



# FLYWHEEL

Rotary 7670

Best Online Club

Bulletin

2015-16



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

Online at franklinrotary.com, like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter

Wednesday 26 April, 2017

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

## FULL SPECTRUM FARMS

### HELPING THOSE WITH AUTISM ACHIEVE SUCCESS

Article by Tom Coley

Nancie Wilson introduced Erin McManus as our program. She is the executive director of Full Spectrum Farms, nonprofit charity dedicated to helping individuals with autism function in their community. Erin developed a passion for individuals challenged with autism while working with high school students in the Jackson County Early College Program of Southwestern Community College. Erin has resided in Sylva for the last fifteen years with her husband, Mike Lavoie and their two children, Wyatt (5) and Maeve (2). Erin has been with Full Spectrum Farms for two years and she has been busy implementing programs and developing facilities that will serve the constituents of Full Spectrum Farms in a positive way.

The term "full spectrum" comes from the fact that individuals who struggle with autism will have a diverse range of issues associated with the disorder. On one end of the spectrum there can be an individual that is almost totally dysfunctional and needs full time care. Somewhere in the middle are those that have learning disabilities, repetitive behavior, or may be sensitive to stimuli such as light, noise or smell. At the other end of the spectrum are individuals that are very close to normal and with training and adjustments can live and work successfully in an everyday environment.

Full Spectrum Farms is a 34 acre farm located in Cullowhee. It provides its services free and is dedicated to helping individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Its goal is to provide a farm community environment where individuals on the "spectrum" can live and work in a healthy, enriching environment. The Farm endeavors to help individuals with ASD develop lifelong learning and living skills through projects such as wood-working, pottery, and weaving, as well as growing and selling organic produce and flowers. Also they have a pet therapy program that creates empathy between the pet and the individual. It produces a calming effect. Another aspect of the program is to provide behavioral training to help develop social and coping skills. Erin along with other volunteers will take the group out to the movies or bowling and then for ice cream. The group will learn how to purchase tickets and negotiate for goods and services on their own in an environment that we would take for granted yet could be very daunting for an ASD person.



Erin introduced Elliott who is an ASD individual. Elliott is twenty-six years old and has been in the Full Spectrum Farms program for the last five years. He proudly told us that part of his responsibility was to be the "main man weed whacker" around the farm. He also works in janitorial maintenance at the local hospital. Elliott shared that he was diagnosed with autism around the age of three or four. He understands that his brain is wired differently and he is always striving to fit in and be "normal". As is often the case with ASD individuals, Elliott has abilities and skills that excel in other areas. He is a strong visual learner and can fix small engines, and appliances. He is also proficient with computers.

Erin told us that donations and volunteers are their life blood at the Farm and appealed to us for any help to help make their goals of better and more comprehensive services a reality. For more information please visit [www.FullSpectrumFarms.org](http://www.FullSpectrumFarms.org).



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## Back Packs Great Again!

Community Service Chair Patrick Betancourt announced Wednesday that the club did over 600 back packs in less than two hours! Great work once again and reminding everyone the next one will be Monday May 22nd at Care Net from 4-6p. This is a great way for new members to get involved. If you need a makeup this is another great way to do it.



## Welcome John!

On Wednesday the Rotary Club of Franklin inducted their newest member John

Wert. John is the outreach director for Macon Jackson Habitat for Humanity. John is sponsored by AG Sean. Let's give John a big Rotary Club of Franklin welcome!



## Student of the Month!

On Wednesday Rotarian Gary Shields recognized the April Student of the Month...congrats to Megan Hammaker, senior at FHS. Megan is an honor student, member of the FHS Swim Team and secretary of the FHS Interact Club. She also plans on attending WCU this fall! Great job Megan!



## Foundation Contributions Update

Latest foundation update is we are over \$154 per capita on annual giving. Still have over 40 members or so that have not yet contributed. Mike Norris-foundation chair recently stressed the importance of making your foundation contributions and you have an opportunity to make it very easy through Rotary Direct. As of now there are currently 17 club members enrolled. See Mike and he'll get you started!!

## Rotary Service

5/3/17

Greeter: TBA

Prayer/Pledge/4 Way: AG Sean





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# LAST FLYWHEEL IN 9 WEEKS!

Volunteer to be Flywheel editor! Or you have to look at **THIS** face every week until July 1st....





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## IF YOU WOULD STILL LIKE TO GO TO ATLANTA IN JUNE.....

There are still some monies available to partially reimburse cost of convention registration. See President Lenny if you are interested. Proud to say District 7670 is currently second in the WORLD on registrants for Atlanta RI Conference in June!

# Fred's Funnies



More Chuckles....





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## The Rotary Club of Franklin Officers and Board Members 2016-17

District Governor: Gary Dills

Assistant District Governor: Sean Gibson

President: Lenny Jordan

President-elect: Judy Chapman

President-nominee: Janet Greene

Secretary: Patsy Parker/Debbie Tallant

Treasurer: Jim Garner

Vocational Service: Karen Kenney/Rich Peoples

Community Service: Patrick Betancourt/Jim Wilson

Youth Service: Larry Hollifield/Belinda Petricek

International Service: Stacy Guffey /Susie Ledford

Foundation Chair: Mike Norris/Vic Perry

Membership Chair: Amy Manshack/Paul Garner

Program Chair: Janet Greene/Vic Greene

Public Image Chair: Debbie Tallent/Bill Baker

Flywheel Editor: Sean Gibson

Sgt. At Arms: John Hubsch/Sam Blasingame/Mike Watson

Immediate Past President: Sean Gibson

*Thanks for all you do in service!*

## Upcoming Events



**May 3-Bea Exchange Student**

**May 10-Global Scholar  
Jenny Lee**

**May 17-David Madoff, Rotary Work in South Africa**

**May 24-Top Five**

## 50 50 Drawing

1 Ticket —\$1.00

3 Tickets —\$2.00

5 Tickets —\$3.00

10 Tickets—\$5.00

25 Tickets—\$10.00



## Next Meeting 5/3

## Bea, Our Exchange Student..See you 12 Noon Tartan Hall!

No winner in the 4/26 50 50 that rolls over to 5/3. The pot is over \$140 dollars! Buy a ticket..you could be a winnah!

