

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 16, 2009

Editor: Billy Smith

Photographer: Bob Mitchell



A message from Pres. Mike



Is this the month of January or is it March? Based on this week end weather it sure seems like we have turned the pages of the calendar back to January! But no, we are already in mid-March and days and weeks are passing by really fast. This coming Saturday is the work day at Armand Bayou Nature Center. Make sure you register with Steve Waldner to participate. Then on the 30th we have the All Club Meeting at the George R. Brown Convention Center. Remember that our regular meeting in Bay Oaks has been cancelled on that day for you to attend the meeting with the other District members. Register with Jon McKinnie for this event. On April 4th is the Family of Rotary District event "Gardening with the Governor" at the Rotary Centennial Grove at Herman Park from 10 to 1 pm. All interested in participating, contact Steve Sucher at suchers@uhd.edu. Also register with Jon to attend the District Assembly on April 18.

As you know, this is an important half day meeting where the functions required to run the activities of a club are explained and discussed. All of the members are encouraged to attend, especially the Directors, officers, committee Chairs and new club members. And this just about gets us to the end of April and the District Conference in Lake Charles from the 30th to May 2nd. Here again, you are very much encouraged to attend. It is fun, informative; you meet new people, exchange ideas, and have a good time. The Memorial committee decided on the day to have the Memorial program, it will be on May 4th. Our meeting on that Monday will be at the Clear Lake Park. Part of the meeting will be at the memorial site, next to the pavilion and lunch will be in the air conditioned Community Building. On the following Friday, the 8th, will be the RNASA Awards Dinner. This is the black tie dress event we have where you can not only have a very good dinner but also meet other Rotarians and the leaders of our space program, including astronauts. Achievements in the Space Industry will be recognized with a number of awards including the Rotary Space Trophy which will be given to Michael Griffin, former NASA Administrator. The following week, on Thursday the 14th, is the Springoree. Buy a table and invite friends from the community and business associates. This is an event to have fellowship, fun, good food, and good wine and at the same time raise money for our Service Projects. On Tuesday, May 19 our club will be participating with other Rotary clubs from the area and the Clear Creek Independent School District in a Banquet at the South Shore Hotel where District teachers will be recognized and two teachers will be selected as Teachers of the Year. This will be the first time of such an event where teachers throughout the District are recognized for their dedication, commitment and excellence in their profession. This will surely become a yearly event. All members are encouraged to attend. Then, on June 1st, we will have our program where awards will be presented for Excellence in Education and on the 8th, the awards for Excellence in Law Enforcement. On June 22 will be the Club Assembly where the Directors and Committee Chairs will present the accomplishments for the year, and the 29th, the Program will consist of the installation of the New Board for our club. Besides all of these, there are projects to complete and goals to accomplish. We have busy times ahead, but they are for worth while causes, and again as I have said before we need every ones participation! See you at Rotary.

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.. 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
Jerry Smith	March 18th

***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.

Ridonnely@aol.com

**AMOCO FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION**

**AOVOCO
Art Oswald**

**BASTION
TECHNOLOGIES
Mike Hernandez**

**BELINDA K.
SKLOSS, LLC**

EVENTS CALENDAR

Club Board of Directors 3rd Tuesday @ 7 a.m.
RNASA 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

PRESENTATION ON MARCH 9th

AMANDA SMITH, MPH, RD, LD, Nutritionist for Clear Lake Regional Medical Hospital, presented “What’s good to eat?” Some pointers:

- Use up as many calories as taken in.
- Eat a variety of nutritious foods.
- Eat less of nutritionally poor foods.
- Don’t Smoke!
- Eat fruits, vegetables, nuts & grains.
- Eat some meat.
- Super foods include natural/non-processed foods, e.g., blueberries, soy, tea & fiber.
- Good for you: Omega 3 (fish oil), calcium & dark chocolate.
- If you are over 50, take vitamin D-12 in crystalline form.

Below is some additional bio information on Andy Lewis.

Jon McKinnie

I was a member in the Marietta Rotary in Marietta , Georgia . Marietta is a county seat but is a satellite city to Atlanta, like Clear Lake prior to annexation was to Houston . After being inducted into Rotary, I accepted a position with the Supreme Court of Georgia which required me to be downtown Atlanta during meeting times so I was unable to attend. I don’t remember the dates but believe it was in 1998-1999. However, I was a member for less than a year and wouldn’t expect credit.

