

### Webster Enterprises

### by John Hubsch

Nancy Wilson( birthday girl ! ) introduced today's program speaker, Joe Rigdon, CEO of Webster Enterprises (WE). WE is a non-profit organization located in Sylva, NC, and it serves Macon, Jackson and Swain counties. It was formed in 1976 and currently employs about 65 people. Accompanying Rigdon was Henry Dowling, We Board Chairman. They presented a short video that was produced by our own Paul Garner.

The Mission Statement for WE is to provide training, education and opportunities for people who have disabilities or other barriers to employment, so that these people can achieve their full potential while at the same time provide quality products to customers.

WE has been producing disposable medical devices as

their main source of income for many years. In 2012, they expanded to include a sewing production division. WE staff members work with more than 100 people annually to improve their job skills and employment chances. This includes resume preparation, job interview skills, job searches and on-the-job training. Rigdon explained that there are 3 phases to their program: Job Evaluation; Job Placement; and Job Support. Most WE employees (trainees) are at WE for 3 to 6 months and about 75% of them are then able to find work elsewhere. WE provides up to 90 days of on-the-job coaching at their new jobs. Former WE employees can be found working at Ingles, Wal-Mart, etc.

Rigdon noted that WE is the only work training and rehabilitation employer in Western North Carolina. He stressed the importance to those in attendance today that WE depends heavily on employee referrals, whereby everyday citizens submit the names of individuals who could benefit from WE's services. The phone # for WE is <u>828-586-8981</u>.





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

#### **Ashlie's Announcements**

**Oct 22:** A celebration of life service for Ruth O'Bryan will be held on Sunday, Oct 22nd at 1:30pm at Franklin First United Methodist Church.

\*A prayer request from Bud Siler's wife, Theresa, has been asked for Jim Wilson—Having a Heart Cath completed on Monday, Oct. 9th.

**Oct. 24**—Packing backpacks at CareNet—Rotary will donate \$1 to Polio Plus for EVERY back pack packed on this day since it coincides with World Polio Dat

**Nov. 4**—Foundation Banquet—Renaissance Hotel, Asheville, NC. The cost is \$55 per person.

**NOVEMBER**—RLI Training—IN HENDERSON-VILLE(the Closest it's Ever been) Funding available for Interested Individuals



### **Volunteer Opportunity**

### It's Time to Pack Those Backpacks!!!

Franklin Rotary will pack backpacks for CareNET the last Monday of every month from 4-6pm. That would mean we are scheduled for the following dates:

-Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>—This will coincide with World Polio Day. Rotary will donate \$1 for EVERY backpack that is packed on this date!

### -Monday, November 27th

-Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> \*\*the last Monday of Dec. is the 25<sup>th</sup> so we will schedule Dec. for the 18<sup>th</sup>







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

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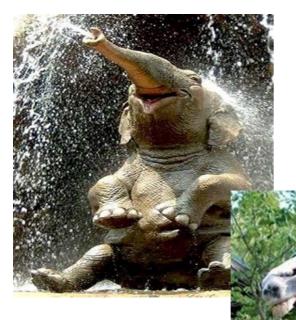
Wednesday October 4, 2017

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# **Fred's Funnies**

## Need a Smile? I know I do!





My humans are jerks.



my kitty!

HIL

I SAID BE QUIET!

DON'T MAKE ME COME IN THERE!



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Meeting next Week

Kelly Wangaman– LAN Vwa

### Upcoming Events



**Oct 11—**LAN Vwa: Helping Children in Guatemala receive education through technological/online resources.

**October 24**—Back Pack Packing at CareNet

Nov 4—Foundation Baquet

**NOVEMBER**—RLI Training—IN Hendersonville: Funding available for Interested Individuals

## 50 50 Drawing

1 Ticket —\$1.00 3 Tickets —\$2.00 5 Tickets —\$3.00 10 Tickets —\$5.00 25 Tickets —\$10.00





No One Won 50/50— Maybe Next Week!