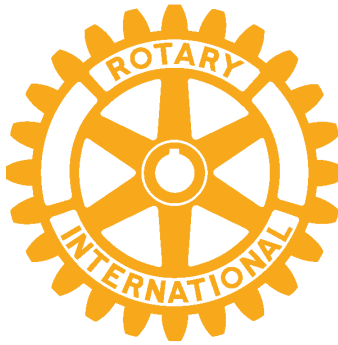


Rotary

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



Spoke

September 14, 2017

Today's Program: Richard Swartzel and the Piedmont Wagon



Our speaker today is Richard Swartzel, president and CEO of CornerStone United. CornerStone is one of the leading service contract providers and administrators in the United States and Canada.

Since 1973, CornerStone has been providing solutions to agents, dealers, and manufacturers in a number of industries including automotive, RV, power sport, marine, HVAC, telecommunications, manufactured housing, electronics, and appliances. The business's Canadian operations are based in London, Ontario. Their United States and corporate operations are housed in the historic Piedmont Wagon building on Main Avenue here in Hickory.

Today, Richard will talk to us about his company's amazing adaptive reuse of Hickory's Piedmont Wagon and Manufacturing Company building. The building,

listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was built in 1889 and housed Hickory's first major industry. The company employed more than 100 workers in the 1890's and turned out 1,000 distinctive wagons per month. At this pace, the company was the one of the country's largest horse-drawn wagon producers.

The current building is all that is left from the demise of the business and a series of fires, stretching into the 1950's. Like many industrial structures, the historic building was used mostly for storage for years. Several parties looked at preserving the Piedmont Wagon along with Preservation NC and the Hickory Landmarks Society, both of which actively marketed the opportunity. In February 2014, Cornerstone United took the leap into the project.

Richard will tell us about how he and his company transformed the structure into a comfortable and useful workspace for his employees, including the importance of the federal and state tax credits.

Club Business and Announcements

A Message from District Governor Bill Biddle

Greetings Fellow Rotarians!!

Focus On Membership

As August has faded, we're reminded that even though the calendar has quickly changed to another month, the number one priority of Rotary District 7670 remains Membership. Growth must be constant and consistent. The most basic formula, if followed, could yield the greatest success in Membership. That is, "each one bring one". If every Rotarian in District 7670 would bring in one new member during Rotary year 2017-2018, we would double in size and strengthen our efforts to strengthen our clubs. Certainly, bringing one new member to Rotary is within reach for each of us. I am making that commitment. Would you join me in being about the business of increasing our effectiveness and service through Membership?

Basic Education and Literacy

As we enter September, the focus of Rotary changes. The focus of Rotary in September is "Basic Education and Literacy." One of the best approaches in having an impact on poverty is reading and education. If children living in poverty have the opportunity to learn to read at a young age, they have a much greater chance to find a way out of poverty. Literacy seems to be the key to providing impoverished children with the means of being on the path to exiting a life-style of poverty. To be sure, a child who begins to read can begin to imagine many things.

I found the following quote from Kofi Annan: "Literacy is a bridge from misery to hope. It is a tool for daily life in modern society. It is a bulwark against poverty, and a building block of development, an essential complement to investments in roads, dams, clinics and factories. Literacy is a platform for democratization, and a vehicle for the promotion of cultural and national identity. Especially for girls and women, it is an agent of family health and nutrition. For everyone, everywhere, literacy is, along with education in general, a basic human right.... Literacy is, finally, the road to human progress and the means through which every man, woman, and child can realize his or her full potential."

I believe that together, we can impact the lives of young children by looking for ways to give children the means to reach their full potential. Consider becoming involved with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, or perhaps you'd like to contribute to Smart Start, a non-profit organization focusing on literacy for children between the ages of 0 to 5. Maybe you'd like to become involved in a local project here in Western North Carolina to help children realize their full potential.

