

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

March 2, 2009

Editor: Billy Smith

Photographer: Bob Mitchell



A message from Pres. Mike



The month of March is "Club Operations" month. I have to confess that you will not see the theme of this month on any official Rotary documentation. We could not find any theme identified by RI for the month of March or May, so we decided to make our own. We thought it was proper to have a month where we discuss the activities that are required to run the affairs of the Club. Thus, the theme for March of Club Operations. For May, since we could not find any identified for it either, we decided on "Health and Safety" month. As you know the 30th of March is the All Club Meeting. Traditionally this is a meeting where all of the clubs of the District meet together. This is an opportunity for the Governor and District officials to discuss what has been done and what is still left to do before the end of the year. One more push to get us over the hump! This is also a great time to meet Rotarians from other clubs and discuss projects and activities of common interest. Also, before the noon meeting, there is time to view the table top displays presented by the different clubs. We need to make sure our club is well represented with displays showing the many activities we have. One very proper activity to have displayed is the Shrimporee and especially the events we had related to children safety and health. Another one would be the international projects related to water purification, community development, and medical attention we are participating. Other ones would be the visit to nursing homes residents on Valentine's Day, the Armand Bayou trails, the Scholarship programs, the children immunization, the donation to the Library of the Children Early Literacy Center, and many other ones that you are involved in. Take the initiative and prepare a table top display for the meeting. This year's All Club Meeting is of unique importance because the Rotary International Team doing the review and evaluation of the different possible cities for the 2015 RI Conference will be in town. This is the only opportunity for all of us Rotarians of District 5890 to let the RI team know how much we want the Conference to be in Houston, and to show them we are ready and committed to have the best conference yet! For this purpose there are a lot of activities being prepared at different locations and of course at the All Club Meeting. We have cancelled our regular club meeting for that day to allow our members to attend the All Club Meeting which will take place at the George R. Brown Convention Center downtown. I understand we are preparing car pool lists for our members wanting to car pool to be able to write their names and get together. Contact Jon McKinnie, if you have not done it yet and register to attend meeting!! Let's have a great showing of our club members, show our projects, show the RI team we care and let's have fun and fellowship with other Rotarians of our District!

See you at the All Club Meeting!

Yours in Rotary, Mike

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

Past District Governors
From SCRC

Dr. Floyd D. Boze
1981-1982



Billy Weseman
1993-1994



Suzi Howe
2006-2007

Service Above Self

Programs —

Kippy Caraway, Chair 2008-2009

***TODAY . . Steven Jones, CEO of Clear Lake
Regional Hospital***

Mar 9th Roteract

Mar 16th Sylvia Garcia, Harris County Commissioner

Mar 23rd Dr. William Staples, Pres. UH—CL

Mar 30th All Club Meeting @ Geo. R. Brown

Convention Center

*Apr 6th Julie Robinson, Program Scientist for the Interna
tional Space Station*

Apr 13th SCRC Endowment Foundation

Apr 20th TBD

Apr 27th TBD

May 4th TBD

May 25th Holiday — no meeting

June 1st TBD

June 8th TBD

June 15th TBD

June 22nd TBD

June 29th TBD

Bring a Guest!!

Say Happy Birthday to —

Nanci Rutledge.	March 1st
Travis Vermeer.	March 4th
Wayne Young.	March 5th
J B Fox.	March 9th
Pam Culpepper.	March 14th
Tim Kropp.	March 17th

***CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL.
WE WISH YOU MANY MORE.***

SCRC SOCIALS

Mar 17th Gilhooleys, 229 9th St., San Leon
AN IRISH CELEBRATION!

Mar 31st Italian Café, 4322 NASA Plwy.

Contact Roger Donnelly.

Ridonnelly@aol.com

EVENTS CALENDAR

Club Board of Directors 3rd Tuesday @ 7 a.m.
RNASAs Committee 3rd Thursday @ 5:30 p.m.
Endowment Foundation Board..... 2nd Tuesday @ 7 a.m.
Rotary Foundation Committee last Wednesday @ 7 a.m.
Membership Committee 2nd Monday @ 1:15 p.m.
District 5890 Conference, Lake Charles, LA Apr 30 — May 2, 2009
Rotary Space Award Dinner May 8, 2009
Springoree May 14th
100th RI Convention, Birmingham, England June 21 — 24, 2009

March is Literacy Month

The Rotary Club of Phoenix was chartered on
March 1, 1914 as
Rotary's 100th club.

