



# Rotary Spoke

Hickory Rotary Club

Established 1921



## Today's Program

January 15, 2009



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Foreclosures are a hot topic across the nation. Today's program will feature a presentation by Sherry Long of the Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG). She will discuss her involvement, as well as local government strategies that deal with foreclosure prevention.

Regionally the foreclosure rate continues to rise. In 1998, Catawba County had 200 foreclosure starts. In 2008, there were 794 starts by the end of October with the number expected to reach 1,000 by the end of the year. The WPCOG serves as a Housing and Urban Development Certified Housing Counseling Agency and assisted over 200 families in 2008. The existing foreclosure prevention program is very successful, helping 184 families remain in their homes. However, the outreach for the program has been limited due to the current number of staff available to assist homeowners.

The WPCOG was awarded a \$100,000 grant from Bank of America/Countrywide to assist in their counseling efforts. The grant funds combined with funding from all of the local governments will allow the WPCOG to hire an additional staff person to assist families facing foreclosure.

Ms. Long has been with the Western Piedmont COG for over twenty-two years, assisting the four-county Greater Hickory Metro area with economic and community development activities. Housing rehabilitation, water and sewer line installation, non-profit development, first-time homebuyer down payment assistance, loss mitigation counseling and job creation are programs offered to the citizens and local governments of the Greater Hickory Metro.

Sherry's responsibilities include program development, project administration and supervision of eleven employees. She is a Nationally Certified Housing Counselor and is very active with the Foreclosure Mitigation Assistance Program at the Council of Governments

Ms. Long is a native of Catawba County and holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Western Carolina University.

John Tippett will introduce the speaker.



President  
Lamar  
Mitchell

I had the privilege of spending part of this past Saturday morning talking about leadership with LRU's new freshman cohort of NC Teaching Fellows. Teaching Fellows are teaching candidates who have been awarded scholarships for exhibiting higher than average aptitude for their profession, and in exchange for the scholarship, they commit to teaching in NC for four years. The purpose of this session with them on leadership is to begin instilling the idea in these young students that as teachers they are leaders in their classrooms, and that the primary outcome of their work is to produce future leaders in their students.

The world needs strong leaders now more than ever, and I have long believed that Rotary is a positive source of leadership in this deeply troubled world. Through our adherence to the Four-way Test, we Rotarians pledge to "be faithful to the letter and to the spirit of the ethical codes of my vocation, to the laws of my country, and to the moral standards of my community." Another articulation of the expectation that we have of each other as Rotarians could just as easily apply to our teachers: "Offer my vocational talents to provide opportunities for young people, to work for the relief of the special needs of others, and to improve the quality of life in my community." Doing this even when no one is looking is the mark of a true leader.

As we work toward Rotary Unlimited, I hope we all bear in mind the ultimate purpose for this project. Like our proceeds from last year, the money we raise with this project will go to the support of valuable education programs that develop skills, and therefore leadership, in our students beyond the three R's that they learn in the classroom. We should also be contemplating how we can not only raise money for such a worthy cause but how we might also take the next step of offering our vocational talents "to provide opportunities for young people." Writing a check has its place, but a gift of time and heart is one that will have deep and lasting impact on our community's future leaders. Our young people are not likely to know, or care, how much money we gave to a particular program, but you can bet that they will remember the time you spent with them for the rest of their lives.

## Make-Up Opportunities

### Monday

- 12:00 pm Blowing Rock Rotary, Chetola Resort
- 12:30 pm Lincolnton Rotary Club, First Baptist Church

### Tuesday

- 6:44 am Caldwell County Rotary, Lenoir Golf Club
- 12:00 pm Lake Hickory Rotary Club, Lake Hickory Country Club
- 12:00 pm Granite Falls Club, Granite Falls Civic Center
- 12:00 pm Valdese Rotary Club, Rock School Building
- 12:15 pm Newton-Conover Rotary, Catawba Country Club
- 12:15 pm Statesville Rotary Club, Statesville Country Club

### Wednesday

- 7:00 am Hickory Sunrise Rotary Club, Lenoir-Rhyne Bear's Lair
- 7:30 am Denver Lake Norman Rotary, Westport Country Club
- 12:00 pm Taylorsville Rotary Club, First Presbyterian Church
- 12:15 pm Morganton Rotary Club, Morganton Community House

### Thursday

- 7:00 am Catawba Valley Rotary Club, Rock Barn Country Club
- 7:30 am Lincolnton Sunrise Rotary, Lincoln Country Club
- 12:30 pm Greater Statesville Rotary, Statesville Country Club

### Friday

- 12:15 pm Lenoir Rotary Club, Cedar Rock Country Club

### Anytime

[www.rotaryclubone.org](http://www.rotaryclubone.org)

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## 50 Years Ago This Week at Hickory Rotary Club

- Some of the worries and compensations of his job as College President were noted by Voigt Cromer, head of Lenoir-Rhyne College. "College presidents constitute this country's smallest profession. The total number actively engaged in this work is less than 2,000 – about 1,886 to be exact – and more than 500 of these head two-year colleges. Sometimes the job may seem to be a nightmare, but the best way I as a minister of the Gospel can register my true judgment is by saying that it is the only work that can keep me away from the parish ministry for ten years."
- President Mitchell announced that \$200 has been raised for the Hickory High School Band to take training at Daytona Beach, Florida.
- Dr. Walter T. Nau gave his personal views to the Rotarians in urging the members to support the proposed bond issue for the refurbishing of the Municipal Auditorium. He outlined how much of an asset the auditorium is to this community and said that for a relatively small investment the hall can be put into excellent condition to serve the needs of all local groups that need a medium-sized auditorium.



2008 - 2009  
Rotary Theme

Rotary International

D.K. Lee,

President

District 7670

David W. Sink, Jr.

District Governor

Don Fuller,

Assistant D.G.

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## Rotary Unlimited—February 26

We have just 42 days until Rotary Unlimited!

Have you bought or sold your two tickets to the event and procured at least one auction item?

If you have any questions, please contact:

John Tippett (485-4237 at work, or [john.tippett@wpcog.org](mailto:john.tippett@wpcog.org) ) or  
Steve Mull (312-3285 on cell, or [smull@charter.net](mailto:smull@charter.net))

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## Club Assignments

Date	Today	22-Jan	29-Jan	5-Feb
Program	John Tippett	Neil Underdown	Charles Snipes	Dan Stewart
Club Health	Allen Finley	Jill Patton	Tom Adkins	Rich Duncan
Badge	Homer Newton	Pedie King	Steve Snyder	Michael Stumpff
Raffle	Phil DiCasolo	Amy Powell	Karla Woggon	S. Fotheringham
Visitors	Ann Stalnaker	Dan Stewart	Jerry Gaillard	John Rambo
Greeter	Bill Dodd	Rose Mary Cheek	Rusty Roberts	Neill McGeachy
Music	Allen Finley	Allen Finley	Allen Finley	John Hall

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## Upcoming Events

**January 29:** Dr. Harry M. Davis of the NC Bankers Association will speak to the club.

**February 26:** Rotary Unlimited

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### The Rotary Four Way Test

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build good will and better friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

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### The Rotary Spoke

is published weekly by the Hickory Rotary Club, Stan Bumgarner, Editor.

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Phone: 328-4622

*Rotarians, please e-mail information regarding your upcoming program or any other Rotary events to the editor **three weeks** in advance of publication.*

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# Hickory Rotary Club Roster

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**Bold = Past-President**  
† = Senior Active Member  
PHF = Paul Harris Fellow  
LOA = Leave of absence

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