



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
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Floyd Boze has been featured in the last two issues of this newsletter, but I hope you will indulge your editor once more. Floyd has been an inspiration to me and others in this club. I have known Floyd for nearly half my life. Over that time, he has set an example of what it means to be a Rotarian and a great human being. Many times, Floyd has shared some of his Rotary stories with me. He didn't accomplish 59 years of perfect attendance without making up missed meetings at Rotary clubs around the world. Sometimes, in other countries, Nancy, Floyd's wife, had to sit in the lobby of the hotel while Floyd attended the meeting there because they didn't allow women at their meetings. Following is my favorite story, because it illustrates how Rotary fellowship and the ideals of Rotary reach beyond politics and political boundaries. I firmly believe that if every world leader was a Rotarian, there would be no war. Several years ago, at the Rotary District Conference in San Antonio, some of us were sitting in the SCRC hospitality room at the end of a long day, just unwinding, and Floyd told this story: *When World War II ended, Floyd and Nancy stayed in Germany as part of the occupying forces. They were quartered in a home commandeered from a German family. One night Floyd and Nancy were awakened by sounds coming from the basement. Captain Floyd USAF took a flashlight and his GI-issue .45 cal. pistol and carefully made his way toward the noise. In the basement, he encountered a man searching through items there. Holding the .45 on him, Floyd inquired of the man what he was doing. The man responded that he was a jeweler and the owner of the house. As such, he was retrieving some jewelry that he had hidden. Now, the best part — years later, in the mid-1980s, when Floyd was District Governor of Rotary District 589 (now 5890), Floyd was attending a Governor's training conference with other Rotary Governors from all over the world. A man approached Floyd and said "I think we have met before." Floyd didn't recognize him, but the man but he*



said "I am the man you pointed a pistol at in Germany and demanded to know what I was doing in your basement." That man, now Governor of his Rotary District in Germany, was the owner of the house Floyd and Nancy were occupying. Those two men were once enemies sworn to kill each other in allegiance to their respective governments, but now they were Rotarians sworn to serve humanity and to promote peace around the world; to serve others above self, no matter what their ethnicity, creed or color. What a difference Rotary made in the lives of those men. Floyd, who eventually was promoted to the rank of Colonel in the armed forces of the United States of America, doing his duty in time of war, was now facing his enemy on common ground. Now brothers in Rotary International. Fellow Rotarians, this is Rotary in action. Thank you Floyd, for sharing. You truly are an inspiration.

