

This ROTOGRAM is the official bulletin of the Charlotte North Rotary Club of Charlotte, NC U.S.A.

Editor for this edition: Otis Crowder

VOL. XLX15, No. 3 July 30th, 2007

New Officer Installation Month

July 23rd MEETING

Presiding: President Brooke Dunwoody

Pledge, Song & 4 Way Test: Jim Fretwell

Invocation: Chief Colbert

Health, Happiness and CART: Scott Garner

Introduction of Guests: Bill Farkouh

Attendance:
 CNR 35
 Charlotte Area Clubs 4

Birthdays This Week:
 Paulette Griffin  July 30

Anniversaries This Week:

None

CNR Web Site: www.charlottenorthrotaryclub.org

District Web Site: www.rotarydistrict7680.org

Patty: pheindl@crowdercc.com

TODAY'S PROGRAM

July 30th Pat Riley – Allen Tate Company
 Charlotte Real Estate Update

FUTURE DATES

August 6th – Club Assembly
 Club Plans for 2007-2008

August 13th – Graham Wilson, District Gov.
 Official Club Visit

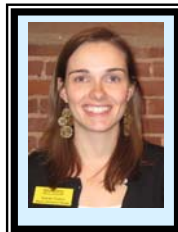
August 20th – Dan Caldwell, CNR Member
 Nuclear Power as an Energy Source

LAST CALL

Family night at the Ball Game
 Friday Night, August 10th
 Dinner and Game Ticket \$22/person

JULY 23rd MEETING

President Brooke Dunwoody introduced our speaker today, **Sarah Porter**. Sarah is the Operations Manager for Classroom Central.



Sarah Porter, Operations Manager
 Classroom Central

In early 2000, a team of business leaders from Charlotte Chamber's Center City Area Council set out to provide free supplies to the children of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School system. This team of community leaders conducted a feasibility study to gauge the level of need of students and teachers in the Charlotte community. The number of children in need of basic materials was staggering. The Charlotte Chamber, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and area businesses committed to this vision and the first steps were underway to create a "free store" for teachers.

Part of Sarah's job is to oversee the Backpacks Across Charlotte project. Backpacks Across Charlotte is a project started by Classroom Central that targets low income elementary schools to provide children with tools needed to enjoy a successful school year.

Elementary schools targeted by Backpacks Across Charlotte have the highest level of need and more than 50% of students are on free or reduced lunch. More than \$9,500,000 worth of school supplies have been distributed to 120 high-needs schools since Classroom Central's inception.

Classroom Central's goal is to equip students to effectively learn by collecting and distributing free school supplies. \$35.00 provides one student a backpack and supplies needed to begin the school year. A Refill Program will be needed to restock each student's backpack by December.

Our Club voted to raise funds needed to fund backpacks and supplies for all children at Shamrock Elementary School. Each member of our Club will need to raise \$300 by August 6th in order to get the supplies ordered and distributed by the beginning of the new school year. We are also encouraged to participate

in filling the backpacks at Classroom Central's warehouse as well as deliver them to the children. Our participation will show the children that we care.

If you have any questions **Sarah Porter** may be contacted at 704-377-1740 or email www.classroomcentral.org.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WOW! The results from Monday's meeting have been amazing so far. As of Thursday, July 26th, we have enough funds to provide Backpacks and school supplies to 128 children! Well Done Charlotte North! Our goal to provide for all 400 students at Shamrock Gardens is a very real possibility. Imagine the looks on the faces of the students at Shamrock Gardens when we deliver the backpacks and school supplies.

We will continue the Backpack Campaign until Monday, August 13th. We have to place the order the next day. Remember to make your checks payable to **CLASSROOM CENTRAL**. Doing so will make your donation a tax deductible charitable contribution.

The sooner we reach our goal, the more flexibility we will have for a work day to assemble the Backpacks and school supplies.

Thank you for your support of this project. We are well on our way to making a big difference in the lives of the Shamrock Garden families.

Thank you,

President Brooke

District Governor Official visit is August 13th. Let's have 100% attendance!