

Weekly Online Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Franklin, N.C.

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Wednesday 16 Mar, 2016

Chartered 10 November 1927 • District 7670 • Club 6013. Wednesdays at Noon - First Presbyterian Church

#### STATE OF THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN

By John Short

Mayor Bob Scott and Town manager Summer Woodard, both fellow Rotarian's, were introduced by Past President Nancie Wilson, and gave the club an update on the State of Franklin.

Mayor Scott is in his second term as mayor. Prior to becoming mayor he served II years on the Board of Alderman. Bob graduated from the N.C. School of Governments 2015 Advanced Leadership Corps. He currently serves as a director of the N.C. League of Municipalities and as co-chair of the tax and finance Legislative Action Committee. He has been a Rotarian for over 40 years.



Bob started out by reading a thank -you note from a student whose class he had talked to a few weeks back. The student started by asking Bob if he had any friends followed by asking how old he was. Of course this got a few chuckles from the group. Students can ask the strangest questions. Bob went on to say that government cannot be run as a business be-

cause it doesn't have a product to offer.

Bob and the aldermen don't look at a situation and say we've never done it that way or we've always done it this way. He wants boards to come in with open minds and new ideas. He sees erosion of local control as a major problem for small towns. Municipalities are losing control over making decisions on local issues which is posing a problem. Bob also pointed out the need to keep up to date with new technology. Another concern was how young people have little interest in pursuing a career in the public service sector. As Bob noted, the future of our town lies with our young people.

Summer Woodard spoke next. She was born and raised in Macon County, graduated from Western Carolina University, and became town manager in 2014 after working in various positions with the town. Summer pointed out the town is in sound financial condition. The towns total property value is \$725,317,174. The tax rate for 2014 -15 was 27 cents per \$100 of valuation. For 2015-16 the

town board decided to increase the tax rate to 28 cents per \$100 valuation due to a decrease of 1.014% in assessed value.

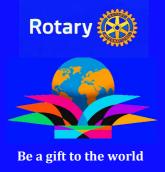
Summer mentioned the town received a \$36,000 Bike and Pedestrian Planning grant from NC DOT with the town making a \$3600 match. Public hearings are currently being held on this project. The town bridge project is scheduled to start this coming August and is expected to take 18-24 months for completion.

Early this fall the town is expected to start construction on the water treatment plant upgrade and expansion using a \$3.5 million loan received from the state revolving loan fund.

Upcoming town festivals include the July 4th festival, annual Pumpkin Fest, Veterans Day Parade and Winter Wonder Land

Thank you Bob and Summer for the update and the fine job you are doing.





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### **Greenway Cleanup-Great Make-up Opportunity**

The date for cleanup of the Greenway behind Franklin Office is being rescheduled because the schools will be on spring break. Stay tuned for the new date. We will have a reschedule date very soon so stay tuned. This is a great make-up if you have missed meetings!

### **Stop Hunger Now April 2nd!**

A joint project between The Sylva Rotary Club, Rotary Club of Franklin and four other clubs to pack meals to be sent to Central America will be taking place April 2nd. The clubs and volunteers plan to pack 100,000 meals from 9a-10a at Sylva First United Methodist Church. The club also is making a financial contribution of \$500. Great makeup opportunity. See



Patsy or Cindy if you would like to sign up.

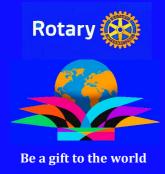
### **B.R.E.W. Fellowship Meeting 3/24**

The next Rotary Club of Franklin's BREW

fellowship meeting will be Thursday, March 24th at The Rathskeller at 5:15 PM. 18 members attended the first meeting. The meetings will involve field trips as well as fellowship at various locations. If



you would like to join see PE Lenny Jordan. Cost is \$20 for a one year membership and \$100 for a lifetime membership. See you soon!!



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### **Membership Minute**

This is the second official posting of Mike Watson sponsored by Sam Blasingame. If you have any comments or concerns, please contact President Sean or any board member.

#### **Dues Increase April 1st.**

The Rotary Club of Franklin formally voted Wednesday February 24th to increase active member dues from \$165 to \$175 per quarter. The club also approved rule of 85 meal costs from \$10 to \$11 and guest meals from \$10 to \$11. The increase will help cover the new meals that start next month. PE Lenny announced cost of installation in June for Rotarians and guests would be \$10 per person instead of \$25 person. Remember dues can also be paid by credit card in addition to check or cash...