The first U. S. Congress met in New York City in 1789.

The first Rotaract Club was chartered 41 years ago
in North Carolina.

Tentative Rotary International
Convention Sites:

2010 Montreal
2011 New Orleans
2012 Bangkok
2013 Lisbon
2014 Sydney
2015 HOUSTON ??

VIDEOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD:

www.youtube.com/rotaryinternational

READ
YOUR
ROTARIAN
MAGAZINE!!

There are some great
and very informative
articles.

**AMOCO FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION**

**AOVOCO
Art Oswald**

**BASTION
TECHNOLOGIES
Mike Hernandez**

**BELINDA K.
SKLOSS
LLC**

DISTRICT 5890 RAFFLE

Raffle tickets are now on sale. The prize is an exciting \$5,000 voucher to travel anywhere in the world and a Rotarian gets \$100 credit with RI for a Paul Harris Sustaining Membership. See DAVID CONEY for more details.

**ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION
ST. PATRICK'S
PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

When?.....March 7th

**Where?Nassau Bay
Baptist Church**

Time?7:30 a.m. — 10:00 a.m.

**Menu: Pancakes, scrambled
eggs, sausage, biscuits, cream
gravy, fruit, coffee, juice &
FUN.**

**Price?\$7.50
Children under age 7, eat free.**

**Get your tickets from Flapjack
Jack and join the Fellowship**

SPRINGOREE AUCTION

Items are needed for the live auction to be conducted at the Springoree. Trips, weekend stays, fishing trips, etc. are always good. Please see what you can do to help with very important event.

Nanci Rutledge

Direct: 713-854-0153

Monday March 30th will be the **ALL CLUB MEETING** and our surprise luncheon for the Site Selection Committee. Please remember that Space Center has cancelled its meeting that day, so everyone has the opportunity to participate. Tickets for the event are \$25 each, so I need you to signify that you plan to attend by return email and bring your money to the Feb 23 club meeting. (make checks payable to Space Center Rotary, we will send one club check to district for all tickets) We want at least 30% of our club to attend if not more. The more Rotarians, the more fun! The club president that has the highest percentage of attendance from his/her club will receive a special prize, so let's help Pres Mike win that prize!! The event will be held at the George R. Brown Convention center in the main ballroom, on Monday March 30th starting at 11:30 am. (To Committee Chairs, we have an opportunity to display some of our wonderful projects, so please consider and advise) We will receive a weekly update from DG Rhonda. Let's not be the last to sign up. The District is shooting for 1,000 in attendance. Let's show RI that District 5890 wants the 2015 Convention! Remember these chants...

Bring it to Houston ! Bring it to Houston ! Bring it to Houston !

2015...5890

2015...5890

2015...5890

Jon R McKinnie

**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

And then the fight started...

