

Rotary Club of Alamance

Gold Club

Rotary International Presidential Citation
100% Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member Club

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Club News

January 13th, 2015 Meeting

President Sang Ho Lee opened the meeting. Pete Beck gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Guests and Visitors

- Twenty South Korean students participating in a Sister Cities Exchange Program with Gwacheon City
- Two adult counselors for the student group, Mr. Song and Ms. Lee
- Barbara Shepherd, the Sister Cities International State Coordinator
- Ann Honeycutt, Burlington-Alamance Sister Cities President
- Four other Sister Cities Representatives
- Visiting Rotarians: Russell Guy from the Graham Club and Dick Fisher and Bill Gore from the Burlington Evening Club
- William Gaddis, Burlington Recreation and Parks North Park Director and transportation provider for the visiting students
- Tripp Hilliard introduced his guest, John Townsend, Terminix Branch Manager in Kernersville, NC
- Allison Lee, Sang's lovely wife and "better half"

General Announcements

- Debbie Porch will have a birthday tomorrow.
- Micah Fox will have the program on the 20th. Julian Griffin will have it on the 27th, and James Honeycutt, the following week.
- Randy and Rita Perkins will be going to India as part of the upcoming Rotary International Immunization Program. They will participate in immunizing children for one day. The rest of the trip will be spent visiting various tourist sites and past and present Rotary projects. The District plans to purchase a number of \$100 manually powered sewing machines to equip some of the Indian women with a means of supporting a family of six. Randy said the goal is to take \$5000 with the group to purchase 50 machines. A collection was taken today which netted \$232. The board also

committed to give another \$200 on behalf of our club. He will continue to ask for contributions toward this worthwhile goal from the entire district.

Happy Clams

- None today since we had such a full schedule. If we had taken time for this, Tom Manning was set to crow over Ohio State's taking the inaugural football playoff championship. Good job, OSU!



Presentation of

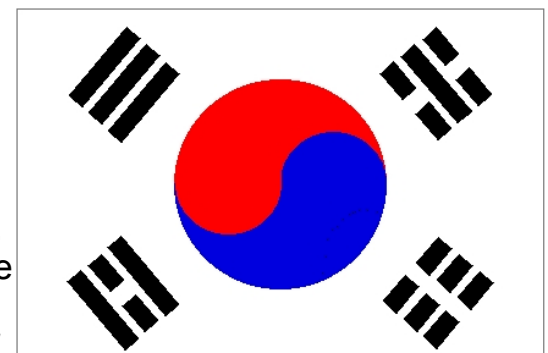
\$1000 check to Burlington Sister Cities

On behalf of our club, Projects Committee Chair and President Elect Micah Fox presented a check for \$1000 to Ann Honeycutt in support of the Sister Cities program. She thanked our club for being so generous now and in the past, mentioning the two fire trucks we helped send to Mexico and the scholarships our donations helped to fund to send exchange participants and tutors to Soledad, MX and Gwacheon City, S. Korea. President Sang Ho Lee promised that our club will receive an accounting for the \$4500 given by us to Sister Cities over the past two years.

Presentation on South Korea

Our club president, a native South Korean, gave a short video presentation on that nation. South Korea's flag pictures a red and blue Yin-Yang symbol, red (yang) on top, blue (yin) on the bottom, in the center of a white field. Four groups of three long and short black bars (called kwae) surround the central circle. This ratio of the height to the width of the flag is 2:3. South Korea's flag was adopted on January 25, 1950; the flag is called Taegukki (which means, "Great Extremes"). The white in this philosophical flag represents peace and purity.

Symbolically, the Yin-Yang symbol represents opposites; it is the belief that all things in the universe have two, opposite aspects that cannot exist without the other. The kwae trigrams are from the I Ching; the broken bars symbolize yin (dark and cold) and the unbroken bars symbolize yang (bright and hot). The four Kwae represent: heaven (three unbroken bars), the Earth (three broken bars), water (one unbroken line between two broken bars), and fire (one broken bar between two unbroken bars). The Kwai trigrams are placed in such a way that they balance one another, heaven is placed opposite Earth, and fire is placed opposite water.



South Korea is a nation whose area is a little smaller than North Carolina, but which has a dense



population of some 50 million. It is a beautiful nation of high rise buildings, bullet trains, creative technology, and, according to Russell Guy, great food. Beth Powell, who also made the trip over there, said South Korea is clean and glittering. South Korea hosted the 2002 World Cup and the 1988 Summer Olympics. It is slated to host the 2018 Winter Olympics as well. South Korea is divided from its Communist neighbor, North Korea. Sang acknowledged that the continued support of the United States is much appreciated. Some of the more well known companies whose home base is in South Korea are Hyundai, Kia, LG, and Samsung, which recently passed Sony in sales. The current president of the UN and the World Bank are South Koreans. Michelle Wie is a well-known female golfer. Their current president of the nation is the first female to fill that position. Her name is Park Geun-hye. Her photo is on the left.

