

# 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

April 27, 2009

Editor: Billy Smith

Photographer: Bob Mitchell



## A message from Pres. Mike

April is almost over and the District Conference is upon us. Whereas the April District Assembly is for the purpose of training the future club leadership (and this does not include only the officers but the Directors, Chairs of the different committees and in a sense everyone in the club that wants to better understand the club activities and variety of projects), the District Conference is for the purpose of club members from all over the district to get together over a three day weekend to discuss the accomplishments of the year, have fellowship, meet each other, exchange ideas and prepare for the next year. Again, the District Conference is not something only for members in club leadership positions to attend. Everyone will benefit by attending, by making new friends, getting involved in District activities, and exchanging ideas for worthwhile projects. As many of you, new to Rotary, will soon realized, it is up to you where to participate and how far to go. All of our club's committees are in need of members participation, it is up to you to volunteer, and believe me you are very welcome. The same at the District level, you can volunteer to participate in any of the committees, and again you will be very welcome. Don't think you must be an expert before volunteering. Once there, you will learn as you go, the same as the ones before you have done. If you have not registered yet for the District Conference, I urge you to do it. It is kind of late, but there is still time and you will be happy you did. See you at the Conference!

*Yours in Rotary Service, 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 . . . . . Captain Albert Lynch,  
Regional Game Warden, Texas  
Parks & Wildlife Department**

- May 4th . . . . . Remembering our Deceased former members  
Meeting at Clear Park, Cap Landolt Pavilion*
- May 11th . . . . . Dr. Bob Hodgins, Economic Forecast*
- May 18th . . . . . MD Anderson Donated Equipment*
- May 25th . . . . . **Holiday — no meeting***
- June 1st . . . . . Excellence in Education Awards*
- June 8th . . . . . Excellence in Law Enforcement Awards*
- June 15th . . . . . TBD*
- June 22nd . . . . . Club Assembly: Review of Year's Accomplishments*
- June 29th . . . . . Installation of Officers & Directors for 2009-2010*

**Bring a Guest!!**

## Say Happy Birthday to —

- Dick Gregg III . . . . . April 4th
- Ken Gurry . . . . . April 15th
- Dennis Dillon . . . . . April 22nd
- Dick Meye . . . . . April 30th

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

## SCRC SOCIALS

**Contact Roger Donnelly.**

[Ridonnely@aol.com](mailto:Ridonnely@aol.com)

# *2009 Rotary Springoree*



*Bailey's American Grille*  
*Reserve Your Tickets Now \$75.00 each*

*Wine Connoisseur's Club Tickets \$100.00 each*



*Raffle Tickets For Tag Heuer Watch*



## **Silent and Live Auction!**

*Live music by Ja'ndo*  
*Steak & Prawn Dinner Including Table Wine*  
*Cocktail Attire*



Please contact Scott Rainey 713-724-8595 or [SRams@aol.com](mailto:SRams@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

*“Among the many interesting objects which will engage your attention, that of providing for the common defense, will merit particular regard. To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace.”*

President George Washington’s first annual message to Congress on January 8, 1790.

*“There is a rank due to the United States among nations which will be withheld, if not absolutely lost, by the reputation of weakness. If we desire to avoid insult, we must be able to repel it; if we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity, it must be known that we are at all times ready for war.”*

President George Washington’s fifth annual message on December 3, 1793.



**MALARIA FOLLOWUP**

Last Saturday was World Malaria Day. *“Scientists believe mosquitoes evolved about 230 million years ago in what is now South America. Of the roughly 3,500 mosquito species, about 40 transmit malaria. Each year, more than 350 million cases of malaria occur in at least 109 countries. More than one million result in death.”* - - - Read the rest of the story on page 80 of the May issue of the Rotarian Magazine.

BEN BRIDGE  
JEWELERS

Travis Vermeer

BILLY R. SMITH

Attorney at Law  
Board Certified in  
Estate Planning, Probate &  
Real Estate Law

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. Both the winning ticket seller & the club president receive two round-trip tickets to any destination in the contiguous 48 states. See **DAVID CONEY** for more details.

