

the *Blastoff*

Official Newsletter of
The Rotary Club of Space Center
P O Box 58862, Houston, Texas 77058
Meetings Monday 11:45 at Bay Oaks Country Club
Clear Lake City Ph. 281.488.7888
Chartered 1964
December 1, 2008

Editor: Billy Smith

Photographer: Bob Mitchell



Rotary International
President 2008-2009



Dong Kurn Lee



Rotary District 5890
Governor 2008-2009
Rhonda Kennedy



Chris Schneider
Alvin, Seabrook, Space Center
District Assistant Governor

A message from Pres. Mike



I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving Day sharing time with friends and family members. (1) **All Space Center Rotary Club members are invited to attend the inauguration of the "Children Literacy Center" at the Freedman Library, Clear Lake Branch this morning at 10 a.m.**

The "Children Literacy Center" is the latest donation made by our Club to the library. The celebration will include a ribbon cutting event, a presentation on what the center consists, and of the benefits the center will provide to children in our community. Please join your fellow Rotarians in celebrating the opening of this important center. (2) **The theme of the month of December is "FAMILY"**. Invite family members to attend the meetings. We are planning programs appealing to family members of all ages, including plenty of music to bring the spirit of Christmas to our club. (3) Roger Donnelly is organizing this year's Christmas Fellowship Dinner. The event will consist of a dinner at Bailey's American Grill on Wednesday, December 17 starting at 6:30pm. All interested in attending need to contact Roger no later than today to make reservations. (4) **Our meeting on Monday, December 8 will be at the UHCL's Garden Room.** Meeting time is as usual, with meals being served starting at 11:30 and meeting ending at 1p.m. Parking is in the reserved lot across from the Bayou Building. A sketch of the University grounds showing location of buildings and parking place was emailed to all members. Contact Mike Denard, Sergeant at Arms if you have any questions. (5) As you may know, our contract with Bay Oaks for our Monday club meetings ends on December 31st. At our last Board meeting the Board decided to continue the club meetings at Bay Oaks Country Club and to sign a contract that will cover from January 1st to June 30th 2009. Several meeting places were considered including Chabucas restaurant, Hilton hotel, Perry's Italian restaurant, and others. The decision to stay at Bay Oaks was based on the fact that we only received a hand full of comments about our meeting place, some positive and some negative; that the next contract will only be till June 30th in order to match the yearly meeting contract with the Rotary year (from July 1st to June 30th); and that we will continue searching for the next several month for places suitable to hold our meetings before negotiating our next one year long contract. (6) Following decisions made by the Board for several years, **there will not be club meetings around Christmas or New Year.** We will not have meeting on Monday the 22nd or the 29th.

See you at the meeting Monday.

Yours in Rotary, Mike Hernandez

Past District Governors
From SCRC

Dr. Floyd D. Boze
1981-1982



Billy Weseman
1993-1994



Suzi Howe
2006-2007

Service Above Self

Programs —

Kippy Carraway, Chair 2008-2009

TODAY *Dayne Steele*
Dec 8 Club Election of Officers &
Directors; Clear Creek Chamber
Singers

Bring a Guest!!

Meeting Dec 8th @ UHCL.

Say Happy Birthday to —

- Debby McBride. December 4th
- Rafael F. Lugo. December 4th
- Mike Cornett. December 12th
- John Nugent December 15th
- Dick Gregg Jr. December 19th
- Keith Huff. December 23rd
- Art Oswald. December 25th
- Richard Hergert. December 30th



Important & Informative Websites

- Rotary International
- www.RI.org
- Rotary District 5890
- www.RotaryDistrict5890.org
- Space Center Rotary Club
- www.SpaceCenterRotary.org

IN MEMORIAM
ROBERT "BOB" C. CHUOKE, JR.

With great sadness and condolences to his family, we report that former Space Center Rotary Club member of many years, Robert "Bob" C. Chuoke, Jr., passed away Sunday November 23rd at age 79 from complications of multiple myeloma. Many of you will remember Bob, not only as a fellow Rotarian, but as the founder of Clear Realty (originally with offices on NASA Road One &, in recent years, in the log cabin on FM 270, Egret Bay Blvd. in League City). Not knowing other details, I can say that Bob was survived by his children, Robert Chris Chuoke, III, Diane Lee Chuoke and David Lee Chuoke. His wife of many years, Henrietta Sklar Chuoke, died in 1999. For many years, Bob and his family were members of St. Christopher Episcopal Church in League City. That is where we first met. As a practitioner in the area of real estate law, your editor has had many occasions to work with Bob professionally, even on some transactions this year. His ethical standards were of the highest and Bob truly exemplified Rotary in all his endeavors. It is my understanding that, at least for the near future, Bob's son, Chris, who is a respected real estate appraiser with his office at the same location as Bob's, will run the agency. A memorial service will be held on December 1st at 10:00 a.m. at University Baptist Church.

