

# 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

June 22, 2009

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

Editor: Billy Smith

Photographer: Bob Mitchell

Ass't. Photographer: John Lee



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

## A message from Pres. Mike:



Due to time constraint the Board decided to only present the goals and accomplishments of the Service Committees today at the club meeting. Overall goals and club operations committees' goals and accomplishments will not be presented at a club meeting, but are summarized below for members information purposes.

Overall Goals: Maintain members informed of club activities and financial conditions.

### Accomplishments:

- Introduced a banner displaying the month's Rotary Theme. Introduced a presentation, as part of the club's meeting agenda, of "the RI Foundation Message of the Week", the "Membership Moment" and a "Committee Short Explanation" for the purpose of keeping members informed.
- A different committee made a presentation at each club meeting of their activities and objectives
- Club information was available in the club's web page
- Three Club Assemblies were conducted in the year ( including the one on 6/22/09)
- Published "President's Remarks" in the weekly Blastoff
- Published a summary of the monthly Board meetings' minutes and financials in Blastoff

Goal: Increase membership by 10% and maintain present members

### Accomplishments:

- A number of changes were implemented to expedite the initiation process, assist new members in getting involved in committees, and encourage member participation in club activities
- The club started in July with 111 members, lost 7 members during the year and gained 14 new members with an increase of 7 members for the year. Our club ended up in 4th place in the District as increased number of members

*Continued on page 4 —*

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 . . . 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 —

- Chuck Jacobson . . . . . June 2nd
- David Hamblin . . . . . June 2nd
- John Lee . . . . . June 13th
- Alissa Sammons . . . . . June 16th
- Dan Weber . . . . . June 18th
- Olive Murphy-Riker . . . . . June 20th
- Gene Tromblee . . . . . June 26th
- Hilmar Zeissig . . . . . June 29th

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

**JUNE IS FELLOWSHIP MONTH**



**A great tattoo!**

**Anyone you know?**



- Communicated with District clubs to participate in the Methodist Heart Center CPR Training Day
- Partnered with Clubs on Water projects
- Supported Guerrero Clinic project
- Partnered with the Seabrook and League City Clubs to select a CCISD wide Teachers of the Year
- Participated in the District effort to teach children to swim.

Goal: Increase community awareness of Rotary's contributions

Accomplishments:

- Obtained photographs and information from the club activities ,made and displayed posters at club meetings and District events. An average of more than 3 publications per month in the local paper were maintained, more that 5 publications came out in the District news letter over the year. We had a large community participation and press exposure during the Shrimporee, the Teacher of the Year luncheon and the RNASA Awards Dinner

Goal: Support RI Foundation and meet or exceed pledged Club's contributions

Accomplishments:

- Our club exceeded our pledge to the Foundation of \$100 average per member. Contribution to the Annual Fund was of \$20,295 or \$182.84 average per member and to the End of Polio Fund of \$4,910.

Goal: Support the SCR Endowment Foundation

Accomplishments:

- Members participated in the 2 pancake breakfasts of the Foundation. The club donated \$2,500 and encouraged members to become Floyd Bose Fellows

Goal: Meet or exceed the requirements for the Club to achieve the Rotary International "Presidential Citation" award

Accomplishments:

- Following our Club's tradition, the Club achieved this year again the RI Presidential Citation award

Goal: Be selected to receive the 5890 District's "Club of the Year" award

Accomplishments:

- The Club was nominated and received the District 5890 large "Club of the Year" Award!
- Sent monthly information package to District with Club events and accomplishments
- Invited the District Governor and Assistant Governor to our events, such as Shrimporee, Springoree, RNASA, and others.

Goal: Maintain a club environment that promotes participation, a sense accomplishment and friendship among the members

Accomplishments:

- We have intended through out the year to encourage and value member participation; make each member feel an integral part of the club; keep membership informed and ask for suggestions and opinions; and provide ways for members to better know each other.

**Club Service Directorate - Mark Humphrey**

**Programs Committee - Kippy Caraway**

Goal: Have interesting and informative programs with current significance.

