



the Blastoff

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Space Center
 P. O. Box 58862, Houston, Texas 77058
 Meetings Monday Noon at Bay Oaks Country Club
 14545 Bay Oaks Blvd., Clear Lake City
 Phone: 281.488.7888 * Chartered 1964
 Volume 46 : Number 22 * January 7, 2008



**WISHING A
 HAPPY,
 PROSPEROUS &
 SUCCESSFUL NEW
 YEAR TO ALL!**

**The election of Officers
 & Directors for 2008-09
 will be held at the club
 meeting on January
 14th.**

Say Happy Birthday to —

Vissett Sun.....	January 4th
Lamar Bowles.	January 5th
Mark Keesler.	January 7th
Travis Moebes.	January 7th
Micki Czarnick..	January 17th
Jean Walker.	January 18th
Billy Smith.....	January 18th
Mike Brown.....	January 21st
Bob Mitchell.	January 24 th

Programs:

**Today: an update on Bolivia water projects
 by Stan Galanski and Geoff Atwater**

Jan 14...	Dr. Al Bieser will speak about the effects of medication
Jan 21.....	Martin Luther King's Birthday, No Meeting
Jan 28.....	Rabbi Jack Segal will comment on his book "Remember What You Still Have"
Feb 04.....	Funeral Consumer Alliance of Houston
Feb 11.....	Drug Awareness Essays
Feb 18.....	President's Day, No Meeting
Feb 25.....	Pam Culpepper; "Family in Focus"
Mar 03.	Presentation of Scholarships
Mar 10.	TBD
Mar 17.	TBD
Mar 24.	TBD
Mar 31.	TBD
Apr 07.	TBD
Apr 14.	TBD
Apr 21.	TBD
Apr 28.	TBD
May 05.....	TBD
May 12.....	TBD
May 19.....	TBD
May 26.....	Memorial Day, No Meeting
June 02.....	TBD
June 09.....	TBD
Jun e16.....	TBD
Jun e23.....	TBD

Events Calendar

- Club Board of Directors 3rd Tues @ 7 a.m.
- Endowment Foundation Board of Trustees
 2nd Tues @ 7 a.m.
- Rotary Foundation Comm. last Wed @ 7 a.m.
- District Leadership Institute. Jan. 19th
- Valentine Pancake Breakfast. Feb. 16th
- District Conference Galveston. April 24-27 '08
- Springoree. TBD
- RI Convention, Los Angeles. June 15-18 '08

SCRC Fellowships 6:30 p.m.

*Jan 8th. Tony's Bar B Que
 17052 Saturn Ln (across from JSCFCU)*

**Benson's Wheel Alignment
 Highway 3, Webster, Texas**

A note from the Editor:

When I volunteered for the job of Editor of The Blastoff, I thought I could make a difference, and I still think that is possible, but not yet accomplished. It has long been my belief that a newsletter should be newsworthy. When The Blastoff was being distributed in written form at the meetings, my position was that if it could be read at the meeting and left on the table as trash, it did not contain enough news. I still believe that, but now that distribution is via email, I don't receive the feedback which my predecessors did when they observed the number of copies that did not leave the meeting with the members in attendance. In short, I only know if you have read an issue, if you make a comment to me, often in the form of noting an error. No offense is taken. I like to know that you read the issue closely enough to notice the error and care enough to bring it to my attention for correction in the next issue.

I believe now, eighteen months into the job, that there have been some accomplishments, but much remains to be done. As Rotarians, we have several sources of Rotary information, including The Rotarian Magazine, the RI website, the District website, the club website, announcements from the podium at meetings and our newsletter. I want to strive not to make the newsletter too redundant of the others, but knowing that members will not read all, there will from time to time be some overlapping, if for no other reason than to call your attention to the source for more in depth coverage.

With this issue, I am removing some things that have been repeated in most if not all previous issues, to-wit:

- the meeting agenda. Only members (and some previous members) receive the newsletter and we all know the agenda. It doesn't change from meeting to meeting.
- the motto. We are not Rotarians if we cannot recite the Service Above Self motto.
- the 4-way test. We recite this at every meeting and have pledged to live by it. Surely, we do not need to see it in print every week. If you can't remember it, snip a copy from a previous issue and put it in your wallet, purse, etc. to pull out when necessary.
- the convenient make-up clubs. Ditto the suggestion re: the 4-way test.
- the Shrimporee sponsor list. I think the list is appropriate and beneficial recognition in the issues between July 1st and the event, but afterwards, not so much. Because of our pledge to the sponsors, the business card ads will continue through June 30th, but I hope the Shrimporee committee will revisit this commitment for the next year. They take several pages to publish, tremendously increase the file size and upload time and, unless some news is mixed in with them, I doubt you are looking at them each week.
- Since this is a "newsletter," **it should contain news**; something that you don't already know or about which you don't need to be reminded. This is an easy statement to make, but has been very difficult to accomplish. Several attempts have been made to bring you what I consider the news, e.g., a suggestion that the President submit a monthly (or more frequent) note or article; reports from the directors concerning the activities of the committees for which they are responsible; monthly treasurer's report of how our money is being used; a brief rendition of the minutes of board meetings; sunshine & showers from members (good news & bad news you wish to share); letters to the editor or comments from members; to name a few. None have produced fruit and I don't know where else the news resides. Your suggestions have been solicited, but only a few have been received. What do you want to see in the newsletter? Do you want a newsletter? Is it necessary or just a tradition? Do you agree with email as the manner of distribution? Would you rather receive it in print at the meeting? Currently, there is no budget for printing, mailing, etc. Do you think there should be? Your email response would be appreciated and oh, so easy. This is your newsletter, not mine. There were several years in the distant past that The Blastoff was recognized at District Conference as the best newsletter in the District, but if there is still such recognition, I am certain we would not win; but we could.