DG Bill

Thursday Rotary Club of Hickory Officers and Board of Directors

Officers	July 2017 – June 2018	Board of Directors	Terms Expiring
Mark Teague	President	Jennifer Clark	June 2018
Linda Lutz	President-Elect	Dana Killian	June 2018
Gerry Knox	President-Nominee	John Ross	June 2018
Leslie Ferrell Middleton	Secretary	Andy Cote	June 2019
Jan Bohmuller	Assistant Secretary	Tara Bland	June 2020
Brian Setzler	Treasurer	Bruce Bumbarger	June 2020
Andy Cote	Assistant Treasurer	Robert Locke	June 2020
John Rambo	Past President	Cliff Moone	June 2020

Last Week



Last week's meeting was a New Membership drive held at the Hickory Museum of Art on Thursday evening, September 7. Philip Reed did a terrific job with the event, and Tara Bland decorated the space to make it very welcoming. Special thanks go to Jon Carfagno, whose program wove the creativity of art into every aspect of society. Two weeks ago, Lindsay Keisler from the Catawba County Chamber of Commerce spoke to our members about where Hickory is heading over the next 25 years according to the Chamber's projections. A photograph of Ms. Keisler is at the left.



2017 – 2018
Rotary Theme



Rotary
International
Ian H.S. Riseley
President

District 7670
William Taylor Biddle Jr
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?

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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

Next Week



Next week's speaker will be Rebecca Hart, who runs Hart Square, one of the county's gems. For over forty years, Hart Square has provided the community with a rescued and restored version of Carolina life of the nineteenth century. It's the largest collection of

original, historical log structures in the United States. From corn cribs and barns, to houses and chapels, and even a few outhouses, the Hart Square village has preserved over ninety original structures, all but two originally sited within a sixty mile radius of Hart Square, which is located south of Hickory about twenty minutes by car.

Club Member Weekly Assignments

Date	09-14-2017	09-21-2017	09-28-2017	10-05-2017
Greeter	Bethany Delany	Robert Welch	David Millholland	Steven Walker
Invocation	Clarence Pugh	Linda Lutz	Thomas Griffis	Bob Shoffner
Visitors	Tony Reed	Dana Killian	David Williams	Cliff Moore
Rotary Moment	Shuford Abernathy	John Olson	John Watts	
Program	Anne Williams	Tara Bland	Linda Lutz	Sarah Willis
Speaker	Richard Swartzel	Rebecca Hart	Madison Yount	Glenn Paige
Topic	Piedmont Wagon Story	Hart Square	Hickory High School Interact Rotary	Navy Seal Foundation
Raffle	Rick Seay	Steven Walker	David Myers	David Williams