To educate, inform and motivate our members and to make non-members want to be a Space City rotary member.

Accomplishments:

- All of the above objectives were accomplished.
- Coordinated speakers for 28 club meetings. Topics varied from current political issues, to sports, to education, to business, etc.
- Other club programs consisted of committees' activities, reports to the members, District presentations, etc.

**Directory and Web Page Committee - Jon McKinnie**

Goals:

- Develop on-line membership database.
- Create directory with photos
- Instruct members on how to maintain their own profiles and make inputs to the webpage
- Maintain the web page operational and add improvements as reasonable

Accomplishments: All of the above objectives were accomplished

**Club History and Memorial Committee - Jerrold Dewease/Laura Hale**

Goals:

- Maintain the repository of Club information and data of the previous years
- Collect from the Club Board members at the end of the year pertinent data and information worth of safe keeping
- Start converting and keeping as much of the information as possible in electronic files
- Collect the names of the deceased club members not yet incorporated into the SCR Club Memorial Monument.
- Organize and conduct a Club meeting at the memorial site to incorporate the names and remember those deceased members

Accomplishments: All of the above objectives were accomplished

**Constitution/Bylaws Committee - Billy Ray Smith**

Goal: Conduct a revision of the bylaws and suggest changes to Board

Accomplishments:

- Changes were made to the bylaws and presented to the President and President Elect. Further changes have been made to reflect the manner in which the club is being managed. Board review and approval are still pending. Provided interpretation of RI Constitution and conducted the Club election of Officers and Directors for the 2009-2010 year

**Public Relations and Fellowship Directory - John Nugent**

**Fellowship Committee - Bill Taylor**

Goals:

- Organize and inform membership of regularly scheduled gatherings for fellowship purposes (at restaurants, clubs, or homes of Rotarians) At least one or two a month
- Support Club activities such as Shrimporee and Springoree from the point of view of the fellowship and Family of Rotary events
- Promote District activities such as Day at the Rodeo, Day at the Astros, Week-end fun trips, etc.
- Promote the Space Center/Seabrook Rotary Clubs joint Christmas party
- Accomplishments:
  - Conducted in an average 2 fellowship meetings per month.
  - Supported Shrimporee and Springoree, and organized and conducted a Club Christmas dinner/party

**Bulletin and Communication Committee - Billy Ray Smith**

Goals:

- Publish the Blastoff bulleting every week with meaningful information about the club's activities, accomplishments, up coming events, and Rotary information.
- Serve a single point of contact to disseminate important/emergency information to the overall membership

Accomplishments:

- Published 40 issues of the club newsletter, the Blastoff, with pertinent and interesting information to the members. Also disseminated information to the members as requested.

**Photography Committee - Bob Mitchell**

Goals:

- Attend Club meetings and take pictures of events worth keeping record or worth distributing as public information
- Attend other SCR events and take relevant pictures
- Coordinate with the chair of Public Information and other committee chairs to take pictures of projects and generate public information posters
- Distribute pictures to be used in The Blastoff and to the Historian for safe record keeping
- Accomplishments:
  - Attended most of the club meetings and took pictures. Distributed the pictures for use in the Blastoff and for report or record keeping purposes.

**Public Information Committee - Mary Alys Cherry**

Goals:

- Develop brochures, posters, etc. with information about the activities and projects of the Club.
- Stay informed of club activities and work with the different committees to generate press releases and segments in the Blastoff, our web page and the District web page. Have at least one "press" release a week.
- Work closely with the Photography committee to assure pictures are taken to support public information activities.
- Support the Shrimporee and Springoree committees in their advertising activities

Accomplishments:

- Worked closely with the different committees to develop press releases for the local newspaper. Attended committees' activities and took pictures to support the articles in the newspaper. Averaged over 3 newspaper publications per month.
- Supported the Shrimporee and Springoree in their public information activities

**Golf Committee - Richard Kidder**

Goal: Organize weekly golf outings to different golf courses of the area. Maintain club members informed.