With a wish for a prosperous, successful and happy new year, this is submitted for your consideration.

Billy Smith, Editor

Board Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization
Estate Planning & Probate Law
Commercial Real Estate Law
Residential Real Estate Law

Billy R. Smith
Attorney at Law

Phone: 281.486.9461
Fax: 281.461.9984
email: billyr@bcgchouston.com
www.billysmithlaw.com

1331 Gemini Avenue
Suite 200
Houston, Texas 77058

Belinda 

Growth through feeling

BELINDA K. SKLOSS, M.A., M.Ed., M.A.C., L.P.C.,
L.C.D.S., S.A.S.S.I., I, II, T.R.T.
Mediation Specialist • PSYCHOTHERAPIST
Sports Counselor

131 Pecan Drive
League City, Texas 77573
Pager (713) 720-6706

Office (281) 336-6554
Fax (281) 504-4887
Voice Mail (713) 890-PAGE

Some Important Rotary Sites:

www.Rotary.org
www.Rotary5890.org
www.SpaceCenterRotary.com

The Citizen

Gregg & Gregg P.C.
Attorneys at Law



BASTION TECHNOLOGIES



J. P A M E L A
PHOTOGRAPHY, INC.

Pam Culpepper, CPP
President

17000 El Camino Real
Suite 303
Houston, Texas 77058

281/480-1444
Fax 281/480-1455
www.jpamela.com

Shelley
Sekula Gibbs, M.D.



(281) 532-2427

Lamar D. Bowles Associates

1115 Oak Circle
Seabrook, Texas 77586

LAMAR D. BOWLES
Investments

AMOCO
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
"A Member Owned Cooperative Organization"

all about you™



Karen L. Coady
President/CEO

Coady & Lewis Group

Insurance Real Estate Mortgage

2923 Clear Lake City Blvd. Ste. 120
Houston, TX 77062

tel: 281.286.6060
fax: 281.286.6611

www.coadyandlewis.com

coadyk@coadyandlewis.com

AOVCO

Advertising Specialties:
Caps - Shirts - Pens - Golf Acces.
Calendars - Business Gifts - Signs
Awards & Incentive Programs



vern
Promotional Products

art@aovco.com

12414 Rutgers Park Ct. Bus: 281-461-3330
Houston, TX 77058-1149 Fax: 281-461-1554

Art Oswald

mike cornett
executive vice president
organizing director



TEXAS CITIZENS BANK

713.948.5706
713.948.5736 fax
281.734.0831 cell

mike@TexasCitizensBank.com



Norman Frede Chevrolet

www.fredechevrolet.com

281-486-2200

Joe Hang

PROSPERITY BANK SM

HRR HYDROCARBON RESOURCE RECOVERY L.L.C.

OLIVE MURPHY, CPA

DRDA

a professional corporation

certified public accountants and business consultants

2525 Bay Area Blvd., Ste. 460 • Houston, Texas 77058

(281) 286-TAXX (8299) • Fax (281) 488-5764

1011 Tremont Street • Galveston, Texas 77550

(409) 765-9311 • Fax (409) 765-9393

olive@drilacpa.com

**UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
CLEAR LAKE CAMPUS**

Ted Cummings, Dean
School of Business & Public Administration

Ben Bridge

your personal jeweler since 1912

ONE STOP PARTY SHOP

Party & Event Rentals

WALDRON & SCHNEIDER, L.L.P.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

State Farm®
 Providing Insurance and Financial Services
 Home Office, Bloomington, Illinois 61710



Johnny R. White
 Agent
 549 N. FM 270, Suite 100, League City, TX 77573
 (813) 281-3333 (409) 281-3101 (502) 281-3101
 johnny.white@statefarm.com



24 Hour Good Neighbor Service®

TEXAS WEALTH MANAGEMENT, INC.

"Helping Others Through Professional Financial Guidance"

Michael W. Hesse, CFP®, CLU®, ChFC
 President

18333 Egret Bay Blvd., Suite 600 Houston, Texas 77058 (281) 333-3800 Fax (281) 333-3802 info@texaswealthmanagement.com

Registered Principal
 Securities offered through FSC Securities Corporation



Hopping Eye Associates

JSC
 Federal Credit Union

Trivia Question:

What was the theme of the Rotary International float in the 2008 Rose Parade?

ycaretil ediwldrow (read it backward)

2102 Orchard Country Lane - Houston, TX 77062-2359

Gene Tromblet

Phone: 281-486-5627
 Fax: 281-486-0436 E-Mail: gtromblet@aol.com

Cimarron

MAUDLIN PRODUCTS

LOCKHEED MARTIN

LEXUS
 OF CLEAR LAKE
Clearly The Best

SPACE CENTER AUTOMOTIVE
 Of Clear Lake

Giving Auto Service a Good Name

Full-service auto repair
 All makes and models

HOURS:
 Monday-Friday
 7:00am to 7:00pm
 Saturday
 7:00am to 5:00pm
 Sunday
 Closed for family time



16439 Moonrock • Houston, Texas 77058 • 281.286.8473
 www.spacecentertireauto.com fax: 281.461.4397