Say Happy Birthday to —

Steve Owens..... February 22nd
Christopher Gregg..... February 25th

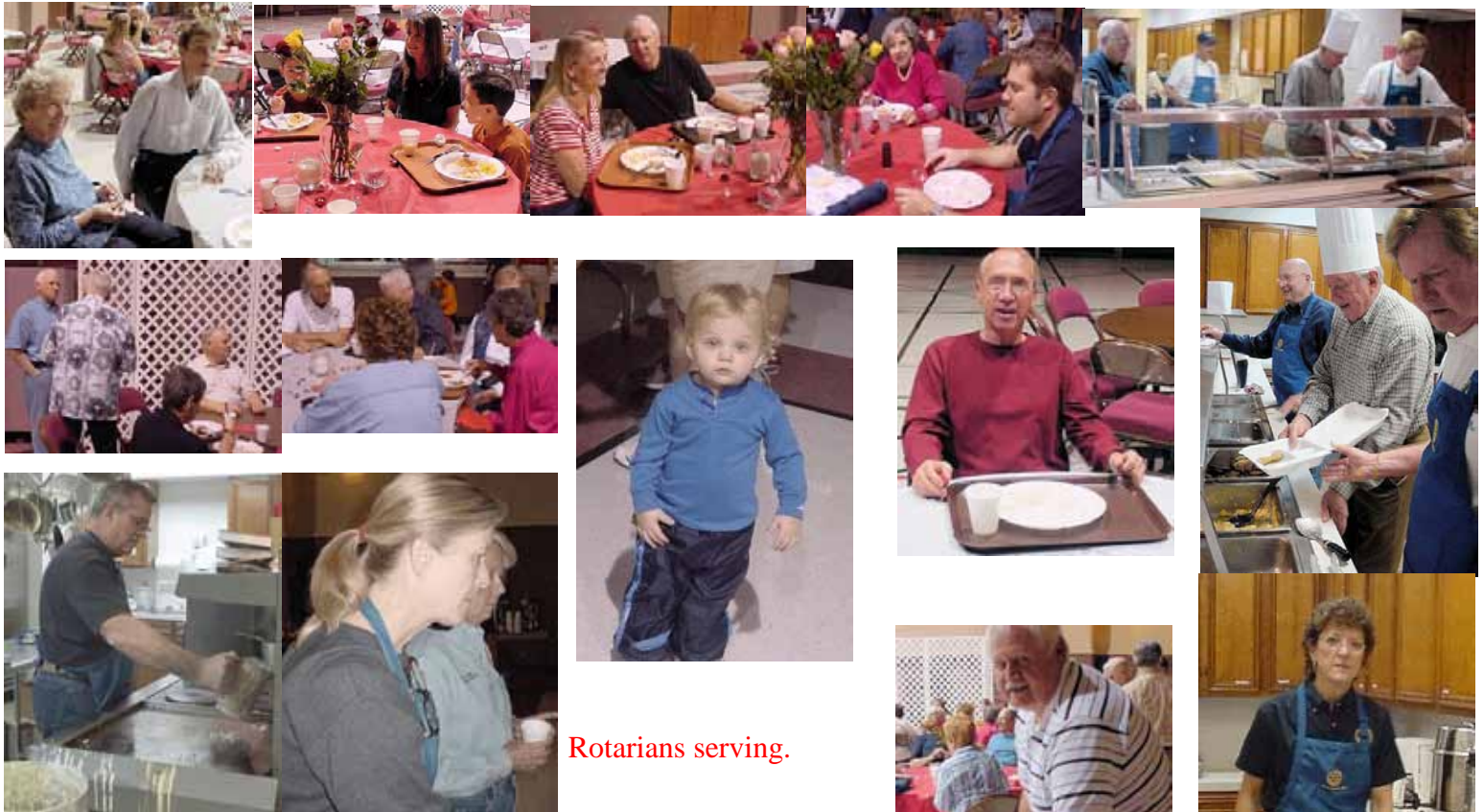
ATTENTION

Tony Bloomfield & Texas Roadhouse will again sponsor a golf tournament that will benefit SCRC. The date has not been set, but watch this newsletter. Shrimporee sponsors will get a free ride.

February is World Understanding Month. Read The Rotarian.

Rotary Sites:
www.Rotary.org
www.Rotary5890.org
www.SpaceCenterRotary.com

SCRC Endowment Foundation Update Feb. 11th:
Assets: \$160,508.59
71 FBF
18 Trustees & Advisors were present at the Feb. 11th meeting.



Rotarians serving.

A good time was had by all at the 2008 Annual Space Center Rotary Club Valentine Pancake Breakfast.

FLAMING FLAMINGO FASHION SHOW

Lunch and Silent Auction

Women of Rotary Bay Area
Cordially invites you and your guests to
our annual fund raiser which supports
the Bay Area.

Come Spread Your Wings
Thursday, March 20, 2008
Bay Oaks Country Club

11:30 am

\$30.00 per person

Get a leg up and RSVP before March
14th to sself333@aol.com

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.
- RNASAF Awards Banquet
Houston Hyatt April 25
- District Conference Galveston. April 24-27 '08
- Springoree. TBD
- RI Convention, Los Angeles. . . June 15-18 '08

SCRC Fellowships 6:30 p.m.

- Feb 26. Tommy's Seafood Steakhouse 2555 Bay Area Blvd.**
- Mar 4. . . . **Abe's Cajun Market** 1080 Clear Lake City Blvd.
- Mar 11. **Zio's** 820 W. Bay Area Blvd.
- Mar 18. **Topwater Grill** 815 Ave O, San Leon
- Mar 25. **Clifton by Sea** Clifton, Tx,
- Apr 1.
- Apr 8.
- Apr 15.
- Apr 24. **Rudy & Paco's** Galveston
- May 6. **Frenchie's Restaurant** 1041 Nasa Parkway
- June 10. **Bay Oaks Country Club Pool Party,**
Bring Grandchildren

2007 SHRIMPOREE SPONSORS

\$5,000 Sponsors

- The Citizen — Mary Alys Cherry
- Maudlin Products — Earl & Terrilee Maudlin
- Texas Roadhouse — Tony & Sharon Bloomfield