Accomplishments:

- Averaged 2 golf outings per month during the year. Maintained members informed.

**Membership Directorate - Bill Geissler**

Attendance Committee - Bill Geissler

Goals:

- Maintain member attendance records of all club meetings, including information on make ups. Provide monthly attendance records to Secretary.
- Work towards the implementation of an electronic attendance record system during this year
- Maintain all equipment and documentation required to run the check-in table at the weekly club luncheons.
- Provide the required service to collect the money and issue appropriate tickets for the lunch service.
- Tally the receipts, fill out deposit slip and deposit envelope, and give to treasurer following conclusion of luncheon meeting.

Accomplishments: All of the above objectives were accomplished with the exception of the implementation of the electronic attendance records system. This possibility was studied and presented a number of problems. The decision was made not to pursue the electronic system.

**Classification Committee - Scott Rainey**

Goals:

- Conduct a classification survey of the Clear Lake area and provide statistic on our Club's classification usage.
- Identify the proper classification for proposed new members

Accomplishments:

- Completed a study of the classifications in the Clear Lake area and the ones lacking in the club. Presented these conclusions at a club meeting. Provided classification to 14 new members

**Recruitment and Retention Committee - Jon McKinnie**

Goals:

- Increase by 11 the number of members by June 30, 2009
- Establish a proactive guest program including greeters, thank you note and following up
- Encourage members to identify prospects and invite to meetings
- Follow the streamlined orientation process with the objective of no more than 3 to 4 weeks from Board approval to induction into the club
- Recognize new members and their sponsors in media releases and club bulleting
- Establish a Mentoring Program and involve new members in club activities immediately
- Identify and contact non attending members
- Encourage spouse involvement in Club functions

Accomplishments: All objectives were accomplished with the exception that 14 new members were inducted in the club. Seven members left the club for a number of reasons, some moved to other areas and joined a club there. The number of club members for the year was increased by 7.

**Fund Raising Directorate - David Coney**

**Grants Committee - Stan Galanski**

Goals:

- Understand and develop capabilities to write Grant requests
- Work with the Club President and Committees Chairs in preparing Grant requests. At least 2 expected

Accomplishments: All objectives were accomplished. Two District Simplified Grants were prepared and presented. One of the grants was approved by the District for \$2,000, the other was denied. The money from the grant was used together with club money to acquire and donate training and recreational equipment for the MD Anderson Children Cancer Hospital

Shrimporee Committee - Jon McKinnie

Goals:

- Develop theme, logo and overall approach to conduct the Shrimporee within the traditional guidelines followed at every year's Shrimporee, but bringing innovations to attract community attendance and improve overall results.
- Consider this year's RI President interest in the subject of reduction of Child mortality rate when considering event theme. Include the subject of children safety and health in the activities at the Shrimporee
- This year's monetary goal, as established by the club's president, is of \$80,000.00 net.
- Involve the total club membership in the activities of the Shrimporee

Accomplishments: All activities were accomplished. The net proceeds from the Shrimporee amounted to \$65,250.

Springoree Committee - Steve Owens

Goals:

- Perform all the activities required to conduct a safe, successful and productive event within the traditional guide lines of the Springoree, but including innovations to improve the over all results of the event.
- Strive to make improvements in the quality of auction items
- Monetary goal as established by the club’s president is an increased of 10% from the \$30K net of year 2008

Accomplishments: All objectives were accomplished. The net proceeds from the Springoree is estimated to amount to \$20,780

Sponsors Committee - Scott Rainey

Goals:

- Work with members of the community, businesses and private to obtain sponsorships for the Shrimporee and Springoree
- Set a monetary goal that surpasses the previous year by 5 to 10 %.

