



Rotary Club of Durham

Connect. Collaborate. Serve.



March 20, 2017

Volume XXIV, Issue 30

Post Office Box 51572 – 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

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

SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 20, 2017

Lead Vocal: **SHERRY DEVRIES**

Song Selection: **America, The Beautiful**

Pianist: **SHARON LASSITER**

ROTARY INVOCATION: TBD

DRC RAFFLE:

RI FOUNDATION PROGRAMS

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

Proceeds: ½ RI Foundation; ½ Raffle Winner

Raffle Total On 3/13/2017: \$92.00

Rotary International: **\$46**; Raffle Winner: **\$46**

RAFFLE WINNER: RORY GILLIS

CART FUND

(Coins For Alzheimer's Research Trust)

3/13/2017: \$89.57

VALOR, EXPLOITS OF "FLYING TIGERS" REMEMBERED BY A TIGER'S APPRECIATIVE SON



It's a mark of our Club's diversity that at least a few Members were alive when the Flying Tigers served first notice from the United States to Imperial Japan that freedom claws back.

Most Club Members were not yet born as the Second World War swept up Asia, and a small band of volunteer aviators from America helped the Chinese Air Force slow the advance of Japanese invaders while the free world organized.

But more than a few Members, including this week's correspondent, are old enough to remember building plastic model aircraft of the single-engine P-40 fighter aircraft that the legendary volunteer force utilized. Distinctive painted shark faces snarled from the noses of each fighter aircraft.

History came back to life at Monday lunch as Billy McDonald recalled the valor and exploits of the Flying Tigers. McDonald, author of a book that chronicles his late father's key role as a Flying Tiger, organizer and aviator, told Rotarians that Tigers played a crucial role in supporting China and keeping Japanese military resources tied down. "It was a very nice contribution he made to the war," McDonald said of his heroic father, Bill, with understatement as he recollected his late father's longtime friendship and working partnership with the legendary Claire Lee Chennault. Chennault organized and led the Flying Tigers. Chennault once wrote a newspaper op-ed praising the elder McDonald's skill and bravery and worked closely with McDonald's father to build the group.

Technically and legally the aviators were the 1st American Volunteer Group of the Chinese Air Force in 1941 and 1942. Pilots recruited under presidential authority to be commanded by Chennault came from the United States Army Air Corps, Navy, and Marine Corps. They trained in Burma.

McDonald spent much of the presentation describing his father's early years working with Chennault in aviation, initially in aerial acrobatics. McDonald said that he found his father's papers --- some 30,000 documents brought back from China --- badly deteriorated from moisture decades later. The papers included many letters describing the aviation squad's exploits. He put it into book form with the help of editor, Barbara Evenson. The book, "The Shadow Tiger," is on sale on Amazon.com.

McDonald described how the Flying Tigers demonstrated needed tactical victories against the advancing Japanese invaders when news from Asia was discouraging. Reports of their daring are credited with building national morale during the lowest period of the War for both the United States and Allied Forces. The Tigers instilled hope. In addition to combat value, they added value in the PR Wars. The Flying Tigers were in action in Asia just days after the attack at Pearl Harbor in December 1941 and continued the fight into 1942 before being replaced by the United States Air Force under the command of General Chennault.

McDonald shared the good recent news that both the book and his heroic father's papers have been requested for posterity by The Smithsonian Institute. He said the Chinese Ambassador to Washington created the Flying Unit's memorable name.

The Club thanks McDonald for recalling the bravery of young American aviators, including his father, who hit back hard and served first notice to the Axis power in Asia that the fight for freedom would ultimately be joined by the United States with ferocious will and fortitude.

Submitted By: Mark Lazenby

**CLUB STATISTICS AS OF
MARCH 20, 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
STED ROLLINS	MARCH 06
JAMES HEDRICK	MARCH 08
CRAIG BROWN	MARCH 09
RALPH SNYDERMAN	MARCH 13
ERNE 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)
Susan Amey
(Sponsored By: Shelly Green)
Sara Shea Stephens
(Sponsored By: Indira Everett)

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
Aries Taylor
John Cross

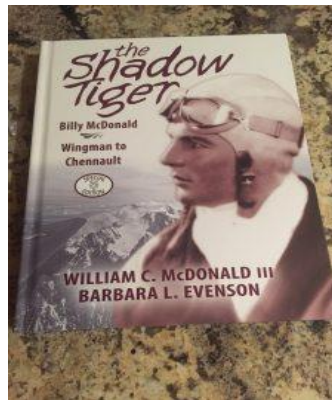
Club Website Master

Jay Zenner, Designer; Updates

Mr. McDonald was introduced by Brady Surles and Scott Long, a Member of The Zhuzhou City Committee of Sister Cities of Durham.

Pictured Below (From Left To Right):

Mark Goodwillie, Co-Chair of The Zhuzhou City Committee, Billy McDonald and his wife, Nancy McDonald.



William McDonald will discuss his book about his father's amazing career as the Chief Pilot with the Flying Tigers and General Chennault as they partnered with the Chinese in their battle with Japan in WW II.

The author's grandfather, Frank Spain, was Rotary International President, 1951-52.



**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

**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

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