Rotary

Club Of Franklin

#### **District Conference 2016!**

President Sean is encouraging everyone to attend the District Conference to be held at the Meadowview Conference and Registration Center in Kingsport, TN on June 10th thru 12th so please mark these dates on your calendar. The conference cost is \$190 and the room rate is \$125 per night. Registration deadline is May 19th. Further information on the conference will be forthcoming. First ten



members to register club will reimburse half of registration cost. You can register on DacDb Now!

#### **Rotarian Birthdays:**

Fred Drexler —Mar 17 Stephanie Smith—Mar 20



#### **Partner Birthdays**

Diane Alexander –Mar 23 Norie Guffey—Mar 22

### **Rotary Service 3/23**

Prayer/Pledge: Ryan Finn

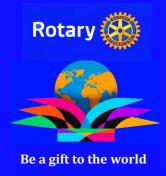
**Greeter:** Vic Perry

#### **Rotarian Anniversaries:**

Stacy Guffey—4 years Karen Kenney—4 years Robbie Holland— 10 years

#### **Wedding Anniversaries**

Tammie and Joseph Farrell—12 years



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#### March is Water and Sanitation Month

Over 750 million people in the world lack access to safe drinking water and more than 250 million people lack access to adequate sanitation facilities. At least 3,000 children die each day from diarrheal diseases caused by unsafe drinking water. Rotary's pro-



jects give communities the ability to develop and maintain sustainable water and sanitation systems and support studies related to water and sanitation.

#### **Please Bring Supplies for Panama!**

Sandy Frazier, our club chair for Project Panama is going back down to that country again **April 1st through the 11th** and is in need of supplies. He is requesting the following supplies to bring with him and he will have his "Panama Suitcase" over the next several weeks available for items to be dropped off.

Those requested items include....

\*Lined Paper \*Note Books \*Pencils/Pens/ Crayons/Markers \*Construction Paper \* Scissors/Rulers \*Small Calculators \*Band Aids/ Gauze \*Anti Biotic Crème \*Aspirin/Ibuprofen/ Tylenol \*Hydro Cortisone \*Anti Fungal \*Eye Drops \*Tums/Antacids \*Multivitamins



Money donations are also accepted. Make checks payable to either St. David's Episcopal Church or Franklin Rotary Charitable Foundation for tax deduction purposes. Memo line

#### **HUMOR**

#### Tell Me This Won't Happen To Us!!

- An elderly Floridian called 911 on his cell phone to report that his car has been broken into. He is hysterical as he explains his situation to the dispatcher: 'They've stolen the stereo, the steering wheel, the brake pedal and even the accelerator!' he cried. The dispatcher said, 'Stay calm... An officer is on the way.' A few minutes later, the officer radios in 'Disregard.' he says 'He got in the back-seat by mistake.'!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Three retirees, each with a hearing loss, were playing golf one fine March day.
   One remarked to the other, 'Windy, isn't it' 'No,' the second man replied 'it's Thurs day.'

And the third man chimed in, 'So am I. Let's have a beer.'



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#### The Rotary Club of Franklin Officers and Board Members 2015-16

District Governor: Billi Black

Assistant District Governor: Ken Nicholson

President: Sean Gibson

President-elect: Lenny Jordan

President-nominee: Judy Chapman

Secretary: Patsy Parker

Treasurer: John Barbee

Vocational Service: Karen Kenney

Community Service: Cindy Rodgers

Youth Service: Amy Manshack-Chair/Larry Hollifield-Co-Chair

International Service: Stacy Guffey

Foundation Chair: Jim Garner

Membership Chair: Linda Harbuck

Program Chair: Vic Perry

Public Image Chair: Debbie Tallent ...Flywheel Editor: Dick Pritts

Sgt. At Arms: Jacob Reiche

Immediate Past President: Susie Ledford

Thanks for all you do in service!

## Next Meeting



Wednesday March

23rd—Club Assembly

with Sean...See You 12

Noon Tartan Hall

# Upcoming

## **Events**



Mar 23—Club Assembly

Mar 24—BREW Fellowship at

Rathskeller

Mar 30—Fifth Week Social Lazy Hiker

**Apr 6**— Read2Me

**Apr I3**– Essay Contest

## 50/50 Drawing

I Ticket —\$1.00

3 Tickets —\$2.00

5 Tickets —\$3.00

10 Tickets—\$5.00

25 Tickets—\$10.00



### 50 50 Drawing

Janice Edgerton won the \$18 pot. The pot will start over next week with 13 cards. So buy tickets to grow the pot!