Accomplishments: All goals were accomplished. Sponsors contributions amounted to \$36,864

Accomplishments of the Service Committees will be presented verbally to the club on June 22, 2009. A summary of the presentation will be published in the Blastoff of June 29, 2009

*Yours in Rotary Service,  
Mike*

**SCRC SOCIALS  
[6:30 p.m.]**

**July 14th** ..... **DOS MAS, 103 W. Bay Area Blvd.**

**July 28th** ..... **MELY’S SEABROOK, 3659 NASA Pkwy.**

**August 11th** ..... **B J’s, 515 West Bay Area Blvd.**

**August 24th** ..... **COLESSEUM RESTAURANT, 16608 El Camino Real**

**Contact Roger Donnelly.**

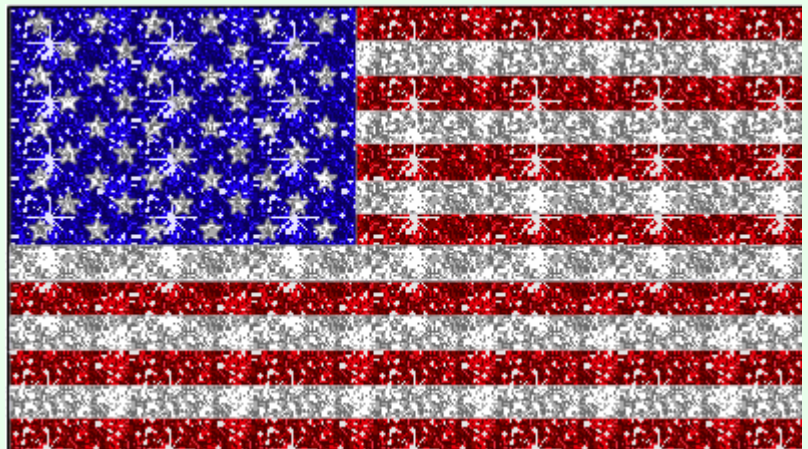
[Ridonnelly@aol.com](mailto:Ridonnelly@aol.com)

*Forever may she waive over the  
Land of the Free.*

*God Bless America and protect her  
Service women & men.*

*Never forget those who have given  
their lives and limbs for our freedom.*

*There is no greater sacrifice that one  
giving his or her life to save another.*



**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.**  
**100th RI Convention, Birmingham, England . . . . . June 21 — 24, 2009**  
**2009 Shrimporee . . . . . Saturday, October 17th**

State Representative, **John Davis**, was our speaker on June 15th and is a member of SCRC. John was first elected to the Texas Legislature in November 1998 to represent House District 129. He currently serves as a member of the House Committees on Public Health and on County Affairs. A native Houstonian and fifth generation Texan, John is a graduate of Baylor University and the University of Houston — Clear Lake. For his work in various advocacy groups, John was honored with the Award for Public Service by the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association. John and his wife, Jayne Anne, also a graduate of Baylor and a former school teacher, have three sons.

John talked about the accomplishments (or lack thereof) of the recent Legislative Session and gave the audience some interesting insights into the inner workings of the Texas Legislative Government. We should be thankful that they only meet for regular sessions once every two years. As some have said “When the Legislature is not in session, they can do no harm.”

Thanks, John for a most interesting and enlightening presentation.

## **Life Cycles**

On the first day, God created the dog and said: “Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past. For this, I will give you a life span of twenty years.” The dog said: “That’s a long time to be barking. How about only ten years and I’ll give you back the other ten?” So God agreed. On the second day, God created the monkey and said: “Entertain people, do tricks, and make them laugh. For this, I’ll give you a twenty-year life span.” The monkey said: “Monkey tricks for twenty years? That’s a pretty long time to perform. How about I give you back ten like the Dog did?” And God agreed. On the third day, God created the cow and said: “You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer’s family. For this, I will give you a life span of sixty years.” The cow said: “That’s kind of a tough life you want me to live for sixty years. How about twenty and I’ll give back the other forty?” And God agreed again. On the fourth day, God created man and said: “Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this, I’ll give you twenty years.” But man said: “Only twenty years? Could you possibly give me my twenty, the forty the cow gave back, the ten the monkey gave back, and the ten the dog gave back; that makes eighty, okay?” “Okay,” said God, “You asked for it.” So that is why for our first twenty years we eat, sleep, play and enjoy ourselves. For the next forty years we slave in the sun to support our family. For the next ten years we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren. And for the last ten years we sit on the front porch and bark at everyone. Life has now been explained to you. There is no need to thank me for this valuable information. I’m doing it as a public service.