Currently, I practice estate planning and probate with my mother. Prior to working with my mother, I was a judge and corporate attorney in the Atlanta area. And yes, Polly Lewis is my mother. Thank you for your kind words. I think a lot of her, also. Thank you also for your efforts on this and if you require anything else, please let me know.

Andy

**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

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.

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

SPRINGOREE AUCTION

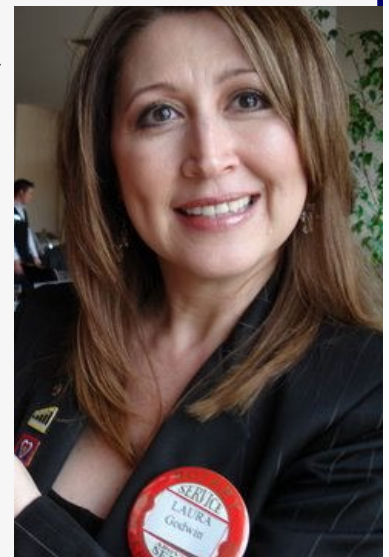
Items are needed for the live auction to be conducted at the Springoree. Trips, weekend stays, fishing trips, etc. are always good. Please see what you can do to help with very important event.

Nanci Rutledge
Direct: 713-854-0153



Silent Auction Items are needed for Springoree. Donations of any size or value are accepted, no donated item is too small. Please bring all items or Gift Certificates to Laura Godwin or call me to arrange pick up. All items must be in by May 3, 2009.

Laura Godwin
832-221-3616



HYDROCARBON
RESOURCE
RECOVERY
Scott Rainey

JSC FEDERAL
CREDIT UNION
Mike Brown

J. PAMELA
PHOTOGRAPHY
Pam Culpepper

KIRCHOFF
PETERSON CO.
Don Kirchoff

**L. D. BOWLES
ASSOCIATES**

Lamar Bowles

**LAS COLINAS
CUSTOM
INTEIORS**

Rae DeCastro

**LEXUS OF
CLEAR LAKE**

Joey Dupuis

**EARL
&
TERRILEE
MAUDLIN**

SPACE CENTER ROTARY CLUB 2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 2009

Club Operations/literacy Month

16 Mon Program: Silvia Garcia, Harris County Commissioner; (Comm.- Const. & Bylaws)
17 Tue Board Meeting
17 Tue Rotary Fellowship at Gilhoole'y - An Irish Celebration
21 Sat Work on Trail Construction at Armand Bayou Nature Center 8-12
23 Mon Program: Dr. Bill Staples, President of the University of Houston at Clear Lake; (Comm.- Photography)
30 Mon Program: (Comm.- Members Classification) Club Meeting Cancelled - All Club Meeting and Ri 2015 Conf. Team Visit Instead
31 Tue Rotary Fellowship at the Italian Café

April 2009

Magazine Month

6 Mon Program: Julie Robinson, NASA Scientist - International Space Station ; (Comm.- Springoree); Boy Scouts receive check
13 Mon Program: TBD; (Comm.- Club History)
20 Mon Program TBD; (Comm.- Grants)
21 Tue Board Meeting
27 Mon Program TBD; (Comm.- Sponsors)
30-May 2 District Conference in Lake Charles, LA

May 2009

Health and Safety Month

4 Mon Program: Memorial - Meeting at Clear Lake Park Senior Citizens Pavilion
8 Fri RNASA Awards Dinner
11 Mon Program TBD; (Comm.- Health and Safety)
14 Thu SPRINGOREE
17 Sun District Motorcycle Ride
18 Mon Program TBD; (Comm.- TBD)
19 Tue Board Meeting and Teacher of the Year Awards Luncheon at So Shore, 11 to 1pm
25 Mon Memorial Day - No Club Meeting

June 2009

Rotary Fellowship Month

1 Mon Program: Excellence in Education; (Comm.- Fellowship)
8 Mon Program Excellence on Law Enforcement ; (Comm.- Golf)
15 Mon Program TBD
16 Tue Board Meeting
21-24 RI Convention in Birmingham, England
22 Mon Club Assembly - Year's Accomplishments
29 Mon Installation of SCR New Board

Note: - Day in () are meetings NOT at the main dining area of Bay Oaks.

