-2017 ROTARY LEADERSHIP**

RI President: John Germ  
District Governor: Rusine Mitchell Sinclair  
ADG-Area 7: Joyce McKinney

**2016-2017 Club Officers**

President: B. C. Dash  
Immediate Past-President: Lois Deloatch  
President-Elect: Seth Jernigan  
Vice-President: Shelly Green  
Secretary: Mimi O'Brien  
Treasurer: Susan Miller  
Sergeant-at-Arms: Stan Morris  
Finance Advisor: Barry Curtis  
Legal Advisor: Deana Labriola

**2016-2017 Board of Directors**

Andy Esser  
Blake Strayhorn  
Meg Solera  
Marge Nordstrom  
Danielle Kaspar  
Desmond Miller  
Dave Ross  
Arles Taylor  
John Cross

**Club Website Master**

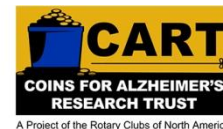
Jay Zenner, Designer; Updates

Product # 2 from Bathroom Innovations --- how about a gymnastics ring hung from the ceiling for those that would rather pull themselves up than push themselves up from the seated position. Those of you who still have knees that can get you up without help need to be thinking ahead anyway.

By the way, Feline Innovations really does exist --- and the product is pretty cool. Check it out at: <http://www.felineinnovations.com/index.html>. When I adopted my cats, they were already de-clawed, but if they weren't, I'd consider it and it would probably be the most attractive accessory in my whole house.

*Submitted By: Jay Zenner*

**ROTARY MINUTE WITH SHARON HIRSCH**



**At last Monday's Rotary Meeting – March 6<sup>th</sup>,  
Durham Rotarians Emptied Their Pockets, Brought Bags of Coins,  
Wrote Checks, and Dropped Cash To Help Meet Our CART Challenge  
**\$1,142.00****

**A Huge Thank You To All!!!**



**SIGN UP NOW!! SEATS ARE GOING FAST!**

**NANA'S FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER WINE DINNER**  
NANA'S RESTAURANT  
2514 UNIVERSITY DRIVE, # 104  
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27707  
**THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017**  
**\$75.00 PER PERSON**

For More Information, Contact Meg Solera, At: [meg.solera@gmail.com](mailto:meg.solera@gmail.com)

**Rotary Club of Durham**  
**Slate of Officers & Directors – 2017-18**

President: Seth Jernigan  
President-Elect: Brady Surles  
President-Nominee: Todd Taylor  
Vice-President: Shelly Green  
Secretary: Emilee Collins  
Treasurer: Geri Lail  
Sergeant-at-Arms: Stan Morris (Appointed By The President)

**New Board Members – 2017-18:**  
Keith Artin; Kim Shaw; Steed Rollins



Club Facebook link: [www.facebook.com/DurhamRotaryClub](http://www.facebook.com/DurhamRotaryClub)  
Executive Secretary: Sharon Lassiter  
[slassiter38@nc.rr.com](mailto:slassiter38@nc.rr.com)