**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

### **EDITOR WANTED**

**Do you want a voice in Rotary? Is there something you think is not being said? Have you wished the editor would make the *Blastoff* more relevant? Are there too many pages of the weekly newsletter; too few? Too many pictures; not enough? Do you have an opinion? Now is your chance to be heard!**

**After several years of serving as *Blastoff* editor, Billy Smith is retiring and has given notice to Pres. Mike and PE Jon that his last edition will be June 29th.**

**So now it is your turn. Step up and do it your way. It is a great job and the pay is unworldly. As long as you are receiving a balance of praise and complaints, you can consider yourself doing a good job. Contact Bill Lowes, Director Club Service, to apply.**

[JWLowes@swbell.net](mailto:JWLowes@swbell.net)

### **HOST FAMILIES NEEDED**

**Leonardo Briones Andrade**, exchange student from Ecuador, will be arriving soon. One host family has been identified, but three more are needed.

Leonardo is 17 years of age, enjoys soccer and tennis, has been involved with his school mates in giving food to the poor children, is in charge of a group of students who help the elderly, loves animals, especially dogs. His father is a civil engineer & his mother teaches English, serves as a translator and was an exchange student 25 years ago. Leonardo's sister, Claudia, was an exchange student to the USA. Home is Portoviejo, Ecuador, a city of 250,000 on the coast. Fishing & agriculture are the primary industries. He aspires to a career as a civil engineer/architect & enjoys going to work with his father. Leonardo is eager to have his mother's & sister's experience as an exchange student.

This is a great opportunity for you and your family, especially if you have teenage children who can bond with Leonardo & share a once in a lifetime cultural experience.

If you are interested, contact Dick Meyer.

[richard.j.meyer@nasa.gov](mailto:richard.j.meyer@nasa.gov)