**HELP WANTED**

Wanted - Assistant Photographer: to photograph Space Center Rotary Club events. Join existing Photographic Committee, equipment provided, minimum experience desired. Instruction available. Great working conditions among your friends and neighbors. Contact Bob Mitchell for details, 281-333-2881 or [mitchell.rw@comcast.net](mailto:mitchell.rw@comcast.net)

**WATCH RAFFLE TICKETS**  
**\$10 each or 6 for \$50**



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

*Laura Godwin*  
*832-221-3616*

**Ben Bridge Jewelers,**  
**Baybrook Mall,**  
through Travis Vermeer, has donated this watch, a Tag Heuer Carrera stainless steel silver dial chronograph with a retail value of \$3,200 to be raffled by the Springoree 2009.



**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**

### **SPEAKER APRIL 27, 2009**

**Mark Annas** is currently the Community Liaison in the Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (HCOHSEM). As Community Liaison, he oversees community outreach operations including representing the office in front of diverse community groups and corporate interests. During Hurricane Ike, he managed the night shift of the Joint Information Center. The HCOHSEM coordinates and supports efforts to respond to, and recover from, emergencies and disasters. Prior to becoming Community Liaison, Mr. Annas worked in County Judge Ed Emmett's office as a policy analyst handling special projects. One of his projects involved bringing together fire departments and the Public Infrastructure Department an Emergency Vehicle Traffic Priority System. Mr. Annas holds certifications from the State Firemen's and Fire Marshal's Association as an introductory and accredited basic firefighter, multiple NIMS/Incident Management certifications through the Department of Homeland Security and from the National Safety Council. He graduated from The University of Houston in 2006 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science.



Mr. Annas' topic was hurricane preparedness. Words to live by: *"Run from water; hide from wind."* Also, *"When a hurricane is on the way, don't stay."* Finally, *turn around, don't drown."*

More information may be obtained at

[www.hcoem.org](http://www.hcoem.org)

### **HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

The Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management is nationally recognized for its coordinated approach to emergency preparedness and response. As director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, County Judge Ed Emmett collaborates with law enforcement, emergency managers, and medical personnel throughout the region to coordinate responses to area disasters – whether they are natural or manmade. In 2006, Homeland Security and Emergency Management participated in four major homeland security exercises with local, state, and federal agencies. In addition, 16 local drills tested regional agencies, our communications capability, and ability to respond various disaster scenarios. For more information, please visit [www.hcoem.org](http://www.hcoem.org). To get involved, please visit the Harris County Citizen Corps.

### **THINK.ACT.SURVIVE**

**MAUI WOWI  
Shelley Smith**

**MERRILL LYNCH**  
**Jerry & Bill  
Smith**

**MRI  
TECHNOLOGIES**  
**Tim Kropp**

**PROSPERITY  
BANK**  
**Mark Humphrey**

<b>SPACE CENTER AUTOMOTIVE</b> Jerrold Dewease	<b>STATE FARM INSURANCE</b> Johnny R. White Agent	<b>TEXAS CITIZENS BANK</b> Mike Cornett	<b>TEXAS WEALTH MANAGEMENT</b> Mike Hesse
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Words to live by:</b></p> <p>The Four-Way Test of the things we think, say or do —</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is it the <b>TRUTH</b>?</li> <li>2. Is it <b>FAIR</b> to all concerned?</li> <li>3. Will it build <b>GOODWILL</b> and <b>BETTER FRIENDSHIPS</b>?</li> <li>4. Will it be <b>BENEFICIAL</b> to all concerned?</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>POLIO PLUS</b></p> <p>In 2007, the Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation awarded Rotary International a US\$100 million challenge grant to underwrite Rotary's commitment to eradicate polio. Rotary pledged to match the grant dollar for dollar, and as of January 2009, it had raised nearly \$73 million. On January 21st, the Gates Foundation awarded an additional US\$250 million. Rotary committed to raising a total of US\$200 million by June 30, 2012.</p> <p><i>Read the full story beginning on page 48 of the May edition of the Rotarian.</i></p>
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**3 GALAXIES**

