

Rotary
Club of
Charlotte



THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

October 3, 2023

2023-2024 Board Members

President Edwin Peacock

Pres Elect Kim Brattain

Past Pres William Bradley

Secretary John Cantrell

Treasurer Craig Field

Exec Sec Christine Cipriano

Directors 2022-2024

Will Barnhardt

Glenn Bouley

Margaret Donovan

Laura Little

Mark Norman

Diego Ramon

Robert Shaw

Directors 2023-2025

Patrick Baker

Linwood Bolles

Terri DeBoo

Andy Dinkin

Donna Dunlap

David Head

Joel Ford

Membership Terri DeBoo

Foundation Joe Morris

Programs Andy Dinkin



Dave Boliek – A True BlueBlood

by **Marilynn Bowler**

Joel Ford, our own Charlotte Rotary member and a member of the esteemed Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina

– Chapel Hill, introduced his longtime friend, Dave Boliek - multi-year Chair of the University's Board of Trustees - who was our speaker at Rotary on Tuesday. Joel reminded us that Dave had driven all the way from his law firm in Fayetteville to Charlotte ... and laughingly asked Dave if he had carefully considered the billable hours he was giving us for free. It was a great way to get our attention and prod our speaker a bit.

Dave Boliek bleeds Carolina blue from every vein. Not only did he inform and entertain but he also reinforced what it means to be totally committed - and immersed - in all things related to the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill (which, incidentally, is America's oldest public university having been founded in 1789.)

A graduate of Chapel Hill where Dave received his degree in Journalism, he followed that up with a Law Degree from Campbell along with a Master's in Business Administration. He put both to good use during his years serving as a Prosecutor, litigating many cases related to healthcare and allied health fields.

It was easy for our audience to see why Dave has held such prestigious positions on a number of high-profile and extremely important Boards. He demonstrated his skill at leadership and thoughtful consideration of both sides of the many issues with which he's had to deal.

Perhaps his years as Chair of the Board of Trustees at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill speak best to his value to the school he loves and to the insight he brings to the committees and Boards on which he serves. In addition to the Trustee Board he has Chaired, Dave has served on the Search Committee for the current Chancellor; he has Chaired the

University's Endowment and Foundation. Boards he has served on the Management Company Board and Chapel Hill Investment Fund; and he has headed up the Budget and Finance Committees. Wow.

And, lest we overlook it, he serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the infamous Rams Club. No small feat.

He spoke without missing a beat about the budget issues, citing the crucial importance of targeting money for research and for MBA programs. The Board of Trustees is dedicated to raising those funds and designating them where they're most needed as long as each campus understands the necessity of justifying where and how the money is to be spent and prioritizing the return on investment.

Dave addressed the issues of increasing enrollment (by 250 each year for the next 5 years); raising the standard of SAT scores for incoming students; offering undergrads advanced degrees; of rankings (UNC was #22 in the nation as reported in US News & World Report); and developing a tighter affiliation between the Board of Trustees and the Board of Governors rather than the tension felt between the two entities in times past.

He updated us on the challenges of Public Safety and shared the demonstration of that successful program when there was a murder on campus in July of 2022, the Public Safety team knew precisely what needed to be done to protect students and staff, and they did it.

Dave addressed the topic on everyone's minds ...the ACC expansion with the addition of three schools on the other side of the country. He spoke of the travel burden on players and families when there's a 2,800-mile trip to play a sport, to say nothing of the funding involved. He was candid in his comments relative to the Big 12 and the SEC which clearly got a reaction of support for his views from our audience.

Herb Harriss put it well. "Dave shared fascinating information with us and I feel better than ever that our flagship University is fulfilling its duty to be the university of the people of North Carolina. Dave's candor was especially refreshing in discussing some 'hot button' topics. I'm proud to be the grandfather of a student in the class of 2025 (sixty years after my own graduation.)"

Linwood Bolles added his own comments. "I enjoyed Dave's openness, especially regarding the ACC expanding to California. Our university is growing well with well-thought-out precision."

David Anderson also shared his thoughts: "I appreciated Dave's candor and willingness to address topics of interest. I learned something interesting and wish he could come back and pick up where he left off on Tuesday. This is the kind of person who should Chair our University's Boards of Trustees."

Job well done, Dave Boliek. You've proven that you're an authentic "blueblood."

A recording of the meeting can be found here: <https://vimeo.com/871083452>
The speaker's introduction begins at approximately 28:00 minutes.