\$2,500 Sponsors

- Bastion Technologies — Mike Hernandez
- Ben Bridge Jewler — Travis Vermeer
- Lexus of Clear Lake
- Mike J. Moliere Security Services
- Space Center Automotive (Jerrold Dewease)

\$1,000 Sponsors

- AMOCO Federal Credit Union
- AOVCO — Art Oswald
- Belinda K. Skloss, LLC
- Benson’s Wheel Alignment
- Billy R. Smith, Attorney at Law
- Cimarron
- Coady & Lewis Group
- DRDA (Olive Murphy, CPA)
- Gay & Reitz, Attorneys at Law
- Gregg & Gregg, P. C., Attorneys at Law
- Joe Hang
- Hopping Eye Associates (Vissett Sun)
- Hydrocarbon Resource Recovery (Scott Rainey)
- J. Pamela Photography (Pam Culpepper)
- JSC Federal Credit Union (Mike Brown)
- Kirchoff Peterson Co. (Don Kirchoff)
- Las Colinas Interiors (Rae De Castro)
- L. D. Bowles Associates (Lamar Bowles)
- Lockheed Martin
- Minuteman Press
- MRI Technology (Tim Kropp)
- Norman Frede Chevrolet
- One Stop Party Shop (Mark & Karen Kessler)
- Prosperity Bank (Mark Humphrey)
- Shelly Sekula Gibbs, MD
- State Farm Insurance— Johnny R. White, Agent
- Texas Citizens Bank (Mike Cornett)
- Texas Wealth Management (Mike Hesse)
- Gene & Donna Tromblee
- University of Houston — Clear Lake Campus
- Waldron & Schneider, Attorneys at Law



Drug Essay Award Winner, Madeline Cockrell, is presented a certificate & \$750 check from SCRC by CCISD Superintendent, Dr. Smith.

Programs:

Today..... Pam Culpepper, CPP; “Family in Focus”

Mar 03.	Presentation of Scholarships	
Mar 10.		TBD
Mar 17.		TBD
Mar 24.		TBD
Mar 31.	a presentation by the JSC Chapter of Engineers without Borders	
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.	Jay Wall / Crime in Houston and what to do about it.	
June 16.		TBD
June 23.		TBD
June 30.	Pres. Dick– Remarks & Awards	

**District 5890 Conference
Galveston April 24-27, 2008
Be There!**

**ESSAY WINNER
PERCEPTIVE BEYOND YEARS**

The winner of the drug awareness essay contest cut directly to a pervasive problem in society: knowing what to do after we recognize that a person has an addiction issue or other mental health issue.

The average person can recognize a suffering soul. The administration and the students at Virginia Tech knew their classmate was mentally ill. They did not, however, know what to do about it. As concerned as they were, as worried as they were, they did not know what to do. This was true in Columbine, and on other campuses. Even after the tragic killings, they probably still do not know what to do.

Schools, churches, and other organizations really need to call on mental health experts to explain what to do for such a suffering individual, and what resources, if any, are available. The high school essay winner pointed this need out, as she described her struggle to know what to do about a classmate addicted to drugs.

Delia Stephens

Our own Dan Weber is a new member of the Nassau Bay City council. Congrats, Dan.



Jessie Dewease, Jerrold's wife, is our newest Floyd Boze Fellow. Congratulations, Jessie & thanks to Art Oswald for the \$1,000 donation to the Space Center Rotary Club Endowment Foundation. Pictures clockwise from top left: Jessie stands between David Coney & Jerrold; Jessie & Floyd Boze with her certificate; CCISD Drug Essay Award winners, Madeline Cockrell (2nd from left), & Christina Francisco (2nd from right) stand between their English teacher, Pat Devore & Dr. Smith; the winner flank their teacher. Christina, as runner-up, received a check from SCRC in the amount of \$250.