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE INTERVIEWS

On December 6th, Rotary District 5890 will conduct interviews of students for candidates for Rotary Youth Exchange. There are twice as many applicants as ever before and helpers are needed for conducting the interviews. Interviewing will be from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. at San Jacinto College South Campus. Following the interviewing, for those young at heart, there will be an overnight Christmas Party for the outbound applicants and inbound students. Adult chaperones are needed. If you would like to participate as interviewer or chaperone, contact Alan Wylie via email at

awylie4@comcast.net

New Member Proposal

COURTNEY LINDBERG has been proposed for membership in SCRC by Jon McKinie. Courtney is the owner of Earth Resource Technology on NASA Pkwy and organized the recent computer equipment recycling event at NASA. Her father, Cy Lindberg is a PHF and a member of Bellingham Bay, Washington Rotary Club. Courtney is a resident of Kemah.

Meeting Notes November 24th —

- David Coney announced that seven new Paul Harris Fellowships have been awarded.
- Geoff Atwater & Stan Galanski reported on the projects for Amistad Mission in Bolivia. According to its literature, Amistad was “*Founded on Friendship & and is Centered on Christ*”.
- SCRC helped with the establishment of Amistad Clinic in the Bolivian Andes & a motorcycle for the physician to use in making house calls. Funds were also donated for an SUV to be used as an ambulance.
- The clinic is in the village of Aramasi.
- In addition to health care, there is a gardening program and nursery school.
- Help with hiring and funding an agriculturist to teach gardening techniques to the locals, along with a water project, has increase vegetable production from one crop per year to several; from food for one family to excess to be sold to feed 100 persons.
- Bolivia is the second poorest country in the Americas, but HOPE IS DAWNING.
- Stan showed pictures and described the Dam Project.
- Geoff showed pictures and described the Water Project at a Girls School & Orphanage in Concepcion, Bolivia to provide year-round fresh water.
- THIS IS ROTARY AT WORK SERVING OTHERS and SCRC is a major financial supporter.

**YOU MAY VIEW
& READ THE
CURRENT & SOME PRIOR
ISSUES OF *THE BLASTOFF*
ON THE CLUB
WEBSITE**

MARGINALLY USEFUL INFORMATION

Taken from *The Bathroom Trivia Digest* by Russ Edwards & Jack Kriesmer, ©Red-Letter Press, Inc.

- Coral is so similar to human bone, it is being used to replace bone grafts.
- *Tonsurphobia* is a fear of haircuts.
- Unemployment isn't working.
- If a month starts on a Sunday, it will have a Friday the 13th in it.
- In 1985, a buyer paid over \$200,000 for a bottle of 1787 Chateau Lafitte claret engraved with the initials of Thomas Jefferson. About a year later, the cork dried out and the wine turned it into the most expensive vinegar of all time.
- Work fast, not half fast.
- Before B. F. Goodrich coined the term “zipper” they had been called “separable fasteners”.
- Israeli postage stamp glue is certified kosher.
- Getting sick at an airport is terminal illness.

The Four-Way Test of the things we think, say or do—

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

SCRC Fellowships 6:30 p.m.

Dec 2nd Abe's Cajun Market, 1080 Clear Lake City Blvd,
Houston
Dec 17th Bailey's, 2320 NASA Pkwy, Seabrook
Christmas Fellowship jointly with the Seabrook & Harrisburg Rotary Clubs. Reservations required. Contact Roger Donnelly.

Ridonnely@aol.com

The Rotary Motto:

Service Above Self

MAKEUP OPPORTUNITIES:

Pearland

Tuesday @ noon

Golfcrest Country Club 2501 Country Club Drive

LaPorte

Tuesday @ 12:10 p.m.

St John Episcopal Church Broadway @ Ave. G

Pasadena South

Wednesday @ noon

Baywood Country Club 5500 Genoa Red Bluff

Friendswood

Wednesday @ noon

Village on the Park Retirement Center 400 E. Parkwood

Seabrook

Thursday @ 8:00 a.m.