**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**

## **FRIDAY MORNING AT THE PENTAGON**

By JOSEPH L. GALLOWAY

McClatchy Newspapers

Over the last 12 months, 1,042 soldiers, Marines, sailors and Air Force personnel have given their lives in the terrible duty that is war. Thousands more have come home on stretchers, horribly wounded and facing months or years in military hospitals. This week, I'm turning my space over to a good friend and former roommate, Army Lt. Col. Robert Bateman, who recently completed a year long tour of duty in Iraq and is now back at the Pentagon. Here's Lt. Col. Bateman's account of a little-known ceremony that fills the halls of the Army corridor of the Pentagon with cheers, applause and many tears every Friday morning. It first appeared on May 17 on the Weblog of media critic and pundit Eric Alterman at the Media Matters for America Web site. "It is 110 yards from the "E" ring to the "A" ring of the Pentagon. This section of the Pentagon is newly renovated; the floors shine, the hallway is broad, and the lighting is bright. At this instant the entire length of the corridor is packed with officers, a few sergeants and some civilians, all crammed tightly three and four deep against the walls. There are thousands here. This hallway, more than any other, is the Army's hallway. The G3 offices line one side, G2 the other, G8 is around the corner. All Army. Moderate conversations flow in a low buzz. Friends, who may not have seen each other for a few weeks, or a few years, spot each other, cross the way and renew their friendships. Everyone shifts to ensure an open path remains down the center. The air conditioning system was not designed for this press of bodies in this area. The temperature is rising already. Nobody cares. 10:36:20hours: The clapping starts at the E-Ring. That is the outer most of the five rings of the Pentagon and it is closest to the entrance to the building.. This clapping is low, sustained, hearty. It is applause with a deep emotion behind it as it moves forward in a wave down the length of the hallway. A steady rolling wave of sound it is, moving at the pace of the soldier in the wheelchair who marks the forward edge with his presence. He is the first. He is missing the greater part of one leg, and some of his wounds are still suppurating.. By his age I expect that he is a private, or perhaps a private first class. Captains, majors, lieutenant colonels and colonels meet his gaze and nod as they applaud, soldier to soldier. Three years ago when I described one of these events, those lining the hallways were somewhat different. The applause a little wilder, perhaps in private guilt for not having shared in the burden. Yet. Now almost everyone lining the hallway is, like the man in the wheelchair, also a combat veteran. This steadies the applause, but I think deepens the sentiment. We have all been there now. The soldier's chair is pushed by, I believe, a full colonel. Behind him, and stretching the length from Rings E to A, come more of his peers, each private, corporal, or sergeant assisted as need be by a field grade officer. 11:00 hours: Twenty-four minutes of steady applause. My hands hurt, and I laugh to myself at how stupid that sounds in my own head. My hands hurt.. Please! Shut up and clap. For twenty-four minutes, soldier after soldier has come down this hallway - 20, 25, 30. Fifty-three legs come with them, and perhaps only 52 hands or arms, but down this hall came 30 solid hearts. They pass down this corridor of officers and applause, and then meet for a private lunch, at which they are the guests of honor, hosted by the generals. Some are wheeled along. Some insist upon getting out of their chairs, to march as best they can with their chin held up, down this hallway, through this most unique audience. Some are catching handshakes and smiling like a politician at a Fourth of July parade. More than a couple of them seem amazed and are smiling shyly. There are families with them as well: the 18-year-old war-bride pushing her 19-year-old husband's wheelchair and not quite understanding why her husband is so affected by this, the boy she grew up with, now a man, who had never shed a tear is crying; the older immigrant Latino parents who have, perhaps more than their wounded mid-20s son, an appreciation for the emotion given on their son's behalf. No man in that hallway, walking or clapping, is ashamed by the silent tears on more than a few cheeks. An Airborne Ranger wipes his eyes only to better see. A couple of the officers in this crowd have themselves been a part of this parade in the past. These are our men, broken in body they may be, but they are our brothers, and we welcome them home. This parade has gone on, every single Friday, all year long, for more than four years. Did you know that? The media hasn't yet told the story — And probably never will.

**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**

### **A Thought for our Independence Day.**

God Bless our Military who are protecting our Country for our Freedom. Thanks To them, and their sacrifices we can celebrate the 4th of July. We must never forget who gets the credit for the freedoms we have, of which we should be Eternally grateful.

*I watched the flag pass by one day,  
It fluttered in the breeze.  
A young Marine Saluted it,  
And then he stood at ease..  
I looked at him in uniform,  
So young, so tall, so proud.  
With hair cut square and eyes alert.  
He'd stand out in any crowd.  
I thought how many men like him  
Had fallen through the years..  
How many died on foreign Soil.  
How many mothers' tears.  
How many pilots' planes Shot down.  
How many died at sea.  
How many foxholes were soldiers' graves ?  
No, freedom isn't free.  
I heard the sound of Taps one night,  
When everything was still.  
I listened to the bugler play  
And felt a sudden chill.  
I wondered just how many times  
That Taps had meant 'Amen.'  
When a flag had draped a Coffin  
Of a brother or a friend.  
I thought of all the children,  
Of the mothers and the wives,  
Of fathers, sons and husbands  
With interrupted lives.  
I Thought about a graveyard  
At the bottom of the sea.  
Of unmarked graves in Arlington.  
**No, freedom isn't free!***

Enjoy your Freedom & God Bless our Troops. When you read this, please stop for a moment reflect upon what you enjoy in this great land and say a prayer for our men and women who serve to protect what our founding fathers declared for us and all those brave souls who gave their all so that it would become true. Of all the gifts you can give, a Prayer is the very best one.