All photos by Bob Mitchell

More from Jon R McKinnie: Family background: Raised on edge of swamp in Louisiana on family homestead that has been in family 169 years. My childhood had the making of the movie, "The Yearling". High School Valedictorian & All-State Baseball. Education: BS Mathematics – Louisiana Tech, during the Terry Bradshaw era. Family: Married to my wife, Kay, for 39 years in March, 3 children (Ty – commercial construction, Penny – re-manufacturing, Randy – residential construction and vending companies), 4 grandchildren (Emily – pari-legal, Shea – college sr, Cory – college jr, Chelsea – high school sr) & 1 spoiled yellow lab (Daisy). Business or professional career: Currently a veterinary consultant. Former owner of 2 large computer companies (operated in 14 countries on 4 continents) Lived in Hong Kong for 3 years. Awards: LA Businessman of Year, Pew Award – Outstanding State Commissioner for North America , Rotarian of Year for District 6150. Hobbies, interests: Golf, hunting, fishing. Rotary History: Transferred from Heber Springs , AR Rotary Club. Little Rock District 6150 – District Secretary (2 years), Asst. District Governor (2 years), Co-Chair Grants Committee. District Awards: Service Above Self, Outstanding Asst District Governor, Rotarian of Year. Rotary is the perfect venue for giving back to my community. I was so focused on career and business that I never had/took time to give back. But at some point, I realized that our journey through life isn't just about ourselves. You can't just take, take, and take. We must "pay it forward". So I looked at many community service organizations, joining several. But once exposed to Rotary, I knew this was the perfect vehicle for me. I became very pro-active (probably not hard to believe) and got heavily involved. 2 ½ years ago, I moved to League City . I visited several Rotary Clubs in the area, until I finally visited Space Center Rotary Club as a guest of Pam Culpepper. I was fortunate to be seated at table with Suzi Howe . And the rest as they say "is history". Suzi & Pam were my sponsors and I have loved Space Center ever since. Currently I'm Sgt-at-Arms and chair Membership Recruitment & Retention Committee. Recently, I was elected Treasurer for next Rotary year. Suzi got me involved at the District level in "warp speed". I currently chair World Community Service committee, also set on the Grants Committee & Membership Committee and will Co-Chair event for RI President Wilf Wilkinson's upcoming visit to Houston . Recently, I have taken on the project to update District 5890's history. Next year, I will chair WCS again and promote RI's 2009 Convention in Birmingham , England .

Editor: Why don't you let us get to know you better? Please submit your bio.



John B. Lee
Biography
2/03/08

WW-II: John Lee and his twin brother Keith grew up in a family of 5 children. Their Parents and Grandparents were Tenant Farmers in Virginia. They had lost their farms during the depression. In September of 1941, at the age of 17, John entered VPI (the Virginia Polytechnic Institute) at Blacksburg, Virginia. He majored in Mechanical Engineering and was in the Corp of Cadets. When he and his brother became 18 years old, they both went AWOL from VPI to get their noses operated on so that they could join the Air Corp. They both signed up in the Air Corp on the same day. John signed up in the Army Air Corp, and his brother Keith signed up in the Naval Air Corp. John was assigned to the Gulf Coast Training Command, in Texas. On March 15, 1944 at the age of 19, he received his Commission and his Wings as a Fighter Pilot, at Foster Field in Victoria, Texas. As a Fighter Pilot in WW-II, he flew 52 combat missions with the 8th Air Force, in England, in the P-51 Mustang Fighter Aircraft over Europe. He conducted High Altitude Escort Missions of the B-17 and B-24 Bombers, and he escorted the British Mosquito's on Photo Reconnaissance Missions over Czechoslovakia. He also conducted Strafing Missions of Airports, Trains and Train Marshalling Yards. He became a Flight Commander. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, 6 Air Medals and 3 Battle Stars. The 3 battle stars included "The Battle of France", "The Battle of the Ardennes" (also known as "The Battle of the Bulge"), and for "The Battle of Europe".

NACA & NASA: After World War-II, John was reinstated at VPI (now Virginia Tech or VT). He received his Bachelors Degree in Mechanical Engineering with additional courses in Aeronautical Engineering. In 1948 John went to work for the NACA, (the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics) at Langley Field, Hampton, He was hired by Robert Gilruth, Chief of PARD, (the Pilotless Aircraft Research Division). John was assigned to the Propulsion and Aerodynamics Branch that included Max Faget. John was responsible for the development of the system and for the drop testing of Scale Modules of the Air Force Atomic Warheads from Supersonic Aircraft using the Wallops Island Preflight Jet Facility. He is the author and coauthor of 10 Research Memoranda and books. In 1958, President Eisenhower established NASA (the National Aeronautics and Space Administration). The NACA became the Nucleus for NASA that conducted the Manned Space Flight Program. Robert Gilruth organized and became the Chief of the Mercury Space Task Group that started the Manned Space Flight Program. John was one of the first 35 people assigned to the Mercury Space Task Group. On the Mercury Project, John was Chief of the Mechanical Systems Section. He was a lead Engineer on one of the 3 parallel feasibility studies conducted, to show that man could go to the moon, which became the Apollo Program. On the Apollo Program he became a Technical Assistant to Dr. Max Faget, the Director of E&D, (The Engineering Development Directorate), at the Johnson Space Flight Center. He was Head of the Directorates Program Offices for Mercury, Gemini and Apollo. He was on the Evaluation Committees that picked the contractors for the Mercury, and Apollo Spacecraft Programs. Also, as a lead engineer in E&D,

