



Bingo: Bill Moore

Prayer/Pledge: Don Buckner

Health & Happiness: Natalie Tindol

Sgt.-at-Arms: Mark Epstein

Welcome to our May 21st meeting

We are glad you are here!



**Gastonia
East Talks**

May Birthdays

Bo Abernathy- 13th
John Collier- 16th
Walter Gray- 23rd
Nancy Paschall- 10th
Royce Robinson- 7th
Patrick Smith- 7th
Leigh Spach- 10th
Jennifer Stultz- 20th



May Club Anniversaries (Years)

Skip Bradley	35
Kathy Gallman	20
Craig Kluttz	1
Tim Paschall	27
Pet Sumner	2
Julian Timmons	46
John Watts	28
Vincent Wong	1



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

May 28th	No Meeting – Memorial Day Holiday
June 4th	The Outreach Program – Greg Wilkerson
June 11th	Secure Workplaces w/Sgt Scott Norton & Ofc. Jackie Quinley ////Board Meeting
June 21st	Social at Borderline Farm

Literacy center dedicated to Pakistan Rotarian

By Michelle Tanner, past president Rotary Club of Matamata, New Zealand

A random Facebook message with an invitation to present at a Rotary polio conference in Lahore in 2014 was the start of an amazing journey that took me from rural New Zealand to Pakistan and culminated in a project to improve the education of children of garbage pickers in Jhang, Pakistan.

While I was in Lahore, Rotarian Khalid Haider invited me to his home city of Jhang, three hours west of Lahore. There he took me to visit the Rotary Education Center Dar-ul-Ehsan, established in 2002 and funded by his Rotary club, Jhang Saddar. I was impressed at the efforts of the local Rotarians, and appalled that, in the 21st century children were educated in these conditions. They wrote on slates! There were hardly any books, almost no furniture, in fact virtually nothing. Just a willingness on the part of the children to learn and of the teachers to teach. The Rotarians were doing all they could but they needed help.

I returned to New Zealand to seek the support of my fellow Rotarians. In July 2016, when I became president, this was our international project, supported by a district grant.

I emailed the news to Khalid who went into action rallying support from other overseas Rotarians who had visited and pledged support and setting up a Facebook page. Building work commenced in January 2017 and was completed in months.

Sadly, Khalid died just weeks before the opening ceremony but he saw the work completed and we dedicated the development to him. The inauguration of the “Rtn. Mian Khalid Haider Block, Rotary Literacy Centre” was a day that I will remember forever. The transformation was stunning. Classrooms renovated and furnished; new classrooms built; and computers, tables, chairs, blackboard, and books installed. In addition, our new Interact club’s first project, a book drive, provided additional books for the pupils. But it was the children that made the day. They glowed with excitement and anticipation. I look forward to following their progress.



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<http://www.gastoniaeastrotary.org/>