Lakewood Yacht Club 2425 NASA Parkway

League City

Thursday @ noon

Estaban's Fiesta Shack 131 League Street

Pasadena

Friday @ noon

First United Methodist Church 1062 Fairmont Pkwy

Make up @ an E-club

http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdf/s/eclub_list.pdf

SPONSORS OF SHRIMPOREE 2008

[**\$1,000 unless otherwise noted**]

- Amoco Federal Credit Union
- Art Oswald — AOVCO
- Bastion Technologies (Mike Hernandez (\$2,500))
- Belinda K. Skloss, LLC
- Ben Bridge Jewelers (Travis Vermeer)
- Billy R. Smith, Attorney at Law
- Clear Lake Lexus (Joey Dupuis, Gen. Mgr.)
- Delia Stephens, Attorney at Law
- DRDA (Olive Murphy-Riker, CPA)
- Gay & Reitz, Attorneys at Law (Becky Reitz)
- Gregg & Gregg, P. C., Attorneys at Law (\$2,500)
- Gurry Mechanical, LP (Ken Gurry)
- Hopping Eye Associates (Vissett Sun)
- Hydrocarbon Resource Recovery (Scott Rainey) (\$2,500)
- JSC Federal Credit Union (Mike Brown) (\$2,500)
- J. Pamela Photography (Pam Culpepper)
- Kirchoff Peterson Co. (Don Kirchoff) (\$2,500)
- L. D. Bowles Associates (Lamar Bowles) (\$2,500)
- Las Colinas Custom Interiors (Rae De Castro)
- Lexus of Clear Lake — Joey Dupuis (\$2,500)
- Earl & Terrilee Maudlin (\$10,000)
- Maui Wowi (Shelley Smith)
- Merrill Lynch (Jerry & Bill Smith)
- MRI Technologies (Tim Kropp)
- Prosperity Bank (Mark Humphrey)
- Space Center Automotive (Jerold Dewease)
- State Farm Insurance— Johnny R. White, Agent
- Texas Citizens Bank (Mike Cornett)
- Texas Roadhouse (Tony & Sharon Bloomfield \$2,500)
- Texas Wealth Management (Mike Hesse)
- The Citizen (Mary Alys Cherry)
- Gene & Donna Tromblee (\$2,500)
- University of Houston — Clear Lake Campus
- Waldron & Schneider, Attorneys (Marc Schneider)
- WalMart Super Center, Baytown

EVENTS CALENDAR

Club Board of Directors3rdTue @ 7 a.m.
RNASA Committee 3rd Thur @ 5:30 p.m.
Endowment Foundation Bd. . . 2nd Tue @ 7 a.m.
Rotary Foundation Comm . . . last Wed @ 7 a.m.
Membership Committee . . .2nd Mon @ 1:15 p.m.
Shrimporee 2008 October 25 All Day
District 5890 Conference, Lake Charles, LA
Apr 30 — May 2, 2009
Rotary Space Award DinnerMay 8, 2009
100th RI Convention
Birmingham, England June 21 — 24, 2009

Officers & Directors 2008-2009

President	Mike Hernandez
President Elect	Jon McKinnie
Secretary	John Wilson
Treasurer	Marilyn Musial
Sargent at Arms	Mike Dennard
Immediate Past President.	Dick Gregg, III