John was involved in the design concepts for:

- The Docking Module used for the docking of the Apollo Command & Service Module with the Russians Soyuz Spacecraft.
- Several Space Station Design Concepts.
- The concept for putting up the Space Station with the Shuttle Spacecraft.

Some of the awards received by John include:

- The NASA Group Achievement Awards for:
- Project Mercury, (the first US Manned Space Flights)
- The Apollo Operations Support Team: (for the first Apollo Flight)
- The Apollo 11 Program, (the first landing of man on the moon)
- The Snoopy Award: He received one of the first Snoopy awards presented by the Astronauts, from Neil Armstrong, the Commander of the Apollo 11 Crew for the first Manned Lunar Landing.
- The Presidential Medal of Freedom , to the Apollo XIII Operations Team: from President Richard Nixon

Certificates of Commendations for:

- Apollo 11: The First Manned Lunar Landing.
- Apollo XIII Accident: For performance as the Lead Engineer in the Mission Evaluation Room from E&D, that leads to the successful return of the Astronauts.
- VT Cadet Corp WOF: He was the first person that has been inducted into the VT Cadet Corp Wall Of Fame for both Aviation and Aerospace.

John Lee has retired from NASA and now lives in Nassau Bay, Texas, just across the street from the Johnson Space Flight Center. He is on the Board of Directors for the Johnson Space Center NASA Alumni League and the Houston Chapter of Who's Who International. He is a member of the Space Center Rotary Club, NARFE, (the National Association of Retired Federal Employees). He has two daughters, Laurie and Dottie Mae.



To: Board Members of Rotary Club of Space Center —

Yesterday (Feb. 20th) I started creating the new Space Center website. I have done a lot in just one day, but still have long way to go. You now have the ability to view the website, update your personal information, check the back office functionality. Remember this is a live website, so don't get crazy just to see what happens. Keep notes of your actions, in case I need to call you to see what did to it. HA I have given each of you a higher level functionality, to gain access to the back office. Gary, you should check the attendance reporting. I set up last week's meeting, marked attendees (for test) and produced the report. You should mark actual attendance for last week and set up future weeks meeting dates. Billy, you should check the newsletter functionality. I copied the last newsletter into the downloads. Also, I created a sponsor link (Pam Culpepper). Look at managing the sponsors, add her real logo, I just used one of her web pages. To everyone, this is real value for our sponsors. We can now change the sponsor's perceived contribution to advertising expense. We need to decide how much to charge for advertising links. \$100/year. The beauty of the system is every club member who has authority, can contribute to the content, manage their events and committees. There is still a lot to learn, but here are the fruits of one day's labor. Please update your personal info, set your own user names & passwords and check out the website.

Good luck, Jon McKinnie

Meet Brutus, a military K9. He's huge, part Boxer and part British Bull Mastiff, weighs in at 200 lbs. His handler took the picture. Brutus is running toward me because he knows I have some Milk Bone treats, so he's slobbering away! I had to duck around a tree just before he got to me in case he couldn't stop, but he did. **Brutus won the Congressional Medal of Honor last year for his heroism in Iraq**. His handler and four other soldiers were taken hostage by insurgents. Brutus and his handler communicate by sign language and he gave Brutus the signal that meant "go away but come back and find me". The Iraqis paid no attention to Brutus. He came back later and quietly tore the throat out of one guard at one door and another guard at another door. He then jumped against one of the doors repeatedly (the guys were being held in an old warehouse) until it opened. He went in and untied his handler and they all escaped. He's the first K9 to receive this honor. If he knows you're ok, he's a big old lug and wants to sit in your lap. Enjoys the company of cats. Thanks for your service, Brutus!



Our own Pam Culpepper, CPP, will present the program Monday, Feb. 25th. Her topic is "Anatomy of a Portrait". This image is a composite of her "Grande Dames Project".