On April 1-2, the Hubble Space Telescope photographed a group of galaxies called Arp 274. Arp 274, also known as NGC 5679, is a system of three galaxies that appear to be partially overlapping in the image, although they may be at somewhat different distances. The spiral shapes of two of these galaxies appear mostly intact. The

third galaxy, to the far left, is more compact, but shows evidence of star formation. Two of the three galaxies are forming new stars at a high rate. This is evident in the bright blue knots of star formation that are strung along the arms of the galaxy on the right and along the small galaxy on the left. The entire system resides at about 400 million light-years away from Earth in the constellation Virgo. (AP Photo/ Hubble Space Telescope/NASA)

<b>GENE &amp; DONNA TROMBLEE</b>	<b>UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON CLEAR LAKE CAMPUS</b>	<b>WALDRON &amp; SCHNEIDER</b> Attorneys at Law	<b>WalMart SuperCenter Baytown</b> Al Stock, Mrg.
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>THE CITIZEN</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mary Alys Cherry</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TEXAS ROADHOUSE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tony &amp; Sharon Bloomfield</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON CLEAR LAKE CAMPUS</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Your name could appear here.</p>
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## IN MEMORIAM

On May 4th, our meeting will start at Clear Park on the lake side of NASA Parkway. After the meal, the meeting will move to the Space Center Rotary Club Memorial to our deceased former members near Cap Landolt Pavilion. Following is a list of deceased former members of whom I am either aware or can recall. If you determine that a name is missing, please email me as soon as you are able so that they will be honored.

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Armstrong, Waymon<br/>         Bennett, Bill<br/>         Denike, Maggie<br/>         Eggleston, Jack<br/>         Fleming, George M.<br/>         Garland, Lloyd<br/>         Hammach, Jerry<br/>         Heidbreder, Allen<br/>         Jowid, Mansour A. "Al"<br/>         Landolt, Casper D. "Cap"<br/>         Lindquist, O. Gene<br/>         McClure, Jewel Rev.<br/>         Morgan, Frank G.<br/>         Neumann, Selma S.<br/>         Rittenhouse, William H. "Bill"<br/>         Smith, Harold P. "Harry"<br/>         Strader, Charles "Rex"<br/>         Veth, Richard D. "Dick"<br/>         Webb, William J. "Bill"<br/>         Williams, Woodrow W. "Woody"</p> | <p>Avery, Harry<br/>         Brown, Ivan E.<br/>         Denike, Jack E.<br/>         Farries, William C. "Bill"<br/>         Franz, David G. "Dave"<br/>         Gist, Chester "Pete"<br/>         Hardwick, Charles S.<br/>         Hooi, Cheng Loon<br/>         Karraker, Ralph H.<br/>         Lang, Dave W.<br/>         Lyons, Charles Roger<br/>         McDonald, James N. "Jim"<br/>         Neely, Harold L. "Hal"<br/>         Olsen, Aaron B.<br/>         Robison, Dixie Ruth<br/>         Steadman, Beverly E. "Bev"<br/>         Tarin, Eddie (EI)<br/>         Waddell, Fred B.<br/>         Weir, Thomas P. Jr. "Tom"</p> | <p>Balfe, John McKinstry "Mac"<br/>         Chaney, Bailey R.<br/>         Downs, Dick<br/>         Fitch, Maury<br/>         Gibson, Johnny<br/>         Haas, Jim<br/>         Hartman, Charles H.<br/>         Hughes, H. Mervin "Merv"<br/>         Kirk, H. Donald "Don"<br/>         Lasiter, Larry<br/>         Matthews, Marvin F. "Marv"<br/>         Mieszkuc, Marilyn<br/>         Neumann, Alfred<br/>         Redman, Curtis<br/>         Sarahan, Bernard L. "Larry"<br/>         Stewart, Steve<br/>         Tuite III, William A. "Bill"<br/>         Watson, John<br/>         Weston, William H. Dr. "Buck"</p> |
|---|---|---|

