



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 25 * February 4, 2008

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY FLOYD!



Programs:

Today.. 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.... PE, Gary Johnson – Shrimporee 2008
June 09..... TBD
Jun e16..... TBD
Jun e23..... TBD
June 30..... Pres. Dick – Remarks & Awards

District5890 Conference in Galveston

GSE Team – France will be with us the week of April 27th following District Conference. If you will like to participate, contact Bill Geissler. 281.488.1046 wgeissler1@comcast.net

Spring Clinic Guerrero, MX www.guerreroclinic.org

Pres. Dick needs someone to chair a committee to coordinate getting members of SCRC to the District Conference in Galveston.

Say Happy Birthday to —

Peter Wuenschel... February 3rd
Floyd Boze..... February 7th
John W. Tenini... February 8th
Don Kirchoff. . . . February 10th
Laura Hale. February 12th
Tony Bloomfield. . February 12th
Bob Swint..... February 15th
Bill Geissler. February 16th
David Taylor. February 16th

CONDOLENCES & PRAYERS FOR GOD'S COMFORTING PRESENCE ARE EXTENDED TO MARILYN MUSIAL & HER FAMILY FOR THE LOSS OF HER MOTHER, FRANCES ESTHER DARBY.

CONGRATULATIONS!

right – Jon McKinnie was awarded a Floyd Boze Fellowship. left – Kippy Carraway earned her Blue Badge in record time.





**Seabrook Rotary Club
 Boot Scootin' Wine Tasting
 Lakewood Yacht Club
 Saturday, March 1, 2008
 6:30 p.m.
 Barbeque — Auctions — Raffles
 &
 Dancing to a Country Western Band
 Tickets are \$50 per person
 Contact Jack Fryday @
 281.507.7196**



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Left: Former SCRC member, Jack Fryday, invites us to attend the SBRC fund raiser. Right: Rabbi, Jack Segal, was the featured speaker on Jan 28th. His message was from his newest book, "Remember What You Still Have". He said "Yesterday is a cancelled check; today is legal tender." His motto: "Never give in & never give up."

mike cornett
 executive vice president
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All pictures in this issue were taken or submitted by our photographer, Bob Mitchell. Thanks, Bob.



Ellington Field, Texas
 The Troops
 1918

Ellington Field 90 years ago.



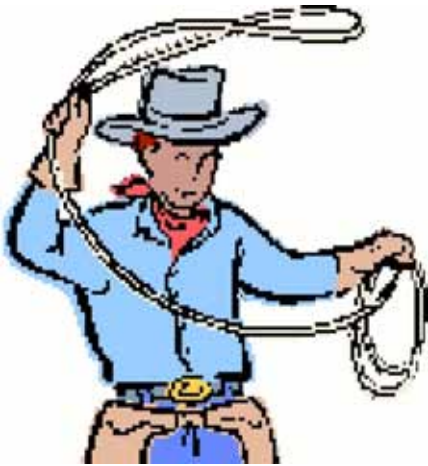
Proud of their ship.

Bob's father's Martin bomber of 1918 vintage. He was the mechanic, third from right. Bolling Field, Washington, D. C.

The Citizen

Joe Hang





Jeff Tallas

District Governor Rotary District 5890

Announces

Rotary Night at the Rodeo

Thursday, March 20, 2008

Dierks Bentley

Cost \$37 – includes Bar-B-Que Dinner

Retail price to the Public \$60

Bar-B-Que 5pm-Rodeo 7pm

Only 500 Tickets Available

Governor Jeff Tallas wants all clubs to be able to participate

Feb 4- Deadline for Club to email indication of interest to mike.cook@ubs.com

Feb 11- Mike will confirm the number of tickets your club gets. There are only 500 Available.

Feb 18- Each club Treasurer will send one check to the District Treasurer Bill Ballew 5225 Katy Freeway Suite, 303 Houston 77077 telephone number 713-863-1120

March 3- Ticket Delivery- club's option this year! Club can pick them up at Mike Cook's office at 109 N. Post Oak Ln. Suite, 150 Houston 77024 or send Mike a UPS delivery no. He can send them at your expense.

March 10- Announcement of Top 10 Presidents who will ride in Grand Entry with District Governor Jeff Tallas

March 20- Rotary Night at the Rodeo! **Great Price, Great Fellowship, Great Event**

THIS EVENT COUNTS AS A MAKEUP



**BASTION
TECHNOLOGIES**



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Billy, I do read the newsletter!!!! But, I confess that I have been remiss in submitting articles for print. I sit on 2 district committees and will chair 2 district committees next Rotary year. I receive and distribute info to district leaders, but over look informing my own club. I promise to rectify that situation.

Particularly, of interest is this year, RI board approved a change in new member eligibility. Here is a “cut & paste” right out of the board’s change to RI’s Constitution.

“RI Constitution A club shall be composed of active members each of whom shall be an adult person of good character and good business, professional and/or community reputation, (1) engaged as a proprietor, partner, corporate officer, or manager of any worthy and recognized business or profession; or (2) holding any important position in any worthy and recognized business or profession or any branch or agency thereof and have executive capacity with discretionary authority; or (3) having retired from any position listed in sub-subsection (1) or (2) of this subsection; or (4) being a community leader who has demonstrated through personal involvement in community affairs a commitment to service and the Object of Rotary; or (5) having the status of Rotary Foundation alumnus as defined by the Board.”

Please note #4 is new which I underlined plus each qualification ends with an “or”. Housewives and house husbands are eligible for membership. **The only criterion is community involvement.** Now the prospective member does not have to be a business owner, management, have a job, etc. One of our members recently told a prospective member that they were not eligible because they didn’t have a management job. Hummm I have always felt entry into Rotary is cumbersome at best, horrific at worst. I have always felt that since Rotary is a volunteer driven, community service organization, entry should be an enjoyable experience, not a strip search. Rotary is not a secret handshake organization (and I am a 32nd degree Mason saying that), but sometimes I think we are too concerned about eligibility, vs. involvement and commitment. Years ago, I asked RI’s membership management in Chicago to “really” explain to me why the approval process exists as is. They told me that in 3rd world countries, there really ARE certain individuals/groups that are not welcome. I have never seen a prospective member “blackballed”. I have heard of one in my former club’s history and my former club was formed in 1924. On the other hand, I have seen some wonderful prospective members with great community leadership track records, get totally turned off by the proposal & critique experience, and “refuse” to join Rotary, stating “Rotary is not what I thought it was”. So how about spreading the message that Community Leaders are eligible for membership, having a “management job” is no longer the litmus test. So much for my soap box. Jon R McKinnie



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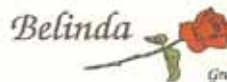


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