

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

May 4, 2009

Editor: Billy Smith

Photographer: Bob Mitchell



A message from Pres. Mike:

SPACE CENTER ROTARY CLUB

RECEIVES ROTARY CLUB OF THE YEAR

AWARD! 2008-2009

My congratulations to all of our members!!! The 2008-09 District 5890 Conference was held in Lake Charles this weekend, and concluded on Saturday night with dinner and awards presentation. Our members, present at the conference, were surprised when the Space Center Rotary Club was selected as large "Club the Year". I was honored to accept the award in the name of all of you, and I might say, to an enthusiastic standing ovation. What a tribute to the outstanding membership and wonderful projects of our club. Our club should also be proud that Jon McKinnie, our incoming President, was honored by being selected "Rotarian of the Year". Jon was also caught by surprise and said he never in his wildest dreams, would I have thought he was worthy of such a great honor. And to top it all, our club's Assistant Governor and friend, Chris Schneider, was selected as "Assistant Governor of the Year". Oh! What a shining night for our Club.

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 . . Remembering our Deceased former members;

Meeting at Clear Park, (on the Lake Side)

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 —

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| David Coney | May 4th |
| Laura Godwin | May 9th |
| Alan Wylie | May 10th |
| Tom Kloves | May 10th |
| Bob Wren | May 12th |
| Jim Hargrove | May 12th |
| Luciano Gaigher | May 14th |
| Carlos Villagomez | May 20th |
| Geoff Atwater | May 20th |

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

SCRC SOCIALS

Contact Roger Donnelly.

Ridonnelly@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.
Rotary Space Award Dinner May 8, 2009
Springoree May 14th
100th RI Convention, Birmingham, England June 21 — 24, 2009

Rotaract Update

Clear Lake High school currently has over 40 students who have started an Interact Club.

Dr. Greg Smith, The president of the Interact Club (Marissa Alento), officer Kathryn Hageman and myself had a meeting on April 28th to share ideas for an event to be held April 29th at Clear Lake High School. They are having a meeting to recruit more students to Interact. At this meeting, we gave the Marissa the official form to send to RI. She will fill it out with all of the charter members, and return it to me for President Hernandez to sign. Once he has signed it, we will forward to the District Governor to sign and send it to RI. This form will make starting an Interact Club Official in this Rotary year. In May, Jamie Edwards (the teacher sponsor at Lake), and Marissa Alento (Interact President) will attend a district event and have a small speech about starting the Clear Lake High School Interact Club.

The following are some of the early accomplishments of the Clear Lake Interact Club.:

1. There are currently 7 Officers of the club and a Teacher sponsor.
2. They have recruiting around 40 members.
3. They plan to have monthly meetings
4. They have planned a recruiting event at the school to talk to students about Interact.
5. They have designed a T-Shirt custom for their club and have them at the printer.
6. Dr. Greg Smith Superintendent of CCISD has agreed to chair the Interact committee for next year.
7. The teacher sponsor and president plan to give a speech at a district wide interact meeting.
8. They have identified their first project that they want to work on.
9. We are planning to bring the officers to a Space Center Rotary Club meeting to tell us what they are doing.

Thanks, David Coney

**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

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
INTERIORS
Rae DeCastro**

**LEXUS OF
CLEAR LAKE**

Joey Dupuis

**EARL
&
TERRILEE
MAUDLIN**



Sheri Knappe is the current Executive Director of the America Red Cross/Bay Area Branch located on Bay Area Blvd. She is a longtime friend of mine and also of our club. Sheri was born and raised in La Marque, Texas. She moved to the Clear Lake area in 1977 where she raised 2 children, who are both grown. She presently lives in League City. She was originally introduced to the Red Cross when she volunteered to secure beds for displaced people after Hurricane Carla. Sheri became employed by the Red Cross in 1990. After many years of training volunteers, teaching classes and providing aid to victims of disaster, she left to become the Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Seabrook. She returned to our Bay Area Branch of the Red Cross as Executive Director in November of last year. She supported the Clear Lake area in so many ways. One of the important groups she assisted in the past was our own Space Center Rotary Club through our Health and Safety committee. She supported us on two projects. The first was in the Red Cross CPR classes when she worked with us as we donated manikins to the Red Cross for use in the courses. They are still using the manikins; and their carry-bags have the Space Center Rotary logo on them. She also worked with us in the creation of a project called "Safe on My Own", a program to teach latchkey children about safety methods. The program worked through school nurses to disseminate safety information in the elementary schools. She has been very active in the Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce where she started the Ambassadors, the ribbon cutting committee, and served as the first chair. She also wrote a weekly column for The Citizen featuring our local E. A. Smith YMCA. I'd like to ask all Rotarians to join me in giving Sheri a big Space Center Rotary welcome.

