



Bingo: Joel Long

Prayer/Pledge: Dan Boyd

Health & Happiness: Pet Sumner

Sgt.-at-Arms: Veronica Feduniec

Welcome to our February 26th meeting

We are glad you are here!



Forestview Interact Students

Sheldon Burrell

February Birthdays

Michael Applegate	26 th
Veronica Feduniec	21 st
David Fogarty	14 th
Ed Jackson	9 th
Doug Morgan	1 st
Lindsay Nelson	13 th
Jennifer Purdee	8 th
Richard Rankin	9 th
Janet Sam	17 th
John Watts	24 th
Peter Wittenberg	23 rd



February Club Anniversaries (Years)

Jesse Cole	5
John Judson	33
David Kirlin	32
Lindsay Lockett	18
Chris McCallister	3
Jennifer Purdee	4
Adam Queler	2
Charles Saunders	28
Jim Stewart	46
Natalie Tindol	22



Gastonia East Board Members

Morgan Rhoney, President	Jennifer Purdee, Sargent-at-Arms	Lindsay Nelson, Membership
Page Morgan, President Elect	Julia Allen, Service Chair	Barry Wright & Mike Stanforth, Rotary Foundation
Jason Ramey, Secretary	Chris McCallister, Interact Chair	Kelly Morris, International Service
Steve D'Avria, Treasurer	John Pea, Club Programs Chair	Sonya McGraw – Immediate Past President

Upcoming Events

March 5th	RoboGaston & Robotics in Gaston County Schools	
March 12th	Emilee Syrewicze, Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation	Board Meeting
March 19th	Terry Cox, Techworks	
March 26th	Jesse Cole, author of Find Your Yellow Tux	

Training the next generation of Rotary Leaders

By Marty Helman, past governor of District 7780 and a member of the Rotary Club of Boothbay Harbor, Maine, USA

I was fortunate enough to serve as a training leader at this year's International Assembly, an annual training exercise for incoming Rotary leaders. It is a rarified atmosphere. All of us training leaders were well aware of both the privilege and responsibility wrapped up in the invitation to train the *next* generation of Rotary leaders.

There were 40 of us selected to serve, one from each Rotary zone and then a few extras for language needs. About a third were there for their second (and usually final) time. Valarie Wafer and her husband, Mark, from Canada were there for a second year. I also knew other Rotarian friends in the group, Rodolfo Bianchi from Guatemala and Stephen Mwanje from Uganda who I'd met through service activities in those countries; Peter Kyle from Washington, D.C. who I'd worked with on Rotary Peace Center matters, and Brian Hall from Louisiana who I'd met during a Friendship Exchange back in 2012-13. Each of us first-years was paired with a second-year mentor, whose job it was to demystify the process. My mentor Nicki Scott from Chicago answered questions that ranged from how best to master the material to what to wear to avoid strangling oneself with the interpreter equipment.

We received the curriculum and training leader's guide just after Thanksgiving, and were strongly advised to be familiar and comfortable with *all* the material well before arriving in San Diego. So now you know how I spent my holidays — and why the Helman Christmas cards never got mailed this year. I flew to San Diego two days early, so that I would be well over jet lag before our training began. This proved to be a wise decision. From the time we registered and picked up name badges through to the end of the assembly 10 days later, our days were a blur of prepping, setting up, facilitating, and prepping again. Every day started with a session designed to make good facilitators better, and continued with practice sessions where we were able to use the techniques we were learning, followed by constructive criticism. Every day ended with fellowship in the hospitality suite and (at least for me) a bedtime that recognized the early start we would be making the next day. Our training was conducted with simultaneous interpretation from Rotary's phenomenal global communications staff. Sometimes this required double translation: For example, if Japanese, Spanish, and English speakers were all together in a breakout room, the job required translation from Japanese to English and then from English to Spanish (or vice versa). While the interpreters' capabilities are impressive, this meant that there was always a slight delay before the question would be "heard" around the room. This delay required some getting used to, but was well worth it. This year, for the first time, some of the breakout rooms during the assembly itself were bilingual. Preliminary results suggest that the Portuguese, Korean, and Japanese incoming governors were very pleased to be able to interact with classmates from beyond their home countries. Being a training leader is one of those Rotary opportunities that has to be experienced to be truly understood. But as I think back over the past few weeks, one parallel comes to mind. In the for-profit world, training of this caliber would easily cost thousands of dollars. It comes with both a commitment and a promise. A commitment that Rotary values me as a member, and a promise that I can help create a renewed, invigorated – and inspired – Rotary. May it be so.



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