

# The Mecklenburg Missile

Comin' Atcha

Kiwanis Club of Mecklenburg, Charlotte, Inc.

P. O. Box 33573, Charlotte, NC 28233-3573

Organized August 5, 1952

Missile Launcher: Bob Swanson

Meeting Monday, April 21, 2014

Next Meeting: Monday, May 5, 2014

## Today's Program

President Val had planned to hold our "Annual Meeting" today - at which we would elect officers for 2014/2015, and make any other plans.

But word had come that Villa Antonio Ristorante would be closing its doors soon and this would be our last meeting here. So most of the meeting time was spent talking about where we go from here.

Latest word is that Villa Antonio would remain open through the month of May. So we will definitely meet here again on Monday, May 5. But the following meeting (May 19) is uncertain for now. The owner of the facility apparently has inked a new lease with a business NOT a restaurant.

We did get all our Club's possessions (flag, lectern, badge case, etc.) out, anyway. So should a sudden and unexpected closing occur, at least we will still have our property.

## Web Sites

Our Club's ([mecklenburgkiwanis.org](http://mecklenburgkiwanis.org)) is under construction. Meanwhile here are some you can use:

<http://www.rcswanson.net>

for Club Bulletins and membership directory.

For Directory: username: meckmbr

P/W: club03871

<http://www.carolinakiwanis.org>

for much info about Carolinas District

<http://www.kiwanisone.org>

Ditto. Re Kiwanis International

<http://www.kiwanis.org>

More about Kiwanis International

## About US

### Medcklenbuerg Club - Charitable Activities (Cont'd)

4. The Club sponsored various youth athletic activities such as American Legion Baseball, Johnston Memorial Y.M.C.A, basketball, Track and Field Club. and others.

5. An unusual sort of project was sponsoring a sewing class for the underprivileged at the Y.M.C.A.

6. One major project, begun in 1969, was "Boys Town of North Carolina," pioneered by the late Fred Kennedy, a clerk of Juvenile Court. It was a dramatic moment when the Club voted to contribute the first \$5,000 as "seed money" to get this project started. Later the club elected to build the first cottage, at a cost of approximately \$75,000, and then contributed \$5,000 toward its upkeep for each of several succeeding years. The former "Boys town" has moved into Charlotte and is now the Kennedy Campus of Elon Homes for Children. It still sports a "Kiwanis Cottage."

7. In January, 2006 we embarked on a long-term project to treat cancer in children. In August, 2006 it was accepted by the Carolinas District as a DISTRICT PROJECT. The pediatric oncologist in charge was an officer of our Club. All Carolinas District Kiwanis Clubs are asked to join us in this project, and MAJOR fund-raising events are being held from time to time. In July, 2008 we "imported" the first International pediatric cancer patient: an 8-year-old girl from Belize. Belize doctors have said that they've done all they can for her, and, essentially, have sent her home to die. We were optimistic that with treatment here in Charlotte she could be cured and her life saved. The cure was proceeding extremely well until an infection - unrelated to the cancer - suddenly claimed her. The project is ongoing and is now known as the KIWANIS PEDIATRIC CANCER FUND.

8. In 2010 a young chap named Adam Sparks, came to our attention. He had cancer, and needed treatment which only a facility in New York could provide. We "adopted" Adam and helped defray some of the very large medical bills.

----- More to follow

Meets 12 Noon, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays: Villa Antonio Ristorante, 4707 South Boulevard

Web Site: <http://www.mecklenburgkiwanis.org>