



Bingo: Kelly Morris

Prayer/Pledge: Sonya McGraw

Health & Happiness: John Watts

Sgt.-at-Arms: Craig Kluttz

Welcome to our April 9th meeting
We are glad you are here!
Terry Cox, TechWorks



April Birthdays

- Michael Dickson- April 8th
- Luke Ellington- April 29th
- Edie Hancock- April 29th
- Page Morgan- April 30th
- Charles Saunders- April 27th
- Jim Stewart- April 24th
- Pet Sumner- April 2nd



Member Anniversaries

of Yrs

Dick Akers	5
Jim Funderburk	24
Sonya McGraw	16
Page Morgan	16



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

April 16th	Interfaith Trialogue of Gaston County
April 23 rd	The Tony's Ice Cream Story with Louis Colleta
April 30th	Oral Health Today – Will Current Jr., DDS
May 7th	Piedmont Charter Musicians
May 14th	The Work of Shriners Hospitals – John Stanley

Plant trees, we'll plant seaweed

In early March, members of my club joined the [Operation Crayweed](#) team at Mona Vale Beach to restore the denuded reef on the Sydney shore coastline. We decided to help plant a Crayweed forest as part of our unique response to RI President Ian Riseley's challenge for Rotary members to plant trees around the world. Underwater trees, you see, are just as important, if not more so, to restoring the health and vitality of the world's oceans.

Time and development have not been kind to the Sydney reefs. Pollution killed off a lot of the Crayweed before better sewage treatment and extended outfalls were put in place in the late 1980s. The quality of water has improved dramatically. Unfortunately, seaweed forests do not return all by themselves. Enter Operation Crayweed, which has already had great success in eight sites around Sydney. The Mona Vale reef site will be the ninth seaweed forest planted.

Club members gathered, measured, weighed, recorded and observed the quality of marine life on the individual kelp plants. These had been transported there from an earlier collection in the day from well-established reefs south of Sydney. Fifteen healthy plants were then put into each of nine pre-numbered labelled green mesh bags then closed and fixed with cable ties. Three scuba divers from the University of New South Wales/Sydney Institute of Marine Sciences of **Operation Crayweed** (including leader, **Dr 'Ziggy' Marzinelli and his team**) floated them out from the beach to a predetermined reef site and anchored them down with clips and ropes with five preplaced stainless-steel anchors to 45 bolts in the reef.

They were placed into about three to four meters of water, which took several. Our members were busily engaged in their scientific activities and sealing the mesh bags and carrying them to waiting divers. After repopulation of the reef, these nets and anchors will be removed.

The sites will now be revisited periodically. The Crayweed 'forest' that will emerge in the next 6 to 12 months will gradually take over the reef in coming years allowing the return of crayfish, fish, and all manner of other marine life to restore the natural underwater habitat lost in past years and for future people to enjoy.

Individual plants don't have the effect a forest will, but clubs or members wishing to help can purchase these underwater "trees" to contribute to a future planting by contacting our club. Look at it as a way of responding to Riseley's challenge if you wish. There is plenty of shoreline reef off of Sydney in need of restoration. Operation Crayweed will give us periodic updates on the health of the forest of weed.



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