

Bulletin #2
July 19, 2007

“THE PALMETTO,” weekly bulletin of the Rotary Club of Sumter–Palmetto

Deadline for Bulletin news & information
is Thursday at 5pm. Please contact
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or ncollura@bandt.com.



2007-2008
Rotary International Theme:
“Rotary Shares”

ON THE WEB: Rotary International: www.rotary.org
District 7770: www.rotary7770.org
Makeup: www.rotaryclubone.org

SPECIAL ROTARY MONTHS:

CART FUND MATCHING SPONSOR:

Thanks to Tim Murphy/
Kolb Law Firm.

CURRENT CLUB MEMBERS: 54
MEMBERS PRESENT TODAY: 35

ABSENT ROTARIANS:

Curt Ackerman, Will Andersen, Gloria Bateman, Hugh Betchman, Grier Blackwelder, Art Bradham, Jay Davis, Laurens Floyd, Sherill Holder, Henry Holland, Rick Levy, Deron McCormick, Charles McCreight, Tim Murphy, Bill Painter, Philip Scarborough, Chris Wiernicki, Earl Wilson

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Pete Watcher (until 10/1/07)

MAKE-UPS:

Danny Chandler, Florence West, 6/21; Scott Kinder, online, 7/3; Russell Hurst, Sumter, 7/9; Danny Chandler, Florence West, 7/12; C.J. Troyer, online, 7/19; Joe Sublette, C.J. Troyer, Foundation meeting, 7/20

VISITING ROTARIANS:

Angus McDuffie, Sumter

GUESTS:

Karen McCoy (Lauretha McCants)

BIRTHDAYS:

Carl McIntosh, born July 26
Laurens Floyd, born July 30

ANNIVERSARIES:

Doug & Kathryn Horne, July 26
Rick Levy, July 29 (Club anniversary)
Talmadge Tobias, July 29 (Club anniversary)
Harold Nixon, July 31 (Club anniversary)

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

Lee Holloway has resigned from our Club.

SCHOLARSHIP TRUST FUND UPDATE:

Today we elected Curtis Chandler to a five-year term to replace Sam Crawford on the Scholarship Trust Fund Board of Trustees since Sam's term has expired. Curtis joins Susan Trautsch, Grier Blackwelder, Harold Nixon and Chuck Gibbs on this committee.

TODAY'S PROGRAM:

Today, our own Murrell Smith gave us a Legislative Update and Review. He told us that in his opinion, this was a very successful session this year. They spent a majority of the month of June in session after adjourning during the first week of the month—DOT reform, the budget, and the Governor's vetoes were all topics that extended this year's session. DOT reforms are necessary after the legislative audit that was performed found mismanagement and wasted dollars in that department. The Highway Commission was abolished and a new seven-member board created based on Congressional Districts (so we won't have our own Commissioner since the Fifth and Sixth Districts are combined.); the new Transportation Secretary will be appointed by the Governor. The new Transportation Board will have to rank and approve all projects; due to rising gasoline and asphalt prices, updates to infrastructure may not come as quickly until there's more money in the budget. Murrell also discussed the reforms to the current Worker's Compensation system since it has had room for abuses since the insurance industry was deregulated in 1998. Overall, our state's economy is doing well—we had a budget surplus this year, partly due to increases in sales tax collections. More money is being put toward parks/recreation/tourism to attract more visitors to our state. However, we still need more industrial recruitment, so increasing the Department of Commerce budget will help that process along. On the local level, Murrell said that issues like a youth park, the Central Carolina Technical College Allied Health Sciences program, and school district consolidation will all still be on the calendar when the Legislature reconvenes, as will the cigarette tax. One piece of legislation Murrell is happy about is the Criminal Gang Prevention Act, which will help address the gang problem by increasing law enforcement access to information on local gang activity to help curb this growing problem in our state.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

The Sumter Club's program is Art Bradham and Scott Bell on Preservation/Restoration of Historic Buildings

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Greeters: Bill Painter, Tony Wrobel
Speaker: Nancy Cataldo on “The Role of the American Red Cross in Disasters”
Sunshine: Curtis Chandler

Tuesday, July 31, 2007

The Sumter Club's program is Mark Hammond, SC Secretary of State

Thursday, August 2, 2007

Greeters: Chuck Gibbs, Patty Wilson
Program: Dan Davis
Speaker: Rick Melton, GSE Team Leader to Wales
Sunshine: Philip Scarborough

Thursday, August 9, 2007

Greeters: Rick Levy, Lou Warmoth
Program: Vonda Turner
Speaker: District Governor Mary Martin
Sunshine: Hugh Betchman

Thursday, August 16, 2007

Greeters: Nancy Collura, Glynn Webster
Program: Bob Harris
Speaker: Clay Smith
Sunshine: J Seth

Thursday, August 23, 2007

Greeters: Russell Hurst, Tony Wrobel
Speaker: J Seth on “Rotary Membership”
Sunshine: Murrell Smith

GOLF BALL CHALLENGE:

Congratulations to Harold Nixon, who won this week; the pot was \$96.

Next week, we'll return to the “Queen of Spades.”