Barbara Shepard: Sister Cities International State Coordinator

Ann Honeycutt, the local Sister Cities president, gave our club a quick review of the history of the program in our area before introducing the next speaker. The initial signing ceremony which inaugurated the formal relationship with Gwacheon City took place on July 26, 2011, with Mayor Ronnie Wall at the Burlington Municipal Building. In 2012 the first group of students arrived from Gwacheon City, South Korea. In July of that year, a group visited South Korea. Another inbound group arrived in 2013. In May, 2013, the Mayor of Gwacheon City and four executive officials came to Burlington to learn more about our city and state government. In September of the same year, eight individuals, including Sang Ho Lee and Beth Powell from our club, visited that nation. In January 2014 another inbound group of students arrived. Sang Ho Lee visited South Korea three times last years, taking martial arts students from his academy with him. On one of those visits in September, he presented a key to the city of Burlington to the new mayor from our Mayor Wall. A reciprocal gift was returned. Today the fourth inbound group of students attended our meeting. Ann then introduced our speaker, Barbara Shepard, the State Coordinator for Sister Cities International, who resides in Cary, NC. Her photo is on the right below.

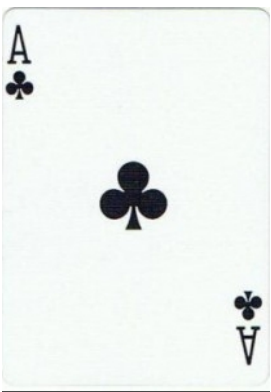
State Coordinators serve as a resource at the local level to provide professional assistance and help, with support provided by Sister Cities International, to member communities in their state; and assist communities wishing to maintain or establish a sister city. SCI was founded during Dwight Eisenhower's presidency in 1956 to create and strengthen international partnerships using person-to-person citizen diplomacy. SCI is approaching its 60th birthday and is growing each year. Some 500 US cities are involved in 1900 Sister Cities partnerships with other cities, counties, or states from 146 nations on six continents. These relationships are broad-based, officially approved, long-term partnerships between local governments from two different countries. A city may have more than one Sister City, as is the case with Burlington. We first adopted Soledad, Mexico before extending the same partnership to Gwacheon City, South Korea. These relationships are usually initiated because of interpersonal relationships between people in the affected areas. There is usually some shared criteria or interest that makes the relationship attractive to both parties. Anyone can participate. In fact, the broader the range of participating individuals and groups, the more likely the success. These partnerships build upon cultural exchange, youth and education, community development, and economic partnerships.



In response to a question posed by David Moore, Mr. Song, a Gwacheon City official, indicated that the mayor of that city is a full-time and well-paid position, which is more along the lines of a town manager here, rather than like our mayoral position. Ms. Lee also spoke for a few minutes and said her group is learning the value of volunteerism. One of the students also spoke. Her English was exceptional.



President Lee presented plaques commemorating the visit to (from left to right) Ms. Lee, Mr. Song, Ann Honeycutt, and Barbara Shepard.



Card Drawing

There was no card lottery today. Last week the winning ticket was #054, which was held by our guest speaker Tanya Feagins. She selected one of the 23 remaining cards, but drew the 8 of Diamonds instead of the elusive Ace of Clubs. The kitty remains at \$750.

Closing

As is our custom, we all stood to say aloud the Rotary Four Way Test, and the meeting was adjourned by President Lee. Until we meet again...

Club Related Dates

District and Club Business

- **2nd Tuesday of Each Month** - For officers and committee chairs, 11 am until Noon.
- **March 31, 2015** - Club Assembly

- April 30 - May 3, 2015 - District Conference in Roanoke, VA
- June 30, 2015 - Installation of New Officers and Board

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Jan	Birthdays	Jan	Wedding Anniversaries
14	Debbie Porch		None This Month
17	Tom Manning		
20	Carolyn Rhode		
29	Cliff Parker		

Want to see when you have program speaker responsibilities? Simply click on the Programs link below or the same link on the menu on the left above.

Programs Schedule



Meets on Tuesdays from Noon until 1 PM at 40 West Grill in the Ramada Inn in Burlington, NC

Club 6090, District 7690 Piedmont NC

Chartered March 31, 1981

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