



Rotary Club of Durham

Connect. Collaborate. Serve.



February 6, 2017

Volume XXIV, Issue 25

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

- 02/06 **The Nugget – David Baron & Ryan Cocca
American Underground Success Story
Introduction: Rory Gillis**
- 02/13 **Adam Eigenrach – Emily K. Center
Game Plan: College at Emily K. Center
Introduction: Rory Gillis**
- 02/20 **No Meeting!!
In Observance of Presidents' Day Holiday**
- 02/27 **Club Assembly**

SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 6, 2017

SONG & INVOCATION

MY COUNTRY 'TIS OF THEE
KEVIN SPEARS

ROTARY MINUTE & INVOCATION:
CAROLYN AARONSON

DRC RAFFLE: RI FOUNDATION PROGRAMS
Contribution: \$1 Ticket; \$5 – 6 Tickets
Proceeds: ½ RI Foundation; ½ Raffle Winner
Raffle Total On 1/30/2017: \$130.00
Rotary International: \$65; Raffle Winner: \$65
RAFFLE WINNER: DON STANGER
CART FUND
(Coins For Alzheimer's Research Trust)
1/30/2017: TBD

JUSTICE WILLIS WHICHARD



It is rare enough that we have one of the most significant figures in Durham's history present to the Club, but even rarer still to have two in a row. Last week it was Dr. Ralph Snyderman who guided The Duke Medical Center as Chancellor for 15 years; and this week, Justice Willis Whichard. Not only do these men still walk among us, both are Rotarians and Club Members, and both not only had an impact on Durham and North Carolina, but on their professions as well.

Rotarian, lawyer, and retired Judge, Nancy Gordon, introduced Justice Whichard, who she described as a colleague, mentor, and friend. Justice Whichard, as many know, is the only person to serve in both Houses of the State Legislature, as well as the State Appellate Court and Supreme Court, where he was "incredibly well respected" according to Gordon. When he left the Bench at the Supreme Court level in 1998, he served as the Dean of The Campbell University Law School until he retired in 2006.

This background would have given him numerous topics to share with us but what he chose to talk about what his time after retiring from Campbell on The American Bar Association's Standing Committee on the Judiciary. This was especially timely because on Monday we got the word that our new President would announce his nomination to fill the vacant ninth seat on The United States Supreme Court the following evening.

Justice Whichard went through the process the Committee uses to evaluate anyone the President appoints to The Federal Judiciary. It involves reviewing opinions, background, and interviews with others in the profession that have dealt with the nominee. Integrity is always a big issue. Membership on the Standing Committee is an honor but also a major commitment of time.

The history of the Committee goes back 64 years to the Presidency of Dwight Eisenhower, and only one President, George W. Bush, suspended the use of the Committee to vet judicial appointments. Justice Whichard recounted that he had pretty much thought he was finished with his term when US Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia died unexpectedly a little less than a year ago --- on February 13, 2016. When President Obama nominated Merritt Garland, the Committee went into high gear to do the evaluation, which could only be described as honest-to-God *extreme* vetting. Judge Garland passed with flying colors.

I don't know Justice Whichard well, but the times I have encountered him or heard him speak, he seemed as even-tempered and fair-minded as you would expect a Judge to be that had risen to his level of respect and prominence in his profession. Nevertheless, I think I detected a hint that he was a tad peeved when he recounted that a jurist like Merritt Garland who had served his country and profession so well for so many years, who when nominated for the highest Bench in the land was denied even a meeting with any of the Republicans on the Senate Judiciary Committee, much less hearings or a vote on his nomination.

Since I don't trust my failing ears to get everything into my notes, I often resort to Google to check things out. What I found was a page on the ABA Website about the [Standing Committee on the Federal A Judiciary.](#)

**CLUB STATISTICS AS OF
FEBRUARY 6, 2017:**

**Club Members: 247; Active: 215
Active-LOA: 3; Honorary: 29
Staff Positions: 1**



**FEBRUARY 2017
BIRTHDAYS**

MICHAEL KRISTON	FEBRUARY 01
MARK HIGGINS	FEBRUARY 05
ROBERT VIERA	FEBRUARY 06
MARTY MORRIS	FEBRUARY 10
KIM SHAW	FEBRUARY 12
JOE WEBSTER	FEBRUARY 12
LESLIE FISCHER	FEBRUARY 12
CHIP DENTON	FEBRUARY 14
DAX HILL	FEBRUARY 17
EMILEE COLLINS	FEBRUARY 17
ELLEN RECKHOW	FEBRUARY 19
MIKE WOODARD	FEBRUARY 20
ANDREW LAKIS	FEBRUARY 20
BOB STEVENS	FEBRUARY 27

**Durham Police Chief,
C. J. Davis
(Sponsored By:
President 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

There were three (3) things there that were very interesting. The first was the explanation of the Well-Qualified rating given Judge Garland. What was surprising in such a formal document was what were called a "few representative comments." Three that stood out for me were "Garland's integrity is off the scales;" "Garland is the best that there is. He is the finest Judge I have ever met. There is no one who is his peer;" and really, can you do any better than, "He may be the perfect human being." This is a 26-page document that goes on and on like that until you get to Page 22 where they list the distinguished jurists and law professors that participated in the evaluation. You can find Justice Whichard on Page 25.

The second interesting thing is a 30 page "backgrounder" describing the evaluation process. We got the condensed version from Justice Whichard ---- but just skimming the document gives you a sense of how thorough these investigations are.

Finally, there is a short video clip of President Eisenhower thanking the Standing Committee for its service in 1955. Like Justice Whichard, I remember Ike, too. I have a short clip somewhere of him at the first political rally I ever attended. I was 6 or 7 and my grandfather had taken me and shot the film. I like Ike ---- and Justice Whichard, too.

Submitted By Jay Zenner

ROTARY MINUTE WITH PDG NEWMAN AGUIAR



ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVERS LUNCHEON

February 19, 2017
Jewish Community Center
To Volunteer, Please Contact Nancy Gordon:
neg-gordonlaw@mindspring.com



**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



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