**GENE & DONNA  
TROMBLEE**

**UNIVERSITY OF  
HOUSTON  
CLEAR LAKE  
CAMPUS**

**WALDRON  
&  
SCHNEIDER  
Attorneys at Law**

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

THE CITIZEN

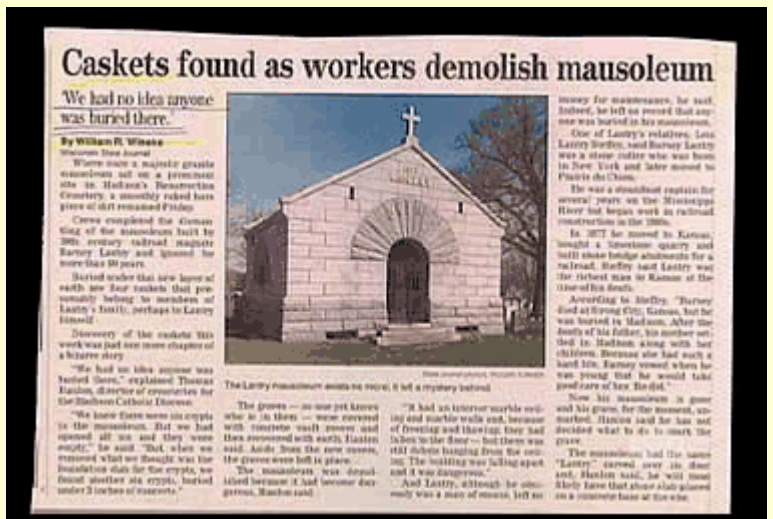
Mary Alys Cherry

TEXAS ROADHOUSE  
Tony & Sharon  
Bloomfield

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON  
CLEAR LAKE CAMPUS

Your name could appear here.

The following were submitted by Bill Lowes with a promise of more if someone doesn't volunteer to serve as Editor of the Blastoff . . .



THIS SPACE

IS RESERVED

FOR MORE

SPONSORS

# County to pay \$250,000 to advertise lack of funds

By MATT COOPER  
The Register-Guard

Lane County will spend up to \$250,000 this year publicizing its tight financial picture, in hopes that voters in November will approve higher taxes for public-safety services.

It's an amount for county spending on publicity that has been unparalleled in at least the past 10 years. And it illustrates the seriousness of the effort to persuade voters

about the new store locating on Lower Third Street.

Debra Jackson said she likes shopping at the Dollar Palace because it is convenient and casual.

"I don't have to get all dressed up like I'm going to Wal-Mart or something," she said, adding she shops at Williams' store "to

# Fish need water, Feds say

By Phil Hayworth

While conservation groups and others wel-

## ON RECORD

### BLAINE

**Theft:** A woman in the 1900 block of 129th Lane Northeast reported Oct. 15 that someone must have stolen her mail, because she did not receive birthday cards from some of her friends.

**Burglary:** Police responded Oct. 14 to an alarm at Gas & More, 1444 93rd Lane N.E., and found that a rock had been

1000 block of Northeast. P the driver, w words and w He was arres driving while

**Theft:** It was that someone a locker at Bl 12555 Univer

**Harassmen** reported Oc who harass

• A Meadow Valley woman alleged that her son had threatened to burn the house down.

• An Edgewood man reported recently that his wife had gone missing some 18 months ago.

• A year after the dirt bike of a

1995 NISSAN Maxima, green, leather, loaded, CD, auto start, sunroof, 4-door, good condition, \$4500. Not for sale.



JAY CRONLEY

# One-armed man applauds the kindness of strangers

The other afternoon, a man and a woman came to my door.

## PICTURES FROM JUNE 15TH MEETING



*L to R top row: Dick Meyer, Megan Lunsford, out-bound student to Belgium & John Nugent; Rep. John Davis & Sophia giving parting remarks as she prepares to go back home to Sweden. L to R middle row: John Davis presents a Texas flag which was flown over the Texas Capital to Megan; Dick Meyer, Sophia, Art Wood & Sheryl Berg. Bottom: Sophia group shot*