	<p style="text-align: center;">Meet our newest member: GRANT "TREG" TREGRE.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>See more pictures on page 12 and a partial bio on page 13.</i></p>
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THIS SPACE	IS RESERVED	FOR MORE	SPONSORS
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## Space Center Rotary Club

### Summary of April 21st Board Meeting

1. The Board meeting of the Space Center Rotary Club was called to order on April 21, 2009 by President Mike Hernandez after confirming a quorum.
2. Minutes of the March Board meeting were approved with modifications. Membership report and attendance status were reviewed. During the month of March we had 4 new members approved in the club. As of the end of March we had 119 active members which represent an increase by 8 members. The average Club meeting member attendance for March was 63.32%, an increase by 3% from the previous month.

3. The Treasurer's report showed all members having paid their dues. Summary of Financials are included. Status of Club Reserve Funds is as follows:

Reserve Service Money from Previous Fund Raisers as of end of March.

Checking Account.....\$ 3,585

Money Market Account.....\$ 33,468

Service and Admin Reserve funds.

Janus Funds.....\$ 24,510

#### A. Open Items:

1. The viability of hiring a Bookkeeper to take care of the club financial records was tabled and left to the decision of the next year's Board.
2. Amendments of the by-laws are still being reviewed
3. The Club Investment Committee, headed by the Club's Treasurer, recommended the money invested in the Janus Funds be left in place. The Board voted to follow the committee's recommendation.

#### B. New Items:

1. The application of a proposed new member (Slade Lewis) presented by Steve Owens was approved.
2. Mark Humphrey resigned from the club and Board position as Director due to a job change of location. President Mike Hernandez was approved to act in that position for the remaining 3 months of this year.
3. Marilyn Musial's request to stay as Treasurer for next year instead of moving to the Secretary position was discussed and approved together with the approval for Mike Dennard to take the Secretary position.
4. The expenditure of \$800 to subsidize swimming lessons for 10 children at the YMCA was approved.
5. Five members of the Board were designated as club delegates to vote at the District elections during the Conference.
6. Leave of absence for 90 days was approved for Bill Artzberg.
7. No action was taken on an application for the club to register as a member of the AMOCO Credit Union.

- C. The meeting was adjourned about 8:10 a.m.

# SPACE CENTER ROTARY SUMMARY OF CLUB'S OPERATING FINANCIALS

As of March 31, 2009

## Administration:

Members Dues paid: .....\$27,482

### *Meetings and meals:*

Payments received.....\$27,340  
Payments to Bay Oaks.....\$28,521  
Meals paid by the club.....\$ 1,181

### *Expenditures:*

District Dues.....\$ 2,775  
2015 RI Convention Support..... 1,665  
District Activities..... 150  
District Conference ..... 365  
General Administrative..... 630  
Insurance (D&O Liability)..... 450  
First Half of RI Dues..... 3,889  
Second Half RI Dues..... 3,511  
President's Contingency..... 280  
Capital Equipment..... 585  
Bank Charges..... 79  
Recognition and Awards..... 30  
Membership Recruitment & Retention..... 428  
Public Information..... 450  
Programs..... 807  
Club paid meals..... 1,181  
Directorate and Web page.....599  
Total Expenditures. ....\$17,874

### *Pending payment:*

Contribution to District Conference  
Members attendance to District Assembly fees  
Pres Elect attendance to PETS  
Project Posters  
Deceased club member names inscription in Memorial slab

## Service

Budgeted Amount:.....\$75,000

### Project Expenditures:

Clinic in Guerrero, Mexico..... \$ 1,000  
Water Project Carbonara, Mex..... 1,000  
Engineers Without Borders..... 1,000  
Children Literacy Center..... 7,000  
CCISD Hurricane Ike..... 1,000\*  
Youth Exchange..... 4,497  
RI Foundation..... 2,500

