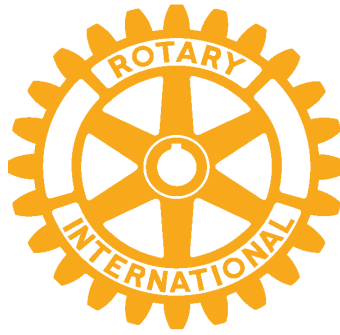


Rotary



Spoke

Thursday Rotary Club of Hickory
Chartered 1921 – Hickory, NC - USA

April 6, 2017

Today's Program: Allison Holtzman and Friends of Hickory Hickory



Friends of Hickory has completed its first project. This is a project that came to your Rotary group as a concept in our minds. We asked you to have faith in our vision: to bring a spectacular public space to Hickory's downtown. We asked the Hickory Rotary Club to fund the concept drawings. Because you took a risk and invested in a group of citizens committed to making Hickory a great place to live, work, and play, we have been able to build successfully a great park.

We celebrate not just that money was raised and a new park was built but that the success lies in the fact that we are adding value to our city.

The park includes art, music, education, unstructured play, water, and areas for rest. If one stops by on a temperate afternoon, there will be several dozen people in the park. This is a picture of community. Because of the central location, one sees different races, different ages, and different socio-economic levels interacting. This innovative public "place-making" is now enabling and strengthening relationships at the heart of our community as well as providing a permanent economic engine at the core of our city.

Because of the constant visitors to the park, Hickory's downtown is a picture of life and youth on a daily basis. This makes the "front door" of our city seem alive and active and makes it more attractive to residents and visitors. It also brings more patrons to the front step of our downtown businesses, giving them a better chance of success.

This park shows that citizens can bring a good idea to the city and make it a reality. We have set the bar high for future projects in this city and want Lowes Foods City Park to be just the first successful project. We, Friends of Hickory, want to continue to invest and inspire and to enable others in our community to do the same.

Club News and Announcements

Introducing New Rotarian Marvin Qualls



Marvin Qualls is a real estate agent in Hickory and works with the firm Coldwell Banker, Boyd and Hassell. He has lived in the area for over a year and is continuing to ingrain himself in the community. Before moving to Hickory, he was a social-studies teacher for the Hillsborough County School System, the fifth largest school district in the United States. He is also a certified welder and spent most of his early working career as a metal fabricator, building everything from motorcycle parts to kitchen equipment. The long hours and vigorous days became a strain on Marvin's body so he went back to school in 2009. After graduating with honors in 2013, he gained his bachelor's degree in history and in education.

Marvin's ultimate goal is to serve the community in which he lives; therefore, he has devoted countless hours to coaching basketball at the YMCA and local recreation centers. He has always been involved in basketball and played for four years through high school. His main drive is his son Kaleb and his four step children, Haley, Madison, Skylar, and Trace.

His hobbies include coaching, fishing, hunting, camping, and hiking, and a special love for his classic Volkswagen Beetle and Harley Davidson. When he is not enjoying the outdoors or riding his motorcycle, he can be seen at car shows all across the Catawba Valley.

Thursday Rotary Club of Hickory Officers and Board of Directors

Officers	July 2016 – June 2017	Board of Directors	Terms Expiring
John Rambo	President	Bruce Bumbarger	June 2017
Mark Teague	President-Elect	Robert Locke	June 2017
Linda Lutz	President-Nominee	Cliff Moone	June 2017
Leslie Ferrell Middleton	Secretary	Jennifer Clark	June 2018
Jan Bohmuller	Assistant Secretary	Dana Killian	June 2018
Bryan Setzler	Treasurer	John Ross	June 2018
Andy Cote	Assistant Treasurer	Tara Bland	June 2019
Mark Seaman	Past President	Gerry Knox	June 2019

Last Week

The Thursday Rotary Club didn't hold its usual meeting last week. Instead, members were invited to the Tuesday Club meeting. At the March 23 meeting, the speaker was Karen Tonks of Time Genies (left, top). Also, Rotarian Idol contestant, Julie Phillips, performed for the club (right, top). President John Rambo presented Lisë Swensson, Executive Director Hickory Museum of Art, and Ginny Zellmer, Education Manager at HMA, a check for \$1000 for the club's annual sponsorship of the Paul Whitener Art Show for middle and elementary school students (bottom photo).



2016 – 2017
Rotary Theme



Rotary
International
John F. Germ
President

District 7670
Gary D. Dills
District Governor
Jason Herman
Assistant D.G.



Of The Things We Think, Say, Or Do:

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build good will and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Next Week

Charles Young will be bringing some of the newest Crawdads to Rotary next week for a Q & A session. The season starts on the road April 6th and at home April 13th.

Club Member Weekly Assignments

Date	04-06-17	04-13-17	04-20-17	04-27-17
Greeter	Jennifer Clark	Joe Britt	NO LUNCH MEETING THIS THURSDAY	NO LUNCH MEETING THIS THURSDAY
Invocation	Dan Duke	Robert Welch		
Visitors	John Olson	Gerry Knox	HOPE GARDEN Volunteer Opportunity	EVENING AT THE CRAWDADS STADIUM
Rotary Moment	John Bates	John Millholland		
Program	Mark Seaman	Charles Young	NO SPOKE	NO SPOKE
Speaker	Allison Holtzman	Crawdads Players		
Topic	Friends of Hickory	Hickory Crawdads		
Raffle	Anthony Laxton	David Williams		
Video Camera	Steve Mull	Tara Bland		

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Rotarians, please e-mail information on your upcoming program or other Rotary event to the editor two weeks in advance of publication. (E-mail text or a Word document; please—no fax.) Visit us on the web at www.hickoryrotary.org

Thursday Rotary Club of Hickory Roster

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Health Care Marketing
JOHN W. BATES PHF •
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† = Senior Active Member
PHF = Paul Harris Fellow
LOA = Leave of absence

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Phil N. Carter †F