

Welcome To Rotary

**Tuesday
August 5, 2014**

Today's Program

Today's Song: America the Beautiful - Yossi Liebowitz

Today's Invocation: Mary Thomas

Health & Happiness: Rachel Deems

Today's Program: Rotary Update - DG Tom Faulkner

Last Week's Program

Rich Harwood, founder of the Harwood Institute for Community Innovation, was our guest speaker last week. He told us how his group works with communities to get engaged and blaze a path of hope and unity. This helps restore belief in ourselves and build confidence, and leads to a "can do" attitude. His group was instrumental in counseling the Sandy Hook Community.

Upcoming Programs

Aug. 12 Drayton Mill Redevelopment - John Montgomery

Aug. 19 Update on SC State Senate - Sen. Shane Martin

Aug. 26 Update on Common Core in SC
- Dr. Danny Varat

Mark Your Calendars

Our next Rotary Social is on September 9th

FUN FACTS

Sam Bass:

My wife is Elizabeth, born in Union, but raised in Aynor. I am originally from Mobile, AL, but moved to Spartanburg when I was 10. I went to boarding school in Concord, MA for 10-12 grade (Middlesex School), and went to Washington and Lee for college.

My first job after college was teaching preschool to 2 1/2 to 6 year olds in Taipei, Taiwan. I spent 1 1/2 years living in Taiwan, and additional 3 1/2 months traveling through SE Asia (Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and China) before returning stateside to start law school at the University of South Carolina.

After law school, I received a scholarship from the Taiwanese government, Elizabeth and I moved to Taiwan (me for the second time), where she taught English and I made a valiant attempt to learn Chinese.

I'm a member of the Hope Center for Children Patrons' Society, Ballet Spartanburg (although that is more Elizabeth's thing. She is on the Board. I just attend the events.) and starting in June I will be a representative for the Seventh Circuit to the SC Bar House of Delegates.

William Gray

I was named after my grandfather, Billy Joe. Seriously, that was his name on his birth certificate. He was raised on a farm in Summerville... He was the first to graduate college in his family and when he did so, the College of Charleston forced him to change his name to William Joseph before they would award him a degree. My brother, Charles, is a Lieutenant Colonel in the army and has served 4 tours of duty. My wife is an attorney who handles employment litigation . . . in other words, I never attempt to argue with her. I have one child, Lenora "Nora" Charlotte Gray (named of Kristin's grandmother). I've worked at McMillan Pazdan Smith Architecture since 2004. I attended the Spartanburg Day School from 1st - 12th grades. I have degrees in architecture from Clemson University and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. I got married in Las Vegas in 2009 (it was planned - not an elopement). I've run several full marathons, including the New York and the Boston. I am an Eagle Scout.