

## Rotary International Interact Club Chartered at Anson County Early College

On Thursday, February 10 the Anson County Early College (ACEC) chartered a Rotary International Interact Club, inducting 37 new members. "I believe that having the Rotary Interact Club at Anson County Early College gives the students an opportunity to develop a sense of social awareness," said Carrie Decker, ACEC Principal. "By engaging in community service projects students become active members of their community and see first-hand the lasting and positive impact they can have in the world."

The Interact Club at ACEC joins a network of Rotary International clubs in Anson County. For more than 10 years the Anson High Interact Club

has served the community and school through canned food drives, school beautification projects and more. Wadesboro Rotary Club, established in 1927, has a longstanding history of serving the community. As the sponsor of the local Interact Clubs, Wadesboro Rotary Club supports leadership development in these young adults.

Wadesboro Rotary Club President Stephanie Wilson spoke on the history of Rotary International and Interact. "More than 100 years ago, one man had the vision of creating a club where professionals from different backgrounds could form relationships, exchange ideas, and serve their community. Now, more than 1 million Rotarians around the world and 450,000 Interactors strive for the same level of integrity and service."

Special guest, Rotary International District 7680 Governor Nico Iannelli, spoke on the opportunities afforded to Interact members both locally and on a global level, including a world-class four day leadership development seminar during the summer and study abroad programs.

In addition, District Governor Iannelli announced he will help fund their first service project around food insecurity. "This club already has many plans for school and community service projects. We are proud to welcome these driven and ambitious students into Rotary International and are looking forward to helping them achieve their goals," said Wilson.

The following students were inducted at the event: My'Kajziha Bennett, Payton Buckingham, Maddie Burr, Morgan Burr, Lidia Cano-Luna, Sheila Chau Corneise Covington, Katrina Cruz, Lauren Dutton, Zaria Elliott, Amirra Flowers, Mariana Greene, India Hamilton, Dominick Hammond, Demetri Hammond, Susan Harrington, Allison Honeycutt, Justyce Ingram-Simons, Aalysa Liles, D'Asia Lindsey, Wykeria Little, Maleyah Lowery, Angelica Lugo, Xylia Marshall Isabella Greene, Leah McLaurin, Sukari McLendon, Gracie Mills, Alexandra Nunez-Crespo, Reace Parker, Jasmine Polk, Sydney Storz, Rowdy Railton, Nevaeh Sturdivant, Reagan Tyner, Siyanna Webster and Abigail Wilson.

The following students will serve as officers: Abigail Wilson as Club President, Susan Harrington as Vice President, Nevaeh Sturdivant as Secretary, Payton Buckingham as Treasurer, D'Asia Lindsey as Community Service Director, Morgan Burr as Club Service Director and Allison Honeycutt as Fundraising Director. Rhonda Benton will serve as faculty advisor.

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Carrie Decker- ACEC Principal, Caroline Goins-Assistant District Governor, Abbigal Wilson-ACEC Interact Club President, Rhonda Benton- ACEC Interact Advisor, Stephanie Wilson-Wadesboro Rotary Club President, Nico Iannelli- Rotary International District 7680 Governor

### Wearing a Hat? Hats Off to You!

My grandmother had a hat for every occasion now that I think about it and she wore them proudly with panache. There were big brims, gradual brims, and pastel to brightly colored caps adorning her hat tree which she retrieved for every appropriate occasion.

Each Sunday she would wear her choice for church services. Sitting in the same pew each week, she was accompanied by a small sea of hat heads, ladies who didn't mind getting fashionably dressed and topping off their Sunday best with the perfect punctuation mark, the hat. Fabrics common for spring included taffeta, duponi silk, crepe, satin and linen. They were beautifully adorned with buttons and bows, rose curls and leaves, floral knots, netting, feathers and sashes to name a few and my grandmother and her friends had them all! Each Sunday the pews looked like they had been filled with little flowers in flower pots sitting neatly in a row. How pretty they were.



Chip, Melanie, Karen and Tammy Lockhart

During that time hats were definitely more prevalent than today and the tradition included more than just Sunday headdresses. In addition there were bridal hats, mother's day hats, Easter bonnets, Kentucky Derby and garden party hats, cocktail and tea party hats, church social hats and even casual, straw hats for picnics and the like.

As a young girl I remember my two sisters and me wearing Easter hats. It was a special occasion and all the little girls were as serious about wearing them as our elders. My cousins and girlfriends participated, though ours weren't nearly as elegant as our grandmothers. Our choices included those decorated with lace and ribbons, petals and bows and were filled to the proverbial brim with frills, making each of us feel like the queen of the day.

Lately it is rare to see a dressed up lady in a beautifully adorned hat, except maybe for the Red Hat Society or some similar assemblage. But casual hats are worn by nearly every girl in town. Baseball caps are quite common and straw hats on the beach are typical. Even cowboy hats are making a statement. But, they just don't carry the same wallop hats used to. What a shame. I find myself missing the sight. Not that I would ever in a million years be an all-occasion hat-wearer. I've been told that my head is too small. But I've managed to muster up the nerve to go out donning one at least a couple of times.

There's nothing better than a warm toboggan on a cold, cold night. And what about the Ivy cap? If you haven't tried it you really ought to. It's cool, stylish, comfy and provides shade from the sun and warmth in the chilly air. I haven't found a Sunday-go-to-meeting hat yet, but I'm still in pursuit of the courage it takes to wear one if I do. If you think you could be a hat wearer, then hats off to you. Easter Sunday is upon us, spring weddings, graduations, and tons of appropriate outings are waiting for you to show off those beautiful bonnets. Be daring, be classic, be-utiful! *By Melanie Morse*

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