**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

Words to live by:

The Four-Way Test of the things we think, say or do —

- 1. Is it the TRUTH?**
- 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?**
- 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**
- 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?**

*Meet the newest member
of Space Center Rotary
Club*

*Sheri Knappe,
Executive Director
American Red Cross
League City, Texas*



See introduction of Sheri on page 6.

India couple pledges US\$2 million to Foundation

Rajendra R. and Shubha Laxmi Chhapwale during their induction ceremony into the Arch C. Klumph Society 23 April. Rotary Images/Monika Lozinska-Lee A desire to improve literacy in their homeland of India has motivated recent Arch C. Klumph Society inductees Rajendra R. and Shubha Laxmi Chhapwale to commit an additional US\$2 million to The Rotary Foundation over the next three years. Rajendra made the announcement during the couple's induction into the society 23 April at RI World Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, USA, where their portrait now hangs in the Arch C. Klumph Gallery. The Chhapwales' daughter, Amarja, and son-in-law, Christopher Webb, of Los Angeles, also attended the ceremony. "It is our concern for the deprived and unprivileged children in our country that made us come here," Rajendra said to the assembled Rotary leaders, dignitaries, and guests. "Rotary is doing such meaningful work through its programs, like polio eradication, Matching Grants, and Health, Hunger and Humanity Grants, throughout the world. I realized that The Rotary Foundation is just the right organization, where proper justice is done to the donations." The couple has already contributed \$250,000 to the Foundation and established an endowed fund. The new pledge will go toward increasing this endowment fund. "One of the thrust areas of Rotary International is literacy. We thought that by establishing this endowment fund in The Rotary Foundation, we can help this cause more effectively, and the results would be faster," Rajendra said. "With the wider net of Rotary clubs all over India and also through the Matching Grants program, this task is possible and achievable.



**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. |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|

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.

Armstrong, Waymon
 Bennett, Bill
 Robert "Bob" Chuoke
 Downs, Dick
 Fitch, Maury
 Gibson, Johnny
 Haas, Jim
 Hartman, Charles H.
 Hughes, H. Mervin "Merv"
 Kirk, H. Donald "Don"
 Lasiter, Larry
 Matthews, Marvin F. "Marv"
 Mieszkuc, Marilyn
 Neumann, Alfred
 Redman, Curtis
 Sarahan, Bernard L. "Larry"
 Stewart, Steve
 Tuite III, William A. "Bill"
 Watson, John
 Weston, William H. Dr. "Buck"
 Williams, Woodrow W. "Woody"

Avery, Harry
 Brown, Ivan E.
 Denike, Maggie
 Eggleston, Jack
 Fleming, George M.
 Garland, Lloyd
 Hammack, Jerry
 Heidbreder, Allen
 Jowid, Mansour A. "Al"
 Landolt, Casper D. "Cap"
 Lindquist, O. Gene
 McClure, Jewel Rev.
 Morgan, Frank G.
 Neumann, Selma S.
 Rittenhouse, William H. "Bill"
 Smith, Harold P. "Harry"
 Strader, Charles "Rex"
 Veth, Richard D. "Dick"
 Webb, William J. "Bill"

Balfe, John McKinstry "Mac"
 Chaney, Bailey R.
 Denike, Jack E.
 Farries, William C. "Bill"
 Franz, David G. "Dave"
 Gist, Chester "Pete"
 Hardwick, Charles S.
 Hooi, Cheng Loon
 Karraker, Ralph H.
 Lang, Dave W.
 Lyons, Charles Roger
 McDonald, James N. "Jim"
 Neely, Harold L. "Hal"
 Olsen, Aaron B.
 Robison, Dixie Ruth
 Steadman, Beverly E. "Bev"
 Tarin, Eddie (EI)
 Waddell, Fred B.
 Weir, Thomas P. Jr. "Tom"

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| THIS SPACE | IS RESERVED | FOR MORE | SPONSORS |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|

Pictures From the April 27th Meeting



Clockwise from top left: Pres. Mike with speaker, Capt. Lynch & Program Chr. Kippy Caraway; Pres. Mike with new member, Shari Knape; Capt. Albert Lynch, Game Warden, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department for 25 years.