**MAUI WOWI
Shelley Smith**

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

SCRC Endowment Foundation Update
March 10th, 2009

Value of all assets: \$122,597.06

Net Profit on Pancake Breakfast:930.71

Present at Meeting: **9 of 11 Board Members**
4 Advisors
1 Red Badge Member

MARCH IS LITERACY MONTH

Did you know —

- For many in South Africa, literacy is a luxury.
- Children learn basic reading in school, but some never have the chance to read for fun.
- Many families have no books at home.
- 13% of people over 15 are illiterate.
- 9 years ago, two RI District Governors — Elect, Ted Pope of District 9300 and Charlie Clemmons (Seabrook Rotary Club) of District 5890, launched the *Bury Me in Books* campaign to promote literacy.
- Since then, Rotary clubs in Texas have collected and shipped close to 9,000,000 books & donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to cover shipping costs to Durban.
- The literacy initiative is run through RI District 9300 Humanitarian Distribution and Service Center in Bedfordview, South Africa.
- Books are sorted and stacked by Rotary volunteers, and schools collect needed materials.
- *“Today’s readers are tomorrow’s leaders,”* says Robin Bath, chair of the initiative. *“Rotarians are shipping the books to South Africa, Post Net (the shipping company) is responsible for their delivery to South Africa.”*
- Due to publicity offered by South African Broadcasting Corp, thousands of requests for books have been received.
- The oldest caller was a 74-year-old woman.

**BON VOYAGE DISCOVERY
GOD’S SPEED!**



Do we have a plan?

- What will SCRC look like in the future?
- Who will be its members?
- Will the diversity of the community be represented?
- What projects will be its focus?
- How will the community look upon Rotary and SCRC in particular?
- Will they see Rotary as an integral and important movement or will they not even know what Rotary is?
- How will the club traverse the space from here to there?
- Are we a club that operates only from year to year with no forward view?
- If you think the club should address these issues, talk to the leadership & talk to each other. If we don’t know what is around the curve, we may wind up in a ditch. Our leaders do an excellent job, but sometimes there is too much focus on now and not enough or any on then.
- Years ago there was a Forward Planning Committee lead by Bob Wren. A lot of the things we do now grew out of those meetings and brain storming.

**GENE & DONNA
TROMBLEE**

**UNIVERSITY OF
HOUSTON
CLEAR LAKE
CAMPUS**

**WALDRON
&
SCHNEIDER**
Attorneys at Law

**WalMart
SuperCenter
Baytown**
Al Stock, Mrg.

THE CITIZEN Mary Alys Cherry	TEXAS ROADHOUSE Tony & Sharon Bloomfield	UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON CLEAR LAKE CAMPUS	Your name could appear here.
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Do you believe that literacy is only a problem of other countries, not the U. S.? Read “How our literacy stacks up beginning on page 26 of the March issue of the *Rotarian*. You may be surprised to find that the U. S., at one time the most literate country in the world, now ranks somewhere between 12th and 24th. Surprised? Astonished? This article, in fact, the entire magazine should be read!

THE GATES WAY TO A POLIO-FREE WORLD. *“On the eve of accelerating his financial commitment, Bill Gates went to see for himself how eradication is working at ground zero in India. While his neighbors in a quiet, leafy suburb of Seattle elected the next U. S. president, Microsoft founder, Bill Gates, walked the dirt roads of a slum in India, where he too is working for change. During a trip in early November, the co-chair of the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** visited Seemapuri, outside of Delhi, with health officials to witness polio eradication in India, one of four countries where the wild poliovirus persists. “It’s amazing what a large task this is,” he told reporter in India. “Despite the challenges, I’m more convinced than ever that India will lead the way to the successful eradication of polio.” You can read the rest of this article beginning on page 44 of the *Rotarian* magazine, March issue.*

On its 50th anniversary, joining pioneer heroes in the early battle against polio, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jonas Salk & Albert Sabin, Rotary was inducted into the Polio Hall of Fame. Rotary International, along with the World Health Organization, the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and UNICEF, have been working since the 1980’s to eliminate the crippling disease and are pushing to eradicate polio in the four countries in which it remains endemic.

Shui-Sen Hsu (92 years young), a member of the Rotary Club of Taipei Northwest with more than 40 years of service, and his wife, **Pei-Tsen**, have been recognized for their US\$1 million donation to fight Polio.

*Some say silence is golden,
but when it is a lack of news,
it only results in blank space
in the newsletter.
Your contributions are welcome,
especially when it is news
about the plans & activities
of your committee.
Please share.*

THIS SPACE	IS RESERVED	FOR MORE	SPONSORS
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