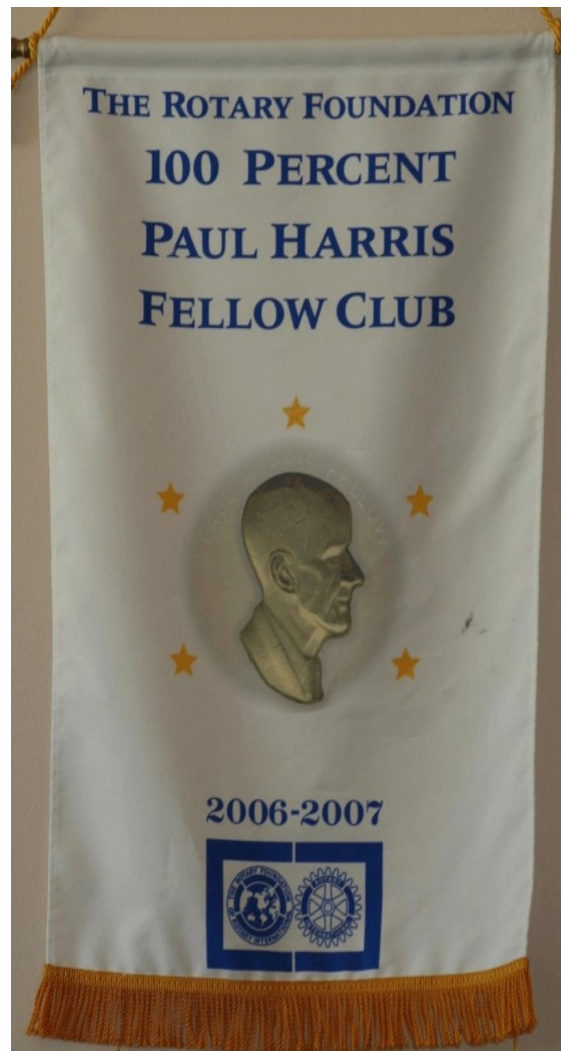
Directors

Club Administration	Mark Humphrey
Public Relations	John Nugent
Membership	Bill Geissler
Fundraising	David Coney
Community Service A	Belinda Skloss
Community Service B	Dick Hergert
International Service A	Mike Cornett
International Service B.	Dick Kidder
Vocational Service	Rae DeCastro

Committees & Chairs

Programs	Kippy Caraway
Directory & Website	Jon McKinnie
Club History	Jerrold DeWease
Constitution & Bylaws.	Billy Smith
Memorial	Laura Hale
Fellowships.	Roger Donnelly
Blastoff Editor	Billy Smith
Photographer	Bob Mitchell
Public Information.	Mary Alys Cherry
Golf	Dick Kidder
Attendance	Bill Geissler
Classification.	Scott Rainey
Member Recruitment/Retention.	Jon McKinnie
Grants	Stan Glanski
Shrimporee	Jon McKinnie
Springoree	Steve Owens
Sponsors	Scott Rainey
Interact	David Coney
Rotaract	Ted Cummings
Youth Activities.	Marc Schneider
Senior Citizens	Steve Waldner
Health & Safety.	Jennifer Keller
Scholarships.	Belinda Skloss
Rotary Foundation.	David Coney
SCRC Endowment Foundation	Bob Wren
Ambassadorial Scholars	???
GSE Activities	Bill Geissler
International Youth Exchange.	Dick Meyer
World Health Foundation.	Dick Kidder
Excellence in Education	David Coney
Safety/Law Enforcement.	Phil Sandlin
Space Center Rotary Club Endowment Foundation	Bob Wren, Pres.
Rotary National Award for Space Achievement Foundation	Rodolfo Gonzalez, Pres.

THE THEME FOR DECEMBER IS FAMILY.



WalMart Super Center Baytown, Al Stock, Mgr.

**AMOCO FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION**

**AOVOCO
Art Oswald**

**BASTION
TECHNOLOGIES
Mike Hernandez**

**BELINDA K.
SKLOSS
LLC**

Sunshine —

- Safe return & landing of Endeavour



Showers —

- Death of Bob Chuoke (see page 3)



THE CONE NEBULA 5,500 LIGHT YEARS FROM EARTH



**BEN BRIDGE
JEWELERS
Travis Vermeer**

**BILLY R. SMITH
Attorney at Law
Board Certified
Estate Planning**

**DELIA STEPHENS
Attorney at Law**

**DRDA
Olive Murphy-
Riker, CPA**

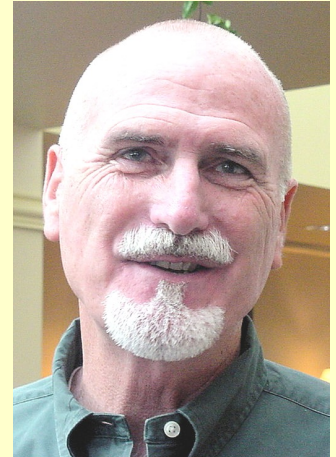
GAY & REITZ
Attorneys at Law

GREGG & GREGG,
P.C.
Attorneys at Law

GURRY
MECHANICAL,
L.P.
Ken Gurry

HOPPING EYE
ASSOCIATES
Vissett Sun

MEET THE CANDIDATES



Upper left, John Wilson for PE
Upper center, Marilyn Musial for Sec.
Upper right, Mike Dennard for Treas.
Center left, Kippy Carraway & Sheryl Berg
for Sgt @ Arms. Sheryl is taking pictures at
the Pancake Breakfast. Sorry Sheryl. I need
a head and shoulders pic of you.
Lower l to r for Director:
Don Kirchoff, Bob Taggart, Earl Maudlin, Bill
Lowe & Pat Doughty.



