



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 31 * March 24, 2008

Programs:

Today . . . Michael Levitin, Houston Association of Realtors

Mar 31. a presentation by the JSC Chapter
 of Engineers without Borders

Apr 07. TBD
 Apr 14. TBD
 Apr 21. TBD
 Apr 28. GSE Team France
 May 05. TBD
 May 12. TBD
 May 19. TBD
 May 26. Memorial Day, **No Meeting**
 June 02. PE, Gary Johnson -- Shrimporee 2008
 June 09. Public Service Recognition Awards — EMTs
 June 16. Jay Wall / Crime in Houston and what to do about it.
 June 23. Year end directors' reports
 June 30. Pres. Dick— Remarks & Awards

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

Say Happy Birthday to —

Nanci Rutledge. March 1st
 Owen Morris. March 3rd
 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

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. May 8
- Texas Roadhouse Golf Tournament
 Monday, June 30 @ Bay Oaks CC
- RI Convention, Los Angeles. . . June 15-18 '08

SCRC Fellowships 6:30 p.m.

Apr 08. Topwater Grill 815 Ave O, San Leon
 Apr 22. Clifton by Sea Clifton, Tx,
 May 06. Colosseum 16608 El Camino Real
 June 10. Boondoggles 4106 NASA Pkwy, El Lago
 Apr 15.
 Apr 24. Rudy & Paco's Galveston
 May 6. Frenchie's Restaurant 1041 Nasa Parkway
 June 17. Bay Oaks Country Club Pool Party,
 Bring Grandchildren

March is Literacy Month.

Read The Rotarian.

Rotary Sites:

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

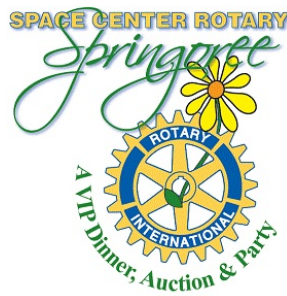
ATTENTION

Tony Bloomfield & Texas Roadhouse will again sponsor a golf tournament that will benefit SCRC. Monday June 30th @ Bay Oaks CC after the club meeting. Shrimporee sponsors will get a free ride.



Our March 17th speaker was the Consul General of Mexico, Carlos Gonzalez. Here, 2nd from left he is shown with John Nugent,

Dick Gregg and a staff member. He spoke of the importance of the relationship between Houston & Texas, Mexico's most valuable trading partner — \$17 billion per year. One thousand Mexican companies call Houston home. There are more than 1,000 flights each week from Houston Bush Airport to destinations in Mexico.



When: Thursday May 8th

Where: Under The Oaks – League City

What: VIP Event – Silent & Live Auctions

•Dinner

•Live Music by Ja'ndo

•Connoisseur Club – Select wine tasting from the wine cellar of
•Mike & Rosie Hesse

•Tickets: Event: \$100.00 per person

•Connoisseur Club Extra

•Next Planning Meeting: Wed. 3/19 @ 5:45 PM

•At Under the Oaks

Rotary on YouTube

Rotary has joined the YouTube generation. Rotary International's innovative new YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/rotaryinternational features a collection of Rotary-produced videos, including *Humanity in Motion* public service announcements and a variety of stories from RVM: *The Rotarian Video Magazine*. This means that Rotary's message is poised to reach a fresh audience of millions of people. Club's and districts are using YouTube to promote service activities, recruit new members and raise funds for projects.

Don't Make the Same Mistake I Did

By: Earl Maudlin

When I was asked to join Rotary, I did not have a clue what it was truly about. So I wasted about 8 years by coming to meetings and sitting in the back of the room and watching, but not really understanding. Then I went to my first District Conference and I believe this was when I stopped being just a Rotary Member and became a ROTARIAN.

For those of you who have not been to a District Conference, you must make room in your schedule to attend the upcoming conference in Galveston on April 24-26, 2008. This is when you really find out what Rotary is all about. Your eyes will be opened by all the great projects that are going on in our district, and when you see the students do their presentation of the nations' flags, you will get that warm feeling in your body.

Personally I need the enthusiasm around me to keep me going and, by attending the District Conference each year, I get my jump start that I need. I have grown to realize that Rotary is not a "been there, done that" organization. In Rotary you never stop doing or you will quit being a Rotarian and just become a Rotary member again. How sad is that when the World need us more than ever.

If you have never been or have been to many District Conferences, please make the effort to attend this one in your own back yard. Mark your calendar for April 24-26 and plan to attend the upcoming District Conference at Moody Gardens in Galveston .

Attached is the registration form or you can register on-line at http://sporg.com/registration?form_id=81092



Alissa Sammons brought her daughter to Rotary. What a great way to introduce her to the *Service Above Self* attitude of Rotarians.



Geoff Atwater called attention to an article in *The Rotarian* about water projects SCRC is supporting.

OUR ROTARY FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER (#60)

April 1, 2008

<http://www.ourfoundation.info>

(Please click on the April 1, 2008 icon)

Dear Rotary Leaders:

Can you feel it? Can you visualize the successful conclusion? It is not far away now and we will all, very soon, reach that joyous moment when Rotarians will stand up together and with one voice shout out ... "We have eradicated polio". The successful completion of *the Global Polio Eradication Campaign* is well within our grasp.

ROTARY'S \$100,000,000.00 CHALLENGE: pages 1 to 10

THE WINDSOR PEACE SUMMIT: page 11

ROTARY ALUMNI CELEBRATION: pages 12 to 13

ROTARY PEACE FELLOWS: pages 14 to 17

MALARIA – A PERSISTENT DISEASE: page 18

WHAT PAUL HARRIS SAID: page 19

Very truly yours,

Dr. Edward Blender,

Chair: Rotary Centers Major Gifts Initiative

Health and Hunger Resource Group 2006-2009

Some Thoughts to Ponder

Life is sexually transmitted.

Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.

Give a person a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a person to use the internet and he won't bother you for weeks.

Health fanatics are going to feel odd some day, lying in hospitals dying of nothing.

All of us could take a lesson from the weather; it pays no attention to criticism.

Why is it that a SLIGHT tax increase costs a person \$200 and a SUBSTANTIAL tax cut saves only \$30?

In the 60's some people took acid to make the world seem weird. Now the world is weird and some people take Prozac to make it seem normal.

Remember — Life is like jalapeno peppers . . . What you do today might burn you tomorrow.