- My wife sat down on the couch next to me as I was flipping channels. She asked, 'What's on TV?' I said, 'Dust.'
- My wife was hinting about what she wanted for our upcoming anniversary. She said, 'I want something shiny that goes from 0 to 150 in about 3 seconds.' I bought her a scale.
- When I got home last night, my wife demanded that I take her someplace expensive... so, I took her to a gas station.
- After retiring, I went to the Social Security office to apply for Social Security. The woman behind the counter asked me for my driver's license to verify my age. I looked in my pockets and realized I had left my wallet at home. I told the woman that I was very sorry, but I would have to go home and come back later. The woman said, 'Unbutton your shirt'. So I opened my shirt revealing my curly silver hair. She said, 'That silver hair on your chest is proof enough for me' and she processed my Social Security application. When I got home, I excitedly told my wife about my experience at the Social Security office. She said, 'You should have dropped your pants. You might have gotten disability, too.'
- My wife and I were sitting at a table at my high school reunion, and I kept staring at a drunken lady swigging her drink as she sat alone at a nearby table. My wife asked, 'Do you know her?' 'Yes,' I sighed, 'She's my old girlfriend. I understand she took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear she hasn't been sober since. 'My God!' says my wife, 'who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?'
- I took my wife to a restaurant. The waiter, for some reason, took my order first. "I'll have the strip steak, medium rare, please." He said, "Aren't you worried about the mad cow?" "Nah, she can order for herself."
- A woman is standing nude, looking in the bedroom mirror. She is not happy with what she sees and says to her husband, 'I feel horrible; I look old, fat and ugly. I really need you to pay me a compliment.' The husband replies, 'Your eyesight's near perfect.'
- I tried to talk my wife into buying a case of Miller Light for \$14.95. Instead, she bought a jar of cold cream for \$7.95. I told her the beer would make her look better at night than the cold cream.
- My wife asked me if a certain dress made her look big. I told her not as much as the dress she wore yesterday
- A man and a woman were asleep like two innocent babies. Suddenly, at 3 o'clock in the morning, a loud noise came from outside. The woman, bewildered, jumped up from the bed and yelled at the man 'Holy Mowly. That must be my husband!' So the man jumped out of the bed; scared and naked jumped out the window. He smashed himself on the ground, ran through a thorn bush and to his car as fast as he could go. A few minutes later he returned and went up to the bedroom and screamed at the woman, 'I AM your husband!' The woman yelled back, 'Yeah, then why were you running?'
- Saturday morning I got up early, quietly dressed, made my lunch, grabbed the dog, and slipped quietly into the garage. I hooked up the boat up to the truck, and proceeded to back out into a torrential downpour. The wind was blowing 50 mph, so I pulled back into the garage, turned on the radio, and discovered that the weather would be bad all day. I went back into the house, quietly undressed, and slipped back into bed. I cuddled up to my wife's back, now with a different anticipation, and whispered, 'The weather out there is terrible.' My loving wife of 10 years replied, 'Can you believe my stupid husband is out fishing in that?'
- I asked my wife, "Where do you want to go for our anniversary?" It warmed my heart to see her face melt in sweet appreciation. "Somewhere I haven't been in a long time!" she said. So I suggested, "How about the kitchen?"
- My wife and I were watching Who Wants to be a Millionaire while we were in bed. I turned to her and said, "Do you want to have sex?" "No," she answered. I then said, "Is that your final answer?" She didn't even look at me this time, simply saying "Yes." So I said, "Then I'd like to phone a friend."

HYDROCARBON
RESOURCE
RECOVERY
Scott Rainey

JSC FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION
Mike Brown

J. PAMELA
PHOTOGRAPHY
Pam Culpepper

KIRCHOFF
PETERSON CO.
Don Kirchoff

**LAS COLINAS
CUSTOM
INTERIORS
Rae DeCastro**

**LEXUS OF
CLEAR LAKE
Joey Dupuis**

**EARL
&
TERRILEE
MAUDLIN**

**MAUI WOWI
Shelley Smith**



Ray & Bubba (Arkansas mechanical engineers) were standing at the base of a flagpole, looking up. A woman walked by and asked what they were doing. 'We're supposed to find the height of the flagpole,' said Bubba, 'but we don't have a ladder.' The woman took a wrench from her purse, loosened a few bolts, and laid the pole down. Then she took a tape measure from her pocket, took a measurement, announced, 'Eighteen feet, six inches,' and walked away. Ray shook his head and laughed. 'Ain't that just like a woman! We ask for the height and she gives us the length!' Bubba and Ray are currently working for the government

[Here are some little known, very interesting facts about Texas:](#)