HYDROCARBON
RESOURCE
RECOVERY
Scott Rainey

JSC FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION
Mike Brown

J. PAMELA
PHOTOGRAPHY
Pam Culpepper

KIRCHOFF
PETERSON CO.
Don Kirchoff

**LAS COLINAS
CUSTOM
INTEIORS
Rae DeCastro**

**LEXUS OF
CLEAR LAKE
Joey Dupuis**

**EARL
&
TERRILEE
MAUDLIN**

**MAUI WOWI
Shelley Smith**

Quotable Quotes

"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it." *Mark Twain*

"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends." *Oscar Wilde*

"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play, bring a friend... if you have one." *George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill*

"Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second ... if there is one." *Winston Churchill, in response*

"I feel so miserable without you, it's almost like having you here." *Stephen Bishop*

"He is a self-made man and worships his creator." *John Bright*

"I've just learned about his illness. Let's hope it's nothing trivial." *Irvin S. Cobb*

"He is not only dull himself, he is the cause of dullness in others." *Samuel Johnson*

"He is simply a shiver looking for a spine to run up." *Paul Keating*

"He had delusions of adequacy." *Walter Kerr*

"There's nothing wrong with you that reincarnation won't cure." *Jack E. Leonard*

"He has the attention span of a lightning bolt." *Robert Redford*

"They never open their mouths without subtracting from the sum of human knowledge."

Thomas Brackett Reed

"He inherited some good instincts from his Quaker forebears, but by diligent hard work, he overcame them."

James Reston (about Richard Nixon)

"In order to avoid being called a flirt, she always yielded easily." *Charles, Count Talleyrand*

"He loves nature in spite of what it did to him." *Forrest Tucker*

"Why do you sit there looking like an envelope without any address on it?" *Mark Twain*

"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork." *Mae West*

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go ." *Oscar Wilde*

"He uses statistics as a drunken man uses lamp-posts...for support rather than illumination." *Andrew Lang*

The Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND. High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

**MERRILL LYNCH
Jerry & Bill
Smith**

**MRI
TECHNOLOGIES
Tim Kropp**

**PROSPERITY
BANK
Mark Humphrey**

**SPACE CENTER
AUTOMOTIVE
Jerrold Dewease**

STATE FARM INSURANCE Johnny R. White Agent	TEXAS CITIZENS BANK Mike Cornett	TEXAS WEALTH MANAGEMENT Mike Hesse	GENE & DONNA TROMBLEE
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Rotary Resources: *click your way into the Rotary World*

<i>The Rotarian</i>	The official magazine of Rotary International.	www.rotary.org/rotarian
<i>Regional Magazines</i>	There are more than 30 regional Rotary magazines, which are published in 20 languages, including Thai, Bulgarian and even British English.	www.rotary.org/regionalmagazines
<i>Weekly Update</i>	Subscribe to receive a weekly news roundup from RI.	www.rotary.org/getupdate
<i>The Rotarian Video Magazine</i>	This DVD series showcases extraordinary projects and people from around the world.	www.rotary.org/rvm
<i>Rotary Images</i>	This is a photo library of projects, programs and Rotarians.	www.rotary.org/rotaryimages
<i>RI Youtube Channel</i>	Within minutes, you can embed an RI video on your website.	www.youtube.com/rotaryinternational
<i>Interactive</i>	Experience Rotary in a new way through this online newsletter.	www.rotary.org/interactive
<i>Reconnections</i>	Read about Rotary Foundation programs alumni.	www.rotary.org/reconnections
<i>Newsletters</i>	View a listing of all the newsletters available from RI.	www.rotary.org/newsletters
<i>Humanity in Motion</i>	TV, radio, print, Internet and billboard public service announcements focus on Rotary volunteer efforts that address critical humanitarian issues.	www.rotary.org/humanityinmotion
<i>RI Visual Identity Guide</i>	Learn the best practices for using Rotary's emblem & marks.	www.rotary.org/visualidentityguide

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON CLEAR LAKE CAMPUS	WALDRON & SCHNEIDER Attorneys at Law	THE CITIZEN Mary Alys Cherry	TEXAS ROADHOUSE Tony & Sharon Bloomfield
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