Thursday Rotary Club of Hickory Roster

DALLAS C. ABEE JR. †PHF
Architecture

SHUF ABERNATHY III PHF

Housing, Senior Adult

SUSAN ALLSHOUSE PHF

Health Care Marketing

DOUG AUER

Clothing, Custom Design

JOHN W. BATES PHF •

University Teaching

ROBERT A. BISANAR †PHF

MICHAEL BLACKBURN †PHF

Hospital Management

TARA BLAND PHF

Non Profit

JAN L. BOHMULLER PHF

Construction, Administration

JOHN N. BRAY †PHF

JOE BRITT

Past Service

JEFFREY BRONNENBERG

Financial Analysis

BRUCE BUMBARGER †PHF

ROBERT BUMBARGER

†PHF

STAN BUMGARNER

Securities Brokerage

JEFF BUTLER

Insurance, Personal

JON CARFAGNO

Art Museum Director

JENNIFER CLARK

Real Estate

CARL V. CLINE III †PHF

ANDY COTE

Insurance

JOAB COTTON III †PHF

TERRY C. CREASMAN †PHF

BETHANY DELANY

Salvation Army

DAN DUKE

Christianity, Protestant

FORREST FERRELL PHF

Retired Judge

BONITA FERRETTI

Business Office Manager

SANDI FOTHERINGHAM PHF

Education, Public Schools

STEVEN R. FRYE †PHF •

GEORGE P. FURLONG †PHF

Digital Communications

W. RONALD GARDNER †PHF

CLEM GEITNER †PHF

MITZI GELLMAN PHF

Habitat for Humanity

NOAH GEOGHEGAN

Private Bank

KIMBERLY GEORGE

Food Distribution

KATHY GREATHOUSE PHF

Council for the Arts

THOMAS GRIFFIS PHF

Christianity, Protestant

GUY J. GUARINO JR. PHF •

Occupational Health

JEFFREY A. HALE PHF •

Printing, Commercial

JOHN F. HALL PHF

Office Machine Sales

JEFF HINES PHF

Sign Mfg. & Distribution

MARK R. HUCKABEE PHF •

Foam Insulation

ALLEN W. HUFFMAN JR

†PHF

DANIEL F. HUFFMAN †PHF

Ground Water Development

SUSAN H. HUFFMAN PHF

Medical Practice Management

RUSSELL I. ISENHOUR PHF

C.P.A., Tax

G. WALLACE JOHNSON PHF

Christianity, Protestant

MIKE JOHNSON PHF

Automobile Dealer, New

CAROL B. KAMMER PHF

Occupational Therapy

PETER KENDALL

Education, Private College

DANA KILLIAN

Business Development

PEDIE KING

Frame Engineering

DAN W. KIRBY †PHF •

Past Service

GERRY KNOX

United Way

JON LaFONTAINE

Newspaper, Editor

TERRI LIVINGSTON

University Athletics

MEG LOCKE

Hospitality

ROBERT LOCKE

Hospitality

LYNN LOEHR PHF

Arts Council

LINDA LUTZ PHF

Education Systems Support

KEVIN McINTOSH PHF

Law, Business

LESLIE FERRELL

MIDDLETON

Non Profit

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JOHN MILLHOLLAND PHF

Real Estate Management

DAVID MILLSAPS PHF

Medicine, Pediatrics

CLIFF MOONE PHF

Past Service

DAVID R. MOORE PHF

Plumbing & Heating

STEVE M. MULL PHF † •

Grocery, Retail

DAVID B. MYERS †PHF

HOMER L. NEWTON †PHF

JOHN C. OLSON PHF

Financial Planning

JOHN B. ORGAIN IV PHF

Groceries, Wholesale

JILL PATTON PHF

Hosiery Manufacturing

WILLIAM M. PEKMAN †PHF

Medicine, Hand Surgery

AMY POWELL

Employment Agency

CLARENCE PUGH †PHF •

MARVIN J QUALLS

Real Estate Agent

JOHN RAMBO PHF

Community Theater

PHILLIP REED

Marketing

TONY REED PHF

Manufacturing

CHARLES REEVES PHF

Furniture Manufacturing

THOMAS L. RICHARDS †PHF

RUSSELL C. ROBERTS PHF

Employment Agency, Temp.

DOUGLAS RONGO PHF

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JOHN G. ROSS PHF •

Symphony Conductor

SUSAN SAYLOR PHF

Home Care

MARK SEAMAN

Baseball, Minor League

RICK SEAY

Education

BRYAN SETZLER PHF

Investments

ROBERT H. SHOFFNER PHF

Christianity, Protestant

WILLIAM A. SIGMON †PHF

BOB SINGLETARY

U.S. Government

CHARLES M. SNIPES †PHF

J. ALFORD SPIVEY JR. †PHF

ANTHONY STARR

Regional Government

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Counseling

ANDREA SURRATT

City Government

MARK TEAGUE PHF

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MARY TEXER PHF

Gas Products

MICHAEL P. THOMAS

Attorney

STEPHEN M. THOMAS †PHF

SUZANNE TROLLAN

Counseling

J. STEVEN WALKER

Architect

ROBERT E. WARMUTH †PHF

C. JOHN WATTS PHF

Securities Brokerage

ROBERT WELCH PHF

Past Service

JERRI LEE WILFONG PHF

Banking, State

W. AVERY WILFONG †PHF

ANNE R. WILLIAMS PHF

Community College

DAVID WILLIAMS

Barber

SARAH WILLIS

Banking, Commercial

CHARLES R. YOUNG †PHF

FRANK YOUNG III PHF

Financial Advisor

ROSEMARY B. YOUNG PHF

Funeral Home

Bold = Past-President

• = Benefactor

† = Senior Active Member

PHF = Paul Harris Fellow

LOA = Leave of absence

HONORARY MEMBERS:

Jerry D. Caldwell

Phil N. Carter †PHF