- Beaumont to El Paso: 742 miles
- Beaumont to Chicago: 770 miles
- El Paso is closer to California than to Dallas.
- World's first rodeo was in Pecos, July 4, 1883.
- The Flagship Hotel in Galveston is the only hotel in North America built over water.
- The Heisman Trophy was named after John William Heisman who was the first full-time coach at Rice University in Houston.
- Brazoria County has more species of birds than any other area in North America.
- Aransas Wildlife Refuge is the winter home of North America's only remaining flock of whooping cranes.
- Jalapeno jelly originated in Lake Jackson in 1978.
- The worst natural disaster in U.S. History was in 1900, caused by a hurricane, in which over 8,000 lives were lost on Galveston Island.
- The first word spoken from the moon, July 20, 1969, was 'Houston.'
- King Ranch in South Texas is larger than Rhode Island.
- Tropical Storm Claudette brought a U.S. Rainfall record of 43" in 24 hours in and around Alvin in July of 1979.
- Texas is the only state to enter the U.S. By TREATY, (known as the Constitution of 1845 by the Republic of Texas to enter the Union) instead of by annexation. This allows the Texas Flag to fly at the same height as the U.S. Flag, and may divide into 5 states.
- A Live Oak (known as Big Tree) near Fulton is estimated to be over 1000 years old.
- Caddo Lake is the only natural lake in the state.
- Dr Pepper was invented in Waco in 1885. There is no period in Dr Pepper.
- Texas has had six capital cities: Washington-on-the Brazos, Harrisburg, Galveston, Velasco, West Columbia and Austin.
- The Capitol Dome in Austin is the only dome in the U.S. Which is taller than the Capitol Building in Washington DC (by 7 feet).
- The name 'Texas' comes from the Hasini Indian word 'tejas' meaning friends. Tejas is not Spanish for Texas.
- The State Mascot is the Armadillo (an interesting bit of trivia about the armadillo is they always have four babies. They have one egg, which splits into four, and they either have four males or four females.).
- The first domed stadium in the U.S. Was the Astrodome in Houston.

[Here is what Jeff Foxworthy has to say about folks from Texas ...](#)

- If someone in a Lowe's store offers you assistance and they don't work there, you may live in Texas.
- If you've had a lengthy telephone conversation with someone who dialed a wrong number, you may live in Texas.
- If you measure distance in hours, you may live in Texas.
- If you know several people who have hit a deer more than once, you may live in Texas.
- If you install security lights on your house and garage, but leave both unlocked, you may live in Texas.
- If you carry jumper cables in your car and your wife knows how to use them, you may live in Texas.
- If the speed limit on the highway is 55 mph -- you're going 80 and everybody's passing you, you may live in Texas.
- If you find 60 degrees 'a little chilly,' you may live in Texas.
- If you actually understand these jokes, and share them with all your Texas friends, you definitely live in Texas.

**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**



2009 Scholarship Recipients

**Lauren Anderson
Sandra Grossman
Marcella Jamicek
Richard Hicks
Andrew McDonald
Will Vranderic**

**Dr. Gregg Smith, CCISD Superintendent
Presented each \$1,000**

Joan Crumpley was inducted on February 23rd as the newest member of SCRC. See is with Mainland Bank in Texas City and is their Relations Manager. Joan lives in League City.

(Her classification is unknown and a picture was not furnished.)

HELP NEEDED

March 14th — 17th the SCRC Sr. Citizen committee and volunteers will install ADA compliant walkways at Armand Bayou Nature Center. You can help. Call or contact Steve Waldner, Chr. For more information and to volunteer your time & talent to this most worthy project.

Stwaldner@shelteringarms.org

Perfect Attendance Recognitions

(as of December 31, 2008)

Mike Hernandez	2 years
Marilyn Musial	2 years
Delia Stephens	2 years
Dick Kidder	3 years
Mary Alys Cherry	3 years
Scott Rainey	4 years
Jean Walker	5 years
Roger Donelley	6 years
Belinda Skloss	11 years
John Lee	13 years
David Taylor	18 years
Billy Smith	27 years
Bob Wren	28 years

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“The problem with Socialism is that you eventually run out of other people's money.”

Margaret Thatcher

**UNIVERSITY OF
HOUSTON
CLEAR LAKE
CAMPUS**

**WALDRON
&
SCHNEIDER
Attorneys at Law**

THE CITIZEN
Mary Alys Cherry

**TEXAS
ROADHOUSE**
Tony & Sharon
Bloomfield