*continued on next page*

High Schools Booster Clubs.....	400
Guerrero, Mex. Orphanage.....	2,000**
Guerrero Washer/Dryer.....	750**
Group Study Exchange.....	330*
Bank Charges.....	230*
MD Anderson Children Cancer Hosp.....	7,057
Others.....	155*
Youth Activities.....	250
Drug Awareness Essay Scholarship.....	1,090
Scholastic Scholarships.....	6,345
Nursing home Valentine's Day.....	<u>600</u>
Total Expenditures.....	\$37,205

\* From unassigned budget account

\*\* From World Health budget account

Pending Payment:

Contribution to Boy Scouts  
 Subsidy of children swimming lessons  
 Defibrillator donated to Boys and Girls Harbor  
 Donation to SCR Endowment Foundation

## How to install a Southern home security system:

1. Go to the Goodwill Store and buy a pair of men's work boots, size 14-16 (well used).
2. Place them on the front porch along with a copy of Gun and Ammo magazine.
3. Put a couple of BIG dog dishes next to the boots and magazine.
4. Leave a handwritten note on your door that reads:

Hey Bubba!

Big Jim, Duke, and Me went for more ammo....be back in about an hour. Don't mess with the pit bulls--they got after the mailman this morning and messed him up real bad. I don't think Killer took part in it, but it was hard to tell from all the blood. Anyway, I locked all the dogs in the house. And remember they don't bark until it is too late! Just wait outside till we get back.

*Cooter*

**Pictures From the April 20th Meeting**

***From top left: PDG Suzi Howe pins Grant while Sgt at Arms, Mike Dennard looks on; Grant speaks; & Grant, Suzi & PE Jon McKinnie grin.***



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR REMAINDER OF THE ROTARY YEAR 2008-2009

### MAY 2009

### HEALTH AND SAFETY MONTH

4 Mon	Program: MEMORIAL - MEETING AT CLEAR LAKE PARK PAVILLION
8 Fri	RNASA Awards Dinner
11 Mon	Program TBD; (Comm.- Health and Safety)
14 Thu S	PRINGOREE
17 Sun	District Motorcycle Ride
18 Mon	Program SCR Endowment Foundation and MD Anderson Hospital; (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
30 Sat	Blood Donation Drive, Wall Mart, League City

### 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

**GRANT "TREG" TREGRE** (*an abbreviated bio*) — Grant is a business development and engineering manager for ManTech International, ManTech SRS Technologies, where he manages a team of engineers at NASA JSC and Goddard Space Flight Center, working on NASA's Constellation Program in the areas of integrated software, avionics, safety, reliability and quality assurance. Previously, Grant worked as a senior systems engineering consultant for Booz Allen Hamilton located in the Washington DC metro area. Before that, he worked as a systems engineer at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. He earned a BS in Physics from Xavier University and in Electrical Engineering from Tulane. His MS in Systems Engineering is from Johns Hopkins University. As an undergraduate, Grant was an academic fellow and recipient of the Tulane University Legislative Scholarship, National Science Foundation Model Institution for Excellence Fellowship and National Science Foundation Science, Engineering and Mathematics Fellowship. He is active in several organizations including the International Association for the Advancement of Space Safety, Systems Engineering Technical Committee of American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, International Council on Systems Engineering, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Association of Old Crows, Johns Hopkins University Alumni Association, Tulane University Alumni Association, and Annual Giving Fund Committee Member of Xavier University of Louisiana Alumni Association. Grant has been involved in several individual service activities such as events designed to grow interest in space exploration in the Houston Independent Public School District, mentoring summer interns at JHU APL, serving as a motivational speaker for the University of Maryland high school education outreach programs and serving as a fundraising coordinator for the United Way.

*Please get to know Grant and put him to work — he certainly has a history of serving. Heads-up Scott & Nanci, he is a fundraiser.*